

**Original:** English

**Appendix 1**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE TO DRAFT RECOMMENDATION ON VESSEL SIGHTINGS**

During the 2016 meeting of ICCAT's Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures, the ICCAT Secretariat presented a proposal to combine and bring up-to-date the *Resolution by ICCAT on Compliance with the ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures* [Res. 94-09] and the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Transshipments and Vessel Sightings* [Rec. 97-11]. The United States and others at the meeting welcomed the effort but felt additional work was needed to identify and properly reflect the elements of the original measures that should be included in a combined measure.

Toward that end, the United States has proposed the attached draft recommendation. It seeks to reflect advancements made in ICCAT since the adoption of the original measures and take into account the fact that one of the two original measures was a binding Article VIII recommendation and the other a non-binding resolution. Specifically, the attached proposal ensures that when CPCs obtain information related to sightings of vessels potentially engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities on the high seas, that information is shared so that it can be acted upon in a prompt and appropriate manner. This commitment is already contained in the Article VIII Recommendation. In addition, the proposed measure encourages CPCs to, consistent with international law, board vessels that are without nationality as well as vessels of non-CPCs suspected of IUU fishing.

In summary, this proposal does not create any new requirements. Our goal is simply to update, streamline, and clarify measures that have already been agreed by ICCAT.