

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

89TH MEETING

Guayaquil (Ecuador)
29 June-3 July 2015

PROPOSAL IATTC-89 N-1

SUBMITTED BY GUATEMALA

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN *AD HOC* WORKING GROUP FOR THE REVIEW OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) is governed by the provisions of the 2003 Antigua Convention, which entered into force in 2010, and by the resolutions in force adopted by the Commission since its creation in 1949 and to date.

Achieving the objective of the Antigua Convention depends in great measure on the efficacy and efficiency of the Commission's work, for which rules of procedure play a fundamental role.

The rules of procedure in force, adopted after the entry into force of the Antigua Convention by means of Resolution C-12-03 and amended by Resolution C-14-08, establish in their paragraph 50 that:

"...The Commission shall review these rules no later than its annual meeting in 2015, and consider revising them as necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the Commission. ..."

The call to review the Rules of Procedure contained in the transcribed paragraph, allows the Commission to carry out a comprehensive review of the procedures adopted, both in the general Rules, and in the specific rules contained in the resolutions in force, both at the specific time that decisions are taken, and in matters relating to the expected monitoring and control, and in general in the entire process of interaction of the various bodies, in a manner compatible with the provisions of the Antigua Convention, in the interests of greater efficacy and efficiency in the overall performance of the Commission.

The establishment of a technical, multidisciplinary and participative *Ad Hoc* Working Group is proposed, made up of both the specialised staff of the Commission and the CPCs, charged with considering and developing concrete proposals for amending the procedures in force, considering the existing rules, their implementation history, the outlook for the fishery and the dynamics of fishing activities under the Commission's purview. The Working Group will work through meetings or virtually during the 2015-2016 intersessional period and will report the results of its work to the Commission at its regular annual meeting in 2016.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission,

Considering that the Rules of Procedure in force establish that "...The Commission shall review these rules no later than its annual meeting in 2015, and consider revising them as necessary for the effective and efficient operation of the Commission. ...",

Considering the advisability of utilising this process in the interests of greater efficiency and efficacy in the Commission's work;

Recognising that reviewing the Rules of Procedure is a process that involves the participation of CPCs

and of the specialised staff of the Commission;

Agrees:

1. An Ad Hoc Working Group is established for the review of the rules of procedure of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, of a technical nature, made up of whomever the CPCs designate, the Director and the relevant specialised staff, and directed by a Coordinator appointed by the Commission;
2. CPCs shall notify the Coordinator of the Working Group and the Director of their interest in participating in the process and shall provide the mechanisms that will guarantee the participation of their representatives.
3. The Coordinator shall convene a first meeting of the Ad Hoc Group before the month of September of 2015, at which its program of work and a schedule shall be approved.
4. The Working Group shall review the different sources of the procedures agreed by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, receive comments from CPCs and the Commission staff through the Director on the matters defined in paragraph 1 *inter alia*:
 - a. Clarity of the procedures
 - b. Effectiveness of the procedures with regard to the objective that is sought.
 - c. Voids or gaps that require attention
 - d. Proposals for improvements
 - e. Other observations that they consider relevant
5. The Group's proposals shall be presented to the Commission within the period necessary for their reception by the Director in order to allow them to be discussed at the regular annual meeting of the Commission in 2016.