

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

93RD MEETING

San Diego, California (USA)

24, 27 – 30 August 2018

PROPOSAL IATTC-93 B-2

SUBMITTED BY JAPAN

PROPOSAL TO AMEND RESOLUTION C-14-01

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

IMO ship identification number (“IMO number”, hereinafter) has been used as a unique vessel identifier of fishing vessels under vessel registration of RFMOs. IATTC resolution C-14-01 has required that fishing vessels authorized to fish in the Convention Area that are at least 100 gross tons (GT) or 100 gross registered tons (GRT) in size have an IMO or LR number issued, and the numbers should be part of the vessel information registered under the Regional Vessel Register of the IATTC. The size of the vessels subject to the requirement (i.e. >100 GT) was consistent with the scope of the fishing vessels which could obtain IMO numbers under the relevant resolution of the IMO (IMO Resolution 28/Res.1078) applicable at that time.

In December 2017, IMO Assembly adopted IMO Resolution 30/Res.1117 that expands the scope of vessels which can obtain IMO number to all motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 gross tonnage down to a size limit of 12 meters in length overall authorized to operate outside waters under national jurisdiction of the flag State. This proposed amendment to C-14-01 is to change the scope of the vessels accordingly.

Japan hopes that introduction of IMO numbers to the vessels smaller than 100 GT or GRT allows CPCs to track and monitor the fishing vessels moving beyond owners or flags, and ultimately prevent IUU activities of those vessels.

RESOLUTION C-~~14-01~~18-XX

RESOLUTION (AMENDED) ON A REGIONAL VESSEL REGISTER

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Lima, Peru on the occasion of its 87th Meeting:

Affirming the importance of ensuring that all vessels fishing in the Antigua Convention Area comply with the conservation and management measures agreed by the Commission;

Reaffirming the need to have pertinent information relative to the operations of vessels fishing in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Recalling that Article XII, paragraph 2 (k), of the Antigua Convention stipulates that the Director shall maintain the record of vessels fishing in the Convention Area based, *inter alia*, on the information provided pursuant to Annex 1 of the Convention;

Concerned that the current IATTC Regional Vessel Register includes fishing vessels not from Members and Co-operating Non-Members of the Commission (CPCs) and the Commission cannot confirm whether these vessels are complying with relevant IATTC resolutions;

Further recalling that the Commission has been taking various measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal,

unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Convention Area,

Noting that large-scale fishing vessels are highly mobile and easily change fishing grounds from one ocean to another, and have high potential of operating in the Convention area without timely registration with the Commission,

Recalling that the FAO Council adopted on June 23, 2001, an International Plan of Action (IPOA) aiming to prevent, to deter and to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, that this plan stipulates that the regional fisheries management organization should take action to strengthen and develop innovative ways, in conformity with international law, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and in particular to establish records of vessels authorized and records of vessels engaged in IUU fishing,

Further noting that the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Maritime Safety Committee, at its ~~92nd~~ 98th meeting, approved amendments to the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme that ~~remove the exclusion of vessels solely engaged in fishing and allow the its voluntary application to fishing vessels~~ expands fishing vessels' eligibility for IMO number to any fishing vessels larger than 12 meters in length overall authorized to operate outside waters under national jurisdiction of the flag state, which was adopted by IMO Assembly at its ~~28~~30th meeting in ~~November 2013~~ December 2017 as Assembly Resolution A. ~~1078(28)~~1117(30),

Recognizing the utility and practicality of using IMO numbers as a unique vessel identifier (UVI) for fishing vessels, and

Aware of the need to amend consequently its Resolution C-~~11-06~~14-01 on a Regional Vessel Register:

Agrees that:

1. The Director shall establish and maintain a record of vessels that have been authorized to fish in the Antigua Convention Area for species covered by the Convention, on the basis of the information detailed in paragraph 2. The record shall contain only vessels that fly the flags of CPCs.
2. Each CPC shall supply to the Director the following information with respect to each vessel under its jurisdiction to be included in the record established pursuant to paragraph 1:
 - a. name of vessel, registration number, previous names (if known), and port of registry;
 - b. a photograph of the vessel showing its registration number;
 - c. previous flag (if known and if any);
 - d. International Radio Call Sign (if any);
 - e. name and address of owner or owners;
 - f. where and when built;
 - g. length, beam, and moulded depth;
 - h. freezer type and freezer capacity, in cubic meters;
 - i. number and capacity of fish holds, in cubic meters and, in the case of purse-seine vessels, capacity breakdown by fish hold if possible;
 - j. name and address of operator(s) and/or manager(s)(if any);
 - k. type of vessel;
 - l. type of fishing method or methods;
 - m. gross tonnage;
 - n. power of main engine or engines;
 - o. the nature of the authorization to fish granted by the flag CPC (such as main target species); and

- p. International Maritime Organization (IMO) or Lloyd's Register (LR) number, if issued.¹
- 3. Each CPC shall promptly notify the Director of any modifications to the information listed in paragraph 2.
- 4. Each CPC shall also promptly notify the Director of:
 - a. any additions to the record;
 - b. any deletions from the record by reason of:
 - i. the voluntary relinquishment or non-renewal of the fishing authorization by the owner or operator of the vessel;
 - ii. the withdrawal of the fishing authorization issued to the vessel in accordance with Article XX, paragraph 2, of the Convention;
 - iii. the fact that the vessel is no longer entitled to fly its flag;
 - iv. the scrapping, decommissioning or loss of the vessel; and
 - v. any other reason, specifying which of the reasons listed above are applicable.
- 5. The Director shall request each CPC to provide complete data for its vessels in accordance with paragraph 2 if the CPC does not provide all the required information.
- 6. The Commission shall review this resolution in 20~~15XX~~ and consider revisions to improve its effectiveness, including revisions to the vessel information required in paragraph 2.
- 7. This resolution replaces Resolution C-~~11-06~~ 14-01.

¹ Effective 1 January 2016, flag CPC's shall ensure that all their fishing vessels authorized to fish in the Convention Area that are at least 100 gross tons (GT) or 100 gross registered tons (GRT) in size have an IMO or LR number issued. ~~Effective 1 January 2019, flag CPCs shall ensure that all their motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 gross tonnage down to a size limit of 12 meters in length overall (LOA) [or registered length], authorized to operate in the Convention Area and outside waters under the national jurisdiction of the flag state have an IMO or LR number issued.~~ In assessing compliance with this requirement, the Commission shall take into account extraordinary circumstances in which a vessel owner is not able to obtain an IMO or LR number despite following the appropriate procedures. Flag CPCs shall report any such extraordinary situations in their annual reports.