

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the participating observer governments listed in Appendix I:

Recalling the agreement of governments expressed in resolutions of the intergovernmental meetings held in San José, Costa Rica, in September 1990, and La Jolla, California, in January 1991, to establish an international program for the reduction of incidental mortality of dolphins caught in association with tuna in the purse-seine fishery in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Further recalling and affirming the objectives of the international program, which include achieving, in the short term, a significant reduction in dolphin mortalities incidental to this fishery and, in the longer term, a reduction in such mortalities to insignificant levels approaching zero and, if possible, the complete elimination of such mortality;

Noting that, in accordance with the objectives of the above-mentioned resolutions, a significant reduction in dolphin mortality has already been achieved;

Resolve to:

- Adopt a multilateral program with the objectives of (1) progressively reducing dolphin mortality in the EPO fishery to levels approaching zero through the setting of annual limits and (2), with a goal of eliminating dolphin mortality in this fishery, seeking ecologically sound means of capturing large yellowfin tunas not in association with dolphins while maintaining the populations of yellowfin tuna in the EPO at a level which will permit maximum sustained catches year after year;

Further resolve to:

- Continue the current international program and, where appropriate, the individual national programs, of placing an observer on each trip made by purse-seine vessels of capacity greater than 400 tons operating in the EPO and, beginning in 1993, ensure that at least one-half of the observers deployed each year by each nation are IATTC observers;
- Set annual limits on total dolphin mortality in the EPO, as follows:

Year	Limit	Percentage of best estimate of current populations of spotted, spinner, and common dolphins
1993	19,500	0.30
1994	15,500	0.24
1995	12,000	0.19
1996	9,000	0.14
1997	7,500	0.11
1998	6,500	0.10
1999	<5,000	<0.08

- Ensure compliance with these limits by a mechanism to be agreed upon by July 1, 1992;
- Monitor trends in abundance of specific dolphin stocks and take protective measures for these stocks, as necessary;
- Establish a panel to review and report on the compliance of the international fleet with the mortality limits set forth above, and make recommendations as appropriate; the functions and responsibilities of the panel will be elaborated at the 50th meeting of the IATTC;
- Provide to the IATTC, in a timely manner, summary data collected through national observer programs; similarly, the IATTC will provide information, within their constraints of confidentiality, to governments;

- Expand current IATTC training and gear inspection programs to ensure the use of the best current fishing methods and gear technology available;
- In light of the research currently being undertaken, as set forth in Appendix II, initiate research to adapt current technology to ensure that reduction targets can be achieved, and seek alternative methods for capturing large yellowfin tunas in the EPO which do not involve encircling dolphins, with particular emphasis on the use of fish-aggregating devices (FADs) to attract large tunas, taking special note of such methods employed in other oceans, and study the impact on the ecosystem of achieving these reductions in the mortality of dolphins.
- Strive to attain funds for research at a level sufficient to achieve the objectives of this resolution, as presented in Appendix II;
- Establish within the IATTC an Advisory Board of technical specialists from the international communities of scientists, government agencies, environmental groups, and the fishing industry, to assist the Director of the IATTC in efforts to coordinate, facilitate, and guide research. The functions and responsibilities of the Advisory Board will be elaborated at the 50th Meeting of the IATTC.

APPENDIX I.

Mexico, Spain, Venezuela.

APPENDIX II.

I. RESEARCH PROJECTS CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED (In US\$)

Methods that would not entail chase nor encirclement of dolphins:

Fish-Aggregating Device (FAD) feasibility study	212,000
Light detecting and ranging (LIDAR) device (Execution to June 1992)	80,000
Oceanography (Execution to September 1993)	135,000
Food habits study (Execution to January 1994)	200,000
Tuna-Dolphin association (Execution to November 1992)	175,000
(additional funding for boat charter)	600,000
TOTAL	1,402,000

II. RESEARCH PROJECTS PROPOSED

A. Improvements in current purse-seining technology

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2
Current profiler	190,000	
Freitas panel	100,000	100,000
Net-lifting devices	100,000	100,000
Dolphin Rescue Boats	50,000	
	(Budgeted)	
Engineering workshop	100,000	
Purse-seine consultant from FAO	(Budgeted)	
Remotely-operated vehicle (ROV) system	75,000	
Modification of purse-seine net	(Budgeted)	
TOTAL (both years)		865,000

B. Methods involving dolphins, but not encirclement

Pair trawling	(Not planned)
Separation by acoustic methods	(Not planned)
Separation by other methods	(Not planned)
Food habit studies (see below)	

C. Methods that would not entail chase nor encirclement of dolphins

Expanded FAD program	4,070,000
Longliner and baitboat studies	(Budgeted)
1) Baitfishing studies	
2) Economic studies	

Several other projects concerning the association between tunas and logs that would be relevant to the FAD project are listed in the Report of the Workshop on the Ecology and Fisheries for Tunas Associated With Floating Objects (available upon request); however, plans and budgets have not yet been prepared.

D. Other studies

Establish Scientific Advisory Board of international specialists: US\$ 50,000 per annum (see above).