

**SUPPLEMENTAL RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT CONCERNING
THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALBACORE REBUILDING PROGRAM**

RECALLING the 1998 Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Limitation of Fishing Capacity on Northern Albacore [Rec. 98-08], the Recommendation by ICCAT on North Atlantic Albacore Catch Limits for the Period 2008-2009 [Rec. 07-02], the Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Rebuilding Program on North Atlantic Albacore [Rec. 09-05], and the Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Rebuilding Program on North Atlantic Albacore [Rec. 11-04];

NOTING that the objective of the Convention is to maintain populations at levels that will support maximum sustainable catch (usually referred to as MSY);

CONSIDERING that the 2013 Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) stock assessment concluded that the northern albacore stock is overfished but that overfishing is not occurring, and recommended a level of catch of no more than 28,000 t to meet the Convention management objective by 2020;

RECALLING the importance that all fleets participating in the northern albacore fishery submit the required data (catch, effort and catch-at-size) on their fisheries for transmission to the SCRS;

**THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:**

1. An annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 28,000 t is established for 2014, 2015 and 2016.
2. This annual TAC shall be allocated among the ICCAT Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereafter referred to as CPCs) according to the following:

<i>Party</i>	<i>Quota (t)</i>
European Union	21,551.3 ¹
Chinese Taipei	3,271.7 ^{2,3}
United States	527
Venezuela	250

3. CPCs other than those mentioned in paragraph 2 shall limit their catches to 200 t.
4. By derogation to paragraphs 2 and 3, Japan shall endeavor to limit its total northern albacore catches to a maximum of 4% in weight of its total bigeye tuna longline catch in the Atlantic Ocean.
5. Any unused portion or excess of a CPC's annual quota/catch limit may be added to/shall be deducted from, according to the case, the respective quota/catch limit during or before the adjustment year, in the following way:

<i>Year of Catch</i>	<i>Adjustment Year</i>
2012	2014
2013	2015
2014	2016
2015	2017
2016	2018

However, the maximum underage that a Party may carry-over in any given year shall not exceed 25% of its initial catch quota.

¹ The European Union will transfer 20 t from its quota to Venezuela in 2014.

² Chinese Taipei will transfer 100 t from its quota to St. Vincent and the Grenadines in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

³ Chinese Taipei will transfer 200 t from its quota to Belize in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

If, in any year, the combined landings of CPCs exceed the TAC of 28,000 t, the Commission will re-evaluate the northern albacore recommendation at its next Commission meeting and recommend further conservation measures, as appropriate.

6. The 1998 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Limitation of Fishing Capacity on Northern Albacore* [Rec. 98-08] remains in force.
7. The SCRS shall conduct an assessment of this stock in 2016 and provide advice to the Commission on the appropriate management measures to achieve and maintain the Convention objectives. In support of this work, CPCs should promote a scientific program to collect data/information on changes to distribution and/or migratory routes and factors that influences these changes.

As a matter of priority, the SCRS shall continue the development of a Limit Reference Point (LRP) and Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) for this stock with input from the Commission. Future decisions on the management of this stock should be in accordance with the LRP and HCRs.

8. This Recommendation replaces the *Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the North Atlantic Albacore Rebuilding Program* [Rec.11-04].