



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 4 September 2013

13312/13

PECHE 356

COVER NOTE

from : Secretary-General of the European Commission
signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGNARNAU, Director

date of receipt: 30 August 2013

to: Mr Uwe CORSEPIUS, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

Subject: Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) - Notification of
Conservation and Management Measures adopted at the IATTC Annual Meeting,
Veracruz, Mexico, 10 - 14 June 2013

Delegations will find attached the Commission documents on the above-mentioned subject.

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

85TH MEETING

Veracruz, Veracruz (Mexico)

10-14 June 2013

RESOLUTION C-13-01

**MULTIANNUAL PROGRAM FOR THE CONSERVATION OF
TUNA IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN DURING 2014-2016**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Veracruz, Veracruz (Mexico), on the occasion of its 85th 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;

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

Recognizing the importance of conservation measures taken by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) for the tuna stocks in that region and the stocks of highly migratory tunas in the Pacific Ocean;

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;

1. These measures are applicable in the years 2014-2016 to all CPCs' purse-seine vessels of IATTC capacity classes 4 to 6 (more than 182 metric tons carrying capacity), and to all their longline vessels over 24 meters length overall, that fish for yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas in the Convention Area.
2. Pole-and-line, troll, and sportfishing vessels, and purse-seine vessels of IATTC capacity classes 1-3 (182 metric tons carrying capacity or less) are not subject to these measures.
3. All purse-seine vessels covered by these measures must stop fishing in the Convention Area for a period of 62 days in 2014, 62 days in 2015, and 62 days in 2016. These closures shall be effected in one of two periods in each year as follows:
 - 2014 – 29 July to 28 September, or from 18 November to 18 January 2015.
 - 2015 – 29 July to 28 September, or from 18 November to 18 January 2016.
 - 2016 – 29 July to 28 September, or from 18 November to 18 January 2017.
4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3, purse-seine vessels of IATTC capacity class 4 (between 182 and 272 metric tons carrying capacity) will be able to make only one single fishing trip of

up to 30 days duration during the specified closure periods, provided that any such vessel carries an observer of the On-Board Observer Program of the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP).

5. The fishery for yellowfin, bigeye, and skipjack tuna by purse-seine vessels within the area of 96° and 110°W and between 4°N and 3°S illustrated in Figure 1 shall be closed from 0000 hours on 29 September to 2400 hours on 29 October.

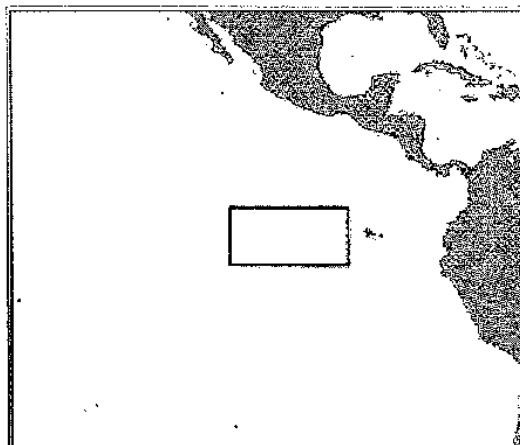


Figure 1. Closure area

6.
 - a. In each one of the years in which these measures are applicable, and for each one of the closure periods, each CPC shall notify the Director, by 15 July, the names of all the purse-seine vessels that will observe each closure period.
 - b. Every vessel that fishes during 2014-2016, regardless of the flag under which it operates or whether it changes flag or the jurisdiction of the CPC under which it fishes during the year, must observe the closure period to which it was committed.
7.
 - a. Notwithstanding the provision of subparagraph 6a and 6b, a request by a CPC, on behalf of any of its vessels, for an exemption due to *force majeure*¹ rendering said vessel unable to proceed to sea outside said closure period during at least a period equivalent to the closure period prescribed in paragraph 3 above, shall be sent to the Secretariat
 - b. In addition to the request for an exemption, the CPC shall send the evidence necessary to demonstrate that the vessel did not proceed to sea and that the facts on which the request for exemption is based were due to *force majeure*.
 - c. The Director shall immediately send the request and the evidence electronically to the other CPCs for their consideration, duly coded in order to maintain the anonymity of the name, flag and owner of the vessel.
 - d. The request shall be considered accepted, unless an IATTC Member objects to it formally within 15 calendar days of the receipt of said request, in which case the Director shall immediately notify all CPCs of the objection.
 - e. If the request for exemption is accepted,
 - i. the vessel shall observe a reduced closure period of 30 consecutive days in the same year during which the *force majeure* event occurred, in one of the two periods prescribed in

¹ For the purposes of paragraph 7, only cases of vessels disabled by mechanical and/or structural failure, fire, or explosion shall be considered *force majeure*

- paragraph 3, to be immediately notified to the Director by the CPC, or
- ii. in the event said vessel has already observed a closure period prescribed in paragraph 3 in the same year during which the *force majeure* event occurred, it shall observe a reduced closure period of 30 consecutive days the following year, in one of the two periods prescribed in paragraph 3, to be notified to the Director by the CPC no later than 15 July.

This exemption applies to the vessels of fleets that observe either of the closure periods prescribed in paragraph 3.

8. Each CPC shall, for purse-seine fisheries:
 - a. Before the date of entry into force of the closure, take the legal and administrative measures necessary to implement the closure;
 - b. Inform all interested parties in its tuna industry of the closure;
 - c. Inform the Director that these steps have been taken;
 - d. Ensure that at the time a closure period begins, and for the entire duration of that period, all the purse-seine vessels fishing for yellowfin, bigeye, or skipjack tunas that are committed to observing that closure period and that fly its flag, or operate under its jurisdiction, in the Convention Area are in port, except that vessels carrying an observer from the AIDCP On-Board Observer Program may remain at sea, provided they do not fish in the Convention Area. The only other exception to this provision shall be that vessels carrying an observer from the AIDCP On-Board Observer Program may leave port during the closure, provided they do not fish in the Convention Area.
9. China, Japan, Korea, and Chinese Taipei undertake to ensure that the total annual catches of bigeye tuna by their longline vessels in the Convention Area during 2014-2016 do not exceed the following levels:

Metric tons	2014-2016
China	2,507
Japan	32,372
Korea	11,947
Chinese Taipei	7,555

10. For 2015 and 2016, the total annual longline catches of bigeye tuna in the Convention Area shall be adjusted appropriately based on any conservation measures that may be adopted for purse-seine vessels in those years, as ratified or adjusted in accordance with paragraph 19.
11. All other CPCs undertake to ensure that the total annual catches of bigeye tuna by their longline vessels in the Convention Area during 2014-2016 do not exceed the greater of 500 metric tons or their respective catches of bigeye tuna in 2001^{2,3}. CPCs whose annual catches have exceeded 500 metric tons shall provide monthly catch reports to the Director. For 2015 and 2016, the limits in this paragraph shall remain in effect if the conservation measures for purse-seine vessels are maintained, as ratified or adjusted in accordance with paragraph 19.
12. Landings and transshipments of tuna or tuna products that have been positively identified as originating from fishing activities that contravene these measures are prohibited. The Director is requested to provide relevant information to CPCs to assist them in this regard.
13. Each CPC shall submit to the Director, by 15 July of each year, a national report on its updated na-

² The Commission acknowledges that France, as a coastal State, is developing a tuna longline fleet on behalf of its overseas territories situated in the Convention Area.

³ The Commission acknowledges that Peru, as a coastal State, will develop a tuna longline fleet, which will operate in strict compliance with the rules and provisions of the IATTC and in accordance with the resolutions of the Commission.

tional compliance scheme and actions taken to implement these measures, including any controls it has imposed on its fleets and any monitoring, control, and compliance measures it has established to ensure compliance with such controls.

14. In order to evaluate progress towards the objectives of these measures, in 2015 and 2016 the IATTC scientific staff will analyze the effects on the stocks of the implementation of these measures, and previous conservation and management measures, and will propose, if necessary, appropriate measures to be applied in future years.
15. The Director is requested to develop, in consultation with interested CPCs, a pilot program for research into, and gathering information on, the fish-aggregating devices (FADs) used to aggregate tunas in the Convention Area. The program shall include, *inter alia*, provisions for the marking of FADs, maintaining a record of the numbers of FADs on board each vessel at the beginning and end of each fishing trip, and recording the date, time, and position of deployment of each FAD. The Director is requested to report on the status of this effort at the next annual meeting of the IATTC. The information collected shall be held by the IATTC staff.
16. Subject to the availability of the necessary funding, the Director is requested to continue the experiments with sorting grids for juvenile tunas and other species of non-target fish in the purse-seine nets of vessels that fish on FADs and on unassociated schools, by developing an experimental protocol, including parameters for the materials to be used for the sorting grids, and the methods for their construction, installation, and deployment. The Director shall also specify the methods and format for the collection of scientific data to be used for analysis of the performance of the sorting grids. The foregoing is without prejudice to each CPC carrying out its own experimental programs with sorting grids and presenting its results to the Director.
17. For 2014, renew the program to require all purse-seine vessels to first retain on board and then land all bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna caught, except fish considered unfit for human consumption for reasons other than size. A single exception shall be the final set of a trip, when there may be insufficient well space remaining to accommodate all the tuna caught in that set. At its annual meeting in 2015, the IATTC will review the results of the program, including compliance, and decide whether to continue it.
18. The IATTC shall continue efforts to promote compatibility between the conservation and management measures adopted by the IATTC and WCPFC in their goals and effectiveness, especially in the overlap area, including by frequent consultations with the WCPFC, in order to maintain, and inform their respective members of, a thorough understanding of conservation and management measures directed at bigeye, yellowfin, and other tunas, and the scientific bases and effectiveness of those measures.
19.
 - a. In 2014 the results of these measures shall be evaluated in the context of the results of the stock assessments and of changes in the level of active capacity in the purse-seine fleet and, depending on the conclusions reached by the IATTC scientific staff, in consultation with the Scientific Advisory Committee, based on such evaluation, the Commission shall adopt conservation and management measures for the sustainable use of tuna and tuna-like species at its meeting in 2014.
 - b. In 2015, the results of these measures shall be evaluated in the context of the results of the stock assessment and of changes in the level of active capacity in the purse seine fleet and, depending on the conclusions reached by the IATTC staff, in consultation with the Scientific Advisory Committee, based on such evaluation, the Commission shall adopt conservation and management measures for the sustainable use of the tunas and tuna-like species at its meeting in 2015.
20. Except in cases of *force majeure* prescribed in paragraph 7, no exemptions will be allowed with regard to the closure periods notified to the Director in accordance with paragraph 6a, nor with regard to the fishing effort of the purse-seine fleets of the respective CPCs.

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

85TH MEETING

Veracruz, Veracruz (Mexico)

10-14 June 2013

RESOLUTION C-13-02

**MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF
BLUEFIN TUNA IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Veracruz, Veracruz, Mexico, on the occasion of its 85th Meeting;

Taking into account that the stock of Pacific bluefin tuna is caught in both the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Affirming that it is necessary to take precautionary management measures throughout the range of the resource to contribute to the stability of the stock of Pacific bluefin tuna;

Recognizing that the impact of the fishery for bluefin tuna in the Western and Central Pacific is much greater than in the EPO fisheries, and its rate of increase in recent years is greater (Document IATTC 83-05, page 75);

Putting on record again that the conservation measures adopted in the Western and Central Pacific are more important, due to their magnitude and composition, for the conservation of these stocks, and those that are currently in force may not be sufficient to reduce the total fishing mortality of this stock;

Encouraging both Commissions to take complementary and effective measures to reduce the mortality of bluefin tuna throughout the entire spectrum of ages, especially juveniles;

Urging all IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs) involved in this fishery to participate in a fair and equitable manner, and without exceptions, in the discussion and adoption of conservation measures applicable to the stock throughout its entire range;

Mindful that these measures are intended as an interim means for exercising caution towards assuring sustainability of the Pacific bluefin tuna resource and urging comparable action by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), and that future conservation measures should be based not only on these interim measures, but also on development of future scientific information and advice of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) and the IATTC scientific staff;

Taking into account the IATTC scientific staff's conservation recommendation for the Convention Area (Document IATTC 83-05c) as well as those adopted by the WCPFC, and committed to maintaining fishing activity at sustainable levels;

Recognizing that, although they are not comparable in their effectiveness, the WCPFC adopted conservation and management measures for bluefin tuna in 2012 (CMM 2012-06) and that in turn, the IATTC approved at its 83rd annual meeting in 2012 measures that include all the commercial fleets that catch that resource in the EPO for the 2012-2013 period; and therefore urges its counterparts to establish management and regulatory measures in all the WCPFC commercial fleets.

Noting that the ISC recently carried out an assessment of this resource in the North Pacific, which advises that the current 2010 biomass is at the lowest historical levels;

C-13-02 Pacific bluefin tuna

Recalling that the IATTC adopted Conservation and Management Measure for bluefin tuna (Resolution C-12-09) at its 83rd Meeting in 2012 which limits commercial catches to 10,000 metric tons for the period 2012-2013, of which 3,295 remain to be fished in 2013;

Resolves as follows:

1. In the IATTC Convention Area, the commercial catches of bluefin tuna by all the CPCs during 2014 shall not exceed 5,000 metric tons.
2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, any CPC with a historical record of eastern Pacific bluefin catches may take a commercial catch of up to 500 metric tons of eastern Pacific bluefin tuna annually.
3. CPCs shall take the measures necessary to ensure that the total catch of Pacific bluefin in the Convention Area in 2014 does not exceed the catch limit. For this purpose, each CPC shall report its catches to the Director in a timely fashion, weekly. The Director will send a first notice to the CPCs when 50% of the quota is reached. He will likewise send similar notices when 60%, 70%, and 80% of the quota is reached. When 90% is reached, the Director will send the corresponding notice to all CPCs, with a projection of when the quota established in paragraph 1 will be reached, and the CPCs will take the necessary internal measures to avoid exceeding the limit.
4. The Commission shall again ask the WCPFC to adopt appropriate and effective stock building targets, mandatory measures, and a definitive schedule for implementation of those measures, at its 2013 Regular Annual Session to address the impact of the fisheries in the Western and Central Pacific on the Pacific bluefin stock.
5. Based upon actions and measures adopted by the WCPFC, as referenced in paragraph 4, and appropriate analysis thereafter by the ISC, the scientific staff of the IATTC shall assess, by means of projected simulations, the status of the bluefin tuna stock both with and without the adopted WCPFC and IATTC measures. These assessments shall be presented at the next meeting of the IATTC Scientific Advisory Committee in 2014.
6. On the basis of the scientific reviews and advice referred to in paragraph 5, the Commission shall analyze the degree to which the adopted and implemented measures are sufficient to achieve a recovery of the bluefin tuna resource, and shall consider an appropriate bluefin tuna measure for the EPO for 2015 as an equitable part of the total Pacific bluefin tuna conservation and management measure and, as appropriate, for future years.

C-13-02 Pacific bluefin tuna

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

85TH MEETING

Veracruz, Veracruz (Mexico)

10-14 June 2013

RESOLUTION C-13-03

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION ON NORTH PACIFIC ALBACORE

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Recalling Resolution C-05-02 on Northern Pacific albacore tuna;

Recalling further its responsibility for the conservation and management of tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention Area, and for the formulation of recommendations to its Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs) with regard to the conservation and management of these resources,

Observing that the 2011 stock assessment of North Pacific albacore from the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) indicates that the stock is not being overfished nor is it in an overfished state;

Mindful that the effectiveness of Resolution C-05-02 is unknown and considering that the ISC is expected to complete a new stock assessment in 2014;

Taking note that there currently does not exist a common interpretation or understanding of the term "current effort", and that the IATTC staff has recommended that an operational definition of current effort, including a baseline reference period, be developed;

Recognizing the importance of working with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), as provided for in Article XXIV of the Antigua Convention, in order to manage North Pacific albacore tuna throughout its migratory range;

Noting the work of the WCPFC's Northern Committee in determining the extent their Commission Members, Cooperating Non-Members, and participating Territories (CCMs) are working to implement the WCPFC's Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) 2005-03 on North Pacific albacore;

Recalling further Article 22(4) of the WCPFC Convention that provides for cooperation with the IATTC regarding fish stocks that occur in the convention areas of both organizations;

Taking into account Article IV of the Antigua Convention calling upon members of the Commission to apply the precautionary approach, as described in the relevant provisions of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Code of Conduct, as well as the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, for the conservation, management and sustainable use of fish stocks covered by the Convention; and,

Considering the ongoing work within the WCPFC towards the development of a precautionary approach framework for North Pacific albacore, which will include target and limit reference points, as well as pre-agreed decision rules should those reference points be breached;

The IATTC therefore resolves that:

1. All CPCs shall report to the Director by December 1st, 2013, using the template (attached in Annex A), a list of all their specific fisheries or fleets that had any catch of North Pacific albacore in the Convention Area during 2007-2012; whether or not those fisheries are targeting North Pacific albacore;

Resolution C-13-03 North Pacific albacore

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and the average annual catch between 2007-2012 by gear type. In the case that a CPC cannot distinguish whether or not its catch of North Pacific albacore occurred in the Convention Area, it shall report its catch of North Pacific albacore in the entire North Pacific.

2. All CPCs shall report to the Director by December 1st, 2013, using a template attached in Annex B, a list of their fishing effort for those fisheries targeting North Pacific albacore. Fishing effort shall be reported in fishing days and number of vessels fishing for North Pacific albacore.
3. The Director shall direct the IATTC scientific staff to review the data template for its completeness and to assess the effectiveness of the current effort-based approach for managing North Pacific albacore and report their findings ninety (90) days prior to the 2014 annual meeting.
4. The Director and the IATTC scientific staff shall, in coordination with the ISC, monitor the status of North Pacific albacore tuna and report on the status of the stock at each annual meeting.
5. The IATTC scientific staff shall review work undertaken within the ISC and the WCPFC towards the development of a precautionary approach framework for North Pacific albacore that includes target and limit reference points and harvest control rules, and make recommendations in respect of such a framework for consideration by the Commission.
6. The Commission shall continue efforts to promote compatibility between the conservation and management measures adopted by the IATTC and the WCPFC in their goals and effectiveness with respect to North Pacific albacore.
7. The Director shall communicate this Resolution to the WCPFC Secretariat.

Annual catches of North Pacific albacore in the EPO

CPC:

Year	Data pertain to IATTC Area only or entire North Pacific?	Fisheries with ANY catch of NP albacore	"Fishing for" NP albacore? (Y/N)	Annual catches
2007				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
2008				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
2009				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
2010				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
2011				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
2012				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				

CP Area	Fishery	2002-2004 Average		2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
		No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days

¹ Data pertain to IATTC Convention Area only or entire North Pacific?

² Fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
COMISIÓN INTERAMERICANA DEL ATÚN TROPICAL

73RD MEETING

LANZAROTE (SPAIN)
20-24 JUNE 2005

RESOLUTION C-05-02

RESOLUTION ON NORTHERN ALBACORE TUNA

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), having responsibility for the scientific study of tunas and tuna-like fishes of the eastern Pacific Ocean, and for the formulation of recommendations to the Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Parties, fishing entities and regional economic integration organizations (CPCs) with regard to the conservation and management of these resources,

Observing that the best scientific evidence on North Pacific albacore tuna from the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean indicates that the species is either fully exploited, or may be experiencing fishing mortality above levels that are sustainable in the long term, and

Taking note that the IATTC staff has said that the stock assessment for Northern Pacific albacore tuna suggests a need for management measures to avoid increases in fishing mortality, and

Recognizing the importance of working with the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC), as provided for in Article XXIV of the Antigua Convention, in order to manage North Pacific albacore tuna throughout its migratory range, and

Recalling further Article 22(4) of the WCPFC Convention that provides for cooperation with the IATTC regarding fish stocks that occur in the convention areas of both organizations;

The IATTC therefore resolves that:

1. The total level of fishing effort for North Pacific albacore tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean not be increased beyond current levels.
2. The CPCs shall take necessary measures to ensure that the level of fishing effort by their vessels fishing for North Pacific albacore tuna is not increased;
3. All CPCs shall report all catches of North Pacific albacore tuna by gear type to the IATTC every six months.
4. The Director shall, in coordination with other scientific bodies conducting scientific reviews of this stock, monitor the status of North Pacific albacore tuna and report on the status of the stock at each annual meeting;
5. The CPCs shall consider future actions with respect to North Pacific albacore tuna as may be warranted based on the results of such future analysis.
6. The CPCs call upon the members of the WCPFC to consider, at the earliest opportunity, taking such action as may be necessary to ensure the effective conservation and management of North Pacific albacore tuna throughout its range including, in particular, measures to ensure that fishing effort on the stock in the WCPFC area does not increase and, as necessary, measures to reduce fishing effort to levels commensurate with the long-term sustainability of the resource.
7. The Commission through the Director shall communicate with the WCPFC and request them to take similar measures.

C-05-02 Northern albacore tuna.doc

8. The provisions of paragraph 2 shall not prejudice the rights and obligations under international law of those coastal CPCs in the EPO whose current fishing activity for northern Pacific albacore tuna is limited, but that have a real interest in, and history of, fishing for the species, that may wish to develop their own fisheries for northern Pacific albacore tuna in the future.

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

85TH MEETING

Veracruz, Veracruz (Mexico)

10-14 June 2013

RESOLUTION C-13-04

**COLLECTION AND ANALYSES OF DATA ON FISH-
AGGREGATING DEVICES**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Taking into account the best available scientific information on the status of the bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack stocks;

Committed to the long-term conservation and sustainable exploitation of fisheries in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Understanding that all fishing gears, including fish aggregating devices (FADs), have an effect on the stocks and the pelagic ecosystem in the EPO and that such effects should be fully understood by members of the Commission;

Attentive to the provisions of IATTC Resolution C-99-07 on measures related to the regulation of FADs;

Agreeing that to accurately provide the scientific advice necessary to effectively manage tuna fisheries in the EPO it is necessary for the scientific staff of the IATTC to have access to and analyze the relevant data regarding such fisheries and gears and for Commission members to put in place measures as needed to collect such information in their fisheries;

Acknowledging that observers currently collect data on FADs in the EPO that has been examined by the IATTC staff (Document SAC 02-13) and that the Commission has adopted measures for further research on FADs; the significant effect that FADs may have on bigeye tuna spawning biomass, according to IATTC estimates (Document SAC-03-06), that skipjack tuna is captured by FADs and in unassociated schools in the EPO (Document SAC-03-03), and according to IATTC estimates, its exploitation rate has been increasing in recent years (Document SAC-03-07);

Recognizing that these measures need to be expanded and improved upon to ensure that the effects of the use of FADs on highly migratory fish stocks along with non-target, associated and dependent species, are fully understood and that the Commission can receive the best available scientific advice concerning mitigation of any negative effects;

Committed to ensuring that such scientific advice is taken into account in the development of the Commission's conservation and management measures concerning fishing for tunas;

Noting that based on recent scientific analysis of the development of improved FAD designs, in particular non-entangling FADs, both drifting and anchored, helps reducing the incidence of entanglement of sharks, marine turtles and other species;

Further noting that whale sharks are particularly vulnerable to exploitation, including from fishing, and noting the ecological and economic value these species can bring to the EPO; and

Concerned about the potential effects of purse-seine operations on the status of whale sharks when delib-

erately or accidentally set upon;

AGREES:

1. For the purposes of this Resolution, the term "Fish-Aggregating Device" (FAD) means anchored, drifting, floating or submerged objects deployed and/or tracked by vessels, including through the use of radio and/or satellite buoys, for the purpose of aggregating target tuna species for purse seine fishing operations.

Section 1. FAD Data Collection

2. Beginning 1 January 2015, CPCs shall require the owners and operators of all purse-seine vessels flying their flag, when fishing on FADs, to collect and report the information contained in Annex 1. The data may be collected through a dedicated logbook, modifications to regional logsheets, or other domestic reporting procedures.
3. CPCs shall provide a summary of the data collected for the previous calendar year, pursuant to Paragraph 2, to the Director. CPCs shall submit the data to the Director no later than 30 days prior to each regular meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee.
4. No later than the IATTC annual meeting in 2016, the scientific staff of the IATTC, in coordination with the Scientific Advisory Committee, shall present to the Commission the results of its analyses of the information collected pursuant to Paragraph 2, and shall identify additional elements for data collection, as well as specific reporting formats, necessary to evaluate the effects of the use of FADs on the ecosystem of the EPO fishery. The analyses shall also incorporate information from data on FADs collected by observers through the *Flotsam Information Record*.
5. In addition, no later than the IATTC annual meeting in 2016, the scientific staff of the IATTC, in coordination with the Scientific Advisory Committee, shall present to the Commission initial recommendations based on information collected, based on this resolution and through other mechanisms, for the management of FADs, including possible effects of FADs in the tuna fishery in the EPO. The Commission shall consider adopting management measures based on those recommendations, including a region wide FAD management plan, and which may include, inter-alia, recommendations regarding FAD deployments and FAD sets, the use of biodegradable materials in new and improved FADs and the gradual phasing out of FAD designs that do not mitigate the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles and other species.
6. The scientific staff of the IATTC, in coordination with the Scientific Advisory Committee, shall also formulate recommendations for regulating the management of the stocks for presentation to the Commission, on the basis of the results of its analyses of the collected FAD information. Such recommendations shall include methods for limiting the capture of small bigeye and yellowfin tuna associated with fishing on FADs.
7. In 2016, compliance with the FAD reporting requirements of this Resolution will be comprehensively reviewed by the *Committee for the Review of the Implementation of Measures adopted by the Commission* and presented to the Commission.
8. Data collected pursuant to this resolution shall be treated under the rules established in the IATTC Resolution on Confidentiality.

Section 2. FAD Identification

9. No later than 1 January 2015, CPCs shall require the owners and operators of their applicable flagged purse seine fishing vessels to identify all FADs deployed or modified by such vessels in accordance with a Commission identification scheme.
10. The Director shall develop an identification scheme for consideration and adoption by the Commis-

sion in 2014, in coordination with CPCs during the intersessional period.

11. The Director should consider, at a minimum, including the following elements in the identification scheme:
 - a. All FADs shall have a unique identification number or electronic code taking into consideration confidentiality safeguards, with a specific numbering system and format to be adopted by the Commission.
 - b. The identification should be easy to apply to the FAD and should be applied in such a manner that it will permit its identification or electronic recognition taking into consideration confidentiality safeguards and should not become unreadable or disassociated from the FAD.

Section 3. Non-entangling FADs

12. To reduce the entanglement of sharks, marine turtles or any other species, the design and deployment of FADs should be based on the principles set out in Annex II.
13. If recommended by the scientific staff of the IATTC and the Scientific Advisory Committee, the Commission shall adopt measures for the use of non-entangling FADs.

Section 4. Whale Sharks

14. 14. CPCs shall prohibit their flag vessels from setting a purse seine on a school of tuna associated with a live whale shark, if the animal is sighted prior to the commencement of the set.
15. 15. CPCs shall require that, in the event that a whale shark is not deliberately encircled in the purse seine net, the master of the vessel shall:
 - a. ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure its safe release; and
 - b. report the incident to the relevant authority of the flag CPC, including the number of individuals, details of how and why the encirclement happened, where it occurred, steps taken to ensure safe release, and an assessment of the life status of the whale shark on release (including whether the animal was released alive but subsequently died).
16. 16. Paragraphs 14 and 15 shall enter into effect on 1 July 2014.

Annex I

CPCs are required to ensure their vessel owners and operators maintain and report to the appropriate national authorities:

- a) a) An inventory of the FADs present on the vessel specifying in particular for each FAD:
 - i. FAD identification (e.g. FAD marking or beacon ID or any information allowing to identify the owner)
 - ii. FAD type (e.g., drifting natural FAD, drifting artificial FAD),
 - iii. FAD design characteristics (dimension and material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure),
- b) b) For every FAD activity, the:
 - i. position,
 - ii. date,
 - iii. hour,
 - iv. FAD identification (e.g., FAD Marking or beacon ID or any information allowing to identify the owner)
 - v. FAD type (e.g., drifting natural FAD, drifting artificial FAD),

- vi. FAD design characteristics (dimension and material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure)
- vii. Type of the activity (set, deployment, hauling, retrieving, loss, intervention on electronic equipment, other (specified)).
- viii. If the activity is a set, the results of the set in terms of catch and by-catch.

Annex II

Principles for design and deployment of FADs

1. If a flat raft is used as a FAD, the surface structure should not be covered, or only covered with non-entangling material.
2. Any subsurface component of the FAD should be constructed in a manner designed to avoid entangling marine life.
3. To reduce the amount of synthetic marine debris, the use of natural or biodegradable materials (such as hessian canvas, hemp ropes, etc.) for drifting FADs should be promoted.

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

85TH MEETING

Veracruz, Veracruz (Mexico)

10-14 June 2013

RESOLUTION C-13-05

DATA CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC),

RECOGNIZING the need for confidentiality at the commercial and organizational levels for data submitted to the IATTC;

CONSIDERING the provisions set forth in IATTC Resolution C-04-10 on *Catch Reporting*;

MINDFUL of the provisions on data confidentiality set in Paragraph 48 of the IATTC Rules of Procedure;

Agrees:

POLICY FOR RELEASING CATCH-AND-EFFORT, LENGTH-FREQUENCY AND OBSERVER DATA SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS AND COOPERATING NON PARTIES TO THE IATTC

The policy for releasing catch-and-effort, length-frequency and observer data submitted to the Secretariat by Members and Cooperating Non-Members in compliance with the obligations arising from IATTC Resolutions will be as follows:

1. Standard stratification

Catch-and-effort and length-frequency data grouped by 5° longitude by 5° latitude by month for longline and 1° longitude by 1° latitude by month for surface fisheries stratified by fishing nation are considered to be in the public domain, provided that the catch of no individual vessel can be identified within a time/area stratum. In cases when an individual vessel can be identified, the data will be aggregated by time, area or flag to preclude such identification, and will then be in the public domain

2. Finer level stratification

- a) Catch-and-effort and length-frequency data grouped at a finer level of time-area stratification will only be released with written authorization from the sources of the data. Each data release will require the specific permission of the Director.
- b) IATTC Working Groups, Committees and other IATTC bodies will specify the reasons for which the data are required.
- c) The identity of individual vessels will be hidden in fine-level data unless the individual requesting this information can justify its necessity. The request shall be cleared by the vessel's flag State in accordance with its domestic legislation.
- d) Both Working Groups and individuals requesting data shall provide a report of the results of the research project to the IATTC for subsequent forwarding to the sources of the data.

POLICY FOR RELEASING TAGGING DATA

3. Detailed tagging and tag recovery data are considered to be in the public domain, with the exception of any vessel names or identifiers and detailed information about the person who recovered the tag

Resolution C-13-05 Procedures for confidential data

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(name and address). Tagging and tag recovery data will be available on the IATTC website.

PROCEDURES FOR THE SAFEGUARD OF RECORDS

4. Procedures for safeguarding records and databases will be as follows:

- a) Access to logbook-level information or detailed observer data will be restricted to IATTC staff requiring these records for their official duties. Each staff member having access to these records will be required to sign an attestation recognizing the restrictions on the use and disclosure of the information.
- b) Logbook and observer records will be kept locked, under the specific responsibility of the Head of the Data Collection and Database Program. These sheets will only be released to authorized IATTC personnel for the purpose of data input, editing or verification. Copies of these records will be authorized only for legitimate purposes and will be subjected to the same restrictions on access and storage as the originals.
- c) Databases will be encrypted to preclude access by unauthorized persons. Full access to the database will be restricted to the Head of the Data Collection and Database Program and to senior IATTC staff requiring access to these data for official purposes, under the authority of the Director. Staff entrusted with data input, editing and verification will be provided with access to those functions and data sets required for their work.

DATA SUBMITTED TO WORKING GROUPS AND THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

5. The above rules of confidentiality will apply to all members of Working Groups and the Scientific Advisory Committee.

OTHER DATA

6. In accordance with Paragraph 48 of the IATTC Rules of Procedure, all other records obtained by the staff of the Commission regarding individual persons, companies or enterprises and their operations shall be kept completely confidential and shall be available only to those members of the staff requiring access to them in the course of the scientific investigations.

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

85TH MEETING

Veracruz, Veracruz (Mexico)

10-14 June 2013

RESOLUTION C-13-06

FINANCING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) gathered in Veracruz, Veracruz (Mexico), on the occasion of its 85th Meeting:

Understanding the importance of ensuring sufficient funding for the Commission in a timely manner, so that it may continue to effectively develop and implement the agreed conservation and management program for the living marine resources of the IATTC Convention Area and conduct the associated data collection and research;

Noting that non-payment of the agreed contributions may impair the Commission's ability to continue its operations;

Aware that the allocation of the costs of supporting the Commission among Members should be transparent, fair and equitable, stable, and predictable, but also should allow for redistribution of costs as new Members join;

Taking into account Resolution C-12-04 whereby the Commission, at its 83rd Meeting, agreed on a formula for calculating the contributions of the Members to the Commission's budget for the years 2013-2017;

Taking into account the relevant provisions of the Antigua Convention;

Noting that several non-Members derive benefits from catching or utilizing fish covered by the Convention, but do not make contributions to the Commission's budget;

Taking note of the staff's proposals regarding the budget presented in Document CAF-01-05; and

Recognizing the need to seek economics in the operation of the Commission, in order to reduce costs;

Agrees:

1. To adopt the budget of US\$ 6,554,232 for fiscal year (FY) 2014.
2. That the Members shall contribute to the Commission's budget for FY 2014 in accordance with the following schedule:

	FY 2014 (US\$)
Belize	42,147
Canada	137,508
China	66,754
Colombia	228,142
Korea	170,411
Costa Rica	75,918
Ecuador	987,039
El Salvador	68,431
United States	1,746,553
France	107,553
Guatemala	55,451
Japan	388,451
Kiribati	32,009
Mexico	903,239
Nicaragua	61,249
Panamá	396,980
Peru	52,269
Chinese Taipei	149,220
European Union	383,551
Vanuatu	61,301
Venezuela	440,056
Total	6,554,232