

Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission

RESOLUTION ON COMPLIANCE

16 June 2000

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), considering the recommendations of the Permanent Working Group on Compliance, recommends to the High Contracting Parties that they:

- Approve the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Working Group on Compliance.
- Reiterate to the Parties the obligation that each Party has to monitor and take the actions necessary to ensure strict compliance with the conservation and management measures agreed by the Commission regarding the fleet operating in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) under its jurisdiction. Also, encourage non-Parties under whose jurisdiction fishing vessels operate in the EPO, to fulfill their obligations, in accordance with international law, to cooperate in the implementation of the agreed regional conservation and management measures and monitor and take the actions necessary to ensure strict compliance with those measures.
- On the basis of the information collected by the IATTC staff, the Director shall send immediately to the pertinent Party information on possible cases of non-compliance detected for the fleet operating under its jurisdiction. The Director shall report on the progress of the legal procedures in cases of non-compliance during the meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Compliance, on the basis of the information supplied by each Party.
- In relation to monitoring compliance with the resolutions adopted by the Commission on bigeye tuna and fish-aggregating devices (64th Meeting of the IATTC, July 1999) and on yellowfin tuna (65th Meeting of the IATTC, October 1999), as well as any other measure agreed by the Commission, each Party, as well as non-Parties whose fleets operate in the EPO, shall:
 - Send to the Director, before August 30, 2000, information on the pertinent provisions of its legal framework which allows the timely implementation of the conservation and management measures agreed by the Commission.
 - Send to the Director information on the legal and administrative provisions for implementing the conservation and management measures, as well as other measures directed at the tuna fleet operating in the EPO, at the latest 10 days after their entry into force.
 - Send to the Director reports of developments in the investigations in progress regarding possible non-compliance by vessels under its jurisdiction, at the latest 60 days after the date on which the information was received by the competent authority, and send every 60 days a report on the progress, results and, if applicable, sanctions applied in relation to such non-compliance until a final resolution of pending cases has been achieved. This information shall include cases of possible non-compliance identified by the competent national authority of the flag state and regarding which action has been taken. Each Party shall strive to accelerate, within the framework of its national legislation, the processes which allow the resolution of cases of non-compliance.
- In order that the conservation and management measures agreed regarding catch limits for bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna may be implemented in a timely fashion, the Director shall inform all Governments whose fleets operate in the EPO of the estimated dates of closure under the following mechanism:
 - 45 days before the estimated date on which the catch limit will be reached, a first notice shall be sent;

- 15 days before the measures associated with the reaching of the catch limit enter into force, a final notice confirming the closure date shall be sent.
- Instruct the Director to define, on the basis of the scientific and technical information at his disposal, a set on a floating object. Once this is defined, present the definition to the Commission and send it to Directors of the national observer programs, as well as to the Governments, so that there is a common understanding of what is meant by the term.
- Adopt the proposed resolution for the establishment of a regional register of fishing vessels.
- Adopt the proposed resolution on fishing by non-Parties.
- Ask the Director that the Commission staff study the potential of the Parties having vessel monitoring systems, and present its analysis to the Commission for consideration.