

**INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION**

**90<sup>TH</sup> MEETING (RESUMED)**

**La Jolla, California (USA)  
12-14 October 2016**

**PROPOSAL IATTC-90 G-3**

**SUBMITTED BY COLOMBIA**

**REGULATION OF CATCHES OF JUVENILE TUNAS ASSOCIATED  
WITH THE USE OF FADS IN THE PURSE-SEINE FISHERY OF THE  
EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN DURING 2017-2019**

*The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in La Jolla, California, USA, on the occasion of its 90<sup>th</sup> Meeting:*

*Aware of its responsibility for the scientific study of the tunas and tuna-like species in its Convention Area and for formulating recommendations to its Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs) with regard to these resources;*

*Recognizing that the potential production from the resource can be reduced if fishing effort is excessive;*

*Aware that the capacity of the purse-seine fleets fishing for tunas in the Convention Area continues to increase;*

*Recalling that, as an alternative to the current system of closures of the purse-seine fishery of the eastern Pacific Ocean, the IATTC staff conducted various analyses of limits by Individual Vessel Quotas (IVQs) (Document SAC-04-11), based on the total catch of bigeye and yellowfin by purse-seine vessels, limited to sets on floating objects only;*

*Concerned because the capacity of the purse-seine fleets and the number of FADs that are being deployed in the Convention Area continues to increase.*

*Taking into account the best scientific information available, reflected in the IATTC staff's recommendations, and the precautionary approach;*

*Understanding that the IATTC Scientific Advisory Committee recommended looking for complementary conservation measures as an alternative to an increase in the closure days suggested by the scientific staff;*

*Recognizing that attempts must be made to reduce the catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin mainly associated with fish-aggregating devices or FADs;*

*Agreeing that a system of Individual Vessel Quotas (IVQs), particularly in the purse-seine fishery on fish-aggregating devices (FADs) would limit the catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin;*

*Agrees:*

*To apply in the Convention Area the conservation and management measures for yellowfin and bigeye tuna set out below, and requests that the staff of the IATTC monitor the fishing activities of the respective CPC's flag vessels relative to this commitment, and report on such activities at the next meeting of the Commission;*

**I. BIGEYE AND YELLOWFIN QUOTAS FOR PURSE-SEINE TUNA FLEET IN SETS ON FADS**

1. IATTC Class-5 and -6 purse-seine vessels shall limit catches of bigeye and yellowfin tuna in sets on FADs, for which an annual individual-vessel catch quota is established for these species, taking as a reference the average of the catches by these vessels during the years 2013, 2014 and 2015.
2. Taking into account the difficulty of differentiating between juveniles of bigeye and yellowfin tuna, the quota will be considered as a combination of the two species. The combined quota corresponds to the sum of the average of the catches of each of these species in sets on FADs for the years 2013, 2014 and

2015. The combined quota shall be distributed in accordance with the (IVQ) system that the Commission may establish on the basis of a recommendation from the Scientific Advisory Committee.

3. IATTC Class-5 and -6 purse-seine vessels shall immediately suspend sets on FADs once the individual quota (IVQ) allocated for the duration is reached. If the vessel exceeds its allocated annual quota, the excess shall be deducted from its quota for the following year.
4. Each CPC in coordination with the IATTC staff shall monitor the unloadings of yellowfin and bigeye by IATTC Class-5 and -6 purse-seine vessels, which shall be corroborated by the processing plants. For suitable compliance with this paragraph, each CPC shall develop a protocol for monitoring unloadings within at most 60 days after the approval of this resolution.
5. The IVQ for catching yellowfin and bigeye tuna in sets on FADs, for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 shall be the formula  $IVQ \text{ rate} \times \text{capacity in tons per cubic meter of well}$  reported on the RVR in accordance with Document SAC-04-11<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Document SAC-04-11 – Individual-vessel quotas for purse-seine vessels that fish on fish-aggregating devices. Updating of this document by the Secretariat at the request of the Government of Colombia is pending