

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
COMMISSION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATÚN TROPICAL

78TH MEETING

PANAMA
23-27 JUNE 2008

DOCUMENT IATTC-78-10b
EXCHANGE OF DATA WITH THE WCPFC

This document, which was circulated to the Commissioners on 1 May 2008, is for discussion under agenda item 3 of the Consultative Meeting; it will also be discussed under agenda item 10b of the 78th Meeting of the IATTC.



Date: 13 April 2008

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Dear Dr Campeán,

I enclose a draft agreement that proposes arrangements for the exchange of data between the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). The draft is based on *Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission* which were adopted by the members of the WCPFC at the last annual session held at Guam in December 2007. A copy of these *Rules and Procedures* is also attached.

I would be pleased to respond to any queries related to this draft in the hope of concluding arrangements for the exchange of fisheries data between our two organisations at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Wright
Execurtive Director

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AGREEMENT ON THE EXCHANGE OF DATA

between

**THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY
MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN**

and

THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (hereafter WCPFC) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (hereafter IATTC):

RECOGNISING the Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC Convention) and the Antigua Convention for the strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission established by the 1949 Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica (Antigua Convention) have provisions to address the cooperation with other organizations in order to ensure that the objectives of both Conventions are reached;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the Memorandum of Understanding between the WCPFC and the IATTC agreed to establish and maintain consultation, cooperation and collaboration in respect of exchange of data and information, in a manner consistent with the information-sharing policies of each Commission; and

NOW THEREFORE the WCPFC and IATTC agree to the following conditions for the exchange and release of data from fisheries which capture highly migratory fish species:

1. CONDITIONS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF DATA

- (a) Subject to fulfilling internal requirements of each Commission regarding data confidentiality and information security, both Commissions exchange equivalent data on a reciprocal basis, and maintain the data in a manner consistent with the security standards established by each Commission.
- (b) The conditions in paragraph (a) above shall apply to all data as specified below to be disseminated to other Commission.

2. OPERATIONAL LEVEL DATA

Operational-level tuna fisheries data includes catch and effort (including by-catch of mammals, turtles, sharks and billfish), observer, unloading, transshipment and port inspection data.

3. AGGREGATED DATA

Aggregated catch and effort data includes:

- (a) Data for long line gear aggregated by flag State by 5° latitude and by 5° longitude by month;

- (b) Data for surface gear (including purse seine) aggregated by flag State by 1° latitude and by 1° degree longitude by month; and
- (c) Aggregated observer data (made up of observations from a minimum of three vessels).

4. OTHER DATA

Monitoring, control, surveillance, inspection and enforcement data includes:

- (a) The names and other markings of 'Vessels Of Interest' to each organization; and
- (b) Transshipment verification reports for vessels transshipping in the Convention Area of one RFMO but which have fished within the Convention Area of the other.

5. MODIFICATION AND AMENDMENT

This Agreement on the Exchange of Data is subject to modification and amendment by mutual consent.

6. TERMINATION

Either Commission may terminate this Agreement on the Exchange of Data by giving six months' notice of intention to terminate to the other Commission.

7. SIGNATURE

Signed on behalf of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission:

.....
Chairman, WCPFC

Date:

.....
Chairman, IATTC

Date: