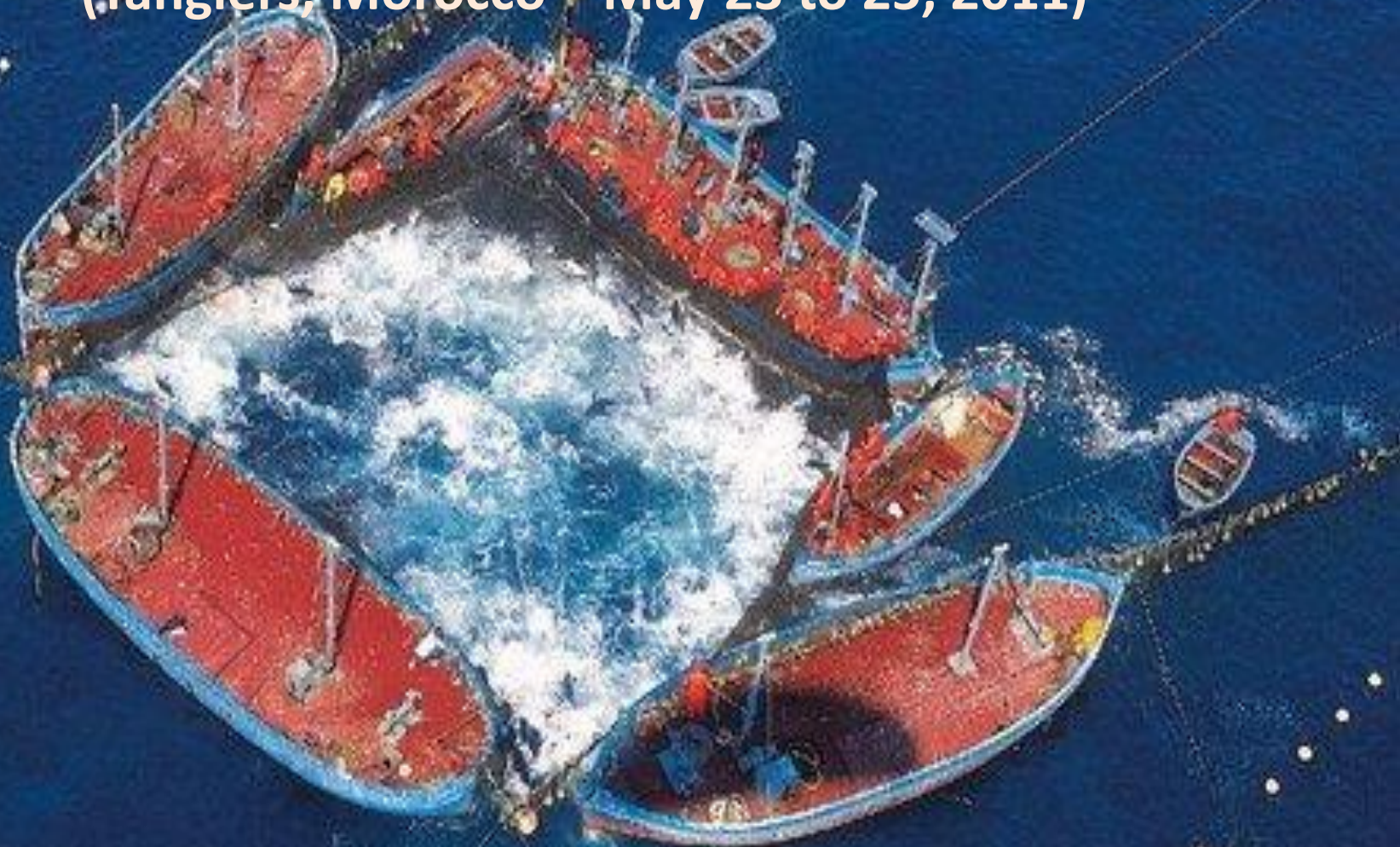




ICCAT-GBYP SYMPOSIUM ON TRAP FISHERIES FOR BLUEFIN TUNA

(Tangiers, Morocco – May 23 to 25, 2011)



Antonio Di Natale & M'Hamed Idrissi
ICCAT - GBYP Coordination
(SCRS, 3-7 October 2011)

1. BACKGROUND

The Symposium on trap fisheries was a response to a recommendation made by the 2010 SCRS and was carried out within the framework of the ICCAT Atlantic-wide Research Program on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP), aiming at:

- ✓ discussing and reviewing the information provided by this traditional gear in order to maximize its use for scientific purposes, such as stock assessment;
- ✓ providing the opportunity to improve the knowledge and better understanding of this ancient fishery in order to find a common methodological approach to standardize the CPUEs related to this fishing activity, which has the longest historical series among all the world fisheries;
- ✓ finding a common standardization procedure which will allow these data series to be better used in the stock assessment models.

Thus, this Symposium was also an excellent opportunity for defining the potential contribution of the trap fishery to the future work of the SCRS on the bluefin tuna stocks which should further help in improving current management and conservation measures for bluefin tuna fisheries.

2. HOW IT WAS ORGANIZED?

2.1. Scientific Committee:

- ✓ Josu Santiago (EC-Spain), SCRS Chair
- ✓ José Luis Basilio Cort (EC-Spain), Chair of BFT Trap Fishery Symposium
- ✓ Jean-Marc Fromentin (EC-France), East-Atlantic BFT Rapporteur
- ✓ Alain Fonteneau (EC-France)
- ✓ Corrado Piccinetti (EC-Italy)
- ✓ Pierantonio Addis (EC-Italy)
- ✓ Ziro Suzuki (Japan)
- ✓ Pilar Pallarés (ICCAT Deputy Executive Secretary)
- ✓ Mauricio Ortiz (Head, ICCAT Dept. Statistics)
- ✓ Antonio Di Natale (ICCAT-GBYP Coordinator)
- ✓ M´Hamed Idrissi (ICCAT-GBYP Assistant Coordinator)

2.2. Attendance: 60 persons (scientists, Fishing Industry, Fisheries Authorities) = European Commission (19) + Morocco (29) + Japan (3) + USA (1) + WWF (3) + ICCAT (5, including SCRS Chairman)

2. HOW IT WAS ORGANIZED?

2.2. Five sessions (in Conference room) & One session / excursion:

27 scientific presentations + one from Trap Fishing Industry

- *Session 1: Historical, cultural and technological aspects of BFT trap fisheries* (A. Di Natale, Moderator) – Nine (09) scientific documents/presentations

This session covered various aspects of these three essential backgrounds.

- *Session 2: Bluefin tuna trap data and standardization for assessment uses* (M. Ortiz, Moderator) - **Five** (05) scientific documents/presentations

The use of bluefin tuna trap fisheries data on catch, fishing effort and auxiliary information for assessment and stock evaluation was presented and discussed during this section.

- *Session 3: Tuna traps as a reliable scientific observatory for bluefin tuna stocks* (A. Fonteneau, Moderator) - Nine (09) scientific documents/presentations

They presented results of scientific value obtained from a wide range of historical and today traps, mainly from the Mediterranean sea (5 documents), but also on Canadian and Western Atlantic traps (1 document). Another document made comparative analysis of BFT caught by Mediterranean traps and by Japanese longliners in the North Atlantic, allowing estimating better BFT migration courses . Another document presented the results of recent work done on genetic heterogeneity of Mediterranean BFT. The last document presented the current research program on Spanish tuna traps.

2. HOW IT WAS ORGANIZED?

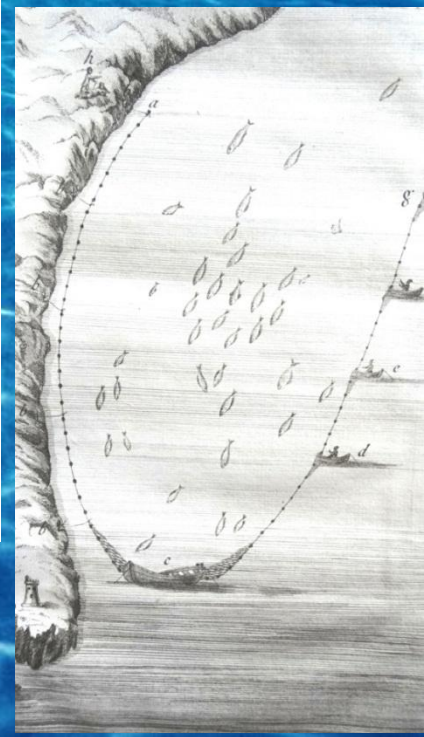
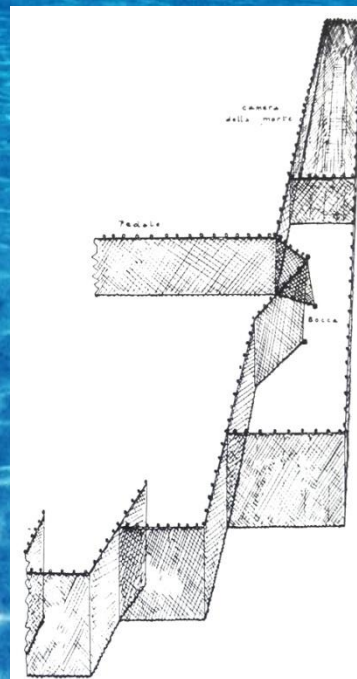
- **Session 4: Tuna traps & bluefin tuna: socio-economy, global management & market issues** (Z. Suzuki, Moderator) - Five (05) scientific documents/presentations

Covering: General information on Japanese trap fishery; Socio-economic aspects of Moroccan traps; Socio-economic-cultural analysis of the trap fishery of Sardinia; Harvesting, handling practices and processing of bluefin in Sardinian trap and one presentation from the tuna trap industry.

- **Session 5: Summary reports of the four sessions, overall discussions, conclusions and recommendations** (J.L. Cort)

- *Summary of Session 1 (M'Hamed Idrissi)*
- *Summary of Session 2 (Mauricio Ortiz)*
- *Summary of Session 3 (Alain Fonteneau)*
- *Summary of Session 4 (Ziro Suzuki)*
- *Overall discussion*

- **Session 6: Excursion – some BFT trap sites on Atlantic coast and ancient fish salting plants at Lixus City**



Details are given in:

Document [SCI-038_ENG_Ver2.pdf](#)

AND

www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2011_BFT_TRAP_SYMP_REPORT_ENG.pdf



THANKS!

ICCAT-GBYP: SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY