

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION  
COMISIÓN INTERAMERICANA DEL ATÚN TROPICAL

70<sup>a</sup> REUNION - 70<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

ANTIGUA (GUATEMALA)  
26-28 JUN 2003

REVIEW OF THE IATTC CONVENTION

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP

1. Pursuant to the Resolution adopted by the Commission at its 61<sup>st</sup> Meeting in June 1998 on the establishment of a Working Group to review the 1949 IATTC Convention, the Working Group held ten sessions, as follows:

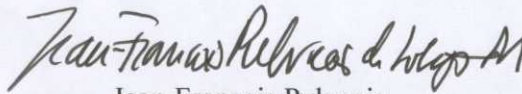
- 1<sup>st</sup> La Jolla, California, October 19, 1998
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ensenada, Mexico, January 28, 1999
- 3<sup>rd</sup> La Jolla, California, October 6-7, 1999
- 4<sup>th</sup> La Jolla, California, May 22-25, 2000
- 5<sup>th</sup> La Jolla, California, September 11-16, 2000
- 6<sup>th</sup> San Jose, Costa Rica, March 12-17, 2001
- 7<sup>th</sup> La Jolla, California, September 3-8, 2001
- 8<sup>th</sup> La Jolla, California, February 4-9, 2002
- 9<sup>th</sup> Managua, Nicaragua, September 30-October 5, 2002
- 10<sup>th</sup> La Jolla, California, March 18-22, 2003.

Additionally, the Working Group held a special meeting of legal and technical experts in Antigua, Guatemala, June 22-26, 2003, to harmonize the English, Spanish and French texts of the results of the negotiations conducted by the Working Group referred to in paragraph 9 below.

2. Representatives of all thirteen Parties to the 1949 Convention participated in the meetings of the Working Group, namely the representatives of: Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, United States, Vanuatu and Venezuela.
3. Representatives from other States and a regional economic integration organization<sup>1</sup> and a fishing entity,<sup>2</sup> which are not Parties to the 1949 Convention and whose vessels have fished for fish stocks covered by the draft Convention referred to in paragraph 9 below during the four years preceding its adoption, participated in the meetings of the Working Group.
4. Observers from a number of non-governmental organizations<sup>3</sup> also attended the meetings of the Working Group.
5. The Working Group elected Ambassador Jean-François Pulvenis (Venezuela (1st-8th sessions), FAO (9<sup>th</sup> session to date)) as Chairman of the Working Group.
6. The Secretariat of the Working Group consisted of the following members of the IATTC Staff: Dr. Robin Allen (Director), Alejandra Ferreira, Brian Hallman, Berta Juarez, and Nicolas Webb.
7. The Working Group used as the basis of its work the *Chairman's Text* prepared on the basis of initial draft conventions proposed by Mexico, the United States, Venezuela and the European Community, as well as written and oral proposals by other participants.<sup>4</sup>
8. This text was subsequently revised several times<sup>5</sup> on the basis of the discussions and the submission of specific proposals that were recorded in a series of *Working Documents (1-16 rev.)*,<sup>6</sup> which also reflect the agreements that had been reached.
9. On June 26, 2003, the Working Group agreed to submit this report to the Commission, including
  - the text of the draft *Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention Between the United States of America and the*

*Republic of Costa Rica (“Antigua Convention”)*, in English, Spanish and French (Attachment 1);

- the draft *Resolution by the Commission for adoption of the Antigua Convention*, in English and Spanish (Attachment 2); and
- the draft *Resolution on the participation of a fishing entity in the Antigua Convention*, in English and Spanish (Attachment 3).



Jean-François Pulvenis  
Chairman

Attachment 1: *Draft Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention Between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica (“Antigua Convention”)*

Attachment 2: *Draft Resolution by the Commission for adoption of the Antigua Convention*

Attachment 3: *Draft Resolution on the participation of a fishing entity in the Antigua Convention*

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<sup>1</sup> Canada, China, Colombia, Republic of Korea and the European Community.

<sup>2</sup> The fishing entity has been participating in the work of the IATTC as an observer under the name “Taiwan”. It will be designated as “Chinese Taipei” for its participation in the Antigua Convention.

<sup>3</sup> The Billfish Foundation, the Ocean Conservancy (formerly the Center for Marine Conservation), the Humane Society of the United States, Fundación para la Defensa de la Naturaleza (FUDENA), and the World Wildlife Fund.

<sup>4</sup> *Chairman’s Text*, 6 June 1999.

<sup>5</sup> *Chairman’s Text*, 2 October 1999

*Revised Chairman’s Text*, April 2000

*Draft Consolidated Text*, July 2000

*Revised Consolidated Text*, 27 July 2002

*Revised Consolidated Text – Revision 2*, 5 October 2002

*Revised Consolidated Text – Revision 2a*, 25 February 2003

*Draft Convention*, 24 May 2003.

<sup>6</sup> *Working Document 1*, 22 May 2000

*Working Document 2*, 23 May 2000

*Working Document 3*, 24 May 2000

*Working Document 4*, 25 May 2000

*Working Document, Pending Issues*, July 2000

*Working Document 5*, 11 September 2000

*Working Document 6*, 12 September 2000

*Working Document 7*, 15 September 2000

*Working Document 8*, 21 April 2001

*Working Document 9, Proposals Relating to Pending Issues*, 21 April 2001

*Working Document 8A*, 6 September 2001

*Working Document 10*, 3 February 2002

*Working Document 10A*, 9 February 2002

*Working Document 11, List of Pending Issues*, 9 February 2002

*Working Document 12, Proposals Relating to Pending Issues*, 9 February 2002

*Working Document 13*, 4 October 2002

*Working Document 14, List of Pending Issues*, 5 October 2002

*Working Document 15*, 5 October 2002

*Working Document 16*, 21 March 2002

*Working Document 16 Rev*, 24 March 2003.