

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON FLEET CAPACITY
11TH MEETING

SAN JOSÉ (COSTA RICA)
26-28 APRIL 2011

RECOMMENDATIONS

Taking into account that the Plan for Regional Management of Fishing Capacity adopted in 2005 still needs further actions to be fully implemented;

Considering the importance that the issue of capacity development represents for the coastal and developing States of the Eastern Pacific Ocean;

Given the need to establish in the most expeditious way a new comprehensive plan based on an holistic approach to capacity management in the IATTC Convention Area;

Considering the importance of fishing for highly migratory fish stocks as a source of food, employment and economic benefits for the populations of the Members, and that conservation and management measures must address those needs and take into account economic and social impacts;

The Working Group agrees to:

1. Submit to the Commission the list of requests for increases in capacity or claims for capacity considered by the Working Group, attaching supporting documentation that each requesting member sends to the Director. The list shall identify three categories:
 - a. Requests by coastal members based on the footnote to Resolution C-02-03;
 - b. Claims arising from disputes resulting from capacity transfers and/or differences in the implementation of Resolution C-02-03 since its entry into force;
 - c. Requests for new increases in capacity for EPO coastal countries and non-coastal countries.
2. Recommend to the Commission that it attend to the requests contained in the list in the order in which the three categories are presented in paragraph 1.
3. Ask the Director to prepare a document that will assist the deliberations of the meeting of the Commission in 2011, and that presents, in a preliminary manner, the different scenarios of the impact on the conservation of the resource of tuna and tuna-like species in the EPO in relation to the requests detailed in subparagraphs a and c of paragraph 1, and the Scientific Advisory Committee will be asked to examine, before the annual meeting of the Commission in 2012, that document, offering its comments and advice to the Commission.
4. Review scenarios of shifting balance between different gear types, and give consideration to the establishment of a capacity limitation also for the longline fleet.
5. Ask the Director to include in the agenda of the next meeting of the Commission the time necessary to address the problem and identify solutions.
6. Recommend the formation of an *ad hoc* group for the settlement of disputes referred to in paragraph 1, subparagraph b, based on the provisions of Part VII of the Antigua Convention, and also recommend that the Members consult by correspondence, through the Director, to formulate terms of reference for the *ad hoc* group for presentation to the Commission.
7. Recommend to the Commission that it define issues related to the capacity of the fleet as a matter of

priority as soon as possible, to which end a process of consultations additional to those held at the annual meeting of the Commission in 2011 will be defined, with a view to resolving all the requests for increases in capacity at the latest by the meeting of the Commission in 2012.

8. Recommend to the Commission to develop and agree clear and transparent rules and procedures for implementation of Resolution C-02-03, including capacity transfers, vessel charters and loans, to reduce the potential for future disputes over capacity.
9. Taking into account the previous paragraphs, recommend to the Commission that it review the Plan for Regional Management of Fishing Capacity and consider, based on scientific advice, potential strategies to reduce purse-seine capacity, to ensure that effort is commensurate with conservation advice and progressively approaching the target level resulting from the review.