

Original: English

STREAMLINING OF ICCAT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

ICCAT Secretariat with Chairs of subsidiary bodies

At its 24th Regular meeting, the Commission followed the procedure adopted by STACFAD in 2014 *whereby once the recommendations and resolutions adopted annually enter into force, the Secretariat should review, together with the Chairs of the Panels and of the Compliance Committee, the existing measures, for the purpose of compiling, in the inter-sessional period, a list of those measures which could be eliminated, either because they have become obsolete, or have expired or due to duplication, and that this list be submitted to the Commission for its consideration.*

However, it was agreed to defer discussion on several measures to 2016:

Panel 2:

[98-08] *Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the limitation of fishing capacity on northern albacore*

Some of the provisions have been incorporated into later Recommendations on northern albacore, and others have been repealed. Paragraphs 1 and 3 remain valid, and possibly paragraph 7. It may be helpful to incorporate those provisions still considered valid into future Recommendations on northern albacore. The Recommendation is meaningless when there is no definition on the vessel fishing on northern albacore.

At the 24th Regular meeting in St. Julian's Malta, November 2015, the Commission decided to maintain this Recommendation.

Panel 4:

[94-14] *Recommendation by ICCAT for the management of Atlantic swordfish*

This Recommendation has been left active due to paragraph 6, but all other paragraphs are out of date.

6. Contracting Parties are encouraged to take other appropriate measures to protect small swordfish, including, but not limited to, the establishment of time and area closures, possibly determined by test fisheries. Contracting Parties are further encouraged to conduct the necessary studies to determine whether gear selectivity can reduce catches of undersize fish.

With respect to Northern swordfish, paragraph 9 and 10 of Rec. 13-02 can cover this, while there is no similar paragraph for Southern swordfish (Rec. 13-03). Therefore, Panel 4 may want to consider incorporation of this paragraph when amending Rec. 13-03.

[01-04] *Resolution by ICCAT for evaluating alternatives to reduce catches of juveniles or dead discards of swordfish*

This is a non-binding resolution and for Northern swordfish, paragraph 9 and 10 of Rec. 13-02 can cover this. Since there is no similar paragraph for Southern swordfish (Rec. 13-03), Panel 4 may want to consider incorporation of this paragraph when amending Rec. 13-03.

PWG:

At the 11th meeting of the IMM Working Group, Sapporo, Japan, July 2016, it was agreed to update and to combine ICCAT measures from

[94-09] *Resolution by ICCAT on compliance with the ICCAT conservation and management measures (including Addendum)*

And

[97-11] *Recommendation by ICCAT on transhipments and vessel sightings*

The new text will be presented at the PWG during the 20th Special meeting of the Commission.

Pending decision by the Commission: no clear decisions were taken on the following three measures, although Chairs agreed in 2015 that these could be redundant. The Commission may wish to review these in 2016 to determine whether these are active or not:

Statistical and Catch document programmes

[06-16] *Recommendation by ICCAT on an Electronic Statistical Document Pilot Program*

In light of the eBCD, this Recommendation is no longer necessary and could be rescinded.

Terms of Reference

[06-19] *Resolution by ICCAT to Establish a Capacity Working Group*

This group was established to meet in 2007, which it did. This Resolution is considered no longer necessary as the over-capacity of BFT fisheries has been resolved.

[11-25] *Resolution by ICCAT on a Program of Work for the Working Group on the Future of ICCAT*

This Recommendation convenes a meeting for 2012, which was held. It may no longer be relevant since the establishment of the Working Group on Convention Amendment.

Additional measures for consideration in 2016:

[12-09] *Recommendation by ICCAT on a Process towards the Establishment of a Catch Certification Scheme for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species.*

As currently written, this Recommendation calls for a series of actions within timelines which have already passed. As work on this issue may continue, updating of this Recommendation may be required.