

**The Pew Charitable Trusts'**

**Opening statement to ICCAT Panel 3**

November 2025

The Pew Charitable Trusts welcomes this opportunity to comment on important work being considered by Panel 3 at the 29th Regular meeting of the ICCAT Commission.

In 2024, Panel 3 adopted [management objectives to guide the management strategy evaluation \(MSE\) for the development of a management procedure \(MP\) for south Atlantic albacore](#). Significantly, this added the first southern stock to the ICCAT MSE roadmap and prompted multi-stakeholder collaboration among ICCAT members, commercial fishing industry, sustainable seafood certifications and environmental NGOs.

Within SCRS, this work has advanced well with the development and presentation of an initial MSE framework and establishment of a technical team. Recognizing this progress, we urge Panel 3 to support the SCRS recommendation to adopt the south Atlantic albacore MP in 2027. By updating the timeline for this MP adoption, Panel 3 has an opportunity to showcase effective stewardship of a thorough and efficient MSE process that could be modelled across ICCAT.

Finally, we applaud the leadership South Africa has shown in proposing this MSE to ensure long-term sustainability in fisheries targeting south Atlantic albacore. This effort is another testament to ICCAT's continued commitment to modernizing its fisheries management approach.