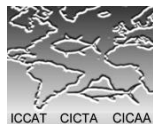


INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS



COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

Madrid, 23 March 2020

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 1745 / 2020

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF ROP-BFT FOR THE 2020 SEASON

I have the honour to inform you that, following the extension of the contract with the consortium selected to implement the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme for Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, the cost of observers will be as shown in the attached (**Attachment 1: Vessels; Attachment 2: Farms/Traps**). Please note that in accordance with paragraph 2a) of the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Protecting the Health and Safety of Observer in ICCAT's Regional Observer Programs* (Rec. 19-10), additional equipment is being purchased for the coming season, which has resulted in some increase over 2019 prices.

In addition, an extra contingency for training of observers has been included due to the exceptional circumstances of 2020. With ever increasing travel restrictions at the time of writing, and the uncertainty that the spread of the COVID-19 virus has caused around the world, the exact movements of observers at this time cannot be foreseen or guaranteed. The consortium will make every effort to embark observers, but plans may have to be changed at the last minute in some cases. While we should hope that there will have been improvements between now and May, the changing situation may result in the virus spreading to new areas, and we need to take these uncertainties into account. In the event the programme goes ahead, which cannot be ascertained at this time, it may be necessary to deploy national/local observers due to the travel restrictions. We will update all CPCs as soon as possible regarding the feasibility of implementing the ROP-BFT.

We should be grateful if all CPCs could inform the Secretariat regarding any travel or movement restrictions or any other special requirements, which may affect the implementation of this programme. Similarly, we should appreciate CPCs informing us of their plans in the event an outbreak of the virus is detected on board.

Please note that deployments on farms, at least in the short term, may be similarly affected, mainly due to the difficulties in travel and the restrictions on movement in several participating CPCs.

Many vessels participating in the ROP-BFT have positive balances at the Secretariat carried over from the 2019 fishing year. These balances are available on request and can be deducted from the total payment required for 2020. Please cite the ICCAT serial numbers of the vessels for which you request balances, and please **also cite these numbers when making payment**.

We should be grateful if the Request Forms could be filled out fully, to include the dates and port of embarkation / disembarkation and include details of the bank account to which any remaining balances should be paid, in the event that any excess is not carried over to the next year.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary



Camille Jean Pierre Manel

Distribution

Commission Officers:

Commission Chair:	R. Delgado	COC Chair:	D. Campbell
First Vice Chair:	S. Depypere	PWG Chair:	N. Ansell
Second Vice Chair:	Z. Driouich	STACFAD Chair:	H.A Elekon
SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin	SCRS Vice Chair:	

Head Delegates

Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities

Attachment 1: Vessels; Attachment 2: Farms/Traps.



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Attachment 1: Vessels; Attachment 2: Farms/Traps.



VESSELS

For an equitable distribution of costs, the recruitment, training and equipment (start-up) fee for vessels which are participating for the first time or which have not participated since 2016 will be **€8,500**. The amount for this concept for returning vessels will be **€4,600**

The rates for mobilisation fees and sea days will be as follows:

Mobilisation fee (vessels, farms and traps) - €4,400

Vessels - Sea days - €237 per day

The forms for requesting observers are available on the ICCAT website at:

<https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Comply/DEPLOYMENT-REQUEST-VESSEL-ENG.xlsx>

Completed forms for vessels, together with proof of full payment, must be received, at the latest by:

15 April 2020 for vessels starting 1 May
22 April 2020 for vessels starting 15 May
30 April 2020 for vessels starting 24 May
20 May 2020 for vessels starting 25 June onwards

All lodgements should be made to the ICCAT ROP-BFT account:

- Name of the bank: Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA)
- Address of branch: Pso. Recoletos, 10 ala sur pl. 1, 28001 Madrid (Spain)
- Exact name of the account holder: Comisión Internacional para la Conservación del Atún Atlántico (ICCAT)
- Full account number (including bank codes): 0182 2370 46 0201518869
- IBAN (or BIC code if not applicable): IBAN: ES91 0182 2370 4602 0151 8869 / BIC: BBVAESMM

When making the lodgement, please indicate the **ICCAT Record number of the vessel for which the payment is being made**. A copy of the swift receipt should be sent to the Secretariat together with the request forms.



FARMS/TRAPS

For farms or traps which are participating for the first time or have not participated since 2016, the recruitment, training and equipment (start-up) fee will be **€8,500**. Lodgements of these amounts for new farms/traps should be paid to the Secretariat by **30 April 2020**. The amount for this concept for returning farms/traps will be the same as that for vessels, i.e. **€4,600**.

The rates for mobilisation fees and farm days / traps days will be as follows for all deployments starting after **7 April 2020**:

Mobilisation fee (farms and traps) - €4,400.00

Farm/trap days (no accommodation provided) €335.00 per day for deployments of 5+ days (minimum 5 days)

Farm/trap days (accommodation provided) €267.00 per day for deployments of 5+ days (minimum 5 days)

For occasional fresh harvests/transfers, a one- or two-day deployment may be requested at the following rates, in addition to the mobilisation fee:

1 day with no accommodation provided: €722.30 per day (€722.30 + €4,400.00 = €5,122.30)

1 day with accommodation provided by the farm/trap: €654.30 per day (€654.30 + €4,400.00 = €5,054.30)

2 days with no accommodation provided: €528.30 per day (€1,056.60 + €4,400.00 = €5,456.60)

2 days with accommodation provided by the farm/trap: € 460.30 per day (€920.30 + €4,400.00 = €5,320.60)

Please note that such short-term deployment requests are only applicable to fresh harvest on an exceptional basis and may not be extended. Deployment requests requiring three or more days will be subject to the five-day minimum.

The forms for requesting observers are available on the ICCAT web site at:

https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Comply/DEPLOYMENT-REQUEST-FARM_TRAP-ENG.xlsx

Please note that normally, completed forms for farms must reach the Secretariat at least 96 hours before the deployment is required. **Given the current situation, we would request that all farms submit requests as far in advance as possible, and preferably not less than two weeks in advance, in order to try to ensure coverage during this period of restrictions.**

All lodgements should be made to the ICCAT ROP-BFT account:

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- Address of branch: Pso. Recoletos, 10 ala sur pl. 1, 28001 – Madrid (Spain)
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- IBAN (or BIC code if not applicable): IBAN: ES91 0182 2370 4602 0151 8869 / BIC: BBVAESMM

When making the lodgement, please indicate the **ICCAT Record number of the farm/trap for which the payment is being made**. A copy of the swift receipt should be sent to the Secretariat together with the request forms.