

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE 73RD MEETING (REVISED)

Lanzarote (Spain)
20-27 June 2005

Chairman: Samuel Juárez (Spain)

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1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by Sr. Rafael Centenera, Deputy Director General of International Fisheries Relations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of Spain. He welcomed the delegates and stressed the importance of sustainable fishing to Spain and Spain's commitment to do all it could to ensure that this meeting of the IATTC would be successful. On behalf of the Commission, Dr. Robin Allen, Director of the IATTC, thanked Sr. Centenera for his remarks.

The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

2. Election of Chairman

Mr. Samuel Juárez of Spain was elected Chairman of the meeting.

It was reported that Korea had received the required approvals of all Parties to the IATTC Convention, and thus was in a position to deposit its instrument of accession and join the Commission. In recognition of this situation, Korea was invited to sit at the table with the Commission members so that it could participate fully.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda was adopted with the addition of an item 9c on transshipments and a discussion of a longer-term chairmanship under item 20, *Election of officers*.

Colombia made a statement regarding its participation in the IATTC, advising the meeting that it intended to accede to the IATTC Convention, but requesting that it be allowed additional purse-seine fleet capacity of 14,000 m³. Colombia also explained that its vessels did not comply with the IATTC conservation measures during 2004 because it is not a member of the Commission, but that it implemented a system of staggered 40-day closures for each of its purse-seine vessels. It requested that the Commission consider allowing Colombia to implement a similar system during 2005, or until such time as Colombia is a member of the IATTC.

4. The fishery in 2004

Dr. Allen presented information on the fishery in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) during 2004, elaborated in [Document IATTC-73-04](#). He indicated that this document, which will be published later as the Commission's [Fishery Status Report 3](#), is the main source of information about the fishery.

5. Status of tuna and billfish stocks

Continuing the presentation of Document IATTC-73-04, Dr. Allen reviewed the status of the stocks of yellowfin and bigeye tunas and other species. He noted that the Document provided information on the status of stocks of the principal tuna species, swordfish, and blue and striped marlin, and in addition described ecosystem considerations to be taken into account in conservation and management decisions.

The discussion centered mostly on the status of bigeye tuna, especially the fact that a relatively small number of purse-seine vessels take a large proportion of the bigeye catch, the possibility of underreporting of catch by some countries, and the use of updated biological parameters for the assessment of the species. Dr. Allen also discussed the most recent stock assessment for northern albacore tuna, noting that it suggests a need for management measures to avoid increases in fishing mortality.

Increases in the catches of bluefin tuna were also discussed, with Japan noting that purse-seine catches had increased to levels seen only in the 1970s, and asking Parties whose vessels target bluefin to make an effort to not increase their catch.

6. Report of the Working Group on Stock Assessment

Dr. Allen presented the [report of the 6th meeting of the Working Group on Stock Assessment](#) held in May 2005, and drew the attention of the meeting to its recommendations. One was that the IATTC organize a workshop to examine ways of reducing fleet capacity, including economic incentives, to facilitate

management and conservation measures. The Group also recommended a Pacific-wide bigeye assessment, and a tagging program in coordination with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Finally, the Group recommended that those Parties, cooperating non-Parties and fishing entities (CPCs) that receive catch reports before the vessel reaches port to unload verify them against landings. Dr. Allen noted that, following recommendations from last year, the meeting on stock assessment this year had been expanded to five days, and that a consensus meeting report was produced.

The Commission decided to discuss this report and the next agenda item, on conservation recommendations, together.

7. Conservation of tunas

Dr. Allen reviewed the staff recommendations for conservation of tunas (Document [IATTC-73-18](#)), which had been reviewed by the 6th meeting of the Working Group on Stock Assessment.

Dr. Allen noted that the stock assessment for yellowfin tuna is similar to that of 2004. He summarized the conservation recommendation for this stock by stating that no further conservation measures are proposed, but the condition of the stock should continue to be monitored, with the possibility of additional measures being introduced if the estimated stock size remains below the average maximum sustainable yield (AMSY) level.

Dr. Allen said that the bigeye stock assessment results are similar to those of previous assessments, and consistent with the previous projections. In particular, he noted the recommendation that “further measures, similar to those proposed by the staff last year, are necessary to allow the stock to rebuild to the AMSY levels. The AMSY has been significantly reduced by purse-seine catches of small bigeye, and measures that encourage purse-seine vessels to avoid catching bigeye while fishing for skipjack would be beneficial. The individual-vessel catch limits for bigeye proposed in 2004 are one way of allowing purse-seine vessels to continue fishing for skipjack while reducing catches of bigeye.”

For northern albacore tuna, Dr. Allen explained that the stock assessment suggests a need for management measures to avoid increases in fishing mortality. He noted that comprehensive management requires action by both the IATTC and the WCPFC, and recommended that, for the eastern Pacific, measures be taken to ensure that there is no increase in fishing effort on this stock.

Dr. Allen said that the assessments of the other species examined by the Stock Assessment Working Group do not indicate the need for any management measures for those species.

Regarding the conservation of yellowfin and bigeye tunas, a proposal was made by several Parties to amend [Resolution C-04-09 on a Multi-annual Program on the Conservation of Tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean for 2004, 2005 and 2006](#). The proposed changes included the extension of the conservation measures until 2007, but with a catch limit of 500 metric tons (t) of bigeye for individual purse-seine vessels, and an annual longline catch limit of bigeye of 250 t, or the 2001 catch level, for CPCs other than China, Japan, Korea, and Chinese Taipei.

During the discussion of the proposal, several Parties expressed concern at the status of the bigeye stock and stressed the need for stronger conservation measures, such as those recommended by the staff. Others expressed concern at the practical implementation aspects of the individual-vessel catch limits, and pointed out the need for more scientific studies on this topic. Regarding the 250 t limit for longline bigeye catch for some CPCs, some Parties doubted that this would have an impact on the overall bigeye catch. Other Parties suggested that it would be better to wait until Resolution C-04-09 had expired to evaluate its results. In the end, no agreement was reached on modifying the resolution, and the Commission decided to leave it unchanged.

During the discussion on bigeye, Japan introduced a proposal for research to reduce the bycatch of bigeye tuna by purse-seine vessels fishing on fish-aggregating devices (FADs). The aim of the proposal was to study the relationship between depth of the net, the area fished, and the species composition of the catch; and to compare fishing methods and techniques, including the use of sonar, that might result in a lesser catch of bigeye by individual vessels. The proposal was later amended by the European Union to include

the establishment of an on-board observer program for 10% of large longline vessels fishing in the EPO. No agreement was reached on this proposal, but some countries suggested that the Scientific Working Group consider the research points proposed by Japan.

Japan and the United States introduced a proposal to limit the fishing effort for northern albacore tuna in the EPO to its current level. It also instructs the Director to monitor the stock status in coordination with relevant scientific organizations, and asks the Parties to the WCPFC not to increase fishing effort on this stock. After a brief discussion and minor changes, the Commission approved the proposal as Resolution [C-05-02](#) (Appendix 2a).

8. Conservation of bycatch species

a. Seabirds

Dr. Allen presented Document [IATTC-73-08a](#) on the conservation of seabirds. He indicated that seabirds are incidentally caught in various longline fisheries in the world, and concerns are arising about the impacts of this incidental catch. Incidental catches of seabirds are known to occur in fisheries for tunas, swordfish, and billfishes in some oceans. He advised that he had received a letter from the Chairman of the [Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources](#) (CCAMLR) seeking collaboration in the matter of mitigating seabird mortality associated with fishing, and had replied that the staff does not have any information suggesting that the fisheries covered by the IATTC have an impact on seabirds found in the CCAMLR area. He also noted that the FAO approved an [International Plan of Action on Seabirds](#) aimed at reducing the incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries where this occurs.

Japan presented a proposal containing recommendations on incidental mortality of seabirds, emphasizing data collection and provision of information to the Commission. After some discussion the Commission approved this as Resolution [C-05-01](#) (Appendix 2b). Spain asked that a statement on the multilateral [Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels](#) (ACAP) be included in the minutes of the meeting (Appendix 5).

b. Sharks

Dr. Allen introduced Document [IATTC-73-08b](#) on the conservation of sharks. He noted that, following the 72nd meeting in June 2004, there were two shark conservation proposals pending, to be considered further at the current meeting.

A consolidated proposal was later presented and discussed. It was noted that the elements of this document are similar to those of resolutions agreed by other regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs). Minor changes to the text, and also points of harmonization with the FAO [International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks](#), were agreed. Some members emphasized the need to be clear that the conservation measures apply only to sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by the Commission. After some discussion, the Commission approved Resolution [C-05-03](#) (Appendix 2c).

Mexico asked that the record be clear that paragraph 9 of the Resolution, encouraging research, should not be interpreted to imply that research in the waters of another Party could be conducted without the approval of that Party.

c. Sea turtles: FAO Guidelines to reduce mortality

Dr. Allen presented a summary of Document [IATTC-73-08c](#), on the FAO *Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations*.

Dr. Allen described various initiatives that the IATTC had already undertaken to address the conservation of sea turtles, in particular the *Consolidated Resolution on Bycatch* ([C-04-05](#)), and the *Resolution on a three-year program to mitigate the impact of tuna fishing on sea turtles* ([C-04-07](#)). He noted that IATTC observers on purse-seine vessels have been collecting information on sea turtles since 1991, and pointed out that some elements of the FAO guidelines are not currently included in the IATTC resolutions or

programs, and made a summary of these areas for further improvement.

Dr. Martin Hall, head of the Commission's Tuna-Dolphin Program, made a presentation on the program to reduce catches of sea turtles in artisanal fisheries in Central and South America that the staff has been involved with, together with other organizations.

The discussion covered a summary of the conservation programs and mitigation experiments carried out by several countries, the importance of generating scientific information, the value of a comprehensive approach to conservation, and increased cooperation with the [Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles](#) (IAC). Several members also emphasized the need to be clear that any conservation measures apply only to sea turtles caught in association with fisheries managed by the Commission.

The United States and Nicaragua presented a draft resolution to mitigate the impact of tuna fishing on sea turtles (Proposal IATTC-73-E1D; Appendix 4a) which would, *inter alia*, require the use of circle hooks for certain longline fisheries. Japan agreed with the proposal, pointing out that the use of circle hooks had already been proven effective in reducing sea turtle bycatch. Spain noted that it was doing its own research in the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean regarding hooks and bait that could reduce sea turtle bycatch in longline fisheries, and that the results of those experiments should be analyzed before deciding on measures, but also noted that what is a valid approach in one region may not be so in other areas. Korea also noted that it was doing research on the use of circle hooks and that it would present the results at next year's meeting. No agreement was reached on the proposal, and it was decided that it should be considered at the next meeting of the Working Group on Bycatch.

In response to a request for more information on the geographical distribution of sea turtles, Dr. Allen indicated that information on migration of sea turtles would be posted on the Commission's web site.

9a. Report of the Permanent Working Group on Compliance

Mr. David Hogan of the United States, Chairman of the Permanent Working Group on Compliance, presented his report of the 6th meeting of the Group, held on 17 June. He noted several aspects of compliance with the Commission's resolutions regarding bycatch, especially of sea turtles and sharks, the full retention policy, at-sea reporting, and compliance with the purse-seine closures. He also reported full compliance with the bigeye catch limit of [Resolution C-04-09](#), and partial compliance with both the data provision and fleet capacity resolutions ([C-03-05](#) and [C-02-03](#)).

Mr. Juárez, Chairman of the meeting, noted that there were no national reports and no indications of follow-up by governments on reported possible violations, and suggested that each government should provide a report on compliance by its national fleet at the meeting of the Working Group in June 2006.

Japan introduced a proposal to continue the program of full retention of all tunas caught by purse-seine vessels established in the *Consolidated Resolution on Bycatch* (C-04-05). The United States suggested that the program should be discontinued, noting that it is not enforced, that discards per set have actually increased under it, and that there is no apparent conservation benefit. After some discussion, the meeting decided to continue the program of full retention until January 1, 2007 (Resolution [C-05-05](#); Appendix 2.d), with the understanding that it would be carefully reviewed at the 74th meeting in June 2006.

b. Criteria and procedures to adopt trade measures to promote compliance (EU proposal)

The European Union presented its proposal on trade measures to promote compliance (Document [COM-6-05](#)), and explained that it was reviewed at the 72nd meeting of the Commission in June 2004. The proposal is similar to those adopted by other tuna organizations, and is designed primarily to promote compliance with conservation measures. The European Union noted that the proposal is multilateral, encourages an open system to increase cooperation, gives enough time to potential offenders, and that it was drafted with the participation of many delegations.

The participants thanked the European Union and many expressed support for the proposal, stressing the importance of multilateral measures as opposed to unilateral actions when promoting compliance. After

some discussion and modifications to the proposal, Resolution [C-05-04](#) on trade measures was adopted (Appendix 2e) with the observation of El Salvador, since it was accepted *ad referendum*, noting that it needs to confirm it with officials of its government .

Japan requested the following comment be included in the minutes: “The Statistical Document program and other practical measures to identify origin of fish product are essential for Japan to implement trade restrictive measures in the resolution”.

c. Transshipments

The European Union and Spain presented a draft resolution for the IATTC to regulate the transshipment by tuna vessels by prohibiting at-sea transshipments and regulating transshipment in port. During the discussion it was noted that transshipment at sea was already prohibited for purse-seine vessels, and that the proposal would mostly affect longline vessels. Korea opposed prohibiting longline vessels from transshipping at sea, while Japan argued that the proposal was difficult to enforce and that a better approach would be to regulate transshipments by longliners at sea. Japan presented an alternative proposal providing for transshipments with observers on freezer cargo vessels. No agreement on this matter was reached.

10. Report of the Joint Working Group on Fishing by Non-Parties

The Chairman of the Joint Working Group, Mr. Roberto Cesari of the European Union, reported the results of the 4th meeting of the Working Group, held on 16 June (Appendix 3a). The Working Group agreed to recommend that the IATTC approve the status of Canada, China, the European Union, Honduras, Korea, and Chinese Taipei as cooperating non-parties or fishing entities. It also agreed on a draft list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities, to send to the IATTC for consideration and adoption. Finally, the Working Group recommended that the *Resolution to establish a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities in the eastern Pacific Ocean* (C-04-04) be amended to cover vessels of CPCs, and to reduce the minimum size of vessels covered by the resolution from 24 meters to a length to be determined by the Commission.

The Commission agreed to accord the status of cooperating non-parties or fishing entities to Canada, China, the European Union, Honduras, Korea, and Chinese Taipei. During the discussion, an inconsistency was noted in according this status to Korea, which had apparently just become a member of the IATTC. Korea explained that some minor national internal procedures were pending to fully formalize its adhesion, and requested that its cooperating status be maintained for a short time, with this clarification in the minutes of the meeting.

To assist the discussion regarding vessel size in Resolution C-04-04, Dr. Allen presented information document IATTC-73-INF A (Appendix 3b), showing the number of longline vessels on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register, by length. Alternative reductions to 18 m and 22 m length overall were considered, taking into account especially the characteristics of the artisanal fleets. After unsuccessful attempts to harmonize both views, it was decided not to change that part of the resolution, and to consider revision at the IATTC meeting in June 2006; however, it was agreed that the Resolution should cover vessels of CPCs, and a modified resolution ([C-05-07](#); Appendix 2f) was adopted.

Regarding the draft list of IUU vessels, Chinese Taipei explained that some of its vessels on the list were probably duplicates, and advised that it would start an investigation into this matter and report the results to the Commission. Chinese Taipei also advised that one other vessel that had not been authorized to fish in the EPO had been penalized, and was now authorized. Accordingly, Chinese Taipei requested the elimination of its vessels from the IUU list, and the Commission agreed to this request.

Chinese Taipei also informed the Commission of a cooperative plan between industry and government to eliminate 120 of its large longline vessels, 73 by the end of 2005 (Appendix 3c). It also offered full cooperation with the IATTC, especially on the matter of regulating transshipments and combating IUU fishing. Japan welcomed the plan to scrap vessels, but expressed concern that the resources resulting

from the elimination of these 120 vessels could be used to build more, smaller vessels, as had occurred in the past.

Regarding the list of IUU vessels, Colombia explained that, although the conservation measures adopted by the IATTC had not been followed by its vessels on the IUU provisional list, a biologically equivalent closure had been adopted and followed by its vessels. It also said that Colombia had not been advised of its vessels being placed on the draft IUU list in the manner required by Resolution C-04-04. Dr. Allen explained that, regardless of this procedural error, Colombia had been informed in a timely manner, and had in fact provided comments on the draft IUU list, and that the other Parties were advised of these comments well in advance of this annual meeting of the Commission.

During lengthy deliberations and careful consideration of all the elements of Colombia's situation, including meetings of heads of delegation only, many Parties expressed support for Colombia's efforts to now comply with Commission resolutions, welcomed Colombia's expressed intention to become a member of the Commission, and noted the efforts demonstrated by the Colombian delegation at this meeting. However, in the end the Colombian vessels were included on the [IUU list approved by the meeting](#), but the Commission agreed to an approach which would make it possible for the Colombian vessels to be removed from the list prior to the annual meeting of the Commission in June 2006, as elaborated in a communiqué (Appendix 6).

El Salvador asked that the minutes reflect that, although the inclusion of the Colombian vessels on the IUU list did not follow the procedures rigorously, it did not oppose the decision in order not to break the consensus, however, it was concerned over the negative impact that this action might have on Colombia's decision to join the Commission.

11. Cooperation with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

Dr. Allen introduced Document [IATTC-73-11](#) on cooperation with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). He noted that this Convention entered into force in June 2004, and had its first meeting in December 2004, and advised the meeting that the Antigua Convention and the WCPFC Convention have similar articles regarding cooperation. He noted that there were several options for sharing relevant information on management measures and scientific matters between the two organizations in a systematic and meaningful manner, and that these options were elaborated in the document.

Several delegations emphasized the importance of close cooperation between the two organizations. France stressed the need for very close cooperation since the waters of French Polynesia extended into the areas of competence of both commissions, and duplicative or contradictory management measures would cause great difficulties. Japan recognized the value of cooperation, but expressed concern about moving too fast to establish a formal relationship, noting in particular that the negotiation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) could become unnecessarily complicated, as has proven to be the case with an MOU between FAO and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

12. Ecosystem approach to fisheries management in the EPO

The United States presented its proposal for a resolution (Document [IATTC-73-12](#)), noting that it takes into account recent international developments. The proposal's salient features are to ensure that all the management and conservation measures taken by the Commission take into account the effect of such decisions on the associated ecosystem. It also includes provisions regarding the long-term conservation of stocks covered by the Commission and of species belonging to the same ecosystem, and regarding those associated or dependent species, especially those endangered, threatened, or protected. The draft resolution also specifically considers changes in the physical environment, and contains provisions for data and reporting requirements.

In general, the proposal was welcomed, but some Parties expressed concern at the specificity of some of the operational paragraphs, which could lead to complex and costly implementation, especially regarding the many species included in the different categories.

The United States thanked the Parties for their comments, and indicated that it would consider them in the development of a modified proposal.

13. Further consideration of Vessel Monitoring Systems

Dr. Allen introduced Document [IATTC-73-13](#). He explained the background of this issue with respect to the interest and involvement of the Commission in establishing a satellite-based vessel monitoring system (VMS) for the fleets of member countries operating in the EPO, and reviewed relevant aspects of the implementation of Resolution [C-04-06](#) on the establishment of a VMS. In particular, he noted that the Resolution required CPCs to send a progress report on their VMS to the Director by 31 May 2005. Based on these reports, the Commission would, at its annual meeting in June 2005, discuss how best to proceed with future consideration of VMS to support its conservation and management programs.

Dr. Allen advised the meeting that Bolivia, Costa Rica, Chinese Taipei, Ecuador, the European Union, Guatemala, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Panama, and the United States had sent progress reports, with varying levels of detail. Dr. Allen noted that Document IATTC-73-13 contained two suggestions by the staff as options for future consideration of VMS by the Commission: (1) summary reports from national VMS that would provide more monitoring information than the initial reports received, and would strengthen systems for data reporting and monitoring of compliance; and (2) voluntary use of VMS to facilitate various at-sea reports. In particular, VMS could provide a relatively simple means of reporting fisheries data.

There was some discussion of the future role of VMS in the Commission conservation and management program, but no further actions were decided.

14. Meetings of Executive Secretaries of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations

Dr. Allen introduced this topic, and summarized the 4th meeting of RFMOs, held in Rome on 14-15 March 2005. He noted the informal character of this meeting, and explained that several issues were discussed, among them the role of the RFMOs, external factors, such as overcapacity and IUU fishing, that affect fisheries management, and the harmonization of catch data and documentation among different organizations. He also noted some opportunities for collaboration for the IATTC.

The European Union advised the meeting that it had asked for a discussion of this matter, and wanted to make it clear that the Executive Secretariats of the RFMOs have no authority to take decisions on substantive matters; these would have to be decided by the member countries.

Japan introduced Document IATTC-73-INF D (Appendix 3d), an information document on a Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs that will be held in January 2007 in Japan, endorsed by the 26th meeting of the FAO Committee on Fisheries in March 2005. The meeting will, among other issues, review current management measures and the effectiveness of systems to make available records of authorized fishing vessels and IUU fishing activities.

15. Report of the Working Group on Fleet Capacity

Mr. Hogan, Chairman of the Permanent Working Group on Fleet Capacity, presented his report on the 8th meeting of the Group, held on 22 June. The meeting devoted its time to two major issues: the implementation of Resolution C-02-03 on the capacity of the tuna fleet operating in the EPO, and the [Plan for Regional Management of Fishing Capacity](#).

Mr. Hogan reported that the Working Group discussed the bracketed text of the Plan, and, after making some changes to the language, decided to recommend the Plan to the Commission for adoption. The Commission adopted the Plan.

The implementation of Resolution C-02-03 was extensively discussed by the Working Group, especially as regards flag transfers and other operative matters. In the end, the Group decided to recommend that the Commission not make any changes to the Resolution.

The Working Group also noted the request of Guatemala regarding the matter of two of its vessels that

changed flag under circumstances it disputed, and noted requests for additional capacity by Colombia, El Salvador, Peru, and Vanuatu.

Mr. Hogan reported that the Working Group engaged in extensive discussions on procedures for flag transfers. While it was recognized that flag transfers are a matter for governments, and not something in which the Commission should be involved, it was recognized that the Commission needs to establish rules for maintaining its Regional Register, and that this requires decisions to be made regarding the flags of vessels. The Working Group agreed that the staff should receive documentation from the competent authorities of both governments involved in a flag transfer before changing the flag of a vessel on the Regional Register, and that this procedure should be codified. However, rather than amending the Resolution to accomplish this, it was decided that the minutes could reflect the procedure, as follows:

“A change of flag by a vessel from one CPC to another, and the vessel’s status on the Regional Register, shall not be considered effective until the Director has received official notification of the change from both governments involved”.

The Commission endorsed this statement, and noted the importance of each government establishing adequate internal procedures to ensure the necessary coordination between the various domestic agencies involved in the process of flag transfers.

Costa Rica expressed its determination not to accept any proposal for changes or exceptions in the application of the text of the resolution in force on the capacity of the fleet C-02-03 that implies directly or indirectly an increase in the fishing capacity in the EPO.

16. Review of Commission staff’s research

Dr. Allen said that due to time constraints, only two topics would be presented at the meeting. A more thorough description of the staff’s research is presented in the Commission’s annual report.

Dr. Richard Deriso, head of the Commission’s Tuna-Billfish Program, described the results of the staff’s research on bigeye age, growth, and reproductive biology that led to a new, updated set of biological parameters used for bigeye assessment. He also discussed the new technique of using isotopes to estimate trophic levels of fish for ecosystem studies.

17. Recommended research program and budget for FY 2005 and FY 2006

Dr. Allen presented Document [IATTC-73-17](#), which presents the proposed research program and estimates of expenditure for the financial year (FY) 2007. Consistent with last year’s presentation, the paper also reflects the cost of the observer program, how it is funded jointly by the IATTC and the AIDCP, and how other AIDCP costs are funded.

Dr. Allen noted that, before 2003, the Commission had sufficient cash reserves to carry its operations into the new financial year without receiving contributions at the beginning of the year. The Commission decided to reduce those reserves and amended its financial regulations to require member contributions to be paid by 1 November of each financial year.

Dr. Allen repeated the concern he expressed at the meeting in June 2004 regarding the budget situation facing the Commission, due to rising costs and the failure of governments to meet their financial obligations in a timely fashion or, in some cases, at all. He noted again that the staff is making continual efforts to reduce expenditures, and that the proposed budget includes less travel, among other reductions.

During the discussion, several countries explained the difficulties they face in making timely payments of contributions, and others indicated that payments in arrears would be made soon. To facilitate timely contributions, and to simplify accounting, it was suggested that consideration should be given changing the IATTC financial year to coincide with the calendar year. The meeting asked the Director to explore this possibility.

The meeting then discussed a resolution on financing for FY 2006, with a schedule of payments that took into account the draft funding formula developed at the 5th Meeting of the Working Group on Finance in

2001. After some deliberations on the specific figures for some countries, including the contribution of Korea as a new Party, and the resulting adjusted contributions for other Parties, and after considering the recommended research program and budget for FY 2006 and 2007, Resolution [C-05-06](#) on financing (Appendix 2g), approving and financing the recommended budget of US\$ 5,182,908 for FY 2006, and approving the recommended budget of US\$ 5,336,109 for FY 2007, was agreed by the Parties.

During the discussion, the weighting factors used in the draft funding formula for Nicaragua and Japan were questioned, but not altered. Other delegations questioned how the element of “utilization” is calculated.

Some delegations stated their view that non-member governments should contribute to the budget. Chinese Taipei stated that it was making a voluntary payment of US\$ 20,000 to the budget, and that it would contribute more once it became a member of the Commission pursuant to the Antigua Convention.

Japan proposed that a meeting of the Working Group on Finance be held during the period of the 2006 Commission meeting, in order to establish a permanent agreed formula to determine the contributions of member governments. The Commission agreed to this proposal.

18. Recommendations and resolutions

The meeting adopted the following resolutions:

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C-05-01 Resolution on incidental mortality of seabirds	2b
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C-05-03 Resolution on the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries in the eastern Pacific Ocean	2c
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C-05-06 Resolution on financing	2g
C-05-07 Resolution to establish a list of vessels presumed to have carried out illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities in the eastern Pacific Ocean	2f

The Commission also adopted the [Plan for Regional Management of Fishing Capacity](#)

19. Place and date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next regular meeting of the IATTC would be held in Korea on 26-30 June 2006.

20. Election of officers

The United States proposed that the Commission consider appointing its Chairman for a period of two years, renewable for another two years, instead of having a one-year Chairman, as is currently the case. The Chairman could be selected prior to the annual meeting in June 2006, and the two-year period could begin with that meeting. Dr. Allen noted that the Commission’s rules of procedure would need to be changed to accommodate this proposal. After some discussion, the Parties agreed to the proposal, and asked the Director to draft the necessary changes to the Rules of Procedure and circulate them to the governments for approval. The Chairmanships of the Working Groups were discussed, and it was agreed to confirm all the current Chairs for the time being, pending the new change of procedure. Mr. Hogan noted his preference to chair only one of the two groups over which he currently presides.

21. Other business

No other business was discussed.

22. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on 24 June 2005, at 8:20 p.m.

Appendix 1.

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION COMISIÓN INTERAMERICANA DEL ATÚN TROPICAL

73rd MEETING - 73^a REUNIÓN

20-24 June 2005 – 20-24 de junio de 2005

Lanzarote, Spain

ATTENDEES – ASISTENTES

COSTA RICA

LIGIA CASTRO - Comisionada
ASDRÚBAL VÁSQUEZ - Comisionado
Instituto Costarricense de Pesca

ECUADOR

CRISTOBAL MARISCAL - Comisionado
LUIS TORRES NAVARRETE - Comisionado
Ministerio de Comercio Exterior,
Industrialización, Pesca y Competitividad
LUIS E. GÓMEZ
BRUNO LEONE
FRANCISCO LEONE
ABEL PALADINES
CESAR ROHÓN
RAFAEL TRUJILLO
Cámara Nacional de Pesquería
RAMÓN MONTAÑO
ATUNEC

LUIS E. GARCÍA
Legalsa & Heinert
DIEGO MILETIC
Pesquera Jadrán S.A.
IVO CUKA
Pesdel S.A.
IVO CUKA JR.
Marbelize S.A.
LUIS YTURRALDE
Consultores Yturralde y Asociados
CARLOS SERRANO
Seafman

EL SALVADOR

MARIO SALAVERRÍA
SONIA SALAVERRÍA - Comisionada
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería

MANUEL CALVO – Comisionado
CARLOS SÁNCHEZ
Calvopesca S.A.

ESPAÑA—SPAIN

FERNANDO CURCIO - Comisionado
RAFAEL CENTENERA - Comisionado
CARLOS ALDEREGUÍA
ELISA BARAHONA
ENRIQUE DE CÁRDENAS
Secretaría General de Pesca Marítima
SAMUEL JUÁREZ - Comisionado
Embajada de España en Washington
JAVIER ARÍZ
Instituto Español de Oceanografía
EDELMIRO ULLOA
Cooperativa de Armadores
JULIO MORÓN
OPAGAC
JUAN MONTEAGUDO
ANABAC

ALBINO CAMPOS
Anapa
ALFONSO BEITIA
Tri-Marine Internacional Spain S. L.
IMANOL LOINAZ
Albacora S.A.
ANTXON GÓMEZ
ITXAS Marine, S.L.
VICTOR GONZÁLEZ
Mitsubishi Heavy Industries
DAVID ORDOÑEZ
Ast. Zamakona S.A.
FRANCISCO JAVIER ORMAECHEA
Zunibal S.L.
GONZALO PRAT
Técnicas Hidráulicas, S.A.

FRANCE – FRANCIA

DELPHINE LEGUERRIER - Commissioner
Ministry of Agriculture
BRUNO PEAUCELLIER
Office of the President of French Polynesia

STEPHEN YEN KAI SUN
Ministry of Fisheries of French Polynesia
MICHEL DION
ORTHONGEL

GUATEMALA

NICÓLAS ACEVEDO - Comisionado
HUGO ALSINA
Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación

JESÚS ALONSO
JESÚS ALONSO JR
JUAN ALONSO
Rianxeira America

JAPAN – JAPÓN

KATSUMA HANAFUSA - Commissioner
YOSHITSUGU SHIKADA
MIWAKO TAKASE
SAYAKO SATO
Fisheries Agency of Japan
NAOZUMI MIYABE
National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries

HISAO MASUKO
PETER MIYAKE
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries Co-operative
Association
CHIHIRO KINO
All Japan Purse Seine Fisheries Association

KOREA--COREA

JANG HYUN CHOI
SONG DAE CHO
CHONGROK PARK
KYU JIN SEOK
Ministry of Maritime Affairs & Fisheries
HAKGI KOH
YOUNG WOO RO
General Consulate of Korea, Las Palmas

JEONG RACK KOH
National Fisheries Research & Development Institute
IN KEUN PARK
Korea Deep Sea Fisheries Association
CHIN WOO CHOO
Sajo Industries Co. Ltd.

MEXICO

RAMÓN CORRAL - Comisionado
MARIO AGUILAR
RICARDO BELMONTES
CONAPESCA
GUILLERMO COMPEÁN - Comisionado
MICHEL DREYFUS
LUIS FLEISCHER
Instituto Nacional de Pesca

LUIS FUEYO
PROFEPA
ANTONIO SUÁREZ
JOSÉ VELÁZQUEZ
Atunera México S.A.
FELIPE CHARAT
Maricultura del Norte S.R.L. de C.V.

NICARAGUA

EDWARD WEISSMAN - Comisionado

PANAMA

DAVID SILVA - Comisionado
Autoridad Marítima de Panamá
ARNULFO FRANCO - Comisionado
Asociación de Atuneros Panameños

MARÍA PATRICIA DÍAZ - Comisionada
Robles & Robles
LUIS DORATI
Tri-Marine International S.A.

PERU

EDUARDO PÉREZ
Embajada de Perú en Bruselas
CLAUDIA BIANCHI
Estudios Sparrow, Hundskopt & Villanueva Abogados

CLAUDIA LEÓN
CLARA MÁS
Corporación Oceánica del Perú

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA

DAVID HOGAN
JAMES STORY
Department of State
RODNEY MCINNIS - Commissioner
PAT DONLEY
JUDSON FEDER
WILLIAM FOX
WILLIAM ROBINSON
ALLISON ROUTT
National Marine Fisheries Service
SCOTT BURNS - Commissioner
World Wildlife Fund
ROBERT FLETCHER - Commissioner
Sport Fishing Association of California
KITTY SIMONDS
Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management
Council
RANDI THOMAS
U.S. Tuna Foundation

SVEIN FOUNGER
Hawaii Longline Association
PAUL M. KRAMPE
United Tuna Cooperative
RENATO CURTO
Tri-Marine International Inc.
CHARLES HART
Marco Marine Seattle
SUSAN JACKSON
StarKist
MARCELA CAMPA
Bumble Bee Seafoods
RUSSELL NELSON
The Billfish Foundation
ARAMIS SUAREZ
Marco Global Inc.
EDWARD VAN OS
Van Os Oceanic Ltd.

VANUATU

MOSES AMOS - Commissioner
CHRISTOPHE EMELEE - Commissioner

KEVIN LIN
Tuna Fishing Ltd.

VENEZUELA

OSCAR LUCENTINI – Comisionado
OSWALDO VARGAS
INAPESCA
ALVIN DELGADO - Comisionado
Programa Nacional de Observadores de Venezuela
HESSAMAR CABRE
OSNEIVER SANDOVAL
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
VIRGILIO CHÁVEZ
FREDDY LEPAGE
Asamblea Nacional
IGNACIO AZCUE
ALEJANDRO ELDUAYEN
Atunera Napoleón
MANUEL DE LA IGLESIA
Tunafly Corp.

FELIPE FERNÁNDEZ
FEXTUN
JOSÉ MA. BENGUA
JOSÉ MANUEL ELDUAYEN
Inversiones Berloni, S.A.
CARMELINA GENTILE
Inversiones Nav. Condesa de los Mares CA.
LILLO MANISCALCHI
RICARDO MOLINET
AVATUN
FRANCISCO ORTISI JR.
Grupo Carirubana
JESÚS VILLANUEVA
Empresas Cannavo

OBSERVERS – OBSERVADORES

CANADA

BLAIR HODGSON
Fisheries and Oceans

CHILE

MICHAEL COMBES
BENJAMÍN BERRIOS
Marco Chilena Ltda.

FERNANDO CASTET
Astilleros y Maestranzas de la Armada

CHINA

QIANFEI LIU
CHEN WAN
Ministry of Agriculture
YONGSHEN CAI
XINPING YAN
YONGMEI ZHOU
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

DEWEI JIANG
Dalian Fisheries Corp.

CHINESE TAIPEI - TAIPEI CHINO

LI FANG HUANG

HONG-YEN HUANG
HSIANG-WEN HUANG

Fisheries Agency

BRYAN CHEN-CHUN YEN

Overseas Fisheries Development Council

SHIH-CHIEH HO

CHANG WAN-LING

WANG SHUEN-LUNG

Taiwan Tuna Association

SHI HSIEN CHEN

HENRY YANG

YingJen Fishery Co.

COLOMBIA

FERNANDO ARBELÁEZ

ALEJANDRO LONDOÑO

Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural

ARTURO VEGA

INCODER

ALFREDO RAMOS

Ministerio de Comercio Industrial y Turismo

YESID CASTRO

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

HAROLD EDER

Embajada de Colombia en Washington

ARMANDO HERNÁNDEZ

Programa Nacional de Observadores

DIEGO CANELOS

LUIS R. PAREDES

Seatech Internacional Inc.

GUILLERMO DAW

HUGO MARINO

Grupo Alimentario del Atlántico

ALVARO NAVARRO

Atunes y Enlatados del Caribe

EUROPEAN UNION - UNIÓN EUROPEA

ROBERTO CESARI

ALAN GRAY

European Commission

MARIANO ABAD

Council of the European Union

ALAIN FONTENEAU

IRD

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS - ORGANIZACIONES INTERNACIONALES

DENNIS BEBEGO

STEVE DUNN

APOLOSI TURAGANIVALU

DAVID YEETING

Forum Fisheries Agency

DRISS MESKI

International Commission for the Conservation of
Atlantic Tunas

RICARDO MENESES

Corredor Marino de Conservación Pacífico Este
Tropical

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS - ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES

PETER FLOURNOY

American Fishermen's Research Foundation

MARYAN DONNELLY

SONJA FORDHAM

NINA YOUNG

The Ocean Conservancy

KELLY MALSCH

Defenders of Wildlife

MA. VIRGINIA CAIJIAO

MarViva

MOISES MUG

AUORE SAJHAU

World Wildlife Fund

STAFF – PERSONAL

ROBIN ALLEN, Director

ERNESTO ALTAMIRANO

PABLO ARENAS

RICK DERISO

ALEJANDRA FERREIRA

MÓNICA GALVÁN

MARTÍN HALL

BRIAN HALLMAN

NORA WADE

NICHOLAS WEBB

RESOLUTION C-05-02

RESOLUTION ON NORTHERN ALBACORE TUNA

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), having responsibility for the scientific study of tunas and tuna-like fishes of the eastern Pacific Ocean, and for the formulation of recommendations to the Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Parties, fishing entities and regional economic integration organizations (CPCs) with regard to the conservation and management of these resources,

Observing that the best scientific evidence on North Pacific albacore tuna from the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean indicates that the species is either fully exploited, or may be experiencing fishing mortality above levels that are sustainable in the long term, and

Taking note that the IATTC staff has said that the stock assessment for Northern Pacific albacore tuna suggests a need for management measures to avoid increases in fishing mortality, and

Recognizing the importance of working with the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC), as provided for in Article XXIV of the Antigua Convention, in order to manage North Pacific albacore tuna throughout its migratory range, and

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;

The IATTC therefore resolves that:

1. The total level of fishing effort for North Pacific albacore tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean not be increased beyond current levels.
2. The CPCs shall take necessary measures to ensure that the level of fishing effort by their vessels fishing for North Pacific albacore tuna is not increased;
3. All CPCs shall report all catches of North Pacific albacore tuna by gear type to the IATTC every six months.
4. The Director shall, in coordination with other scientific bodies conducting scientific reviews of this stock, monitor the status of North Pacific albacore tuna and report on the status of the stock at each annual meeting;
5. The CPCs shall consider future actions with respect to North Pacific albacore tuna as may be warranted based on the results of such future analysis.
6. The CPCs call upon the members of the WCPFC to consider, at the earliest opportunity, taking such action as may be necessary to ensure the effective conservation and management of North Pacific albacore tuna throughout its range including, in particular, measures to ensure that fishing effort on the stock in the WCPFC area does not increase and, as necessary, measures to reduce fishing effort to levels commensurate with the long-term sustainability of the resource.
7. The Commission through the Director shall communicate with the WCPFC and request them to take similar measures.
8. The provisions of paragraph 2 shall not prejudice the rights and obligations under international law of those coastal CPCs in the EPO whose current fishing activity for northern Pacific albacore tuna is limited, but that have a real interest in, and history of, fishing for the species, that may wish to develop their own fisheries for northern Pacific albacore tuna in the future.

Appendix 2b.

RESOLUTION C-05-01

RESOLUTION ON INCIDENTAL MORTALITY OF SEABIRDS

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Taking into account the FAO International Plan of Action for Reducing the Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries;

Recognizing the need to evaluate the incidental mortality of seabirds during longline fishing operations for tunas and tuna-like species;

Noting that fisheries other than longline fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species may also contribute to the incidental mortality of seabirds;

Further noting that other factors, such as swallowing marine debris, are also responsible for seabird mortality.

Recommends as follows:

1. Each IATTC Party, cooperating non-Party, fishing entity or regional economic integration organization (collectively “CPCs”) should inform, if appropriate, the Commission of the status of its National Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries. The Commission should urge CPCs to implement, if appropriate, the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries if they have not yet done so.
2. CPCs should be encouraged to collect and voluntarily provide the Commission with all available information on interactions with seabirds, including incidental catches in all fisheries under the purview of IATTC.
3. When feasible and appropriate, the Working Group on Stock Assessment should present to the Commission an assessment of the impact of incidental catch of seabirds resulting from the activities of all the vessels fishing for tunas and tuna-like species, in the eastern Pacific Ocean. This assessment should include an identification of the geographic areas where there could be interactions between longline fisheries and seabirds.

Appendix 2c.

RESOLUTION C-05-03

RESOLUTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF SHARKS CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH FISHERIES IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

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;

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 collect data on catch, effort, discards, and trade, as well as information on the biological parameters of many species, as part of shark conservation and management;

Concerned that an extensive unregulated shark fishery is reported to be conducted in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) by a large number of shark-fishing vessels, including some slightly smaller than 24 m

length overall, about which the Commission has little information;

Noting that the IATTC has adopted, in its Consolidated Resolution on Bycatch, a requirement for fishermen on purse-seine vessels to release unharmed non-target species, to the extent practicable, including sharks, and that governments with longline fleets also provide the required bycatch information as soon as possible;

Believing that specific measures to be respected by vessels of all fishing gears are necessary for the conservation of sharks in the EPO;

Resolves as follows:

1. Each Party and co-operating non-party, co-operating fishing entity or regional economic integration organization (collectively “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*.
2. In 2006, the IATTC, in cooperation with scientists of CPCs and, if possible, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, shall provide preliminary advice on the stock status of key shark species and propose a research plan for a comprehensive assessment of these stocks.
3. CPCs shall take the measures necessary to require that their fishers fully utilize any retained catches of sharks. 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.
4. CPCs shall require their vessels to have onboard fins that total no more than 5% of the weight of sharks onboard, up to the first point of landing. CPCs that currently do not require fins and carcasses to be offloaded together at the point of first landing shall take the necessary measures to ensure compliance with the 5% ratio through certification, monitoring by an observer, or other appropriate measures.
5. The ratio of fin-to-body weight of sharks described in paragraph 4 shall be reviewed by the Working Group on Stock Assessment and reported back to the Commission in 2006 for revision, if necessary.
6. Fishing vessels are prohibited from retaining on board, transshipping, landing or trading in any fins harvested in contravention of this Resolution.
7. In fisheries for tunas and tuna-like species that are not directed at sharks, CPCs shall encourage the release of live sharks, especially juveniles, to the extent practicable, that are caught incidentally and are not used for food and/or subsistence.
8. CPCs shall, where possible, undertake research to identify ways to make fishing gears more selective.
9. CPCs are encouraged, where possible, to conduct research to identify shark nursery areas.
10. The Commission shall consider appropriate assistance to developing CPCs for the collection of data on shark catches.
11. 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.
12. Paragraphs 2-11 of this resolution apply only to sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IATTC.

Appendix 2d.

RESOLUTION C-05-05

RESOLUTION ON FULL RETENTION

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Concerned that continuing catches of juvenile tunas adversely affect the tuna stocks in the eastern Pacific Ocean;

Resolves as follows:

To amend “Until January 1 2006” to “Until January 1 2007” in paragraph a. of Section 1 “Reduction of the incidental mortality of juvenile tunas” of the Consolidated Resolution on Bycatch (C-04-05).

To review compliance with Section 1 of Resolution C-04-05, by flag state, in the Permanent Working Group on Compliance.

Appendix 2e.

RESOLUTION C-05-04¹

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF TRADE MEASURES
TO PROMOTE COMPLIANCE**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), meeting in Lima, Peru, on the occasion of its 72nd Meeting;

Noting that the objective of the IATTC is to maintain the populations of species covered by the IATTC Convention in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) at the level which will permit maximum sustainable catches;

Considering the need for action to ensure the effectiveness of the measures to achieve the objectives of the IATTC;

Considering the obligation of all Parties, co-operating non-parties, co-operating fishing entities or regional economic integration organizations (collectively "CPCs") to respect IATTC conservation and management measures;

Recognizing that positive incentives constitute an important factor for promoting compliance with fisheries conservation and management measures, and further recognizing the importance of market access, consistent with national legislation, for fish and fish products caught in conformity with the conservation and management measures of the IATTC;

Aware of the need for sustained efforts by CPCs to ensure the enforcement of IATTC's conservation and management measures, and the need to encourage non-parties to abide by these measures;

Noting that trade restrictive measures should be implemented only as a last resort, where other measures have proven unsuccessful to prevent, deter and eliminate any act or omission that diminishes the effectiveness of IATTC conservation and management measures;

Noting that trade restrictive measures should be implemented in accordance with the FAO International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IPOA-IUU);

Also noting that trade restrictive measures should be adopted and implemented in accordance with international law, including principles, rights and obligations established in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreements, and implemented in a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory manner;

¹ This resolution is agreed *ad referendum* by El Salvador

Resolves as follows:

1. CPCs that import products of species covered by the IATTC Convention, or in whose ports those products are landed, should collect and examine as much import or landing data and associated information as possible on such products, and submit the following information to the Commission each year:
 - a. names and flags of the vessels that caught and produced such products;
 - b. species of the products;
 - c. areas of catch (inside or outside the EPO);
 - d. product weight by product type;
 - e. points of export;
 - f. names and addresses of owners of the vessels;
 - g. registration.
 2. a. The Commission, through the Permanent Working Group on Compliance (Compliance Working Group) or the Joint Working Group on Fishing by Non-Parties (Joint Working Group), as appropriate, should identify each year:
 - i. CPCs that have failed to fulfil their obligations under the IATTC Convention in respect of IATTC conservation and management measures, in particular, by not taking measures or exercising effective control to ensure compliance with IATTC conservation and management measures by vessels flying their flags; and/or
 - ii. Non-parties that have failed to discharge their obligations under international law to cooperate with IATTC in the conservation and management of species covered by the IATTC Convention, in particular, by not taking measures or exercising effective control to ensure that vessels flying the flags do not engage in any activity that undermines the effectiveness of IATTC conservation and management measures.
 - b. These identifications should be based on a review of all information provided in accordance with paragraph 1 or, as appropriate, any other relevant information, such as: the catch data compiled by the Commission; trade information on these species obtained from national statistics; any IATTC statistical document program; the IATTC IUU Vessel List; as well as any other information obtained in ports and on fishing grounds.
 - c. In deciding whether to make such an identification, the Compliance Working Group or the Joint Working Group should consider all relevant matters, including the history, nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the act or omission that may have diminished the effectiveness of IATTC conservation and management measures.
3. The Commission should ask the CPCs and non-parties identified under paragraph 2 to rectify the act or omission that led to their identification, and notify them of the following:
 - a. the reason(s) for the identification, with all available supporting evidence;
 - b. the opportunity to respond to the Commission in writing, at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Commission with regard to the identification decision and other relevant information, for example, evidence refuting the identification or, where appropriate, a plan of action for improvement and the steps they have taken to rectify the situation; and
 - c. in the case of a non-party, invite it to participate as an observer at the annual meeting where the issue will be considered.
4. CPCs are encouraged, jointly and individually, to ask the CPCs or non-parties identified pursuant to paragraph 2 to rectify the act or omission that led to their identification ified under paragraph 2 so as

not to diminish the effectiveness of IATTC conservation and management measures.

5. The Commission, through the Director, should, by more than one means of communication, transmit the Commission's request to the identified CPC or non-party, and seek to obtain confirmation from the CPC or the non-party that it received the notification.
6. The Compliance Working Group or the Joint Working Group should evaluate the response of each CPC or non-party, together with any new information, and recommend that the Commission decide on one of the following actions to be applied to each CPC and non-party:
 - a. revoke its identification made pursuant to paragraph 2;
 - b. continue its identification made pursuant to paragraph 2; or
 - c. adopt non-discriminatory trade restrictive measures.

In the case of CPCs, trade measures should be considered only when any such actions as the Commission may take to promote compliance either have proven unsuccessful or would not be effective.

7. If the Commission decides on the action described in paragraph 6.c, it should recommend to the Parties, pursuant to Articles I.2 and II.5 of the IATTC Convention, to take specific non-discriminatory trade restrictive measures, consistent with their international obligations. The Commission should notify the CPCs and non-parties concerned of the decision and the underlying reasons, in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraph 5.
8. CPCs should notify the Commission of any measures that they have taken for the implementation of the non-discriminatory trade restrictive measures adopted in accordance with paragraph 7.
9. In order for the Commission to recommend the lifting of trade restrictive measures, the Compliance Working Group and/or the Joint Working Group should review each year all trade restrictive measures adopted in accordance with paragraph 7. Should this review show that the situation has been rectified, the Compliance Working Group or the Joint Working Group, as appropriate, should recommend to the Commission the lifting of the non-discriminatory trade restrictive measures. Such decisions should also take into consideration whether the CPCs and/or non-parties concerned have taken concrete measures capable of achieving a lasting improvement of the situation.
10. Where exceptional circumstances so warrant or where the available information clearly shows that, despite the lifting of trade restrictive measures, a CPC or non-party continues to diminish the effectiveness of IATTC conservation and management measures, the Commission may decide on immediate action regarding that CPC or non-party, including, as appropriate, the imposition of trade restrictive measures in accordance with paragraph 7. Before making such a decision, the Commission should ask the CPC or non-party concerned to discontinue its wrongful conduct and should provide the CPC or non-party with a reasonable opportunity to respond.
11. The Commission should establish annually a list of CPCs and non-parties that are subject to a trade restrictive measure pursuant to paragraph 7 and, with respect to non-parties, are considered non-cooperating non-parties to IATTC.
12. The Commission recognizes the importance of market access, consistent with national legislation, for fish and fish products caught in conformity with the conservation and management measures of the IATTC, to promote compliance with such measures.

RESOLUTION C-05-07

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A LIST OF VESSELS PRESUMED TO HAVE CARRIED OUT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING ACTIVITIES IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Recalling that the FAO Council adopted on 23 June 2001 an International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IPOA-IUU). This plan stipulates that the identification of the vessels carrying out illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities should follow agreed procedures and be applied in an equitable, transparent and non-discriminatory way.

Concerned that IUU fishing activities in the Convention area undermine the effectiveness of the IATTC conservation and management measures.

Further concerned that there is a possibility that vessel owners engaged in such fishing activities may have re-flagged their vessels to avoid compliance with IATTC management and conservation measures.

Determined to address the challenge of an increase in IUU fishing activities by way of counter-measures to be applied in respect to vessels, without prejudice to further measures adopted in respect of flag States under the relevant IATTC instruments.

Considering the action undertaken in other regional tuna fisheries organizations to address this issue;

Conscious of the need to address, as a matter of priority, the issue of vessels conducting IUU fishing activities; and

Noting that the situation must be addressed in the light of all relevant international fisheries instruments and in accordance with the relevant rights and obligations established in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement;

Resolves as follows:

1. For the purposes of this resolution, vessels fishing for species covered by the IATTC Convention are presumed to have carried out IUU fishing activities in the EPO, *inter alia*, when an IATTC Party, cooperating non-Party, fishing entity or regional economic integration organization (collectively "CPCs") presents evidence that such vessels:
 - a. Harvest species covered by the IATTC Convention in the EPO and are not on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register, or
 - b. Do not record or report their catches made in the EPO, or make false reports, or
 - c. Take or land undersized fish in contravention of IATTC conservation measures, or
 - d. Fish during closures in contravention of IATTC conservation measures, or
 - e. Use prohibited fishing gear in contravention of IATTC conservation measures, or
 - f. Transship with vessels included in the IATTC IUU Vessel List, established by this resolution, or
 - g. Are without nationality and harvest species covered by the IATTC Convention in the EPO, or
 - h. Engage in fishing activities contrary to any other IATTC conservation and management measures, or
 - i. Are under the control of the owner of any vessel on the IATTC IUU Vessel List.
2. Each CPC shall transmit to the Director, before 1 February of every year, a list of any vessels

presumed to have carried out IUU fishing activities in the EPO during the current and previous years, accompanied by the evidence supporting the presumption of IUU fishing activity.

The IATTC IUU Vessel List shall be based on information collected by CPCs and from any other relevant sources. Information from CPCs should be provided in the format approved by the Parties.

3. On the basis of the information received pursuant to paragraph 2, the Director shall draw up a draft IATTC IUU Vessel List and shall transmit it, together with all the supporting evidence provided, to all CPCs, as well as to non-parties with vessels on the List, before 1 March of each year. CPCs and non-parties shall, before 15 April, transmit their comments to the Director, as appropriate, including evidence showing that the vessels neither have fished in contravention of IATTC conservation and management measures nor had the possibility of fishing for species covered by the IATTC Convention in the EPO.

Upon receipt of the draft IATTC IUU Vessel List, CPCs shall closely monitor the vessels included in the draft List in order to determine their activities and possible changes of name, flag and/or registered owner.

4. On the basis of the information received pursuant to paragraph 3, the Director shall draw up a provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List, and transmit it, two weeks in advance of the Annual Meeting of the Commission, to the CPCs and the non-parties concerned, together with all the evidence provided.
5. CPCs may at any time submit to the Director any additional information which might be relevant for the establishment of the IATTC IUU Vessel List. The Director shall circulate the information, together with all the evidence provided, to the CPCs and to the non-parties concerned, at least two weeks before the Annual Meeting of the Commission.
6. The IATTC-AIDCP Joint Working Group on Fishing by Non-Parties (Joint Working Group) shall each year examine the provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List, as well as the information referred to in paragraphs 3 and 5. The results of this examination may, if necessary, be referred to the Permanent Working Group on Compliance.

The Joint Working Group shall remove a vessel from the provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List if the vessel's flag State demonstrates that:

- a. The vessel did not engage in any of the IUU fishing activities described in paragraph 1, or
 - b. Effective action has been taken in response to the IUU fishing activities in question, including, *inter alia*, prosecution, and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity.
7. Following the examination referred to in paragraph 6, the Joint Working Group shall recommend that the Commission approve the provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List, as amended by the Joint Working Group.
 8. Once the provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List is adopted by the Commission, the Commission shall ask non-parties with vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List to take all the necessary measures to eliminate these IUU fishing activities, including, if necessary, the withdrawal of the registration or the fishing licenses of these vessels, and to inform the Commission of the measures taken in this respect.
 9. CPCs shall take all necessary measures, under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU, to:
 - a. ensure that vessels flying their flag do not transship with vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List;
 - b. ensure that vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List that enter ports voluntarily are not authorized to land or transship therein;
 - c. prohibit the chartering of a vessel on the IATTC IUU Vessel List;

- d. refuse to grant their flag to vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List, unless the vessel has changed owner, and the new owner has provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owner or operator has no further legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control of, the vessel or, having taken into account all relevant facts, the flag CPC determines that granting the vessel its flag will not result in IUU fishing;
 - e. prohibit commercial transactions, imports, landings and/or transshipment of species covered by the IATTC Convention from vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List;
 - f. encourage traders, importers, transporters and others involved, to refrain from transactions in, and transshipment of, species covered by the IATTC Convention caught by vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List;
 - g. collect, and exchange with other CPCs, any appropriate information with the aim of searching for, controlling and preventing false import/export certificates for species covered by the IATTC Convention from vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List.
10. The Director shall take any measure necessary to ensure publicity of the IATTC IUU Vessel List, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, including placing it on the IATTC website. Furthermore, the Director shall transmit the IATTC IUU Vessel List to other regional fisheries organizations for the purposes of enhancing co-operation between the IATTC and these organizations aimed at preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing.
 11. This resolution shall apply to any fishing vessel greater than 24 meters overall length.
 12. Without prejudice to the rights of CPCs and coastal states to take proper action, consistent with international law, the CPCs shall not take any unilateral trade measures or other sanctions against vessels on the draft or provisional IATTC IUU Vessel Lists, pursuant to paragraphs 3 or 4, or that have been removed from the IATTC IUU Vessel List, pursuant to paragraph 6, on the grounds that such vessels are involved in IUU fishing activities.
 13. This resolution replaces Resolution C-04-04.

RESOLUTION C-05-06

RESOLUTION ON FINANCING

The Parties to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Understanding the importance of ensuring sufficient funding for the Commission in a timely manner so it may continue to effectively develop and implement the agreed conservation and management program for the living marine resources of the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) 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 Parties should be transparent, fair and equitable, stable, and predictable, but also should allow for redistribution of costs as new Parties join;

Giving due consideration to the current requirement in the Convention establishing the Commission that the proportion of the expenses paid by each Party should be related to the proportion of the total catch utilized by that Party and the consensus of the Parties that other factors should be considered in determining their proportional contributions;

Taking into account the relevant provisions of the Antigua Convention, adopted in Antigua, Guatemala, on 27 June 2003;

Recognizing that the ability of a Party to make its contribution may be limited by circumstances beyond its control, and that such a situation may require reconsideration of the budget for that year;

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

Taking note of the staff's proposals regarding the budget presented in Document IATTC-73-17 and the need to implement a long-term financing system; and

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

Have agreed as follows:

1. To adopt the recommended budgets of US\$ 5,182,908 for FY 2006 and US\$ 5,336,109 for FY 2007 presented in Document IATTC-73-17.
2. To contribute to the budget of the IATTC for FY 2006 in accordance with the following schedule of payments, which was developed taking into account the draft funding formula illustrated in the tables attached to the Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Working Group on Finance, held August 29-31, 2001, in La Jolla, California.

(US\$)	FY 2006
Costa Rica	57,038
Ecuador	339,928
Spain	636,517
France	102,698
Guatemala	33,734
Japan	374,411
Korea	147,410
Mexico	918,280
Nicaragua	20,250
Panama	207,896
Peru	30,101
El Salvador	46,261
United States	1,937,935
Venezuela	276,417
Vanuatu	54,033
Total	\$ 5,182,908

3. That the Working Group on Finance continue its deliberations on the funding formula in order to achieve consensus among the Parties on the use of the formula for determining each Party's contribution to the IATTC budget for FY 2007 and for the longer term.
4. That the Director shall inform each Party, at least two months prior to the annual meeting, of its projected contribution for the following two financial years.
5. That the Commission shall not pay more than 30% of the costs associated with the AIDCP On-Board Observer Program for vessels of member states.
6. That the contributions of any new member of the Commission shall be determined on the same basis as the contributions of existing members, subject to the Commission's financial regulations.
7. That States not presently members of the IATTC and fishing entities which have vessels fishing for fish covered by the Convention should make, and request their flag vessels to make, voluntary contributions to the Commission, preferably on the same basis as the contributions of existing members.
8. That the Director prepare the information necessary to change the management of the budget from the financial year currently used to a financial year equivalent to a calendar year.
9. To invite NGOs interested in the work of the IATTC to make contributions to the Commission's budget.

Appendix 3a.

JOINT WORKING GROUP ON FISHING BY NON-PARTIES

4TH MEETING

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Joint Working Group on Fishing by Non-Parties was chaired by Roberto Cesari, of the European Union.

1. Adoption of the agenda

It was agreed to reverse the order of items 5 and 6 of the provisional agenda.

The provisional agenda was adopted with this change.

Documents JWG-4-INF A and INF B were introduced by Japan and Chinese Taipei, respectively, for discussion under item 4.

2. Approval of corrected Spanish text of Terms of Reference

The corrections set out in Document JWG-04-03 were approved.

3. Compliance by non-parties

Dr. Allen introduced Document JWG-04-04. As there are no non-parties with purse-seine vessels in the EPO, there was no identification of co-operating or non-cooperating non-parties for the AIDCP.

Regarding longline vessels, the meeting recognized that the limits for bigeye catches established in Resolution C-04-09 had not been exceeded. Japan questioned the level of 2001 longline catches provided by Belize. Belize said that most of these catches are unloaded in Costa Rica, and agreed with the Chair's proposal that it should be possible to check these catches with Costa Rica.

Belize also stated that its vessels were licensed to fish and fished in a regulated manner and had provided copies of its pertinent regulations. Japan noted that, while Belize had the tools for managing its fleet, they did not seem to be effective, since the owners, operators and beneficiary owners were foreigners.

Pursuant to Resolution C-04-02, defining the criteria to be used in the consideration of the status of Co-operating Non-Party, the IATTC Parties reviewed compliance by IATTC non-parties with measures adopted by the Commission for 2004.

This review revealed that vessels of Bolivia and Colombia had not complied with the Resolution C-04-09 on tuna conservation, and Colombia has also not complied with Resolution C-02-03 on fleet capacity by having a purse-seine vessel fishing in the EPO that was not on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register.

Colombia argued that it was a non-Party to the IATTC and could not be involved in the adoption of C-04-09, and that the closure it had implemented was scientifically equivalent to the IATTC closure. It also claimed that the socioeconomic effects of the IATTC closure would be serious for Colombia. Colombia also stated that it was in the process of becoming a member of the IATTC, and that when it did, it would implement all IATTC decisions.

Several Parties noted that, under existing international standards, Colombia had a clear obligation to cooperate with the IATTC, and its status as a non-Party did not exempt it from complying with IATTC resolutions, which Colombia itself had admitted that it had not done.

Colombia reported that it was checking with its capital regarding the one longline vessel that was reported not to have provided the data required by Resolution C-03-05.

Regarding the provision of catch data, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Georgia, and Indonesia have not provided the required information for 2003, which is the requirement of Resolution C-03-05, and Belize

has provided data for 2001 and 2004.

Japan provided a extensive report on laundering of IUU catches by large-scale tuna longline vessels. Chinese Taipei expressed its concern regarding this issue, and said that it had dealt with the specific vessels identified in the Japanese report.

4. List of vessels identified as engaged in IUU fishing

Panama pointed out that it was a member of the IATTC, and that therefore the Panamanian-flag vessel on the provisional IUU list should not be there.

Ecuador noted that two vessels on the provisional IUU list, *Don Álvaro* and *Don Luis*, were in the process of changing flag to Ecuador from Bolivia.

Colombia pointed out that the procedure established in Resolution C-04-04 had not been followed, and that therefore none of its vessels should be included in the IUU list. The Director noted that, while Colombia had not been sent the draft IUU list by the deadline, the Colombian government had pointed out the omission and responded to the draft list. The Secretariat had taken account of these comments in the preparation of the provisional list, which was sent within the required deadline.

The Working Group agreed that, in the future, the provisional IUU list considered by the Joint Working Group should be the draft IUU list plus any comments received by the deadline.

The IATTC members of the Working Group considered two options regarding the IUU vessel list to be forwarded to the IATTC: either the draft list plus comments received plus the provisional list, or just the draft list. The Working Group decided to forward the draft list, with the removal of the Panamanian-flag vessel.

5. Cooperating non-parties or fishing entities

The following non-parties have been identified as Co-operating Non-Parties or Fishing Entities (CPCs): Canada, China, the European Union, Honduras, Korea and Chinese Taipei.

The Working Group asked the Director to send a letter to Chinese Taipei requesting it to rectify the situation of laundering of catches and improve control of small longline vessels, overcapacity, and the fishery directed towards sharks, and report the actions it takes at the 2006 meeting of the Commission. , If the Commission is not satisfied, Chinese Taipei would lose its Cooperating Status.

Regarding Bolivia, the US noted that if the position of Colombia on the date of the flag change of the five vessels whose date of flag change is disputed was accepted, Bolivia would not have been in contravention of Resolution C-04-09. However, the Joint Working Group also noted that Bolivia did not provide catch data for its longline vessels.

Regarding the issue of applying for Cooperating Status described in Document JWG-04-05b, the Working Group decided that non-parties should apply for such status each year.

6. Extension of [Resolution C-04-04](#) on the IATTC IUU Vessel List to CPCs and vessels of less than 24 m length overall

Dr. Allen explained that paragraph 11 of Resolution C-04-04 calls upon the Parties to decide whether to extend the resolution to CPCs and to vessels of less than 24 meters. The Working Group agreed that the resolution should be amended to include CPCs and vessels of a size to be determined by the Commission, and the Secretariat would provide a breakdown of vessels by size.

7. Implementation of [Resolution C-03-01](#) on the IATTC bigeye statistical document program

Dr. Allen summarized the implementation of the resolution. Several countries had provided validated examples of statistical reports. Japan and Korea had provided the six-monthly reports on imports, and the Working Group stressed the importance of obtaining the required report from exporting countries, none of which had yet been provided.

Japan stressed the importance of the implementation of the Statistical Document Program by importing CPCs to exclude IUU-caught tunas from CPC markets. The Working Group asked the Director to send a letter to those CPCs that imported tuna and had not introduced the Program, urging them to implement the program immediately.

8. Recommendations for the IATTC

The Working Group recommends that the Commission endorse the identification of Canada, China, the European Union, Honduras, Korea and Chinese Taipei as Co-operating Non Parties or Fishing Entities (CPCs).

The Working Group forwards the attached draft IUU list to the Commission for consideration and adoption.

The Working Group recommends that *Resolution C-04-04* be amended to include CPCs and vessels of a size to be determined by the Commission.

DOCUMENTO IATTC-73-INF A

LONGLINE VESSELS, BY LENGTH—BUQUES PALANGREROS, POR ESLORA

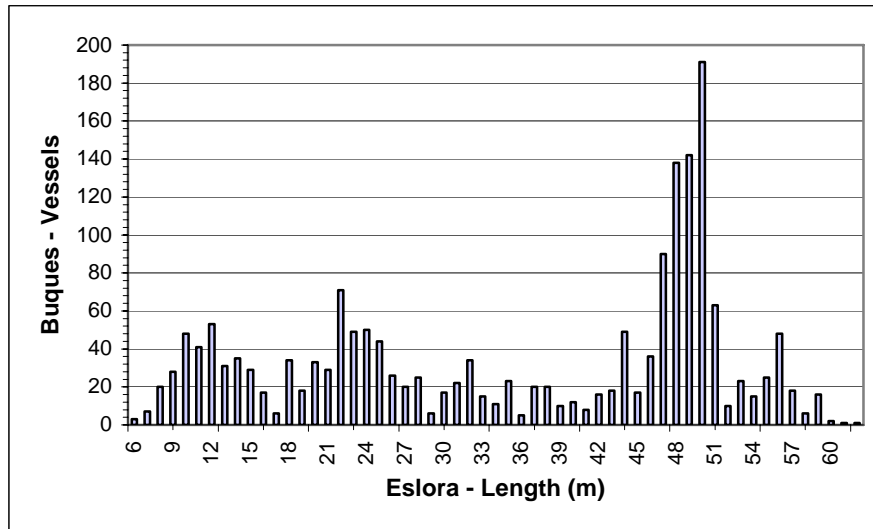


Figura – Figure 1.

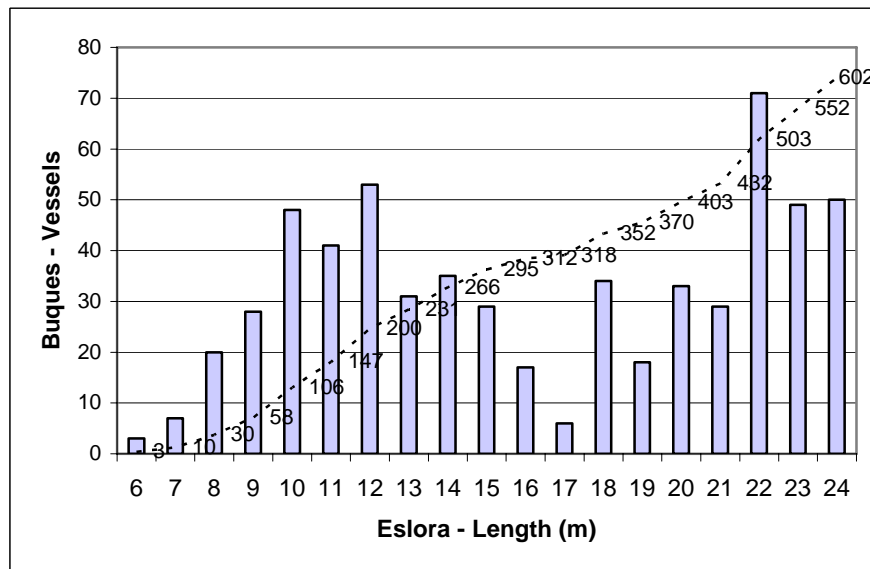


Figura – Figure 2

Buques palangreros incluidos en el Registro Regional de Buques de la CIAT para los que se dispone de información de eslora (1.845 buques). Para 649 buques no se dispone de tal información. La línea de trazos indica el total acumulado.

Longline vessels on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register for which length information is available (1,845 vessels). This information is not available for 649 vessels. The dotted line indicates the cumulative total.

Appendix 3c.

STATEMENT BY CHINESE TAIPEI CONCERNING CHINESE TAIPEI'S GLOBAL FLEET REDUCTION PROGRAM AND CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Over the past two decades, increasing demand of fish products worldwide has motivated dramatic growth in fishing capacity and in turn resulting in depletion or over-use of fishery resources. In order to prevent from deterioration of the already vulnerable fishery resources due to growing fishing capacity of the world, FAO calls for states or fishing entities taking action in line with the international plan of action (IPOA) on management of fishing capacity adopted by FAO COFI in 1999. Besides, most of the regional fisheries management organizations in three oceans have also taken measures in response to the possible over exploitation of bigeye tuna resource. Chinese Taipei has noted the above situation and has the same concern with other countries about the global over-fishing capacity that has caused a threat to the sustainability of the tuna stocks.

In order to meet with the request from the international community, as a responsible administration we would like to report to the Commission our determination in regulating and managing our fisheries. The measures we have adopted and will be adopting are as follows:

1. In order to reduce our fishing capacity, we have adopted an emergency global fleet buyback program with the target of scrapping 120 large-scale longliners. The target of scrapping 73 large-scale longliners is expected by the end of this year, 67 are bigeye fishing vessels, among which 16 will be from the Pacific Ocean, and the remaining ones by the end of 2006. This buyback program involves a great financial burden from both the government and the industry, costing a total of US\$120 million, US\$50 million from the government budget and US\$70 million from the industry.
2. We will continue to cooperate with all members of the Commission in combating IUU fishing, and exchange information with all others on IUU fishing activities and submit such information to the secretariat accordingly. In addition, we will cooperate with all countries concerned to crack down cases of fish laundry or other illegal activities involving our vessels. We assure you in case concrete evidence is found in their unlawful act, they will be punished in accordance with our law.
3. Strict control of high seas transshipment is essential for the enhancement of fisheries management. We support stringent control of high seas transshipment.

Finally, we would like to confirm again our commitment to respect the Commission's conservation and management measures, in order that our tuna fishery can contribute greatly to the sustainability and to the food supply in the world.

Appendix 3d.

DOCUMENT IATTC-73-INF D

SUBMITTED BY JAPAN

**INFORMATION PAPER ON THE JOINT MEETING OF TUNA RFMOs IN
2007**

Tunas and tuna-like species are managed by regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) established for each ocean. However, since large-scale tuna vessels are highly mobile and can move freely from one ocean to another, new problems have emerged. A restrictive rule established by one RFMO can adversely affect the effectiveness of conservation and management measures of other RFMOs. These problems include:

- Transfer of excessive fishing capacities to other oceans;
- Fish-laundering activities disguising the fishing area or the name of the fishing vessel.

It is recognized that, in order to combat such global problems, the creation of a collaborative approach by all relevant RFMOs is indispensable. Taking account of this situation, FAO, at the 26th Session of its Committee on Fisheries in March 2005, agreed that a Joint Meeting of Tuna RFMOs should be held in January or February 2007 in Japan (attachment).

Appendix 4.

PROP IATTC-73-E1D

PROPOSAL BY NICARAGUA AND THE UNITED STATES

**RESOLUTION TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF TUNA FISHING ON SEA
TURTLES**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Considering the possible adverse effects of tuna fishing on the populations of sea turtles in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) through capture and mortality;

Recalling and reaffirming the Resolutions on Bycatch adopted at the 66th, 68th, 69th and 72nd Meetings of the Commission in June 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2004, respectively;

Recalling and reaffirming the *Resolution on a three-year program to mitigate the impact of tuna fishing on sea turtles* adopted at the 72nd Meeting of the Commission in 2004;

Recognizing that the Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the Working Group on Bycatch include longline fisheries data that identify the incidental capture of thousands of sea turtles and their subsequent high mortality in the EPO;

Further recognizing that United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) endorsed the *Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations* at the 26th Session of its Committee on Fisheries ; and

Agreeing that additional measures on bycatch should be undertaken to reduce such capture and mortality in tuna fisheries;

Has agreed to amend Section 4, Sea turtles, of the Consolidated Resolution on Bycatch (C-04-05) as follows:

1. In subparagraph b, change the word “encourage” to “require”, delete the word “voluntarily”, and insert “available” before “data”;
2. Add the following new subparagraphs:
 - g. Improve techniques to further reduce sea turtle bycatch and mortality, and should expeditiously undertake research to determine the effectiveness of the use of circle hooks, type of bait, depth, gear and specifications and fishing practices, and other measures in reducing the incidental catch and mortality of sea turtles, assess their effects on the catch of target species and other bycaught species and provide their results to the Working Group on Bycatch or the IATTC.
 - h. Require fishermen to bring on board, resuscitate, if practicable, and release turtles that are comatose or inactive.
 - i. Require specific measures for purse-seine vessels fishing for target species covered by the Convention in the EPO as follows:
 - i. release all sea turtles they encounter which are entangled in fish-aggregating devices (FADs);
 - j. Require CPCs to send to the IATTC Director, by 15 May of each year, a comprehensive report of the implementation of this Resolution during the previous year.
 - k. The Commission shall review the implementation of this resolution and, as appropriate, develop measures for better conservation and management of sea turtles in the context of bycatch in fisheries managed by the IATTC.

Appendix 5.

STATEMENT BY ACAP ON SEABIRDS

June 2005

The [Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels](#) (ACAP) is a multilateral agreement whose objective is the conservation of albatrosses and petrels, developing avenues of cooperation and coordination of international action to eliminate the dangers that affect the populations of those seabirds. Both the dangers on land or at sea that occur in the southern hemisphere, where those birds live.

ACAP is an agreement that arises from the Bonn Convention on migratory species of wild animals.

The Agreement entered into force on 1 February 2004, and the first meeting of the Parties was held in November 2004, in Hobart (Tasmania), where it has its headquarters.

To date, 11 countries have signed the Agreement: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, France, New Zealand, Peru, South Africa, the United Kingdom and Spain. Of these, 7 countries have already ratified the agreement, Peru being the last country that has just formalized its ratification.

ACAP has formed an Advisory Committee and will soon adopt a Plan of action. This is an agreement that needs to broaden the support that it receives from countries, both from those where the birds nest and those whose vessels operate on the high seas.

ACAP is an agreement on the protection of biodiversity, which promotes conservation through cooperation, seeking to link interactive avenues of international cooperation. There is a commitment by the international community, reiterated during the International Conference in St. John’s in March of this year, that countries and RFMOs focus management and conservation of fisheries resources from an ecosystem perspective, involving them in the protection of marine biodiversity. Therefore, ACAP hopes that the IATTC will give a clear signal of its concern for the conservation of petrels and albatrosses and that the Parties to the IATTC will consider joining the agreement.

Appendix 6.

COMISION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATUN TROPICAL INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla CA 92037-1508, USA – www.iattc.org
Tel: (858) 546-7100 – Fax: (858) 546-7133 – Director: Robin Allen

23 June 2005

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), on the occasion of its 73rd Meeting, decided to issue the following:

Communiqué concerning the inclusion of vessels under the jurisdiction of Colombia on the IATTC IUU Vessel List

The IATTC welcomes the efforts of the Government of Colombia to achieve full compliance by its tuna-fishing vessels with the conservation and management measures of the Commission, and the intention expressed by Colombia of becoming a member of the IATTC. The IATTC notes that the presence of Colombian vessels on the IATTC IUU list is not an impediment to the Government of Colombia depositing its instrument of adherence to the 1949 Convention.

Following the demonstration of compliance by Colombia with the IATTC conservation and management measures, and upon the proposal of one or more of its members, the Commission shall decide whether to withdraw the Colombian vessels from its IUU list. Such consideration could occur after the end of either one of the closure periods established by Resolution C-04-09.

This arrangement is a reflection of the importance the Commission attaches to the efforts demonstrated by the Colombian delegation at the 73rd meeting.



Samuel Juárez
Chairman