

REPORT OF THE INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF PANEL 2
(Madrid, Spain, 5-7 March 2018)

1 Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair of Panel 2, Mr. Masanori Miyahara (Japan).

2 Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements

Noting some issues to be raised under other matters, the Agenda was adopted and is attached as **Appendix 1**. The Executive Secretary introduced the participants and observers for this intersessional meeting (see List of Participants attached as **Appendix 2**), and outlined the arrangements for the meeting. He also introduced Mr. Camille Manel, the ICCAT Executive Secretary elect and Dr Francisco Alemany, the new ICCAT GBYP Coordinator.

3 Appointment of the Rapporteur

The ICCAT Secretariat was designated as the Rapporteur.

4 Consideration of fishing, inspection, and capacity management plans for 2018 presented by CPCs with E-BFT quota

Albania

Albania indicated that there were few changes from their previous fishing plans. It was clarified that, despite having the same name, the vessel to which the quota had been allocated was a new, larger vessel. Albania also clarified that it did not intend to provide inspection means for the Joint International Inspection Scheme (JIS), but that its vessels would cooperate if inspected. Albania also clarified that fish sampling measurements would be carried out in accordance with ICCAT standards and agreed to modify the text to better reflect this.

A discrepancy was also found in the Albanian capacity table, which seemed to be a mistake. The United States offered to assist Albania with the corrections, and suggested that the capacity tables in general needed to be unified regarding under/over-capacity, with under-capacity being denoted by a negative sign and over-capacity by a plus sign.

It was noted by several CPCs that no allocation had been set aside for by-catch by other vessels or of by-catch of undersized fish. This lacuna was also reflected in the fishing plans of other CPCs, and it was agreed that a common and unified approach would be required in the revision of the plans. It was also noted that if by-catch was greater than the reserve which had been set aside, CPCs would need to deduct the overharvest from their following year's quota.

Albania agreed to submit a revised fishing plan to take into account the concerns which had been raised. The revised plan was submitted and was endorsed by the Panel.

Algeria

Algeria reported that the main changes to the fishing plan for 2018 had been the improvements taken into account as a result of the CPC comments to the 2017 plan, and on the issues which had been raised by the observers during the last fishing season. New legislation had been introduced to control by-catch, and a 6 ton reserve had been set aside to cover this. Algeria indicated its intention to operate 3 farms which had been established in 2017 and which would be stocked from the catches of Algerian purse seiners.

Several CPCs requested clarifications in relation to the issues of by-catch, joint inspection scheme and the new farms, particularly given the limitation on farming capacity stipulated in Rec. 17-07. Algeria clarified that all authorized vessels were issued with permits, and that the new legislation encompassed a framework for the reporting and collection of by-catch data. The Delegate of Algeria also clarified that Algeria would not be providing inspection means for the JIS, as the number of vessels actually operating would be less than the maximum specified in the plan. The Delegate of Algeria confirmed that should the number of vessels actually operating exceed 15, then Algeria would participate in the JIS and provide an inspection vessel.

For the farming issue, Algeria explained that the added value of bluefin tuna was linked to fattening, and therefore wished to become involved in this activity. The fish to be caged would be from Algeria's quota, and all ICCAT requirements would be respected. Japan agreed that the capacity limitations probably needed to be revised at the forthcoming Commission meeting, but at present a limit on capacity remained.

Algeria agreed to submit a revised plan in order to take into account some of the concerns raised. The revised plan was endorsed by the Panel, with one minor amendment.

China

China presented its 2018 plan, noting that it was similar to past years, with two longline vessels operating. To clarify the lack of by-catch provision, China confirmed that this was not an issue as most fishing took place in the area west of 10 W and north of 42 N and Chinese vessels fishing for other species did not operate in that area and the Mediterranean Sea, and no bluefin tuna by-catch had been found in the other fisheries.

The Chinese plan was endorsed by the Panel.

Egypt

Egypt presented its plan, noting that in 2018, only one vessel would operate. Concerns similar to those previously raised regarding lack of provision for a by-catch reserve were expressed, as well as treatment of undersized fish and while it was noted that all fish landed at port are inspected, the question of timing remained.

Egypt agreed to submit requested edits to their plan. The revised plan was endorsed by the Panel.

European Union

The European Union highlighted several aspects of its 2018 plan, including the fact that all ICCAT Recommendations had been transposed into European law. The comments which EU had received on their 2017 plan had been taken into account in the drafting of the 2018 plan. The EU indicated that it was not clear that there was obligation to report discards of fish below minimum size, and this was an issue which needed to be clarified under the new management plan.

The EU was asked to clarify the dramatic increase in capacity for baitboat and other gears, and to specify the reporting obligations for vessels of less than 10 metres. In addition, requests were made for improved language in the sections dealing with minimum size and by-catch provisions as well as the sport and recreational fishery elements, to avoid any possible confusion.

The EU agreed to submit an amended plan which would specify the one fish per vessel per day limit on recreational/sport fishery, as well as adding a footnote on the artisanal vessels to explain differences between the text and capacity table, as well as including clearer language on the issues raised.

This revised fishing plan with two further amendments was endorsed by the Panel.

Iceland

Iceland began their presentation by noting that a level playing field was needed with respect to the counting of catches against quotas. Iceland had set aside a 4 ton reserve for by-catch, and confirmed that if its annual TAC were exceeded, Iceland would deduct the amount from the 2019 quota. The EU requested that Iceland provide additional information on the ban on transshipments, and Iceland agreed to do this.

The revised fishing plan was endorsed by the Panel.

Japan

Japan presented its 2018 plan indicating little change from the 2017 plan. As the number of fishing vessels was not known at this stage, it was confirmed that this would be communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat in accordance with the requirements. A by-catch reserve would be established and the amount would be included in this communication, even though it was very unlikely that other Japanese vessels operating in the Convention area would take by-catch of bluefin tuna, given the very different areas of operation.

Japan was requested to revise their plan to add the clarifications on by-catch and undersized discards, and to include information on logbook reporting.

The revised plan submitted by Japan and was endorsed by the Panel with two minor additions.

Korea

Korea presented its plan, reporting that between two and four longlines would be authorized to fish in 2018, and the exact number would be reported as soon as the internal process was completed. As with other CPCs, Korea was requested to include language on potential by-catches or treatment of undersize fish, in addition to clarifying that the Korea would adhere to the VMS requirements.

Korea agreed to submit a revised plan, which was endorsed by the Panel, with one addition.

Libya

Libya gave an overview of their 2018 plan, indicating few changes. Libya was not expecting that by-catch would occur in other fisheries, but had set aside 3.1% of the quota to cover such an eventuality. The EU suggested that other CPCs look to the Libyan plan for an example of the type of provision which should be included in relation to by-catch. The United States suggested that the by-catch quota be deducted from the capacity table.

With the changes incorporated, Libya's fishing plan for 2018 was endorsed.

Morocco

Morocco also indicated that there were no significant changes from the previous years' plan, but outlined the sacrifices which had been made by the Moroccan fisheries over the years. Several CPCs raised questions regarding the plan, specifically regarding the operation of baitboats, whether the farms were associated with traps, catch recording for vessels without specific authorization, treatment of fish under minimum size and VMS reporting. Morocco clarified that there were no baitboats and that the vessels operated with handline or longline.

These clarifications were included in a revised plan, which was endorsed by the Panel, with one amendment.

Norway

Norway presented its plan on their fishery with two purse seiners. As Norway had lodged a formal objection to Rec. 17-07, the Panel noted the fishing plan submitted, but it was not appropriate to endorse it. Norway confirmed its intention to fully implement the provisions of Rec. 17-07.

Syria

Syria was not present at the meeting, but submitted a plan by the required deadline. The CPCs present reviewed Syria's plan. A letter will be sent to Syria requesting clarification on the calculations in their capacity table, further details are required on: What reserve has been set aside for possible by-catch. If none, explain why Syria could not take by-catches; confirmation that fish under minimum size beyond the limit of tolerance will be discarded and counted against the quota; VMS messages will be sent to the ICCAT Secretariat at least every four hours from 15 days before the start of the fishing season until 15 days after the end of the season; the apparent intention to transfer the previous year's quota; and clarification of whether or not the Syrian vessel intends to participate in a Joint Fishing Operation (JFO). A response will be requested by 12 March 2018 so that the additional information can be presented to Parties for review to determine whether to endorse the plan prior to 31 March 2018, in accordance with paragraph 8 of Rec. 17-07. If no serious fault is found by any CPC to the response, then the plan will be considered endorsed. The letter to Syria is attached as **Appendix 3**.

Tunisia

Tunisia presented its plan, noting a significant increase in the number of purse seine vessels in relation to the 2017 plan, made possible by the increase in quota. Tunisia clarified that by-catches of fish under minimum size will be released and counted against the quota. Information regarding any changes in the risk assessment carried out for the Joint Inspection Scheme was requested. Tunisia confirmed that steps had been taken to enhance inspection measures to take account of the increase in fishing vessels. Tunisia also responded to a request for clarification regarding a high amount of discards in 2014, but with no reports for other years, informing the Panel that previously fish had been discarded without being reported.

Tunisia submitted a revised plan to clarify the points raised, and this modified plan was endorsed by the Panel with a few additional minor changes.

Turkey

Turkey presented its plan, indicating that 10% of the quota had been set aside for by-catch. Inspection means had been reinforced for 2018. Questions arose regarding the treatment of under-sized fish if taken at levels over the tolerance limit, as well as with regard to data collection for sport and recreational fisheries, the use of stereoscopic cameras and the terminology used for other vessels. Turkey confirmed that all catches of undersized fish would be counted against its quota; that both bound and electronic logbooks will be used by Turkish vessels; that recreational vessels needed a specific license linked to reporting obligations and that stereoscopic cameras were used on 100% of caging operations.

Turkey submitted a revised plan to include the clarifications which had been requested and this revised plan was endorsed by the Panel, following review and additional revision.

Chinese Taipei

As in previous years, Chinese Taipei's plan indicated that no fishing would occur in 2018, and part of their quota had been transferred to Korea. Chinese Taipei explained that no bluefin by-catch had been reported by observers on board vessels involved in other Atlantic Ocean fisheries. This was due to other fisheries, e.g. for tropical tunas, taking place in areas where bluefin tuna were not present.

The plan submitted by Chinese Taipei was endorsed by the Panel.

5 Determination of actions to be taken with respect to the plans presented under item 4

Fishing, capacity, and inspection plans for the following CPCs were endorsed: Algeria, China, Egypt, the European Union, Iceland, Japan, Korea, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey and Chinese Taipei.

It was decided to send a letter seeking clarifications to Syria, requesting a response by 12 March 2018 and to distribute to Parties for review via correspondence. If no CPC finds serious fault with the revised plan requested from Syria by 31 March, the plan will be deemed endorsed.

As Norway had lodged a formal objection to Rec. 17-07, no endorsement of their plan was appropriate.

The fishing plans are attached as **Appendix 4**.

6 Possible adjustments of E-BFT quotas for 2019 and 2020 by use of the reserves

The Chair of Panel 2 explained that the allocation of fishing possibilities for 2018 had been agreed at the 25th Regular Meeting, but several CPCs had expressed dissatisfaction with their quota. The discussion therefore should concentrate on adjustments to the 2019 and 2020 quotas for those CPCs who had expressed their concerns that certain specific needs had not been met, and not on the allocation of the total reserves. It had already been agreed that the allocation keys would be re-considered in 2020. The Chair presented a table showing the quota allocations in 2005 and that of 2020, noting that those CPCs who had suffered reductions had had their quotas restored to 2005 levels.

It was noted by some that the table presented by the Chair did not show any history before 2005, as several CPCs had catches and/or quotas before that time which were not reflected in current quota shares.

While some CPCs agreed that the use of the reserves should follow a precautionary approach, and that such reserves should not be allocated in their entirety, others questioned this rationale, seeing nothing to be gained by not allocating the full amounts.

There was also some discussion on which fisheries should benefit from any additional quota, with some CPCs believing that the major share should go to the artisanal fisheries of developing countries, others suggested they be divided in accordance with existing allocation keys while many CPCs believed that they should be used to redress what, in their view, were injustices in the allocation.

Several CPCs reiterated their positions regarding the criteria used to determine the allocation key, and were of the view that the process of reviewing these should be started as early as possible, in order to be in a position to reach consensus in 2020.

The Chair asked which CPCs required a share of the reserves; all concerned CPCs responded in the affirmative. CPCs with a Mediterranean coastline stressed in particular the sacrifices which had been made by the artisanal fisheries following the decline of the stock. Many of these fisheries were subsistence fisheries, and the prohibition on catching bluefin tuna caused significant hardship to some of the poorest sectors. Others indicated that their historical share had not been restored as had been the case with other CPCs, and considered that the allocation of part of the reserve would be an opportunity to redress this. All involved in the fishery considered that they had contributed to the recovery of the stock, and that this should be taken into account. Algeria, Korea and Morocco presented written statements which are attached as **Appendices 5, 6 and 7**. Chinese Taipei supported the idea highlighted in Korea's statement and requested that its legitimate rights and conservation efforts for the past years should be favorably considered in future quota allocations.

CPCs generally agreed during the meeting that the adjustment of quotas should primarily address the needs of the artisanal fleets. Based on these discussions, the Chair presented a proposal to allocate 73.3% of the 2019 and 2020 reserves, (476 t and 550 t respectively, leaving a precautionary unallocated reserve of 174 t for 2019 and 200 t for 2020). Several parties, including EU, Norway and Turkey, expressed their dissatisfaction, but in a spirit of compromise, were willing to accept the Chair's proposal. The initial proposal, however, did not meet with the approval of Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco or Chinese Taipei. Several of these CPCs were of the view that more of the reserve should be allocated in order to try to reach consensus. Following the discussion, the Chair presented a revised proposal allocating 85% of the reserves (550 t for 2019 and 635t for 2020), leaving a reserve of 100 t and 115 t for 2019 and 2020 respectively, which was accepted by the Panel. It was agreed that this would be put forward for adoption at the next Commission meeting. The Chair's proposal is attached as **Appendix 8**.

7 Other matters

Work schedule for the revision of a management plan for E-BFT

The Chair invited the European Union to suggest a work plan for the development of a management plan for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna. The EU suggested that all CPCs take as a starting point the first revision of the draft plan which had been put forward at the 25th Regular meeting. All CPCs were invited to send written comments, preferably using track changes and the comments function on a Word version of the document before the end of April 2018.

The EU would then enter into bilateral contacts as necessary with the various CPCs and amalgamate all comments and suggestions into one consolidated text, with the aim of circulating, in October 2018, a complete draft which could be adopted by consensus at the next annual meeting. The Panel members agreed with this approach.

Work schedule for the revision of the keys for allocation of fishing possibilities for EBFT

It was agreed that this issue be deferred to the annual meeting of the Commission.

Requests for clarifications

The Panel reviewed several requests for clarification from the ROP-BFT consortium (observer program) to which responses had been sent in writing by several CPCs. As there were no major conflicts among the responses, it was agreed that these would be sent to the ROP-BFT implementing consortium. The questions and the clarifications are contained in **Appendix 9**.

8 Adoption of Report and adjournment

The report was adopted and the meeting was adjourned.

Appendix 1

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Nomination of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of the agenda and meeting arrangements
4. Consideration of fishing, inspection and capacity management plans for 2018 presented by CPCs with E-BFT quota
5. Determination of actions to be taken with respect to the plans presented under item 4
6. Possible adjustment to E-BFT quotas for 2019 and 2020 by use of the reserves
7. Other matters
8. Adoption of report and adjournment

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Letter to Syria requesting additional information

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

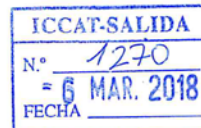


COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Madrid, 6 March 2018

Dr. Abdel Latif Ali
Fisheries Development Project, Director
General Commission for Fisheries Resources,
Ministry of Agriculture & Agrarian Reform
Al-Jabri Street, P.O. Box 60721
Damascus, Syria



Dear Dr. Latif Ali,

I have the honour to refer to the fishing, inspection and capacity management plan received from Syria and to inform you that, following review by Panel 2, some clarifications have been requested.

I should be grateful if the following could be clarified by Syria.

1. What reserve (number of tons) has been set aside for possible by-catch? If none, please explain how Syria could not be in a position to take by-catches;
2. Will fish under minimum size beyond the limit of tolerance will be discarded and counted against the quota as required by the Recommendation?;
3. Can you confirm that VMS messages will be sent to the ICCAT Secretariat at least every four hours from 15 days before the start of the fishing season until 15 days after the end of operations?;
4. From your plan there is an apparent intention to transfer previous year's quota, but the current conservation and management measures do not allow carry forward of quota. It would be appreciated if Syria could confirm that there will be no transfer of previous years' quota.
5. Please could you clarify whether or not the Syrian vessel intends to participate in a Joint Fishing Operation (JFO), as this point is unclear from the plan submitted;

It would be appreciated if the responses to these questions could be included in a revised fishing plan before **12 March 2018**, in order for the Commission to be able to endorse the Syrian fishing plan before the end of March.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and I look forward to your early response.


Masanori Miyahara
Panel 2 Chair

Bluefin fishing, inspection and capacity management plans

ALBANIA

Introduction

Based on the recommendation 17-07 that amends the ICCAT Recommendation 14-04, the Atlantic bluefin tuna fishing quota, allocated to Albania for 2018 is 100 tons, and for 2019 is 130 tons and for 2020 140 tons (paragraph 5 of the Recommendation).

By Minister Order Nr. 74 date 14/02/2018 are approved implementing provisions of Recommendation 17-07 that amends the ICCAT Recommendation 14-04.

Only one fishing vessel is authorized to fish Albanian bluefin tuna quota with Purse seiners. Rozafa 15 fishing vessel is over 24 meters, with Fishing License Nr. LC-6864-02-2018, of date 14.02.2018, and Authorization for bluefin tuna fishing. Based on article 69 of Law nr. 64/2012 “On fisheries”, amended, paragraph 1/c: fishing activities in which a multi-annual fishing plan is implemented is conducted by special fishing Authorization. Paragraph 3: The authorization to engage in a particular fishing activity shall be accorded to those fishing vessels which hold the relevant permit under the conditions laid down in this Law and in the legislation in force. Paragraph 5: The fishing authorization becomes invalid when the fishing permit is invalid.

Fishing plan

The Fishing Vessel “ROZAFa 15” owned by Rozafa shpk with administrator Mr. Gjergj LUCA, with NUIS number: K48130547V, registered to Port Authority by Nr. P-1801, with NFR: ALB22REG0863, provided with Fishing License Nr. LC-6864-02-2018, of date 14.02.2018, is authorized to perform the blue-fin tuna fishery, in the amount of 100 tons (2018) and 130 tons (2019) and 140 tons (2020), in Mediterranean Sea area, fishing form: Pelagic, fishing gears: Purse Seiners and fisheries landing product at Shëngjini Fishing Port, every day, from 10.00 - 18.00, if the production is not aimed to be further treated in the aquaculture farm.

Vessel characteristics:

Fishing Vessel:	Rozafa 15
Gross tonnage:	371 Ton
Length:	38 m
Width:	13.5 m
Immersion:	3.5 m
Engine:	2282.3 KW
Crew:	15
IRCS	ZADH4

Associated conditions to TAC and quotas

When the individual quota is deemed to be exhausted, Ministry will require to the catching vessel (Rozafa 15) to proceed immediately to Shengjini port as designated one. Ministry immediately will inform ICCAT Secretariat that Albanian quota is exhausted.

By Minister Order Nr.74 date 14/02/2018 is prohibited to carry-over of any under-harvests to be made.

No transferring of quotas between Albania and any CPCs and no chartering operation for the bluefin tuna fishery is permitted.

Joint Fishing Operations (JFO)

Albania has less than 5 authorized purse seiners fishing vessels authorized to fish bluefin tuna. Joint fishing operations among Albanian vessel with other CPC vessels may be authorized if a JFO is requested by our fishing company. Information on these operations, in particular individual quotas and allocation keys, will be notified to the Commission by the required deadlines. At the moment of the application for JFO authorization, is mandatory to have the information as foreseen in paragraph 17 of ICCAT Recommendation 17-07.

Fishing season

Albanian fishing vessel, as purse seiner, is authorized for fishing bluefin tuna during the period from 26 May to 24 June 2018. Bluefin tuna fishing activities are prohibited during the period from 25 June 2018 to 25 May 2019.

Use of aircrafts

Use of airplanes, helicopters or any types of unmanned aerial vehicles for searching for bluefin tuna is strictly prohibited.

Minimum size

Is prohibited to catch, retain on board, transship, transfer, land, transport, store, sell, display or offer for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or with fork length less than 115 cm. However, an incidental catch of maximum 5% of bluefin tuna weighing between 8 and 30 kg or with fork length between 75-115 cm, may be authorized. Control is foreseen during fishing activity by ICCAT Regional Observer Program and in Shengjini port and Albania market by fisheries Inspectorate, as defined by chapter VI and chapter VII of Decision of Council of Ministers (DCM) Nr. 407 date 08/05/2013, "Establishing a control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of fisheries policy".

By-catch

Vessels not fishing actively for bluefin tuna are not authorized to retain at any time, bluefin tuna. In Albania fishing activity with loglines is not developed and no permissions are issued. Use of any kind of driftnets, or similar nets, no matter their size, is strictly prohibited. However, if, in any case, dead bluefin tuna has been landed, it must be whole and unprocessed, and it will be subject to confiscation and the appropriate follow-up action. In addition, any by-catches would be reported to ICCAT and deducted from the Albanian quota either during the fishing season, or, if necessary, from a future quota as required by ICCAT quota payback rules. All by-catches which are alive shall immediately be released back to the sea.

Recreational fisheries and sport fisheries

No quota is allocated for the purpose of sport and recreational fisheries. By paragraph 67, chapter V, of Decision of Council of Ministers (DCM) Nr. 407 date 08/05/2013, "Establishing a control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of fisheries policy" is prohibited recreational fisheries for fish stocks that are subject to recovery plans.

Adjustment of fishing capacity and of the number of commercial fishing permits

By Article 1 / d) of DCM Nr. 719, date, 12.10.2016 "On management of commercial fishing capacities and some adjustments to the functioning of Fishing Vessels National Registry (NFR)" the number of professional commercial fishing permits for purse seiners vessels on bluefin tuna fishing (*Thunnus thynnus*, Linnaeus 1758) is 1 (one).

Transshipment

Transshipment at sea operations of bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea is prohibited.

Based on the law No. 64/2012, Chapter XIII (Control of multiannual plans), Article 98 Designated ports:

1. Minister decides to declare a designated port or place close to the shore, which allowed landing or transshipment of fishery products and port services, only based on the following criteria:
 - a) Landing and transshipment time has been determined
 - b) Landing and transshipment place have been determined
 - c) Inspection and surveillance procedures have been determined

Albania is one of 51 Parties of “*The Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing*”. Information to be provided to the fishing vessels that intend to use Shengjini Port, before granting entry is set by paragraph 60 of 17-07 Recommendation (Minister Order) and by Annex A of The Agreement on Port State Measures.

By Minister Order, designated port is Shengjini fishing Port. Landing is every day, from 10.00 - 18.00 o'clock, if the production is not aimed to be further treated in the aquaculture farm.

No transshipment at the sea is permitted. Article 99 (Trans-boarding in ports) of Law 64/2012 defines:

1. Fishing vessels, subject to multiannual fishing plans, are prohibited from transshipping their catches on board of any other fishing vessel if these catches have not been weighed earlier in accordance with the rules laid down in this Law.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	The Electronic log-book is still under development. For this year, the Master of authorized vessel is obliged to use the fishing logbook paper. In addition, every day the Master shall transmit to our authorities the daily information as the date, time, and location even in case of zero catches. On the basis of the information, Ministry will transmit a weekly catch report to the ICCAT Secretariat. In according to the paragraph 75 of Rec. 17-07, the use of video camera is mandatory for transfers of live bluefin tuna from catching vessels.	By Minister Order Nr. 74 date 14/02/2018.	
2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	Fishing activity for bluefin tuna shall be permitted in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean during the period from 26 May to 24 June.	Minister's Authorization By Ministerial Order Nr. 74 date 14/02/2018.	

3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	Is prohibited to catch, retain on board, transshipping, transferring, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or with fork length less than 115 cm. If any bluefin below the minimum size are caught and retained or discarded dead, they will be counted against Albania's quota.	By Ministerial Order Nr. 74 date 14/02/2018.	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	Catching of bluefin tuna as by-catch is not permitted. All by-catches are reported to ICCAT and deducted from the Albanian quota. All by-catches which are alive, shall be immediately released back to the sea.	By Ministerial Order Nr. 74 date 14/02/2018	
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para. 30-34)	Not permitted	By paragraph 67, chapter V, of Decision of Council of Ministers (DCM) Nr. 407 date 08/05/2013, "Establishing a control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of fisheries policy" is prohibited recreational fisheries for fish stocks that are subject to recovery plans. By Ministerial Order Nr. 74 date 14/02/2018	
6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	Transshipment at sea operations of bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea is prohibited.	Law Nr. 64/2012, Article 99. Trans-boarding in ports 1. Fishing vessels, subject to a multiannual fishery plan, are prohibited to trans-board their catch on board of another fishing vessel, if the catch has not been weighted before according to the rules established by this law. 2. Special rules as excluded from this article are determined by the order of the Minister By Ministerial Order Nr. 74 date 14/02/2018	
7.	VMS (para. 87)	Implemented; the polling rate is at least every 2 hours.	Law Nr. 64/2012, Article 72: The vessel monitoring system 1. Fishing vessels with a length equal to or greater than 12 meters shall install on their board the relevant equipment enabling their automatic identification and localization, at an appropriate interval, at specified intervals, through the transmission of data on the relevant location on the satellite system.	

8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	Not applicable. As mentioned earlier, there aren't in Albania the pelagic trawlers, longline vessels, baitboats, towing vessels.		
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	Implemented		
	<i>Other requirements, such as tagging program</i>			

Data recording

The master of catching vessel shall maintain a logbook as defined by Annex 4 of DCM Nr. 407 date 08/05/2013, "Establishing a control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of fisheries policy" that is implementation of EU Regulation 1224/2009 Establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Data reporting

Master of fishing vessel shall communicate, during the whole period in which fishing vessel is authorized to fish bluefin tuna, by electronic or other means to the Ministry, daily information from logbooks, including the date, time, location (latitude and longitude) and the weight and number of bluefin tuna taken in the plan area.

On the basis of the information, Ministry will transmit a weekly catch report to the ICCAT Secretariat. Ministry shall report its provisional catches to the ICCAT Secretariat within 30 days of the end of the calendar month in which the catches were made.

All information including data form inspectors and observers report, VMS data, logbooks, transfer and catch documents will be verify.

Transfer operations

Before any transfer operation, the master of the catching or its representatives shall send to Ministry, a prior transfer notification indicating information set by paragraph 71 of Recommendation 17-07. Ministry shall assign and communicate to the master of the fishing vessel an authorization number for each transfer operation in ALB – 2018/AUT/XXX in case of positive authorization, or: ALB – 2018/NEG/XXX in case of negative authorization.

The transfer declaration forms shall be numbered by numbering system: ALB – 2018/XXX/ITD.

All transfers of live bluefin tuna operations must be monitored by video camera in the water with a view to verify the number of fish being transferred, pursuant the procedures set at Annex 8 of Recommendation 17-07.

VMS (Vessel Monitoring System)

VMS is mandatory for fishing vessels equal or greater than 12 meters. By Law Nr. 64/2012, Article 72: (Vessel monitoring system).

1. Fishing vessels with a length equal to or greater than 12 meters shall install on their board the relevant equipment enabling their automatic identification and localization, at an appropriate interval, at specified intervals, through the transmission of data on the relevant location on the satellite system.

System is under Inter-institutional Maritime Operational Centre (IMOC) responsibility, as an inter-ministry institution that have to ensure the surveillance of the Albanian maritime space, in order to realize the organization, planning, coordination and direction of the operations on sea, in compliance with the national and international maritime legislation.

ICCAT Regional Observer Programme

Albanian purse seiners fishing vessel authorized to fish bluefin tuna will be covered 100% from ICCAT Regional Observer Programme.

Albanian Observer Programme

No pelagic trawlers, longline vessels, harvesting operations from traps, towing vessels and active baitboats are permitted to fish bluefin tuna. Regarding measures to be taken during fishing season is explained below.

Inspection Plan to be applied by Fishery Inspectorate of Shengjini

By special order issued by Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture Services, during fishing season, Task - force will be installed to the Shengjini fishing Port, in order to implement duties by Albanian legislation, ICCAT 17-07 Recommendation and Minister Order.

During this period, in addition to other duties that are listed in the *Annual Fishing Plan and the Minister's Order*, Fishery Inspector, based on fishing port of Shengjini, and Task force, should prioritize the implementation as follow:

- The Authorized Fishing Vessel should land the fished bluefin tuna only in the designated place and in due time;
- The master of the Authorized Fishing Vessel should notify the port authority (including fisheries inspector) four hours before entering the port, about the time when evaluates its entry into the port, the amount of tuna caught having on board, the geographical area where fished.

Fishery Inspectors takes measures to be present at the fishing port on arrival and landing time and provide from the master the landing declaration which reflect the above data already specified (by weighting them) and not at random way.

Duties in case of request from others fishing vessels to land fisheries product in frame of *The Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, this Plan and Ministers Order*.

This action should be daily for the Authorized period

- Fishery Inspector also keeps a record of all notifications made by fishing vessel authorized and communicated data as above, of the landing declarations in the fishing harbor, as well as other details that sees the reasonable. This data, fishery inspector shall communicate to the Fishery Resources Division, within 48 hours from landing fish products by authorized fishing vessel.
- To ensure that the master of fishing vessel fill correctly the logbooks and after each arrival (landing) to take delivery of them.
- To not allow the bluefin tuna fisheries under 30 kg or under 115 cm (measurement made from the snout to the bifurcation of the tail). The inspector makes measurements of each tuna caught, just landed and verify the implementation of the foregoing obligation to weight/minimum size of fish caught.

- To check the functionality of the vessel into the VMS system and with non-stop signal, not interrupted even when in port. The VMS system signal should start 15 days before of starting the season (according Authorization) and to terminate 15 days after its completion.
- To send to the Fishery Authorities in Ministry any document dealing with catches and transfers of tuna fish products;
- To observe and identify and monitor any quantity of bluefin tuna caught by Fishing Vessel (out of authorized fishing season).

Joint international inspection (para. 97-98)

Albania adhere in ICCAT scheme for joint international inspection, based on the results of the Integrated Monitoring Measures Working Group, established by the *Resolution by ICCAT for Integrated Monitoring Measures*

Market measures

By implementing this Plan, by Ministers Order and based on DCM Nr. 407 date 08/05/2013, “Establishing a control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of fisheries policy”, domestic trade, landing, imports, exports, placing in cages for farming, re-exports and transshipments of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna species that are not accompanied by accurate, complete, and validated documentation from the relevant authority has been and is prohibited.

Capacity Management Plan (para. 35-42, 44-45a)

PA2 INTERSESSIONAL MEETING – MADRID 2018

TUNA VESSEL FLEET	Fleet (vessels)												Fishing capacity											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Purse seiner over 40m	70.7																							
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78							1	1	1	1	1								49.78	49.78	49.78	49.78	
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68																							
Total Purse Seine Fleet								1	1	1	1	1												
Longliner over 40m	25																							
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68																							
Longliner less than 24m	5																							
Total Longline Fleet																								
Baitboat	19.8																	33.58						
Handline	5																							
Trawler	10																							
Trap	130																							
Other (please specify)	5																							
Total fleet/fishing capacity																								
Quota																				39.65	47.40	56.91	100	
Adjusted quota (if applicable)																	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)																	--	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	
Under/overcapacity																				10.13	2.38	-7.31	-50.22	

ALGERIA

Introduction

Algeria's 2018 fishing plan is based on the relevant provisions of the ICCAT recommendations, legislation and the national regulation, in particular those of the Ministerial Order of 19 April 2010, as amended and supplemented, which establish bluefin fishing quotas for Algerian-flagged vessels and set the methods for their distribution and implementation.

Bluefin tuna fishing activities in 2018 will be carried out according to the conditions and methods of the previous campaigns and with improvements in the fishing documentation (logbook).

Algeria's quota for 2018 is 1260 t. In accordance with paragraph 5 b) of ICCAT Recommendation 17-07, amending Recommendation 14-04 on Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, the CPC Libya has transferred 46 t of its quota to Algeria. Therefore, the total quota for Algeria for 2018 is 1306 t.

Algeria will implement its fishing plan to catch 1300 t. The 1300 t will be distributed between the tuna vessel owners, which must comply with the regulatory conditions relating to fishing and maritime security to participate in the 2018 fishing campaign. A quota of 6 t will be reserved for by-catch.

Fishing Plan

The 2018 bluefin fishing plan will be implemented to ensure compliance with Algeria's quota limit and the relevant provisions contained in legislation and the national regulation and ICCAT recommendations, in particular Recommendation 17-07 amending Recommendation 14-04.

Individual quotas for each of the vessels authorised to participate in the campaign will be established in accordance with a national quota distribution criterion. This is provided for by the national regulation Ministerial Order of 25 March 2015 which establishes bluefin fishing quotas for vessels flying the national flag and sets the methods for their distribution and implementation. The distribution criterion for individual quotas is based on the size of the vessels employed (tonnage and vessel length). The list of live bluefin tuna catching vessels and their quotas will be communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat by the deadline provided for in paragraph 52 of Recommendation 17-07, i.e. 12 May 2018.

In accordance with the current Algerian regulation, individual fishing permits will be issued by the fisheries administration to the purse seine and longline vessels authorised to participate in the 2018 fishing campaign. In this context, Algeria has issued for 2018 a fishing permit to a longliner, carrying an individual quota of 5.68 t.

Joint fishing operations (in groups) among Algerian vessels only may be authorised. Information on these operations, in particular the individual quotas and allocation keys that will be adopted for the 2018 campaign will be notified to the Commission by the deadline established in paragraph 17 of Recommendation 17-07, i.e. 16 May 2018.

With regard to by-catch, vessels that do not hold a permit specifically for bluefin tuna, issued in accordance with the current Algerian regulation, will not be authorised to catch, retain on board or land bluefin tuna. Discarded by-catch will be recorded in logbooks. Any discards of dead bluefin tuna will be deducted from the 6 t of the Algerian quota.

Regarding bluefin tuna farming, Algeria authorised, in accordance with the conditions and specific methods which will be determined by the administration on the basis of regulatory provisions in force, the establishment of three farming facilities in 2018, and within its quota.

	<i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note:</i>
1	Communication and reporting of catches (para 61-67, 69)	Catches are recorded in the bound logbook maintained onboard the vessel in compliance with the requirements of the ICCAT recommendation. To improve the vessel onboard catch documentation system, the administration is developing a new logbook taking into consideration the observations of the ROP-BFT controllers during the 2018 campaign. In addition, documents related to biological, technical and scientific data, where fishing information is recorded, are submitted to the controller of the administration. Weekly and monthly bluefin tuna catches are notified to the ICCAT Secretariat, in accordance with paragraphs 66 c and 67. Closure of the bluefin tuna fishery is reported on exhaustion of the authorised quota during the authorised period.	Article 13 of the Order of 19 March 2013, which amends and supplements the Order of 19 April 2010, establishes bluefin tuna quotas for vessels flying the national flag operating in waters under national jurisdiction and sets the methods for their distribution and implementation.	
2	Fishing seasons (para 18-23)	Tuna purse seiners: from 26 May to 24 June. Tuna longliner: 1 January to 31 May.	Article 10 of the Order of 19 March 2013, which amends and supplements the Order of 19 April 2010, establishes bluefin tuna quotas for vessels flying the national flag operating in waters under national jurisdiction and sets the methods for their distribution and implementation.	

3	Minimum size (para 26-28)	115 cm - 30 kg. However, up to a maximum of 5% of bluefin tuna by-catch weighing between 8 and 30 kg or with a fork length from 75 to 115 cm, calculated on the basis of the total catch, may be authorised. Dead fish will be reported and deducted from Algeria's quota and live fish will be released.	Executive decree No. 08-118 of 9 April 2008 which amends and supplements Executive Decree No. 04-86 of 18 March 2004 which fix the minimum trade sizes of biological resources. Article 23 quater of the amendment and supplement to the Order of 19 April 2010 which establish bluefin tuna fishing quotas for vessels flying the national flag operating in waters under national jurisdiction and set the methods for their distribution and implementation.	
4	By-catch (para 29)	With regard to by-catch, vessels that do not hold a permit specifically for bluefin tuna, issued in accordance with the current Algerian regulation, are not be authorised to catch, retain on board or land bluefin tuna. Any discard of dead bluefin tuna will be deducted from the 6 t or the Algerian quota. Discards will be recorded in logbooks and deducted from the Algerian quota. In addition, control of catches is carried out at accesses to ports by members of the National Coast Guard Service and at landing sites by fishing inspectors.	Executive decree No. 08-118 of 9 April 2008 which amends and supplements Executive Decree No. 04-86 of 18 March 2004 which fix the minimum trade sizes of biological resources.	
5	Recreational and sports fisheries (para 30-34)	There are no recreational and sports fisheries in Algeria.		
6	Transshipment (para 58-60)	It is prohibited to tranship bluefin tuna.	Article 58 of Law 01-11 on the fisheries and aquaculture, as amended and supplemented.	

7	VMS (para 87)	Legal and regulatory obligation.	Article 20 bis of Law No. 15-08, which amends and supplements the Law 01-11 on the fisheries and aquaculture, and article 7 of the Order of 19 March 2013, which amends and supplements the Order of 19 April 2010, establish bluefin tuna quotas for vessels flying the national flag operating in waters under national jurisdiction and set the methods for their distribution and implementation.	
8	CPC's observer (para 88)	Boarding of two controllers / onboard national observers on each vessel throughout the fishing season.	Article 8 of the Order of 19 March 2013, which amends and supplements the Order of 19 April 2010, establishes bluefin tuna quotas for vessels flying the national flag operating in waters under national jurisdiction and sets the methods for their distribution and implementation.	
9	Regional observer (para 89-90)	Regulatory requirement of boarding of ICCAT regional observers.	Article 9 of the Order of 19 March 2013, which amends and supplements the Order of 19 April 2010, establishes bluefin tuna quotas for vessels flying the national flag operating in waters under national jurisdiction and sets the methods for their distribution and implementation.	
	<i>Other requirements</i>			
	<i>Tagging programme</i>	No tagging operations are carried out in Algeria.		

	Use of video camera for transfer surveillance (paragraph 75, 76 and Annex 8)	Transfer operations from the fishing net to the transport cage will be recorded by video camera, as required by paragraphs 75, 76 and Annex 8 of ICCAT Rec. 14-04.	Article 17 of the Order of 19 March 2013, which amends and supplements the Order of 19 April 2010, establishes bluefin tuna quotas for vessels flying the national flag operating in waters under national jurisdiction and sets the methods for their distribution and implementation.	
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Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

A national inspection programme for all bluefin tuna fishing operations will be implemented for the 2018 campaign, in accordance with national laws and regulations and the relevant provisions of ICCAT recommendations. This programme consists in carrying out at-port inspections on tuna vessels authorised to participate in the 2018 fishing campaign, before and after the campaign.

Two controllers / national observers board each of the tuna purse seiners throughout the fishing season. The controllers / observers are responsible for monitoring fishing and transfer operations and verifying information and data on the fishing campaign. They will ensure compliance with ICCAT recommendations on bluefin tuna fishing. Each controller / observer will be required to produce campaign reports at the end of the campaign.

The controllers / observers will remain in constant contact with the fisheries administration and communicate all information on fishing and transfer operations.

In addition, for the purposes of monitoring, the tuna vessels that are authorised to participate in the fishing campaign will be equipped with a VMS beacon which will be operational throughout the campaign. Transmission of VMS data is mandatory for all tuna vessels and must start 15 days before the authorisation period and will continue 15 days after the fishing campaign. The data transmission frequency will be every four hours in accordance with the latest relevant ICCAT recommendation.

With regard to landing ports, tuna vessels flying the national flag are authorised to land bluefin tuna caught during the fishing campaign in the authorised ports only, i.e.: Port of Algiers, port of Annaba, port of Bejaïa, port of Cherchell, port of Oran, port of Ténès, port of Bouzedjar and the port of Beni Saf. An inspection of products to be landed and all the onboard documents will be carried out by the relevant State institutions (Fisheries and Coast Guards). It is prohibited for foreign vessels to land bluefin tuna.

Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

Algeria will not deploy an inspection vessel for the 2018 fishing campaign, since it does not have more than 15 tuna vessels, in accordance with the relevant ICCAT provisions.

Algeria will deploy in the coming years a joint international inspection vessel in the case where the number of vessels exceeds 15. Legislation is being amended to respond to these requirements if the need arises.

Capacity management plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

The fishing capacity, represented by a fleet of 14 tuna purse seine vessels and 1 longliner, is adapted to the quota allocated to Algeria, i.e. 1,300 t. On this basis, Algeria will not exceed its bluefin tuna fishing capacity.

With the exception of the longline vessel authorised to fish for dead bluefin tuna, the list of vessels will be established following compliance by the tuna vessel owners with national regulatory requirements on maritime security and fishing methods. The list of vessels will be notified to the ICCAT Secretariat by the deadlines established in paragraph 54 of Recommendation 17-07.

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TUNA VESSEL FLEET		Fleet (vessels)											Fishing capacity										
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Purse seiner over 40 m	70.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purse seiner between 24 and 40 m	49.78	8	14	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	12	12	398.24	696.92	547.58	547.58	547.58	547.58	547.58	547.58	547.58	597.36	597.36
Purse seiner less than 24 m	33.68	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	0	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	67.36	67.36	67.36	67.36
Total purse seine fleet		8	15	12	12	12	12	12	13	13	14	14	398.24	730.6	581.26	581.26	581.26	581.26	581.26	614.94	614.94	664.72	664.72
Longliner over 40 m	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner between 20 and 40m	5.68	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	1	5.68	5.68	5.68	5.68	5.68	11.36	11.36	5.68	5.68	0	5.68
Longliner less than 24m	5	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	5	10	10	10	10	5	5	5	5	0	0
Total longline fleet		2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	0	1	10.68	15.68	15.68	15.68	15.68	16.36	16.36	10.68	10.68	0	5.68
Baitboat	19.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Handline	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trawler	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trap	130	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify))	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total fleet/fishing capacity		10	18	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	14	15	408.92	746.28	596.94	596.94	596.94	597.62	597.62	625.62	625.62	664.72	670.40
Quota													1460.04	1460.04	1306.35	138.46	138.46	143.83	143.83	169.81	202.98	243.7	1260
Adjusted quota (if applicable)													1460.04	1460.04	684.9	138.46	138.46	243.83	243.83	369.81	425.98	1043.7	1300*
Admissible catch for sports/recreational vessels (if applicable)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Under/overcapacity													997.12	703.76	87.96	-458.48	-458.48	-353.11	-353.11	-255.81	-199.64	378.98	629.60

* A quota of 6 t is reserved for by-catch.

CHINA (REP.)**Introduction**

According to Recommendation 14-04/17-07, China was allocated 79 t of BFT in the 2018 fishing season, China will dispatch two longline fishing vessels to conduct BFT fishing activities seasonally in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea as same as last year, namely Jin Feng No.1 and Jin Feng No.3.

The *Fisheries Law* and the *Regulation on Distant Water Fishery Management* are the main pieces of national legislation to manage Chinese deep sea fishing vessels conducting fishing activities on the high seas. In addition, we also issued the *VMS Management regulation* and *Regulation on the Implementation of National Observer Management* which respectively specify the stipulation of VMS and observer on our deep sea fishing vessels, besides, we issued the ministerial-level document *Notice on strictly complying with tuna RFMOs management measures* which, *inter alia*, include the main requirements contained in the ICCAT Recommendation 14-04/17-07, such as minimum size, observer coverage, VMS requirement, designated transshipment/landing port requirement and so on.

Fishing plan

China will dispatch two fishing vessels to catch BFT: Jin Feng No.1 and Jin Feng No.3. Both are longliners and will be allocated 39.5 tons; each vessel will hold one half of the total catch quota.

It is relatively simple to monitor and respect the quotas since only two fishing vessels share the limited quotas and they belong to one company. We could manage the quotas through the following ways:

- Observer program: usually we implement 100% observer coverage for BFT fishing vessels which is much higher than the requirement in Rec. 14-04/17-07, the observer must be familiar with the BFT recommendation and will record accurately every day the weight and number of BFT, including the weight for round fish and GG weight.
- Catch report: we have daily\weekly\monthly BFT catch reports and we could cross-check the catch.
- Logbook: the fishing vessel master must strictly and accurately fill in the logbook, including any by-catch and incidental catch.
- Landing\transshipment: these vessels can only conduct landing or transshipment activities in the designated port authorized by ICCAT.
- VMS requirement: we could monitor these vessels through our VMS platform and their positions could be polled whenever we need.
- Catch documentation: using the catch documentation system to check the quotas.
- BFT by-catch is not allowed for any other fishing vessels which are not authorized to catch BFT. Our BFT fishing area is delimited by west of 10° W and north of 42° N, and no fishing vessels are operating in the Mediterranean Sea which means no by-catch and small-scale BFT.
- Training program: each year we will hold a training program for the fishing vessel owner and vessel master, interpret the relevant recommendations and the main requirement, meanwhile, the Rec.14-04/17-07 was translated into Chinese and distribute to them for their better understanding and learning.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	We distribute to every Chinese fishing vessel operating on the high seas the standardized logbook and ask the master fill it in timely and accurately. BFT must be landed and transshipped at the designated port. The fishing vessel owner must report daily/weekly/monthly catch to us. We will issue the first warning notice when the quota approaches 80% of the total. When the quota is exhausted we will ask the fishing vessels to stop operating and leave the fishing ground immediately. Then we will report the closure to Secretariat at once.	<i>Regulation on Distant Water Fishery Management</i>	
2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	Usually, our vessels will start to fish at the end of September until the quotas are exhausted but before the end of the year.	1. <i>Regulation on Distant Water Fishery Management</i> 2. <i>Notice on strictly complying with tuna RFMOs management measures</i>	
3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	Through the observer program and logbook as well as the daily/weekly/monthly catch report we could monitor minimum size. Any catch under the minimum size must be released and recorded. We set the minimum size limit which corresponds to Rec.14-04/17-07, prohibit to catch, retain, transship, land and sell BFT less than 30 kg or 115 cm, the maximum of 5% tolerance is authorized. Discarded catch is also counted against our quotas.	1. <i>Regulation on Distant Water Fishery Management</i> 2. <i>Notice on strictly complying with tuna RFMOs management measures</i>	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	By-catch is not allowed for any other fishing vessels. That means 5% is not allowed. Any other vessels other than BFT vessels are prohibited to catch, retain and transship BFT. Any BFT caught by other vessels are not issued eBCD. All the by-catch must be discarded, these discarded BFT is also counted against China's BFT quota.	1. <i>Regulation on Distant Water Fishery Management</i> 2. <i>Regulation on the Implementation of National Observer Management</i> 3. <i>Notice on strictly complying with tuna RFMOs management measures</i>	
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para, 30-34)	Not applicable as we do not have such a fishery.	Not applicable as we do not have such a fishery.	

6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	Bluefin tuna fishing vessel shall only transship and/or land bluefin tuna catches in the designated ports.	1. <i>Regulation on Distant Water Fishery Management</i> 2. <i>Notice on strictly complying with tuna RFMOs management measures</i>	
7.	VMS (para. 87)	The VMS could be reported to the Secretariat directly and we will also poll the vessel position from our VMS platform. From our platform we could monitor and poll 6 positions per day, once every 4 hours.	1. <i>Regulation on Distant Water Fishery Management</i> 2. <i>VMS Management Regulation</i> 3. <i>Notice on strictly complying with tuna RFMOs management measures</i>	
8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	Usually we will implement 100% observer coverage which is higher than 20% for longliners stipulated in Rec. 14-04/17-07.	1. <i>Regulation on Distant Water Fishery Management</i> 2. <i>Regulation on the Implementation of National Observer Management</i> 3. <i>Notice on strictly complying with tuna RFMOs management measures</i>	
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	Not applicable as we do not have purse seiners, and also do not have caging and farming activities.	Not applicable as we do not have purse seiners, and also do not have caging and farming activities.	
	<i>Other requirements, such as tagging program</i>	Each BFT will have a tag with a unique number.	Since only two fishing vessels engage in BFT fishing and these two vessels belong to one company, according to the <i>Fisheries Law</i> of PRC, Chinese fishing vessels must comply with measures adopted by RFMOs of which China is a contracting party. The competent authority of the Chinese fishery has notified the relevant company of such ICCAT requirement on BFT.	

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

Para 64 is not applicable as China has no port for BFT fishing vessels to conduct landing or transshipment.

Para 99 is not applicable as we have only two BFT fishing vessels that operate.

Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

Not applicable.

Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

Please see the template.

PA2 INTERSESSIONAL MEETING – MADRID 2018

TUNA VESSEL FLEET	Fleet (vessels)														Fishing capacity									
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Purse seiner over 40m	70,7																							
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49,78																							
Purse seiners less than 24m	33,68																							
Total Purse Seine Fleet																								
Longliner over 40m	25	4	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	100	50	50	50	50	50	25	25	50	50	50	
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5,68																							
Longliner less than 24m	5																							
Total Longline Fleet		4	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	100	50	50	50	50	50	25	25	50	50	50	
Baitboat	19,8																							
Handline	5																							
Trawler	10																							
Trap	130																							
Other (please specify)	5																							
Total fleet/fishing capacity		4	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	100	50	50	50	50	50	25	25	50	50	50	
Quota													63.55	61.32	38.48	36.77	36.77	38.19	38.19	45.09	53.9	64.71	79	
Adjusted quota (if applicable)																								
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)																								
Under/overcapacity													-36.45	11.32	-11.5	-13.23	-13.23	-11.8	13.19	20.09	3.9	14.71	29	

EGYPT

Introduction

Fishing activities for eastern bluefin tuna will be conducted in compliance with applicable ICCAT Recommendations. In accordance with the ICCAT Rec. 14-04 and Rec. 17-07 according to the bluefin tuna allocation scheme that was adopted in the special meetings of ICCAT (Marrakech, Morocco, November 2017, paragraph 5), the quota allocated for Egypt for the 2018 fishing season is 181 t.

The total amount of tuna that can be fished in the 2018 fishing season in total is 181 t.

This total amount will be fished on the authorized fishing vessel. As following;

- *Safinat Nooh* that listed on the ICCAT list (No. AT000EGY00010) according to the following scheme.

Vessel Allocated Quota (t)		
Purse seine	SAFINAT NOOH	181 t

The General Authority for Fish Resources Development (GAFRD) announced the above-mentioned decision to all sector stakeholders in accordance with the General Authority for Fish Resources Development resolutions regarding bluefin tuna.

Egypt has issued a number of resolutions, governmental decrees for the conservation of bluefin tuna:

Decree Number (827) for the year 2011

- Article (1) the prohibition of bluefin tuna fishing with any fishing craft during the period from 25 June to 25 May as from the next year. This resolution will be amended yearly, if necessary, according to the closed season adopted by ICCAT.
- Article (2) the prohibition of the transfer of any bluefin tuna fishing at sea unless for the purposes of farming and farm development.*
- Article (3) Transshipment at sea is completely prohibited as required in Recommendation 14-04.

Decree Number (828) for the year 2011

- Article (1) the prohibition of fishing of bluefin tuna that is less than 30 kilograms.
- Article (2) all transfer from purse seiners to towing cages should be monitored by video camera and shall be delivered to observers of fishing operations without any restrictions. In context of para. 75 of ICCAT Rec. 14-04.

Resolution Number (829) for the year 2011

- Article (1) the prohibition of using any ports for landing or exportation of bluefin tuna except in the port of EL-Meadia for bluefin tuna landing and Alexandria commercial port for exportation.
- Article (2) prohibition of vessels licensed to fish bluefin tuna to go fishing unless there are observers who are assigned by the GAFRD onboard.

In the case of non-compliance with the Egyptian resolutions or any of ICCAT Recommendations by the fishing vessel, the penal code will be applied, and the vessel will not be allowed to work in the bluefin tuna fishing for the next season, and in case of repetition of non-compliance, this vessel will be prohibited from bluefin tuna fisheries.

* The word "development" means the development of farms (as future further steps). The appropriate translation for the decree number 827 "..... Farm development".

Fishing plan

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All information recorded in the logbooks of the fishing vessel, in the transfer documents and in the catch documents shall be verified by GAFRD - using available inspection reports, regional and national observers' reports also recording and reporting obligations laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be fully implemented. • Tuna fishing activities are prohibited during the period from 25 June to 25 May of the next year. Moreover, the closed season for bluefin tuna fisheries will be announced by the Fisheries Agency once the allowed quota is caught even during the authorized fishing period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution Number (829) for the year 2011 • Decree Number (827) for the year 2011 	
2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The authorized period for fishing is from 26 May to 24 June 2018. • No coastal recreational, sport fisheries will be allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decree Number (827) for the year 2011 	
3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisions regulating minimum size laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations shall be strictly implemented. • National observer/inspector on board shall ensure the full commitment of the minimum size in accordance with the ICCAT relative recommendation during the season • The prohibition of fishing of bluefin tuna that is less than 30 kilograms. • Incidental catch of max. 5% of BFT. Weighting (8 to 30 Kg) or fork length 75 to 115 cm is authorized. • All live undersized BFT must be released into the sea and dead BFT should be reported and deducted from the quota. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decree Number (828) for the year 2011 	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vessels not fishing actively for bluefin tuna are monitored by our National inspectors on landing ports to count any BFT. By-catches in order to ensure implementing of ICCAT rec. • Bluefin tuna should not exceed more than 5% of the total catch by weight or number of pieces. • All our inspectors in landing ports have been instructed to monitor and report any by-catch of BFT throughout the year. • As regards BFT, if by-catch occurs, investigation shall be done. • By the first of February each year final report declaring all BFT. By-catches (if any) which must be deducted from the quota of the year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution Number (829) for the year 2011 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amount of by-catch discarded whether alive or dead status should be reported to the authority immediately, and these data will be reported to ICCAT. At the same time, all by-catch will be deducted from the quota of Egypt. In according with ICCAT Rec. 14-04 and 17-07, para 29. 		
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para. 30-34)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No coastal recreational, sport fisheries will be allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decree Number (827) for the year 2011 	
6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transshipment at sea is completely prohibited as required in Rec. 14-04. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decree Number (827) for the year 2011 	
7.	VMS (para. 87)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The authorized fishing vessels requesting a bluefin fishing and transport permit for 2018 shall be equipped with a full-time operational satellite tracking device (vessel monitoring system, VMS) onboard, as required by GAFRD, on the basis of a transmission every 4 hours as minimum requirement. 		
8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of National observers of fisheries specialists will inspect the fishing operations on board during the fishing operations for monitoring the catch, recording the required data and insuring the compliance of the fishing vessel with the ICCAT Recs and GAFRD Res. The permanent observers in ports to follow-up the landed catch and reviewing the on board observers reports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution Number (829) for the year 2011 	
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerning the “ICCAT regional observers”, Egypt will send a request to the ICCAT Secretariat to have an Arabic speaker observer for the one authorized vessel (100%). In general each vessel must have two observers (one National observer and one ICCAT ROP. Observer). 		
10.	Use of aircraft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No aircrafts are used. 		
11.	Sampling requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In transfer process during a JFO with another CPC the sampling process at the time of caging will be done jointly between Egyptian vessels and the other CPC vessels. Owners/operators of the fishing vessels, managers /operators of farming facilities and exporters shall be responsible for the proper implementation of all provisions mentioned above, as well as other applicable rules and recommendations imposed by ICCAT. 		
12.	Joint Fishing Operations (JFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint fishing operations with other CPC vessels will be allowed if a JFO is requested by our fishing company. 		
	<i>Other requirements, such as tagging program</i>			

Inspection Plan

For the national vessels, full inspection coverage shall be ensured during the 2018 bluefin tuna fishing season by GAFRD's inspectors. The inspection will include all the activities that will be conducted during the fishing season, i.e. fishing, transfer, caging, and landing if any.

According to the National Law No. 124/1983, foreign fishing vessels are not allowed to enter any Egyptian fishing port except in cases of emergency.

Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

The Egyptian fishing capacity plan for season 2018 attached in Excel format.

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TUNA VESSEL FLEET	Fleet (vessels)												Fishing capacity											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Purse seiner over 40m	70.7																							
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	50	50	50	50	49.78	49.78	
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	34	34	34	34	34	34	33.7	0	
Total Purse Seine Fleet		0	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	34	34	84	84	84	84	83.46	49.78	
Longliner over 40m	25																							
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68																							
Longliner less than 24m	5																							
Total Longline Fleet																								
Baitboat	19.8																							
Handline	5																							
Trawler	10																							
Trap	130																							
Other (please specify)	5																							
Total fleet/fishing capacity		0	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	34	34	84	84	84	84	83.46	49.78	
Quota													0	50	33	65	65	77	77	79	100	113.67	181	
Adjusted quota (if applicable)																						123.67		
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)																								
Under/overcapacity																31	31	-6.4	-6.4	-4.3	16	40.21	131.22	

EUROPEAN UNION

1. Introduction

The European Union hereby provides its Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management plans for Eastern Bluefin tuna (E-BFT).

The eight EU Member States actively fishing Bluefin tuna are Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain. These EU Member States fish with a range of fishing gears, with the majority of the quotas being attributed to the purse seine and trap sectors. However, significant catches are also made by more artisanal sectors such as the baitboats, handlines and pelagic trawlers, in both the Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea. The eight EU Member States also cooperate to implement a Joint Deployment Plan of inspections means, in coordination with the European Commission and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA). The Recovery plan for eastern Bluefin tuna, ICCAT Recommendation [14-04] recently replaced by Recommendation [17-07], has been transposed into European Union (EU) law by Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 of the European Parliament and of the Council of the European Union.

2. Fishing plan

The European Union adopted Council Regulation (EC) No 302/2009 on 6 April 2009 transposing into EU Law ICCAT Recommendation [08-05] to establish a Multiannual Recovery Plan for Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean. Following ICCAT Recommendation [10-04] amending ICCAT recommendation [08-05], adopted at the 2010 ICCAT Annual Meeting in Paris, the EU has amended Council Regulation (EC) 302/2009 transposing ICCAT Recommendation [10-04] into EU law. In 2014, the EU transposed the amendments of the recovery plan which took place under ICCAT Recommendation [13-07]. These additional measures were transposed into EU law by Regulation 544/2014. Finally, the EU adopted Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 of the European Parliament and of the Council on 14 September 2016 transposing ICCAT Recommendation [14-04] into EU law.

- In 2018 the EU will implement the provisions of Recommendation [17-07]. In addition, the EU will also fully implement Recommendation [17-09].
- In accordance with the current Total Allowable Catch (TAC) provided for under Recommendation [17-07], the quota for the EU in 2018 of 15,850 t has already been transposed into by EU legislation Reg. (EU) 120/2018.
- In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation [17-07] the EU is currently drawing up an annual Fishing plan identifying catching vessels over 24 meters and their associated individual quotas.
- All purse seine vessels over 24 meters are allocated an individual vessel quota superior to the SCRS catch rates as adopted by the ICCAT Commission for estimating fleet capacity.
- The EU will authorise 'catching vessels' and 'other' vessels' in accordance with paragraph 52 of ICCAT Recommendation [17-07].
- The EU will continue to submit the lists of authorised vessels that will participate in the fishery in 2018 in accordance with the reporting deadlines laid down under paragraph 52 of Recommendation [17-07].
- The EU hereby submits a complementary Inspection plan covering all BFT fisheries and capable of addressing effectively the control requirements of the fishery.
- The EU undertakes real-time monitoring of the Bluefin tuna fishery and is committed to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect of ICCAT Recommendation [17-07] as well as other Recommendations concerning the management of E-BFT fisheries, including Recommendations [06-07], [11-20] and [17-09].

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation [17-07] the EU has allocated quotas¹ to the following sectors:

TUNA VESSEL FLEET	2018	
Type	Fleet (No. vessels)	Quota allocated (t)
Purse seiner over 40m	24	5,127.7
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	30	3,807.9
Purse seiners less than 24m	4	176.5
Total Purse Seine Fleet	58	9,112.1
Longliner over 40m	0	0.0
Longliner between 24 and 40m	12	47.3
Longliner less than 24m	127	1,295.8
Total Longline Fleet	139	1,343.1
Baitboat	61	925.2
Handline	46	164.1
Trawler	57	389.0
Trap	12	2,043.3
Other	715	1,443.5
Recreational		97.0
By-catch reserve		332.7
Total fleet/fishing capacity	1088	15,850.0
Quota		15,850.0
Adjusted quota (if applicable)		15,850.0
Under-capacity (t)		0.0

¹ The EU capacity plan shows the potential capacity that EU can deploy, with the maximum number of vessels and the minimum quota that should be allocated to each gear type following the catch rates in accordance with the methodology approved in the 2009 Annual meeting. The EU fishing plan on the other hand shows the actual number of vessels that will be authorized by EU in 2018 and the quota allocated to them. In 2018, the number of vessels in the fishing plan (1,088) is lower than the number in the capacity plan (1,115).

The table below summarises the actions taken to implement the requirements of ICCAT Rec. [17-07] as well as the relevant domestic laws or regulations when applicable.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 17-07)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	<p>Purse seine vessels, vessels over 24 meters and traps have to send daily reports to the Member State administration. Weekly reports for all vessels are sent by Member States to the European Commission which transmits them to the ICCAT Secretariat.</p> <p>In 2018, all vessels authorized to fish for BFT independently of the length shall record their catches in a logbook.</p>	<p>Regulation (EU) 2016/1627²</p> <p>SECTION 2</p> <p>Article 25 "Recording requirements"</p> <p>"Catches",</p> <p>Article 26 "Catch reports sent by masters and trap operators",</p> <p>Article 27 "Weekly and monthly catch reports sent by the Member States",</p> <p>Article 28 "Information on quota exhaustion"</p> <p>Article 29 "Yearly reporting of catches by the Member States"</p>	<p>All catch reports are recorded at EU level, cross checks are made between the authorization, the individual quota, the national quota and the JFO quota (when relevant).</p> <p>In accordance with Art. 14 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 all EU fishing vessels above 10 m have to be equipped with a bound logbook with chronologically numbered pages. For fishing vessels over 12m, an electronic logbook is required. Additional requirements set up by ICCAT are covered by Art. 25 and Annex II of Regulation (EU) No 2016/1627.</p>
2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	<p>According to Article 35 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009, Member States shall inform the Commission as soon as the BFT quota is exhausted. In addition, under Regulation (EU) 2016/1627, Member States shall inform the Commission when the BFT quota allocated to a gear group referred to in Article 11 or Article 12 of this Regulation or to a JFO or to a purse seiner is deemed to be exhausted. The fishing seasons applicable to the EU fleets in all Member States concerned are in line with the seasons established by ICCAT. Art 11 and Art 12 of Regulation (EU) No 2016/1627 implement them into EU law.</p>	<p>Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 Chapter III</p> <p>"Technical measures",</p> <p>SECTION 1 "Fishing seasons",</p> <p>Article 11</p> <p>"Longliners, purse seiners, pelagic trawlers, traps and sport and recreational fisheries"</p> <p>Article 12</p> <p>"Baitboats and trolling boats"</p>	<p>Within the EUs Specific Control and Inspection Programme, inspection missions focus on the verification of the respect of the fishing seasons.</p>

² Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 September 2016 on a multiannual recovery plan for Bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 302/2009.

		A special reporting and alert system is in place to verify at EU level the quota use in each Member State for each fleet.		
3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	According to Art. 15 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1627, incidental catches of a maximum 5 % of Bluefin tuna weighing between 8 and 30 kg or with a fork length between 75 and 115 cm are allowed for all catching vessels and traps fishing actively for Bluefin tuna. These catches are subject to logbook entry, designated port and prior arrival notification requirements, and shall be deducted from the quota. Art. 15 of Regulation EU No 1380/2013 establishes a general landing obligation across the EU. Where a derogation to this Regulation is granted in accordance with Article 15.2 and in line with international obligations, this is provided for by Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/98.	Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 Chapter III "Technical measures", Section 2 "Minimum conservation reference size, incidental catch, by-catch", Article 14 "Minimum conservation reference size" Article 15 "Incidental catches" and Annex I of the same Regulation "specific conditions applicable to the fisheries referred to in Article 14(2)	For the implementation of the derogation to the Minimum size set up by Article 14(2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1627, Article 17 of Council Regulation (EU) 2018/120 of 23 January 2018 and Annex IV, sets fishing, farming and fattening capacity limitations for BFT by fixing yearly the number of vessels per Member State concerned. Compliance with capacity limitation provisions is monitored in the context of the JDP (Joint Deployment plan) (see 3.2.2.).
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	In accordance with ICCAT measures, the EU deducts all dead fish caught as by-catch from its quota. As every year, for Member States without a quota, the EU reserves part of its quote in Annex ID of Council Regulation (EU) 2018/120 of 23 January 2018. For more visibility and transparency all quota allocated to by-catch has been included in the EU fishing plan provided to ICCAT.	Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 Chapter III "Technical measures", Section 2 "Minimum conservation reference size, incidental catch, by-catch", Article 16 "By-catch"	A by-catch quota for accidental catches by EU Member States without a BFT quota is provided in Annex ID of Council Regulation (EU) 2018/120 of 23 January 2018. Any bycatch in excess of the 5% limit, is released alive whenever possible. Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/98 regulates under which circumstances BFT may be released or discarded within the EU. Regulation (EU) 404/2011 provides that discards shall be recorded in the logbook. All by-catches discarded or retained on-board are counted against the quota.

5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para. 30-34)	Dead catches from sport and recreational fisheries are counted against the quota. In this regard, a quota has been allocated for sport and recreational quota in the 2018 fishing plan. Furthermore, in the context of its Joint Deployment Plan, the EU conducts a series of inspections targeting sport and recreational activities, based on minimum benchmarks established on the basis of a risk assessment procedure. Finally, in addition to these common activities, each Member States also conducts programs of inspections, targeting sport and recreational fisheries. These programs are assessed by the European Commission through verification missions.	Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 Chapter IV "Sport and Recreational Fisheries", Article 19 "Sport and Recreational Fisheries"	Under Art. 19 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 each EU Member State is obliged to record catch data, including weight and length of each BFT caught during sport and recreational fishing and communicate the data for the preceding year to the European Commission by 30 June of each year. The EU Commission forwards that information to the SCRS. In 2018, the limit of one fish per day shall apply for all recreational vessels.
6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	Land inspections in the context of the Joint Deployment Plan also cover transshipments.	Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 SECTION 3 "Landings and transshipments", Article 32 "Transshipment"	Art. 32 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 prohibits all transshipments at sea in the Convention area. Fishing vessels can only transship BFT catches in designated ports. Full inspection coverage is ensured during all transshipment times and at all transshipment places.
7.	VMS (para. 87)	The team responsible within the EU for catch reporting and satellite Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) monitors in real time the VMS submissions. To this end, a special IT system is in place. All vessels are continually monitored by VMS and any interruption in the transmission of VMS data will immediately be followed up with the Member State concerned.	According to EU Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009, Article 9 "Vessel Monitoring system", all EU vessels over 12 meters are equipped with a VMS. By Article 49 Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 this obligation was extended to all BFT tug and towing vessels irrespective of their length.	Under Art. 49 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 EU Member States are obliged to ensure that VMS messages from the fishing vessels flying their flag are forwarded to the European Commission at least every two hours. A specific IT system is in place to ensure the implementation of this obligation at EU level.

8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	The data is collected by MS for the year 2017 and the information will be sent to ICCAT In July 2018.	Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 SECTION 6 "Monitoring and surveillance", Article 50 "National observer programme"	Article 50 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 "National observer programme" establishes the minimum levels of national observer coverage and describes the tasks to be performed by national observers. EU Member States also ensure a representative temporal and spatial presence of national observers on their vessels and traps to ensure that the European Commission receives adequate and appropriate data and information on catch, effort and other scientific and management aspects, taking into account characteristics of the fleets and fisheries. The implementation of these provisions is ensured through the Data Collection Framework.
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	The EU ensures 100% coverage of all purse seine vessels and for all caging and harvesting activities. As in previous years, replies to all the cases highlighted by ROs will be duly provided to the ICCAT Secretariat.	Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 SECTION 6 "Monitoring and surveillance", Article 51 "ICCAT regional observer programme"	
	Tagging program Para 21 of Rec. 11-20	In accordance with ICCAT provisions, the use of tags is authorised only upon request and when the accumulated catch amounts are within Member States' quotas or catch limits for each management year, including, where appropriate, individual quotas allocated to catching vessels or traps. A summary of any tagging programs implemented by MS is sent to ICCAT.	Art. 5 of (EU) Reg. 640/2010	EU also follows the additional provisions set up at ICCAT level by para 5c of ICCAT Recommendation [15-10].

3. Inspection Plan

3.1 CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

Under the EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), the primary responsibility for control and enforcement lays with the Member State Authorities and specifically their fisheries inspectors.

The European Commission and the EFCA coordinate with the Member States to ensure that the provisions laid down by ICCAT are reflected in EU and Member States law and fully enforced. The tools in place are explained under 3.2 below. In addition, the following verification activities are carried out by the European Commission:

3.1.1 European Commission inspections

Whilst different in its powers and mandate, the European Commission also has its own permanent team of inspectors whose role is to monitor and evaluate Member States fulfilment of their duties and obligations, including those under the Bluefin tuna recovery plan and associated ICCAT Recommendations concerning BFT.

Although the inspection plan is still subject to change in response to the specificities of the 2018 fishing campaign, European Commission inspectors will once again be very active in 2018.

3.1.2 Vessel monitoring system and Operations team

The team responsible within the European Commission for catch reporting and satellite Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) will monitor in real time the VMS submissions and undertake extensive cross-checks to avoid any potential quota overshoot.

All vessels will be continually monitored by VMS and any interruption in the transmission of VMS data will be immediately followed up with the Member State concerned.

3.2 Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

3.2.1 Specific Control and Inspection Programme

Working under the framework of the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection and building on experiences from recent years, the EU has currently in place a Specific Control and Inspection Programme (SCIP)³ to monitor and enforce the implementation of the Bluefin tuna recovery plan and also the Swordfish recovery plan which has been amended on 5 January 2018. This programme is a joint initiative bringing together the resources of the European Commission, EFCA and the Member States involved in the fishery.

3.2.2 Joint Deployment Plan (JDP) for Bluefin tuna

In cooperation with the European Commission and Member States, EFCA adopts annually a Joint Deployment Plan (JDP), which includes Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, Mediterranean Swordfish from 2017 and, Mediterranean Albacore from 2018. This Joint Deployment plan (JDP) brings the Specific Control and Inspection Programme into effect and covers all stages of the market chain as well as controls at sea, on land, and traps and farms.

Under the JDP, EFCA will coordinate in 2018 joint inspections and control activities in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean involving a number of fishery patrol vessels and aircrafts. An additional patrol vessel will be chartered and deployed by EFCA in 2018. Whilst the operational strategies and precise areas of operation remain confidential, the general areas covered by the 2018 JDP will be the Eastern Atlantic (ICES Areas VII, VIII, IX X and COPACE 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2.0) and the Mediterranean (Western, Central and Eastern). These patrols particularly focus on, but are not restricted to Purse Seiners and

³ Commission Implementing Decision 2014/156/EU of 19 March 2014 establishing a specific control and inspection programme for fisheries exploiting stocks of Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, and for certain demersal and pelagic fisheries in the Mediterranean Sea amended by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/17 of 5 January 2018.

farming activities. Focus will also be given to traps and sport and recreational fishery. In 2018, the EU will conduct up to 360 days of control and inspection activities at sea and around 36 days of air surveillance in the framework of the JDP.

A JDP Steering Group, composed by representatives of EFCA, the European Commission and the European Member States, guides the overall strategy of inspection activities and supervises the JDP implementation. The strategy and control priorities are based on an annual risk assessment carried out by Member States under the coordination of EFCA.

All cases of potential non-compliance will be forwarded to the flag state of the vessel/operator concerned and to the ICCAT Secretariat where required under the dedicated ICCAT recommendations to the species covered by this JDP.

The EFCA is also cooperating with EMSA (European Maritime Safety Agency) and FRONTEX (European Border and Coast Guard Agency), each within its mandate, to support the national authorities carrying coast guard functions, by providing services, information, equipment and training as well as by coordinating multipurpose operations. Among the tools used to support these multipurpose operations is the MARSURV service, an application that provides an integrated maritime picture based on the real-time fusion of VMS, Automatic Identification System (AIS) and other maritime related data, such as sightings. It is proving to be a useful tool that greatly contributes to the operational risk assessment. Cooperation of EFCA in the context of Coastguard function has allowed to identify serious PNCs in non EU waters in recent years.

3.2.3 Control of caging operations

The EU has been at the forefront of focusing towards controls of the caging stage and using modern technologies to implement these controls in an effective way. The specific measures adopted, including those under Annex 9 of Rec. [17-07], are to a large extent a reflection of the experience of EU control authorities in implementing the stereoscopic program in EU farms. As in previous years, in 2018 100% of caging operations will be controlled using stereoscopic cameras.

3.2.4 Member States annual Inspection plans

Under Article 53 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 transposing para 8 of Rec. [14-04] replaced by Rec. [17-07] (for inspection plans) into EU law, each EU Member State concerned has developed and submitted a 2018 ICCAT Inspection plan as part of its National Control Action programme for Bluefin tuna. These are extensive programmes containing the resources and inspection strategies Member States commit to implement within their jurisdiction. These programmes, as required under the Specific Control and Inspection Programme (see above), include a series of inspection 'benchmarks' consistent with:

- a) the full monitoring of caging operations taking place in EU waters;
- b) the full monitoring of transfer operations;
- c) the full monitoring of joint fishing operations;
- d) a minimum percentage of sea inspections on vessels depending on the risk identified for the sector.

These National Programmes are in full accordance with the conservation and management measures adopted in Recommendation [17-07].

4. Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

The transmission of Capacity management plans as set up by para 8 of Rec. [17-07] has been transposed into EU law by Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1627. Under this Article, each Member State with a Bluefin tuna quota shall transmit its plan to the European Commission which integrates them into an EU Capacity management plan for transmission to ICCAT. The EU Capacity management plan is included below.

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Tuna Vessel Fleet		Fleet (vessels)											Fishing capacity										
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Purse seiner over 40m	70,70	38	35	23	20	20	20	18	18	21	17	37	2685	2473	1625	1413	1413	1413	1272	1272	1485	1272	2616
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49,78	91	44	28	18	18	18	25	26	24	29	17	4530	2190	1394	896	896	896	1245	1294	1195	1393	846
Purse seiners less than 24m	33,68	112	8	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	4	3772	269	0	0	0	0	67	34	67	101	135
Total Purse Seine Fleet		241	87	51	38	38	38	45	45	47	49	58	10987	4933	3019	2309	2309	2309	2584	2600	2747	2767	3597
Longliner over 40m	25									0	0	0									0	0	0
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5,68	7	13	15	10	8	6	6	5	5	1	12	40	74	85	57	45	34	34	28	28	5	68
Longliner less than 24m	5	329	194	191	168	90	89	104	136	142	94	127	1645	970	955	840	450	445	520	680	710	470	635
Total Longline Fleet		336	207	206	178	98	95	110	141	147	95	139	1685	1044	1040	897	495	479	554	708	738	475	703
Baitboat	19,8	68	69	69	68	68	68	22	23	75	62	88	1343	1363	1363	1343	1343	1343	435	454	1485	1227	1742
Handline	5	101	38	31	31	31	31	101	42	40	42	46	505	190	155	155	155	155	505	210	200	210	230
Trawler	10	160	72	78	60	60	57	57	57	51	57	57	1600	720	780	600	600	570	570	570	510	570	570
Trap	130	15	15	13	13	12	14	12	14	14	12	12	1950	1950	1690	1690	1560	1820	1560	1820	1820	1560	1560
Other (please specify)	5	253	382	376	222	154	135	253	398	317	465	715	1265	1910	1880	1110	770	675	1265	1990	1585	2325	3575
Total fleet/fishing capacity		1174	870	824	610	461	438	600	720	691	782	1115	19335	12109	9927	8104	7233	7351	7473	8352	9085	9135	11977
Quota													17044	16523	7981	7642	7642	7939	7939	9373	11204	13451.4	15850
Adjusted quota (if applicable)													16211	12548	7481	6132	6132	7939	7939	9373	11204	13451.4	15850
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)																							
Under/overcapacity													-3124	438	-2446	-1972	-1100	587	466	1021	2118	4315.6	3873

ICELAND

Introduction

The Icelandic Fishing Act is the legal basis for the Icelandic Fisheries management system that is an ITQ system for all the most important fisheries (around 98% by landed value). All Icelandic fishing vessels are required to have a general fishing permit and a sufficient quota for all expected catches before leaving port. Iceland manages over a million tonnes of commercial fisheries every year with ITQs with mandatory weighing of all catches at landing.

The EA-bluefin tuna quota of Iceland for the year 2018 is 84 tonnes. The quota will be allocated to one longline vessel 80 tonnes, and 4 tonnes will be reserved for incidental bycatches by other Icelandic fishing vessels. Icelandic authorities will adjust the quota of the longliner if bycatches exceed 4 tonnes in 2018.

Fishing plan

There is no designated bluefin tuna fishing fleet in Iceland. The Icelandic fisheries management system is based on ITQs and all fishing vessels need a general fishing permit and a sufficient quota for the expected catch before leaving port for any fishing. Therefore there are no “designated vessels” for tuna fisheries as vessels that can apply for BFT licence engage in bluefin tuna fisheries for a few weeks every year.

In 2018 the Icelandic fisheries authorities will issue a fishing licence for directed bluefin tuna to one Icelandic longline fishing vessel.

In 2018 the Icelandic bluefin tuna quota will be allocated as follows:

- One longline vessel will be allocated 80 tonnes of bluefin tuna.
- 4 tonnes of bluefin tuna will be reserved for incidental bycatches by the Icelandic fishing fleet.

The longliner will be allocated an individual, non-transferrable quota. Iceland manages over a million tonnes of commercial fisheries every year with ITQs and weighing of all catches at landing. The Directorate keeps records of all allocated quota and all landings, quota uptake by each vessel is updated after landing in an online landing registration to the Directorate.

All catches shall be landed in Icelandic designated ports, with an inspector from the Directorate of Fisheries present.

No transshipments are allowed.

Inspectors from the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland shall be present on board the longliner for at least 20% of the fishing operations. The vessel needs written permission from the Directorate before leaving port without an inspector.

The Marine and Freshwater Research Institute in Iceland will advise the Directorate on the relevant training and sampling methods for the inspectors to collect biological data. Biological data will also be collected at landing by the Directorate and MFRI.

The longline fishing season starts 1 August and ends 31 December. The fishing area is south of Iceland in the NE-Atlantic West of 10°W and North of 42°N. The vessel is required to have a general fishing licence and sufficient quota for other species within the Icelandic EEZ to allow for incidental bycatches of other species. When the vessel intends to utilize the bluefin tuna quota it shall notify the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland and thereby undergo the management regime of ICCAT. As soon as the individual quota is fished the bluefin tuna fishing licence expires. The Icelandic authorities will close the fisheries when the quota is reached or the vessel notifies of an end to fishing operations in 2018.

All Icelandic vessels are equipped with a VMS system and are required to transmit on an hourly basis, VMS notifications by the longline vessel will be transmitted to ICCAT every 4 hours.

In 2015 the Directorate of Fisheries in Iceland implemented the eBCD system and intends to issue all certificates 2018 electronically.

All landings of bluefin tuna will be monitored by an inspector from the Directorate. All Icelandic catches are weighed at landing and registered into the Directorate's online database.

Relevant requirements of ICCAT Recommendations on EA-bluefin tuna fisheries are implemented in a special bluefin regulation issued each year by the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Iceland.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	BFT longliner with Electronic Logbook, all landings monitored by inspector and recorded in online database of the Directorate of Fisheries.	Icelandic Fisheries Act, Regulation on BFT fisheries 2018.	
2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	1 August – 31 December in NE-Atlantic West of 10°W and North of 42°N.	Icelandic Fisheries Act, Regulation on BFT fisheries 2018.	
3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	Undersized fish to be released alive, discards banned, if dead to be landed and recorded.	Icelandic Fisheries Act, Regulation on BFT fisheries 2018.	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	Discards of commercial species are banned by the Icelandic fleet and all commercial catches must be landed. All catches of commercial and non-commercial species must be registered in logbooks. In 2018, 4 t of BFT quota will be reserved to account for incidental bycatches by the Icelandic fleet.	Icelandic Fisheries Act, Regulation on BFT fisheries 2018.	
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para. 30-34)	No recreational or any other directed fisheries for EA-BFT will be allowed in 2018.	Icelandic Fisheries Act, Regulation on BFT fisheries 2018.	
6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	Transshipment is not allowed.	Icelandic Fisheries Act, Regulation on BFT fisheries 2018.	

7.	VMS (para. 87)	All Icelandic fishing vessels are equipped with a VMS system and required to transmit on an hourly basis, VMS notifications by the longline vessel will be transmitted to ICCAT every 4 hours.	Icelandic Fisheries Act, Regulation on BFT fisheries 2018.	
8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	There are no observers in Iceland, only inspectors that are full time employees of the Directorate of Fisheries. Inspectors shall be present on board for at least 20% of the fishing operations. The vessel needs written permission from the Directorate before leaving port without an inspector.	Icelandic Fisheries Act, Regulation on BFT fisheries 2018.	
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	Only longline fisheries, no RO.		
	<i>Other requirements, such as tagging program</i>			

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

Longline vessel needs a written permission from the Directorate of Fisheries to leave port for bluefin tuna fishing without an inspector onboard from the Directorate. Required coverage is at least 20% of the fishing operations in days. Inspectors from the Directorate are present at all landings of BFT.

Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

Iceland only authorizes one longline vessel and is not required to be part of an ICCAT International inspection plan.

Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

See table.

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TUNA VESSEL FLEET	Fleet (vessels)												Fishing capacity											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Purse seiner over 40m	70.7																							
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78																							
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68																							
Total Purse Seine Fleet																								
Longliner over 40m	25							1	1	1	1	1	1						25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68			2	1	1	1								11.36	5.68	5.68	5.68						
Longliner less than 24m	5																							
Total Longline Fleet				2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
Baitboat	19.8																							
Handline	5																							
Trawler	10	1											10											
Trap	130																							
Other (please specify)	5																							
Total fleet/fishing capacity		1	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12.00	0.00	11.36	5.68	5.68	5.68	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	
Quota													51.53	49.72	31.20	29.80	29.82	30.97	30.36	36.57	43.71	52.48	84.00	
Adjusted quota (if applicable)														0.72		78.80								
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)																		2.00	2.00	2.00				
Undercapacity													39.53	0.72	19.84	73.12	24.14	23.29	3.36	9.57	18.71	27.48	59.00	

JAPAN

Introduction

Japan's quota for 2018 fishing season (from August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019) is 2,279 t. All Japanese fishing vessels catching bluefin tuna (BFT) in the Eastern Atlantic are large scale tuna longline fishing vessels (LSTLVs). The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, having been entrusted competence by the Fisheries Law, has introduced the Ministerial Ordinance to introduce a legally binding management system including individual quotas.

Fishing plan

The Minister will license LSTLVs to catch BFT for the 2018 fishing season as soon as those vessels are selected. Although the number of licensed LSTLVs in 2018 is not confirmed at this stage, it shall be less than 49, which is the number of fishing vessels that fished for, retained on board, transshipped, transported, or landed bluefin tuna during the period January 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008, in accordance with the para 37. Once the number of vessels is confirmed, FAJ will inform the vessel name, quantities of individual quotas and other necessary information to the ICCAT Secretariat at the latest 15 days before the Japanese fishing campaign begins. The Japanese fishing campaign starts from August 1 and ends July 31.

The Minister requires fishing operators to report a daily BFT catch (including zero catch report) by the end of the next day in accordance with the Ordinance. Such report has to contain relevant information/data including the date, time, location (latitude and longitude), number of catch, type of product, individual BFT weights and tag numbers. FAJ monitors the catch of individual vessels based on each vessel's quota and catch report. If a BFT is a dead discard, it is deducted from Japan's quota. Japan will make a reserved quota to address the dead discards. The amount of the reserved quota will be decided when the Minister issues licenses to fishermen to fish for BFT.

Landing at overseas ports are prohibited by the Ministerial Ordinance. The Ministerial Ordinance only allows to land at ten domestic ports designated by the Ordinance. At the ten ports, landing of BFT will be inspected 100% by government official inspectors who will check the total weight and tags, count the number of BFT and compare the collected information with the previously reported data including daily reports.

All fishing vessels operate in almost the same period between September and November every year without entering ports during the period. Therefore, the observers are on board of the designated BFT vessels during their entire fishing trips for BFT. This means that temporal representation is secured. In addition, the fishing ground of bluefin tuna is located in a very limited area off Ireland. We believe that there should be little concern about spatial representation under such condition.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	The Minister requires fishing operators to report a daily BFT catch (including zero catch report) by the end of the next day. The Minister also requires the operators to maintain a bound or electronic fishing logbook of their operation.	Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 24-1	

2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	The Minister prohibits fishing operators from BFT fishing in the area delimited by West of 10° W and North of 42° N during the period from February 1 to July 31 and in other areas during the period from June 1 to December 31.	Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 17	
3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	The Minister prohibits fishing operators from catching BFT weighing less than 30 kg. However, the Minister may authorize the operators to catch incidentally the maximum 5% of BFT weighting between 8 and 30 kg. If the percentage of the small BFT catch exceeds 5%, the excess fish must be released and the amount of dead discards will be deducted from the reserved quota.	Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 17	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	The Minister prohibits the vessels without BFT quota from catching, transshipping or landing of BFT. If bycatch occurs, the amount of dead discards will be deducted from the reserved quota.	Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 57	
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para. 30-34)	No recreational or sport fishing vessels in the ICCAT area.	N.A.	
6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	The Minister prohibits transshipment of BFT at sea and only allows transshipment at ports registered on the ICCAT website with prior authorization.	Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 59	
7.	VMS (para. 87)	The Minister requires fishing vessels to be equipped with an autonomous system able to automatically transmit a message and to transmit the data every four hours to FAJ. FAJ transmits the VMS data from fishing vessels and other vessels for BFT to the ICCAT Secretariat.	Ministerial ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 24-2	

8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	FAJ will ensure the observers coverage onboard at 20% or more of its LSTLVs which are allocated BFT quotas.	N.A.	
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	Japanese fishing vessels catching BFT are not purse seiner and Japan has no registered farming facilities for E-BFT.	N.A.	
10.	tagging program	The Minister requires fishing operators to put a plastic tag on individual BFT for identification.	Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 58	

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

FAJ, as the authorized government agency, will dispatch one inspection vessel to the Atlantic Ocean in 2018. All landings of BFT are limited to ten domestic ports and are subjected to 100% inspection at the ports by government inspectors.

In the case that a violation is discovered, the Minister will impose a penalty on the fishing operator, which could include both port confinement and five years' suspension in allocation of BFT individual quota.

Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

Japan, as a CPC having more than 15 BFT fishing vessels, will have its own inspection vessel in the Convention area when its BFT fishing vessels are operating in the Convention area.

Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

The Minister will allocate to each LSTLV an individual quota that is more than the recommended catch amount (i.e. 25 t per LSTLV over 40 m) estimated by the SCRS (see **Table 1**). Thus, Japan, having accomplished the obligation on capacity adjustment provided in Rec. 14-04 (Rec. 17-07), will ensure that its fishing capacity is commensurate with its allocated quota.

Table 1.

TUNA VESSEL FLEET		Fleet (vessels)												Fishing capacity											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018		
Purse seiner over 40m	70.70																								
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78																								
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68																								
Total Purse Seine Fleet																									
Longliner over 40m	25	49	33	22	22	20	22	22	28	31	33	49*	1,225	825	550	550	500	550	550	700	775	825	1225*		
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68																								
Longliner less than 24m	5																								
Total Longline Fleet		49	33	22	22	20	22	22	28	31	33	49*	1,225	825	550	550	500	550	550	700	775	825	1225*		
Baitboat	19.8																								
Handline	5																								
Trawler	10																								
Trap	130																								
Other (please specify)	5																								
Total fleet/fishing capacity		49	33	22	22	20	22	22	28	31	33	49*	1,225	825	550	550	500	550	550	700	775	825	1225*		
Quota													2430.54	1871.44	1148.05	1097.03	1097.03	1139.55	1139.55	1345.44	1608.21	1930.88	2279.00		
Adjusted quota (if applicable)													2430.54	1871.44	1148.05	1097.03	1097.03	1139.55	1139.55	1390.44	1583.21	1910.88	2279.00		
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)																									
Under/overcapacity													1,206	1,046	598	547	597	590	590	690	808	1,086	1,054*		

* The figures are provisional. Once the number of vessels and reserved quotas are confirmed, these figures will be revised and communicated to the Secretariat (please refer to the main text).

KOREA**Introduction**

At the 25th Regular Meeting of ICCAT (Marrakesh, November 2017), it was decided to allocate 160 t of bluefin tuna quota to the Republic of Korea for 2018. However, in accordance with the paragraph 5(b) of the Recommendation 14-04 (17-07), Chinese Taipei annually transferred 50 t of its quota to Korea in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. Taking into account of abovementioned transfer, Korea has 210 t of quota for 2018. Please refer to the following Korea's BFT quota in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Year	2018	2019	2020
Original quota	160 t	167 t	180 t
Adjusted quota	210 t (160+50)	217 t (167 + 50)	230 t (180 + 50)

The authorized fishing vessels catching BFT in the eastern Atlantic will be tentatively two to four large-scale tuna longline vessels (LSTLV). The fisheries work is governed by the Distant Water Fisheries Development Act.

Fishing plan***Number of authorized fishing vessels and fishing season***

The authorized fishing vessels catching BFT in the eastern Atlantic will be tentatively two to four large-scale tuna longline vessels (LSTLV). The fishing season is scheduled to be from 1 September to 30 November 2018. The Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) will authorize longliners to catch BFT for the 2018 fishing year with individual quotas as soon as those vessels are selected. MOF will inform the ICCAT Secretariat of the name of vessels, the amount of individual quotas and other necessary information at the latest 15 days before the beginning of the fishing season.

Communication and reporting of catches

Authorized fishing vessels are required to report their daily catch (including zero catch report) to MOF by the end of the next day of their catch. Such report has to contain relevant information/data including the date, time, location (latitude and longitude), number of catch, individual bluefin tuna weight etc. Korea will submit weekly and monthly catch reports to the Secretariat. MOF monitors up-to-date status of catch against individual quota on a vessel-by-vessel basis based on their daily reports.

VMS, transshipment, observer and tagging program

Vessels shall be equipped with a full-time operational VMS on board, and shall be tracked and report VMS data to the ICCAT Secretariat well as the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) of the Republic of Korea every hour. BFT fishing vessels shall only transship bluefin tuna catches in ICCAT-registered ports with the prior authorization. MOF will deploy 100% observer coverage for Korean-flagged vessels to which BFT quotas will be allocated during their fishing season. BFT catching vessels will affix a valid plastic tag to each BFT brought on board.

By-catch management and eBCD

The Korean government has instructed that Korean vessels that do not target bluefin tuna shall not retain bluefin bycatches that exceed 5% of the total catch in terms of weight and/or number in accordance with paragraph 29 of Recommendation 14-04 (17-07). In practice, Korean vessels that do not target bluefin tuna do not usually fish in the upper latitude where bluefin tuna occur, and therefore there is practically nil by-catch of bluefin tuna by those vessels. The amount of any by-catch will be deducted from Korea's quota and these data will be reported to ICCAT. According to Recommendation 15-10, Korea has implemented its eBCD system since 1 May 2016 on a mandatory basis. 2% of Korea's quota will be reserved for possible bycatch of under-sized fish.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	The masters of authorized longline fishing vessels will keep a bound logbook of their operation and record all necessary information. Weekly and monthly catch reports will be submitted. Korea will inform the Secretariat when its bluefin fishery is closed due to exhaustion of quota.	Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2, 16	
2.	Fishing Seasons (para.18-23)	Korean longline vessels will be scheduled to catch BFT from 1 September 2018 to 30 November 2018.	Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2	
3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	Korean BFT catching vessels are prohibited from catching bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or with fork length less than 115 cm. But if a minimum size of BFT is caught as by-catch and dead discard, it will be deducted from Korea's quota.	Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	There is practically nil bycatch of bluefin tuna by those vessels. But when by-catch occurs this will be deducted from Korea's quota.	Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2	
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para, 30-34)	Not applicable.	N.A.	
6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	Transshipment at sea is prohibited but takes place in designated ports.	Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2, 16	
7.	VMS (para. 87)	The MOF requires fishing vessels to be equipped with VMS able to automatically transmit a message and to transmit the data every 1 hour to FMC. FMC transmits the VMS data from fishing vessels and other vessels for BFT to the ICCAT Secretariat. The transmission of VMS data to the Secretariat will start at least 15 days before the authorization and will continue at least 15 days after the period of authorization.	Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2, 15	
8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	National observer with 100% will be deployed on board.	Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2, 21	
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	Not applicable.	N.A.	
	<i>Other requirements, such as tagging program</i>	BFT catching vessels will affix a valid plastic tag to each BFT brought on board.	Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1	

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

When a ship laden with overseas catches intends to enter a domestic port, it shall submit an entry report to MOF prior to the scheduled entry. In particular, a ship is subject to port inspection when it is loaded with fish species managed by RFMOs including ICCAT.

As operating under 15 fishing vessels, Korea is not entitled to paragraph 99 of Rec. 14-04 providing that any CPCs with 15 fishing vessels or more shall operate its own inspection vessel or joint inspection vessel operated with other CPCs.

Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

Korea has no inspection vessel to join the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection.

Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

Taking into account the catch rate by the SCRS and allocated quota in 2018, Korea may be authorized with 7 longline vessels (over 40 m) which are commensurate with its fishing capacity. However, Korea will limit the number of authorized BFT fishing vessels to four or less this year. Please refer to the separate attachment providing the number of fishing vessels and the corresponding fishing capacity.

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TUNA VESSEL FLEET	Fleet (vessels)												Fishing capacity											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Purse seiner over 40m	70.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	0	-	-	-	
Total Purse Seine Fleet		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	0	-	-	-	
Longliner over 40m	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	100	100	
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Longliner less than 24m	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Longline Fleet		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	100	100	
Baitboat	19.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Handline	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Trawler	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Trap	130	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other (please specify)	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total fleet/fishing capacity		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	4	4	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	0	50	100	100	
Quota		335.00	132.26	81.14	77.53	77.53	80.53	80.53	95.08	113.66	136.46	160	335.00	132.26	81.14	77.53	77.53	80.53	80.53	95.08	113.66	136.46	160	
Adjusted quota (if applicable)		335.00	132.26	81.14	77.53	77.53	80.53	80.53	0.08	163.66	181.46	210	335.00	132.26	81.14	77.53	77.53	80.53	80.53	0.08	163.66	181.46	210	
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Under/overcapacity													(301.32)	(98.58)	(47.46)	(43.85)	(43.85)	(46.85)	(46.85)	(0.08)	(113.66)	(81.46)	(110)	

LIBYA

1. Introduction

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07, amending ICCAT Rec. 13.07 and, taking into consideration ICCAT Rec. 16-24, Libya presents its Bluefin Tuna Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management Plan for the 2018 fishing season.

National legislation has adopted ICCAT Recommendations, management and control measures.

Libya has, over the last years, been going through a difficult and, at times painful, political transition however the management of the E-BFT activities have been conducted in a correct manner and the EBCD system was adopted and implemented successfully; Libya is fully committed to conduct this fishing season in the line with the pertinent ICCAT resolutions and recommendations.

2. Fishing plan

2.1 Fishing Vessels

The number of fishing vessels which will participate in EBFT catching for the 2018 Season in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea are 14 (fourteen) purse-seiners, these authorized vessels shall be allocated an individual quota taking into consideration SCRS best catch rate.

No longliners and recreational fishing will participate in 2018 fishing season.

The total number of 'Other' vessels that will participate in the 2018 bluefin fishing season shall be a maximum of (12) (twelve) vessels with no fishing gear on board for the purpose of towing cages and providing other support services.

2.2 Methodology used for quota allocation and management

Individual quotas for each of the authorized vessel will be distributed in accordance with national distribution criteria.

Fishing vessels having been allocated an individual quota but not on the catching vessel list for the 2018 E-BFT fishing season shall be given the right to transfer their individual quota to other fishing vessels.

The total catch allowed to Libya for 2018 is 1,846 t. [Rec. 17-07, para. 5] and Libya has agreed to transfer 46t to Algeria; 1,796.9 t shall be allocated to the 14 (fourteen) purse-seiners over 24 m that shall be authorized to fish for BFT in 2018 and 3.1 t are to be kept as a reserve for any incidental or by-catch that might occur in the artisanal fleet or overruns of quota in the purse-seiner fleets.

<i>Fishing groups/ Authorized catching vessels</i>	<i>Allocated quota</i>	<i>Original Quota</i>	<i>Adjusted quota</i>
Fourteen purse seiners: 24-40m	1,796.2 t	1,846 t	[1846 -46]t = 1,800 t

The list of vessels and their individual quotas will be notified to the ICCAT Secretariat within the required deadline [Rec. 17-07 para. 52], and any changes to this vessels list will be transmitted to ICCAT Secretariat immediately and also in accordance with pertinent ICCAT recommendations.

2.3 Measures to compliance with quotas

The authorized catching vessels can operate individually or carry out their activity in working groups (Joint Fishing Operations) and the details of these JFOs and their respective allocation keys will be notified to ICCAT Secretariat within the stipulated time frame.

Respecting individual quota limits shall be monitored by fishery authorities and cross checking with ROPs on board fishing vessels.

All vessels or JFOs whose quota is exhausted shall be ordered back to port immediately.

No JFOs with other CPCs are envisaged for 2018.

Libya shall have no trap and farming Activity in fishing season 2018.

All fishing vessels catching BFT shall adhere to the eBCD system.

2.4 Enforcement of Fishing Plan

Regulations

Ministerial Decree #205/2013 (Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Marine wealth) amending the decree #61/2010, transposing Recommendation 13-07 which amended by Rec. 14-04 to establish a Multiannual Recovery Plan for BFT in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

Law #14/1989 which organizes the Fishery and Aquaculture in Libya.

Other official Acts organize and manage BFT Licenses.

Licensing

Individual fishing permit shall be issued by fishery authority based upon Decree #205/2013 (Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7) for each vessel authorized to fish BFT in 2018 specifying the season dates and minimum sizes as per Rec. 17-07.

*Area of fishing (East Atlantic and Med-Sea, Art. 3/Decree #205/2013).

*Individual Quota allocated Acc. (Art. 11/Decree, #205/2013).

*Log Book required on board Acc. (Art. 28/Decree, #205/2013).

Market measures

Foreign and domestic trade, landings, imports, exports of dead BFT or transfers of live BFT to cages shall only be allowed if accompanied by accurate, complete and validated BCD/eBCD (Art. 21 & 24/Decree #205/2013).

Sampling requirements

All catch transfers will be documented by video footage.

At the time of transfer of live fish to towing cages, certain percentages of fish transferred could be randomly sampled and killed.

Libya shall require all operators of purse seine to transfer their catches only to farming units in CPCs that can guarantee the utilization of stereoscopic systems for assessments of live fish on arrival of towing cages to their farms.

Imposing Sanction

Any non-compliance to the regulations regarding bluefin fishing operations shall lead to penalties stated in Decree #205/2013/Art. 17 (confiscation of fishing gear, releasing catches, suspending or withdrawal of license, decrease or withdrawal of individual quota).

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	-Masters of vessels active in the BFT fishery shall maintain a bound/electronic log book and observe procedures as set out in Annex 2 of Rec. 17-07. In accordance with Para 66 & 67 of Rec. 17-07 weekly and monthly catch reports (including zero catch report) of all authorized Libyan vessels active in BFT catch shall be transmitted to ICCAT Secretariat in accordance with the format set for this purpose.	(Art. 20/ Decree #205/ 2013)	
2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	Purse seiners are only authorized to catch EBFT in eastern Atlantic and Med. Sea in period (26 May-24 June) Notification of close of season will be sent to ICCAT Secretariat.	Decree #205/2013	
3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	- Catching, retaining, landing, transshipping, transferring, selling, displaying for sale BFT weighing less than 30kg is prohibited. - Any incidental catch of max. 5% weighing between 8-30 kg as well as any dead discards below the minimum size shall be counted against the Libyan quota.	(Art. 15 Decree #205/ 2013)	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	With regard to by-catch management, Libyan fishing vessels should release bluefin tuna caught as by-catch. The amount of by-catch discarded indicating alive or dead status. should be reported to the authority immediately, and these data will be reported to ICCAT. All by-catch will be deducted from the quota of Libya.	Decree #205/2013	
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para. 30-34)	No recreational and sport fisheries are allowed.	Decree #205/2015	
6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	- Transshipment at sea is prohibited. - BFT fishing vessels shall only land/transship BFT catches in ports designated by fishery authorities (Al-khums, Tripoli, Misurata and Tubrok) ports. - All vessels entering any of these ports for landing or transshipping shall seek a pre-entry permission from port authorities). -All landings of BFT shall be inspected by port and fishery authorities and inform the fishing vessel flag state with a report.	(Art. 22/ Decree #205/ 2013)	

7.	VMS (para. 87)	All fishing vessels and other vessels active in BFT fishing shall equipped with a full active VMS; the transmission of data shall start 15 days before their period of authorization and continue 15 days after the authorization period. - Fishery authority will regularly monitor the status of VMS transmission on basis of at least every four (4) hours and any interruption of transmission will be acted upon immediately to investigate and solve the problem; if said problem is not resolved within 24 hrs vessel will be recalled to port.	Decree #205/2013/Art. 18) (transmission starts 15 days before authorization and continues 15 days after end of fishing campaign).	VMS providers shall regularly transmit the data to ICCAT and to fishing authority.
8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	National observers shall cover 100% activity of towing and auxiliary vessels. No national observers onboard of fishing vessels.	(Art. 14/Decree #205/2013)	
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	Regional observers shall be placed on board all PS vessels authorized to fish BFT in season 2018. All authorized PS vessels shall have full deployment (100%) of ROP.	(Art. 14/Decree #205/2013)	
10	Use of aircraft (para. 25)	Use of airplanes or helicopters to search for BFT is prohibited	(Art. 10/Decree #205/2013)	

3. Inspection Plan

3.1 National inspection (para 64, 99)

Controlling and monitoring of fisheries activities in Libya are governed by Fisheries and Aquaculture Act #14/1989, Decree #205/2013, transposing Rec. 14-04/para. 97/Annex (7). The Coast Guard and Port Security Act #229/2005 and considers the core legal documents which defines activities and actions which are to be considered infringements of fishery policy.

Fishing inspection will be implemented by fishing inspectors from the fisheries authority and coast guard personnel and in coordination with port authority.

Coast guard shall cooperate in surveillance and control at sea all activities linked with fisheries inspection planned and coordinated with consent of fishery authority.

Central control room shall be operational during the 2018 BFT fishing season to supervise the monitoring of fishing activities.

The law envisages the sanctions and penalties and other severe provisions such as loss of license or arrest of vessel in cases of infringements.

3.2 Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

Libya does not participate in the scheme of Joint International Inspection.

4. Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

Libya has constantly reduced its fishing capacity in accordance with ICCAT measures requirements and its fishing capacity is commensurate with its allocated quota (**Table 1**).

The Fishing Capacity and Management Plan indicates this state of facts of reduced capacity also in fishing season 2018.

Table 1. Fishing Capacity Management Plan for Libya – 2018.

TUNA VESSEL FLEET			Fleet (vessels)										Fishing capacity											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Purse seiner over 40m	70.70	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
PS(24-40)m	49.78	31	30	29	21	18	17	17	14	14	14	14	1543	1493	1444	1045	896	846	846	696	696	696	697	
PS<24m	33.68	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	34	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total PS fleet		33	31	30	21	18	17	17	14	14	14	14	1648	1527	1478	1045	896	846	846	696	696	696	697	
Longliner >40m	25	5	4	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	125	100	50	50	50	25	25	0	0	0	0	
LL(24-40)m	5.68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Longliner <24m		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total LL fleet		5	4	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	125	100	50	50	50	25	25	0	0	0	0	
Total fleet capacity		38	35	32	23	20	18	18	14	14	14	14	1773	1627	1528	1095	946	871	871	696	696	696	697	
Quota													1237	947	581	903*	903	938	938	1107	1323	1588	1846	
Adjusted quota													1237	1092	726	903	903	938	938	1157	1373	1638	1797	
Sport/recreational													0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Under/over capacity													-536	-535	-802	-192	-43	67	67	461	677	942	1,100	

MOROCCO

Introduction

In accordance with the fishing allocations adopted by ICCAT at its annual meeting held in Geneva in November 2014, the national quota for 2018, which was fixed at 2,578 t, will be distributed among the operational segments, i.e. traps, two high seas purse seiners targeting bluefin tuna, artisanal boats and coastal vessels that take bluefin tuna as by-catch.

The general framework of this plan is identical to that submitted to ICCAT for the 2017 fishing campaign.

Fishing plan

A quota level will be set for each of the segments by the administration in accordance with the ICCAT provisions on individual quotas, and will be communicated by the deadlines established by the Commission.

In accordance with the provisions of the national fisheries capacity management plan, as established by Art. 35 to 45a of ICCAT Recommendation 17-07 amending Recommendation 14-04, the maximum fishing capacity authorised to target bluefin tuna directly breaks down as follows:

- 15 traps;
- 2 tuna purse seine vessels with LOA > 40 m ; and
- Coastal fishing vessels and artisanal fishing boats authorised by the Moroccan administration to take bluefin tuna as by-catch during its migration period. As in the past, these catches will be deducted from the quota allocated to that segment. The fishing gears used by these vessels and artisanal boats are longline and handline. Catches taken by these vessels are recorded in the logbook as well as in the eBCD system.

The bluefin tuna fishing quota for the 2018 fishing season is distributed as follows:

- Traps: 2015 t;
- Tuna purse seine vessels with LOA > 40 m: 254 t;
- Artisanal and coastal fishery (longline and handline (HL and LL)): 272 t.
- A reserve if set aside for the case of overshoot of the allocated quota: 37 t.

Two bluefin tuna farming facilities will be authorised this year in accordance with conditions and specific methods which will be determined by the administration on the basis of the regulatory provisions in force. These two farming facilities are linked to authorised traps.

Fishing conditions will be established within the framework of the annual management plan for the bluefin tuna fishery, which has been updated to take into account the new provisions of the eastern bluefin tuna recovery plan adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

Morocco undertakes to implement all provisions of Recommendation 17-07 amending Recommendation 14-04 during the 2018 fishing campaign which will start in April for the traps segment.

The fishing plan will ensure compliance with the international provisions established within the framework of the Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

	<i>ICCAT requirement (see Rec. 14-04 amended by Rec. 17-07)</i>	<i>Explanation of actions taken by the CPC for the purposes of implementation</i>	<i>Legislation or relevant national regulations (if applicable)</i>	<i>Note:</i>
1	Communication and reporting of catches (§ 61-67, 69)	Tuna purse seine vessels have a logbook. Authorised catches of coastal fishing vessels and artisanal fishing boats are recorded in the logbook and in the eBCD system. For the third consecutive year, implementation of the electronic bluefin tuna catch documentation programme/eBCD. Transmission of weekly and monthly bluefin tuna catches. Dates of closure of the bluefin tuna fishery are reported to the ICCAT Secretariat.	Ministerial Decision No. TR 01/18 of 5 February 2018.	
2	Fishing seasons (§ 18-23)	- Purse seine bluefin tuna fishing is authorised in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean from 26 May to 24 June inclusive. - Handline bluefin tuna fishing is authorised in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean from 15 June to 15 October inclusive. - There are no large pelagic longliners.	Ministerial Decision No. TR 01/18 of 5 February 2018.	
3	Minimum size (§ 26-28)	It is prohibited to catch, retain onboard, tranship, transfer, land, store, sell, display or offer for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or with a fork length of less than 115 cm. All bluefin tuna that is smaller than the minimum size would be recorded and deducted from the quota allocated to Morocco.	Ministerial Order No. 1154-88 of 3 October 1988 (as amended and supplemented), which fixes the minimum trade size of individuals caught in Moroccan maritime waters. This order is also applicable to the high seas in the ICCAT Convention area.	
4	By-catch (§ 29)	Vessels that take bluefin tuna as by-catch are authorised to retain, at any time, bluefin tuna representing less than 5% of the total annual catch in weight or number of specimens.	Ministerial Decision No. TR 01/18 of 5 February 2018.	

		As to by-catch, vessels are authorised by the Moroccan administration to take bluefin tuna as by-catch (5%) and these catches are counted and deducted from the national quota allocated by ICCAT.		
5	Recreational and sports fisheries (§30-34)	None.		
6	Transshipment (§ 58-60)	Prohibition on at-sea transshipment.	Dahir No. 1-14-95 of 12 May 2014 concerned with the promulgation of Law No. 15-12 on the prevention and fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and amending and supplementing the dahir concerned with Law No. 1-73-255 of 27 chaoual 1393 (23 November 1973) forming the regulation on maritime fishing.	
7	VMS (§ 87)	<p>Obligation to have onboard a functional positioning and tracking device.</p> <p>The VMS of vessels greater than 15 m are functional 15 days before and 15 days after the authorised fishing period. Authorised fishing vessels shall report their positions every two hours.</p>	<p>Decree No. 2-09-674 of 30 rabbi I 1431 (17 March 2010) establishing the conditions and methods for installation and use onboard of fishing vessels of a positioning and tracking system which continues to use satellite communications to transmit data. (BO. No. 5826 of 1 April 2010)</p> <p>Ministerial Order No. 3338-10 of 16 December 2010 on the fishing vessel positioning and tracking device/Ministerial Decision No TR 01/18 of 5 February 2018.</p>	

8	CPC observer (§ 88)	Presence of onboard observers. Trap: 100% Farming facilities: transfer, caging and harvesting: 100%.		
9	Regional observer (§ 89-90)	Presence of onboard observers. Transfer of live bluefin tuna from the trap to the farming facilities: 100% and tuna purse seiners: 100%.		
	<i>Other requirements, such as tagging programme.</i>			

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (§ 64, 99)

Fishery monitoring, control and observation will be carried out in accordance with the national and international regulations in force through the use of the control and surveillance methodology for bluefin tuna fishery activities in 2018.

This methodology is part of the framework for implementation of national maritime fishery control activities. It includes measures for compliance with ICCAT provisions on control and inspection, in particular, those of Recommendation 17-07 amending Recommendation 14-04. This methodology will therefore include measures related to the following actions:

- Monitoring and control of fishing operations at traps, in particular through the presence of national observers at all traps during fishing;
- Monitoring and control of landings of the coastal and artisanal fleet which must be effectively weighed before first sale. Compliance with the catch documentation system, which is implemented nationally, is also mandatory. This national documentation system enables control through direct systematic cross-checking between the catch declaration on landing and data from first sale, and is an additional tool for verifying validation of documents of the eBCD process;
- In relation to live bluefin tuna caught by Moroccan traps, monitoring and control of transfer operations, caging operations in farming facilities as well as harvesting operations following fattening, carried out in particular in the presence of observers who video record the transfer operations using stereoscopic camera systems in accordance with the conditions established in Recommendation 17-07 amending Recommendation 14-04;
- VMS surveillance of relevant fishing vessels carried out by the FMC of the Fisheries Department with online real time availability of position data for the regional maritime fisheries administration (Maritime Fisheries Delegations);
- Establishment of a procedure to report and record information regarding fishing, transfer and caging, in particular, through implementation of the catch documentation programme (eBCD);
- Compliance with provisions on port inspection measures for foreign vessels, and fulfilment of international commitments by the Kingdom of Morocco with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

For vessels and traps targeting live bluefin tuna destined for farming, the stereoscopic camera systems will continue to be used for this fishing season, in accordance with the conditions provided for in ICCAT Recommendation 17-07 amending Recommendation 14-04.

At-sea surveillance is also performed by other authorities upon which powers have been conferred by the national regulation.

International joint inspection (§ 97-98)

The Kingdom of Morocco has two vessels that will operate outside the national EEZ. There will not be an inspection vessel. It should be noted that these two vessels will embark ICCAT observers, in accordance with the provisions of ICCAT recommendations.

Capacity management plan (§ 35-42, 44-45a)

See table.

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*: to be reported.

TUNA VESSEL FLEET		Fleet (vessels)											Fishing capacity										
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Purse seiner over 40 m	70.7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	70.7	70.7	70.7	70.7	70.7	70.7	70.7	70.7	141.4	141.4	141.4
Purse seiner between 24 and 40 m	49.78	3	3	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	149.4	149.4	0	99.6	0	49.8	49.8	49.8	0	0	0
Purse seiner less than 24 m	33.68	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total purse seine fleet		4	5	1	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	220.1	253.8	70.7	170.3	70.7	120.5	120.5	120.5	141.4	141.4	141.4
Longliner over 40 m	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner between 20m and 40m	5.68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner less than 24m	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total longline fleet		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baitboat	19.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Handline	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trawler	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trap	130	15	17	13	9	9	10	10	11	12	12	15	1685	1909	1460	1011	1011	1123	1123	1235	1348	1632	2128
Other (please specify))	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	20.7	20.7	30	33	130	140	26.97	109.19	150	196	272
Total fleet/fishing capacity		19	22	14	12	10	12	12	13	14	14	17	1925.8	2183.5	1560.7	1214.3	1211.7	1383.5	1270.47	1464.69	1639.4	1969.4	2541.4
Quota		2729	2088.26	1279.96	1223.07	1223.07	1270.47	1270.47	1500.01	1792.98	2152.71	2578	2729	2088.26	1279.96	1223.07	1223.07	1270.47	1270.47	1500.01	1792.98	2152.71	2578
Adjusted quota (if applicable)		2729	2400	1606.96	1238.33	1223.07	1270.47	1270.47	1500.01	1792.98	2152.71	2578	2729	2400	1606.96	1238.33	1223.07	1270.47	1270.47	1500.01	1792.98	2152.71	2578
Admissible catch for sports/recreational vessels (if applicable)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Under/overcapacity		0	0	0	0	13.07	20.47	0	35.01	19.98	183.31	37	0	0	0	0	13.07	20.47	35.47	35.01	19.98	183.31	37

NORWAY

Introduction

According to Recommendation 17-07 by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 14-04 by ICCAT on Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean paragraph 5, the bluefin tuna quota allocated to Norway in 2018 is 104 tonnes.

In 2015, 2016 and 2017 Norway opened up for a bluefin tuna fishery by one longliner and one purse seiner. However, there were no catches by longline any of these years, and the longline quota was therefore transferred to the purse seiner.

Although Norway has lodged an objection against Recommendation 17-07, Norway intends to comply with the obligations under Recommendation 17-07.

In light of the increase of the quota allocated to Norway, a targeted fishery for bluefin tuna will be authorised in the Norwegian Economic Zone from 25 June to 31 October for two purse seine vessels. As the vessels have not been selected, information on their length is not yet available. Each vessel will be allocated an individual vessel quota of 45 tonnes, and the total allocation for the two vessels will thus be 90 tonnes. 14 tonnes of bluefin tuna will be set aside to cover incidental by-catches in fisheries not targeting bluefin tuna. Any subsequent modification of these quotas will, in accordance with Recommendation 17-07 paragraph 12, be notified to the ICCAT Secretariat.

The Norwegian fishery for bluefin tuna will be regulated through the Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018, which will be adopted when the Norwegian fishing and inspection plan has been approved by ICCAT. In addition to national requirements, these Regulations will cover the requirements specified in ICCAT Recommendation 17-07 and include a general requirement to comply with the relevant ICCAT recommendations.

The vessels authorised to fish for bluefin tuna can, in addition to the requirement of carrying an ICCAT Regional Observer on board, be instructed to have observers from the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research on board.

Furthermore, the vessels authorised to target bluefin tuna and vessels getting incidental by-catch of dead or dying bluefin tuna can be instructed to collect biological samples for the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research.

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 17-07 paragraph 25, searching for bluefin tuna with airplanes, helicopters or any type of unmanned aerial vehicles will be prohibited.

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 17-07 paragraph 14 no carry-over of any under-harvest will be allowed.

Furthermore, Bluefin Tuna Catch Documents will be issued in accordance with Recommendation 11-20 on an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Program and Recommendation 17-09 amending recommendation 15-10 on the application of the eBCD system, as well as other relevant recommendations. Norway has issued electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Documents in the eBCD system since 2015 and intends to continue this practice in 2018 in accordance with the recommendations mentioned above.

Fishing plan

Norway will authorise two purse seiners to fish for bluefin tuna in 2018. In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 17-07 paragraph 52, Norway will submit information concerning the vessels authorized to conduct this fishery to the ICCAT Executive Secretary at the latest 15 days before the beginning of the fishing season.

Further information regarding the monitoring and control of the Norwegian quota is included in the table below.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	<p>61. The vessels authorized to target bluefin tuna will be required to keep an electronic logbook.</p> <p>62. Not applicable. There are no Norwegian towing, auxiliary or processing vessels participating in the BFT fishery.</p> <p>63. Landings of bluefin tuna are only permitted in designated ports included in the ICCAT Record of Authorised Ports.</p> <p>64. Any Norwegian vessel having caught bluefin tuna shall contact the Norwegian Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC). At least four hours prior to entry into any port, the fishing vessel shall provide the port authorities with a prior notice and information regarding estimated time of arrival, estimated quantity of bluefin tuna on board and information on the geographic area where the catch was taken.</p> <p>A record of this information is kept at the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries for a number of years.</p> <p>Inspectors from the Directorate of Fisheries shall be informed about the landing. A minimum of 30 % of the landings of targeted catch of bluefin tuna shall be inspected. Before landings that are to be inspected can start, an inspector shall be present and inspect the entire landing.</p> <p>All catches shall be weighed and landing notes and sales notes will be issued when the fish is landed. These notes will be forwarded electronically to the Directorate of Fisheries in real time, and the reported catches will be deducted from the vessel's quota. Officers at the Directorate of Fisheries will also cross-check information obtained from VMS, electronic logbooks and landing/sales notes.</p> <p>Both the master of the authorized catching vessel and the landing facility are responsible for the accuracy of the declaration, which includes information on the quantities of bluefin tuna landed and the catch location.</p>	<p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 7 and Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (log book requirements)</p> <p>63. Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 7.</p> <p>64. Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 7.</p> <p>Regulations on landing and sales notes §§ 5, 7-11, 14 and 15.</p>	<p>These regulations will be adopted when ICCAT has approved the Norwegian fishing and inspection plan.</p> <p>63. A number of ports have been designated for landings of bluefin tuna in Norway. The list of designated ports will be updated by 1 March 2018.</p>

		<p>64 and 65. Transhipment of bluefin tuna is prohibited, both at sea and in port. Norwegian vessels are not involved in caging of bluefin tuna.</p> <p>66. a) The Norwegian vessels fishing for bluefin tuna will be required to communicate information from its electronic logbook to the Norwegian FMC on a daily basis, including information on date, time, location (latitude and longitude) and weight and number of bluefin tuna taken. The purse seiners will be required to communicate the daily reports on a fishing operation by fishing operation basis, including when the catch is zero.</p> <p>The FMC is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and any interruption in the transmission of the electronic logbooks will immediately be followed up by the FMC.</p> <p>The Norwegian Coastguard will have access to the electronic logbooks in real time.</p> <p>66. b) Not applicable. There are no Norwegian traps fishing for bluefin tuna.</p> <p>66. c) On the basis of the information referred to in (a) the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries will transmit without delay weekly catch reports for all vessels (including by catch) to the ICCAT Secretariat, in accordance with the format set out in the Guidelines for Submitting Data and Information Required by ICCAT.</p> <p>67. The Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries will report the Norwegian provisional monthly catches (by gear type) of bluefin tuna including by-catch and nil returns to the ICCAT Secretariat within 30 days of the end of the calendar month in which the catches were made.</p> <p>69. When the Norwegian fishery for bluefin tuna is closed in accordance with paragraph 18 and 19, or because the allocated quota of bluefin tuna has been exhausted, this will be reported to the ICCAT Secretariat.</p>	<p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 8.</p> <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 7 and Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (log book requirements)</p>	
2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	<p>19. Purse seine fishing for bluefin tuna is permitted in the Norwegian Economic Zone from 25 June to 31 October, in accordance with Rec 17-07 paragraph 19.</p>	<p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 4.</p>	

3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	<p>26. The Norwegian vessels authorised to fish for bluefin tuna will only be authorised to fish in Norwegian waters. No bluefin tuna at such low individual size has been registered in Norwegian fisheries. Nevertheless, a minimum size of 30 kilos or 115 cm applies.</p> <p>27. Not applicable. There are no Norwegian baitboats or trolling boats authorised to fish for bluefin tuna and no Norwegian longliners are authorised to fish for bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean Sea.</p> <p>28. Reference is made to paragraph 26 above. Nevertheless, an incidental catch of maximum 5% of bluefin tuna weighing between 8 and 30 kg or with fork length between 75-115 cm may be authorised.</p>	The Norwegian Regulations related to Sea-Water Fisheries and Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 14.	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	<p>29. The prohibition against retaining by-catches of more than 5 % of the total catch is not applicable as Norway has domestic legislation requiring that all dead or dying fish be landed.</p> <p>All by-catches are reported to ICCAT and deducted from the Norwegian quota.</p> <p>All by-catches which are alive, shall immediately be released back to the sea.</p> <p>The prohibition against transshipment of bluefin tuna at sea and in port applies to by-catches as well.</p> <p>All catches, including by-catches, are to be recorded in the electronic fishing vessel log book.</p> <p>By-catches of bluefin tuna can only be landed in designated ports. Vessels with by-catch of bluefin tuna are required to provide the port authorities with a prior notice and information regarding estimated time of arrival, estimated quantity of bluefin tuna on board and information on the geographic area where the catch was taken at least four hours prior to entry into any port.</p> <p>All catches, including by-catches, shall be weighed, and landing notes and sales notes will be issued when the fish is landed. These notes will be forwarded to the Directorate of Fisheries electronically in real time, and the reported by-catches will be deducted from the Norwegian quota. Officers at the Directorate of Fisheries will also cross-check information obtained from VMS, electronic logbooks and landing/sales notes.</p>	<p>The Norwegian Regulations related to Sea-Water Fisheries § 48.</p> <p>The Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 applies to by-catches.</p> <p>The Norwegian Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (log book requirements) applies to by-catches.</p>	

		The value of all by-catches of bluefin tuna are confiscated in order to avoid any incentive for having by-catches.	The Norwegian Regulations on confiscation of prohibited catches.	
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para. 30-34)	Not applicable. Recreational and sports fisheries for bluefin tuna by Norwegian vessels will be prohibited in 2018.	The Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 2.	
6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	Not applicable. All transshipments of bluefin tuna are prohibited.	The Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 8.	
7.	VMS (para. 87)	<p>The vessels authorized to target bluefin tuna will be required to send position reports (VMS) every hour to the FMC at the Directorate of Fisheries. The FMC is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and any interruption in the transmission of VMS signals will immediately be followed up by the FMC.</p> <p>The Norwegian Coastguard will have access to both VMS signals and electronic logbooks in real time.</p> <p>The VMS signals will be forwarded to the ICCAT Secretariat at least 15 days before the vessel's period of authorisation and shall continue at least 15 days after its period of authorization</p>	<p>The Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 7.</p> <p>The Norwegian Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (log book requirements).</p>	
8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	Not applicable. Only purse seiners will be allowed to fish for Bluefin tuna in Norway in 2018.	The Regulations of Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 4.	
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	The two purse seiners authorised to target bluefin tuna will be required to carry an ICCAT Regional Observer 100 % of the time they are targeting bluefin tuna, and all fees must be paid before the fishery starts.	The Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 § 6.	
	<i>Other requirements, such as tagging program</i>	No Norwegian baitboats, longliners, handliners or trolling boats will be authorized to fish for bluefin tuna in 2018.		

In addition to the above, the Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2018 §14 include a general provision requiring the vessels to comply with all relevant ICCAT requirements.

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

Norway has established a system of real-time monitoring of all its fisheries, and is committed to take the measures necessary to ensure full compliance with ICCAT Recommendation 17-07. The Norwegian Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC) at the Directorate of Fisheries will monitor the bluefin tuna fishery.

All Norwegian vessels having catches of bluefin tuna, including as by-catch, are required to inform the Norwegian FMC. Furthermore, a minimum of 30 % of the landings of bluefin tuna by the vessels targeting this species will be inspected by inspectors from the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries. These inspections will be carried out as full inspections, whereby the inspectors shall monitor the entire landing.

This includes monitoring the entire weighing of the fish, cross-checking this against the prior notice of port entry, the VMS, the electronic logbook as well as the landing and sales notes. Furthermore, the inspectors shall ensure that there is no fish left onboard once the landing is completed and the landing or sales notes are signed.

As the Norwegian fishery for bluefin tuna will be limited to two purse seiners, the requirement of an inspection vessel in paragraph 99 does not apply.

Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

As the Norwegian fishery for bluefin tuna will be limited to two vessels only authorised to fish in the Norwegian Economic Zone, participation in the Joint ICCAT Scheme of Inspection is not foreseen in 2018.

Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

In light of the increase of the Norwegian quota, the fishery in 2018 is planned to take place with two purse seiners. Hence, no capacity reduction is foreseen.

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TUNA VESSEL FLEET	Fleet (vessels)												Fishing capacity											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Purse seiner over 40m	70.70																							
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78							1	1	1	1	2							49.78	49.78	49.78	49.78	99.56	
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68																							
Total Purse Seine Fleet								1	1	1	1	2 ¹							49.78	49.78	49.78	49.78 ²	99.56	
Longliner over 40m	25																							
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68								1		1	0								5.68		5.68	0	
Longliner less than 24m	5																							
Total Longline Fleet									1		1	0								5.68		5.68	0	
Baitboat	19.8																							
Handline	5																							
Trawler	10																							
Trap	130																							
Other (please specify)	5																							
Total fleet/fishing capacity								1	2	1	2	2							49.78	55.46	49.78	55.46	99.56	
Quota								30.97	36.57	43.71	52.48	104							30.97	36.57	43.71	52.48	104	
Adjusted quota (if applicable)																								
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)								0	0	0	0	0												
Undercapacity																			18.81	18.89	6.07	2.98	4.44	

¹ Please note that the two vessels which will be authorised to fish for bluefin tuna in 2018 have not been selected yet. Hence, the length of the vessels in the table are preliminary.

² The figures for purse seine capacity correspond to the calculations made by the SCRS for the Mediterranean Sea. At the 2016 annual meeting of ICCAT Norway asked the SCRS whether the figures for the Mediterranean Sea were automatically transferable to the North East Atlantic. The SCRS could not provide an answer to this question. Hence it is questionable whether it is correct to fill the Mediterranean figures in the table.

SYRIA**Introduction**

In accordance with the decisions and recommendations adopted at the 25th Regular Meeting of the Commission which was held in Marrakech (Morocco), from 14 to 21 November 2017, and until the Commission considers our request of allowing Syria to carry over unused quotas of BFT (2012, 2013 and 2014), we have the honour to present a bluefin tuna fishing plan of the national quota for the 2018 season. According to the ICCAT quota allocation scheme for 2018, Syria has an annual quota of 66 tons of bluefin tuna to catch from the Mediterranean Sea during the 2018 season (Recommendation 17-07). The quota of 66 tons will be caught by one fishing vessel recorded in the ICCAT list (if no other Syrian vessel qualifies and is registered in the ICCAT Record of vessels before endorsement of Syrian BFT fishing plan).

Fishing plan***BFT fishing vessel and operations***

- Each year, the fisheries authority (General Commission for Fisheries Resources) announces terms and conditions for the BFT fishing season based on ICCAT recommendations.
- A special fishing license shall be issued by the fisheries authority for the vessel authorized to fish bluefin tuna in 2018.
- The fishing gear that will be used is purse seine.
- The authorized period for fishing is from May 26 to June 24, 2018 (if no other recommendation is adopted by ICCAT).
- No joint fishing operations will be allowed (any joint fishing operations will be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat immediately).
- Use of airplanes or helicopters to search for BFT is prohibited.
- No activities for recreational or sport fishery in Syria
- There is no facility for farming BFT in Syrian water yet.
- Longliner, baitboat, hand boat, trawler and trap are not operating in Syria for catching bluefin tuna.
- Fishing operations of the Syrian purse seiner shall be conducted in compliance with ICCAT recommendations.
- Fishing in Syria is traditional in territorial waters with no commercial fishing operations, and bluefin tuna are not actively targeted by the national fishermen.
- Fishing operations shall be monitored by the fishery authorities (General Commission for Fisheries Resources).
- ICCAT Secretariat will be informed about the marketing ways of BFT catch at the time.

Control measures***Minimum size and incidental catch / by-catch***

- Catching, retaining, landing, transshipping, transferring, selling, displaying for sale BFT weighing less than 30kg is prohibited.
- An incidental catch of max. 5% weighing between 8-30 kg is permitted for the vessel fishing actively for BFT.

VMS

- The vessel will be equipped with VMS and transmission of the VMS messages will be at least every four hours. VMS data will be transmitted to ICCAT Secretariat.
- Fishery authority will monitor the status of VMS transmission and any interruption of transmission will be followed immediately to investigate and solve the problem.

National Observers Program

- The fishing operations will be monitored throughout the fishing season by one controller observer (General Commission For Fisheries Resources) who will be embarked on board of tuna vessel.
- The controller observer will be in charge of monitoring the fishing operations and insuring the compliance of the fishing vessel with ICCAT recommendations and record some scientific information. (Syria will submit the name of the national observer as soon as possible.)

Regional Observers Program

- According to the recommendation concerning the regional observer programme for purse seine vessels, Syria is ready to receive a regional observer appointed by ICCAT.
- It is kindly requested that the observer transmits his personal information and copy of his passport in appropriate time to be able to make the necessary arrangements with the relevant agencies.

Reporting of catch

- The catch vessel master shall by electronic or other means communicate to competent authorities a daily catch report, with information on location of catch, date, number of fish, total weight.
- Weekly and monthly catch reports of vessel active in the BFT catch shall be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat in accordance with the format set for this purpose.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting	The master of the catching vessel shall maintain a bound fishing logbook of his operation in accordance with ICCAT recommendations. The fishing operator must report daily BFT catch (including zero catch report). Syria will submit weekly and monthly catch reports to ICCAT, as well as the date of closure of the fisheries.	Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries Resources for BFT fishing.	
2.	Fishing seasons	The fishing gear that will be used is purse seine. The authorized period for fishing is from May26 to June 24, 2018.	Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries Resources for BFT fishing (May 26 to June 24).	
3.	Minimum size	Catching, retaining, landing, transshipping, transferring, selling, displaying for sale BFT weighing less than 30 kg is prohibited. An incidental catch of max. 5% weighing between 8-30 kg is permitted for the vessel fishing actively for BFT.	Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries Resources for BFT fishing.	
4.	By-catch	Fisheries authority prohibits vessels without BFT quota from catching transshipping or landing of BFT. Previously no by-catch was recorded of BFT. Any by-catch shall be reported to ICCAT. If any by-catch occurred it must be deducted from Syria's quota.	Not applicable	

5.	Recreational and sports fisheries	No activities for recreational or sport fishery in Syria.	Not applicable	
6.	Transshipment	Fishing vessel shall only transship bluefin tuna catches in designated ports of CPCs. No transshipment operations reported in Syria.	Not applicable	
7.	VMS	The vessel must be equipped with VMS and transmission of the VMS messages will be at least every four hours. Fisheries authority will monitor the status of VMS transmission and will transmit the VMS data to ICCAT Secretariat.	Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries Resources for BFT Fishing.	
8.	CPC observer	The fishing operations will be monitored throughout the fishing season by one controller observer (General Commission For Fisheries Resources) who will be embarked on board of the tuna vessel. The controller observer will be in charge of monitoring the fishing operations and insuring the compliance of the fishing vessel with ICCAT recommendations.	Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries Resources for BFT Fishing. Purse seine vessel will carry national observer during all operations (100% coverage).	
9.	Regional observer	An ICCAT regional observer programme is implemented to ensure observer coverage of 100% on the purse seine vessel authorized to catch BFT.	Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries Resources for BFT Fishing.	
	<i>Other requirements, such as tagging program</i>	Not applicable		

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection

- If no other Syrian vessels qualify and are registered in the ICCAT Record of vessels before endorsement of Syrian BFT fishing plan, only one purse seiner will operate for BFT during the period adopted by ICCAT, and the vessel will be monitored by regional and national observers during all operations (100% coverage).
- The Syrian quota of BFT in previous years is transferred in accordance with ICCAT recommendations and regulations.
- Controlling and monitoring of fisheries activities in Syria are governed by General Commission For Fisheries Resources, and General Directorate of ports.
- In case of any violation, the fishing authorities will impose a penalty on the fishing operator.

Capacity Management Plan

Only one Syrian vessel is recorded in ICCAT List of vessels so far, therefore one fishing vessel will conduct BFT fishing activity in 2018 to catch the Syrian allocated quota, and whole quota shall be allocated to one vessel (in case of other Syrian vessels qualified and registered in ICCAT record of vessel before endorsement of Syrian BFT fishing plan, the quota will be divided taking into consideration the catch rates recommended by the SCRS).

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TUNA VESSEL FLEET	Fleet (vessels)												Fishing capacity (Calculated by multiplying the number of fishing vessels by catch rate defined by the SCRS)											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Purse seiner over 40m	70.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	33.68	33.68	0	0	0	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	
Total Purse Seine Fleet		0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	33.68	33.68	0	0	0	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	
Longliner over 40m	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Longliner less than 24m	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Longline Fleet		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Baitboat	19.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Handline	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Trawler	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Trap	130	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other (please specify)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total fleet fishing capacity		0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	33.68	33.68	0	0	0	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	
Quota													0	0	33.58	33.58	33.58	33.58	33.58	39.65	47.4	56.91	66	
Adjusted quota (if applicable)																								
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)													0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Under/overcapacity													0	0	0	0	-33.58	-33.58	-33.58	-5.97	-13.72	-23.23	-32.32	

- Syria did not use its quotas of 2012, 2013 and 2014.

TUNISIA

Introduction

Tunisia will hereby present its fishing, inspection and capacity management plan for bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean.

In accordance with the fishing allocations adopted by ICCAT at its annual meeting held in Marrakech in November 2017, the quota for Tunisia in 2018 was fixed at 2115 t.

In preparation for the 2018 bluefin tuna fishing campaign, Tunisia adjusted its fishing capacity in accordance with the methodology adopted by ICCAT. On the basis of this methodology, Tunisia established a fishing plan and will allocate individual quotas to 37 vessels to fish for bluefin tuna in 2018.

All Tunisian fishing vessels fishing for bluefin tuna use purse seine nets i.e. tuna purse seiners.

The Tunisian administration will issue fishing permits for these vessels for 2018 and will be reported to ICCAT in a timely manner.

The management of the fishing activity will be governed in accordance with the provisions of ICCAT Recommendation 14-04/17-07, and the national regulation (Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 on fishing, as amended by Law No. 2013-34 and its implementing texts in particular the Order of 21 May 2008, as amended by the Order of 10 June 2013 on the organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery).

Fishing Plan

Tunisia's TAC, which is set at 2,115 t for 2018, will be distributed as follows:

- a. 2093.5 t (i.e. 99%) for tuna purse seiners. The list of vessels and their individual quotas will be reported to ICCAT by the deadlines for submission set out in paragraph 52 of Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07.
- b. 21.15 t (i.e. 1%) for by-catch in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 29 of Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07.

	<i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1	Communication and reporting of catches (para 61-67, 69)	Communication and reporting of catches will comply with the provisions of Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07 (paragraph 61-67, 69). Catching vessel masters will maintain all the onboard documents required including a bound logbook or in electronic format in which the operations performed will be recorded in accordance with the provisions of Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07 (Annex 2).	Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 on fishing, as amended by Law No. 2013-34 and its implementing texts in particular the Order of 21 May 2008, as amended by the Order of 10 June 2013 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery. The Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of 10 June 2013 concerned with amendment of the Order of 21 May 2008 on the organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery.	
2	Fishing seasons (para 18-23)	The purse seine fishing season is from 26 May to 24 June 2018.		

3	Minimum size (para 26-28)	<p>It is prohibited to catch bluefin tuna with a unitary weight less than 30 kg or measuring less than 115 cm calculated from the tip of the snout to the base of the tail.</p> <p>However, exceptionally, by-catch of up to a maximum of 5% of bluefin tuna weighing between 8 and 30 kg or with a fork length of 75 to 115 cm may be authorised.</p> <p>By-catch of bluefin tuna that are below the tolerated size and weight and exceed the limit referred to above are released. Dead and undersized specimens are discarded and deducted from Tunisia's quota.</p>		
4	By-catch (para 29)	<p>1% deducted from the quota.</p> <p>If by-catch exceeds the 5% limit tolerated for vessels that do not actively fish for bluefin tuna or if the total level of by-catch is surpassed, these are discarded and deducted from Tunisia's quota.</p>	<i>Internal circular.</i>	
5	Recreational and sports fisheries (para 30-34)	Sports and recreational fishing will not be permitted.		
6	Transshipment (para 58-60)	Bluefin tuna fishing vessels may only tranship bluefin tuna catches in the ports registered with ICCAT with prior authorisation in accordance with Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07 (paragraph 58 to 60).	Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 on fishing, as amended by Law No. 2013-34 and its implementing texts in particular the Order of 21 May 2008, as amended by the Order of 10 June 2013 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery.	
7	VMS (para 87)	<p>All vessels participating in the bluefin tuna campaign with a length of more than 15 m are equipped with a VMS system, in accordance with Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07 (para 87) and current national legislation.</p> <p>Transmission of positions of catching, towing and support vessels starts 15 days before the authorisation period of each vessel and continues until</p>	No. 2013-34 of 21/09/2013 and its implementing texts, in particular the Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of 26/06/2015.	

		15 days after the end of the authorisation. The positions will be communicated immediately to the ICCAT Secretariat, no less than every 4 hours.		
8	CPC's observer (para 88)	The Tunisian administration will provide national observer coverage, carrying official identification documents on board all towing vessels i.e. 100%, in accordance with the provisions of Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07 (para 88).		
9	Regional observer (para 89-90)	The Tunisian administration will ensure implementation of the ICCAT regional observers programme to guarantee observer coverage of all the purse seiners authorised to fish for bluefin tuna, during all bluefin tuna transfers from purse seiners, during all transfers from one farming facility to another, during all bluefin tuna caging in farming facilities and throughout harvesting of bluefin tuna in farming facilities, in accordance with the provisions of Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07 (para 89-90).		
10	<i>Other requirements, such as the tagging program</i> Caging operation (para 83, Annex 9)	Caging operations will be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the ICCAT recommendation. All caging operations will be controlled by stereoscopic camera in accordance with the procedures established in Annex 9 of the ICCAT recommendation.		

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

In accordance with the national regulation in force, at-sea inspections in the fishing areas during the campaign will be carried out by permanent members of staff of the fisheries guard and coastal surveillance. They will be responsible for monitoring and assessment of compliance with ICCAT management measures. For the purposes of strengthening control, Tunisia has implemented a specific programme, which primarily consists of strengthening the coastal surveillance fleet through acquisition of new maritime control vessels, hiring of fisheries guards (around one hundred) to support current staff in policing the fisheries in waters under national jurisdiction as well as on the high seas.

In addition, a specific programme has been established which involves all corps authorised to ensure policing of the fisheries at sea and on land, i.e. the national navy, coast guard, customs and the merchant navy. This programme covers the entire chain of value of fisheries products, from catch to product placement on the market, including processing and distribution channels.

Entry authorisations for vessels flying a foreign flag into designated Tunisian ports are granted by the competent port services.

Port inspections are carried out by sworn officers of the fishing services who will be responsible for control of landings of bluefin tuna, fishing gears and onboard documents.

Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

In accordance with the provisions of Annex 7 of Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07, it is intended that the vessel AMILCAR MA 878 will participate in the joint international inspection programme. Four onboard inspectors will carry out inspection and boarding activities for Tunisian and foreign vessels during the 2018 bluefin tuna fishing season.

Inspection activities will cover in particular:

- Onboard documents;
- Catch activities and transfer into towing vessel cages;
- Video recordings of catch transfer operations;
- Potential non-compliance with the management measures of Recommendation 14-04 and 17-07.

Detailed inspection programmes as well as measures to be taken in relation to vessels inspected will be decided in conjunction with the fisheries administration.

Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

See table.

Adjustment of Tunisia's fishing capacity-2018

TUNA VESSEL FLEET		Fleet (vessels)											Fishing capacity										
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Purse seiner over 40 m	70.7	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	70.7	70.7	70.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purse seiner between 24 and 40 m	49.78	24	24	24	19	20	20	20	24	24	24	33	1194.72	1194.72	1194.7	945.82	995.6	995.6	995.6	1194.72	1194.72	1194.72	1642.74
Purse seiner less than 24 m	33.68	16	16	16	4	1	1	1	1	3	3	4	538.88	538.88	538.88	134.72	33.68	33.68	33.68	33.68	101.04	101.04	134.72
Total purse seine fleet		41	41	41	23	21	21	21	25	27	27	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner over 40 m	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner between 20 and 40m	5.68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner less than 24m	5	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total longline fleet		1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baitboat	19.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Handline	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trawler	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trap	130	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total fleet/fishing capacity		41	41	41	23	21	21	21	25	27	27	37	1809.3	1809.3	1809.3	1080.5	1029.3	1029.3	1029.28	1228.4	1295.76	1295.76	1777.46
Vessels quota		2254.48	1735.9	1064.9	1017.6	1017.6	1057	1057	1248	1462	1755	2093.85	2254.48	1735.87	1064.9	1017.6	1017.6	1057	1057	1247.97	1461.876	1755.18	2093.85
By-catch										29.83	35.8	21.15									29.8342	35.82	21.15
TAC										1492	1791	2115									1491.71	1791	2115
Admissible catch for sports/recreational vessels (if applicable)																							
Adjusted quota (if applicable)		2364.48	1937.9	1109.5	860.18	1017.6	1057	1057	1248	1462	1755	2115	2364.48	1937.87	1109.5	860.18	1017.6	1057	1057	1247.97	1491.71	1791	2115
Under/overcapacity																-220	-12	28	27	20	196	495	338

TURKEY

Introduction

In this context, Turkey will implement a total of 1.414,00 m.t. catch limit for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean for 2018.

Fishing, transferring and farming activities for eastern bluefin tuna (E-BFT) will be conducted by individual quota allocation system for each E-BFT catching vessel.

The Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MoFAL) shall announce the above-mentioned decision to all sector stakeholders in accordance with the Notifications and Ministerial Communiqué regarding E-BFT fishing, farming and trading.

MoFAL shall issue fishing permits for all E-BFT fishing vessels to be authorized for 2018. All fishing vessels authorized by MoFAL shall be reported to ICCAT in a timely manner. All vessels shall be equipped and monitored with an operational Vessel Monitoring System.

Fishing permits issued by MoFAL shall be mandatory for E-BFT fishing vessels to operate for the 2018 fishing season. Leaving a margin for a potential change in total number and length distribution of vessels to be authorized until the reporting deadline of May 12, fishing permits are planned to be granted to 25 purse seine vessels as BFT catching vessels by MoFAL. Similarly, 55 E-BFT other vessels (towing, support and auxiliary) are planned to be authorized by MoFAL. A viable amount of quota shall be allocated to 25 E-BFT catching vessels (if no conceivable changes happen until May 12 deadline) acquiring valid fishing permits for the 2018 E-BFT fishing season.

MoFAL plans to allocate 90% of the total Turkish allocated quota for each vessel based on a national criteria based on activity and track records of the fishing vessels. Should any E-BFT catching vessel may not exhaust its assigned individual quota (IQ) at the end of the fishing season, carryover shall not be allowed.

A specific quota level, which is 5% of the total, shall be allocated for the purposes of coastal fisheries, as well as incidental and by-catches. A specific quota level, which is 5% of the total, shall be dedicated to recreational and sport fisheries.

Fishing plan

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	Shall be implemented in parallel with para. 61-67 and 69 of Rec.14-04. Both bound logbook and electronic logbook shall be used for the recording of catch data.	Ministerial Communiqué on E-BFT Fishing, Farming and Trading.	
2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	Fishing for E-BFT by purse-seiner is allowed for the period between 26 May - 24 June 2018	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries / Communiqué on E-BFT Fishing, Farming and Trading.	

3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	Catching, retaining on board, transshipping, transferring, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale E-BFT weighing less than 30 kg or with fork length less than 115cm shall be prohibited. Fish caught retained on board, landed, discarded dead less than the minimum size shall be counted against Turkey's BFT quota.	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries / Communiqué on E-BFT Fishing, Farming and Trading.	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	E-BFT catches of unauthorized vessels, exceeding more than 5% of the total catch by weight or number of pieces, are not authorized. Whether it is retained or not all by-catches shall be deducted from Turkey's total quota dedicated for coastal fishery and by-catch purposes.	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries / Communiqué on E-BFT Fishing, Farming and Trading.	
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para. 30-34)	Recreational and sport fisheries on E-BFT is subject to authorization for each vessel. Catch and retention on board, transshipment or landing of more than one E-BFT individual per vessel per day is prohibited. The marketing of E-BFT caught in recreational and sport fishing is prohibited. Catch data obtained from the recreational fishery shall be submitted to the Ministry, all recreational catches shall be counted against Turkey's total quota dedicated for recreational and sports fisheries.	Ministerial Notification Regulating Amateur & Recreational Fisheries / Communiqué on E-BFT Fishing, Farming and Trading.	
6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	Transshipment at sea operations of E-BFT shall be prohibited. E-BFT fishing vessels shall only transship/land E-BFT catches in the ports designated for that purposes. In case of dead E-BFT derived from fishing, the whole amount shall only be landed to the designated ports by catching or auxiliary vessels. The following ports have been designated by MoFAL for the purpose of E-BFT landing/transshipment: 1. Adana Province: Karatas fishing port 2. Antalya Province: Antalya fishing port Gazipasa fishing port 3. Mersin Province: Karaduvar fishing port 4. Hatay Province: Iskenderun fishing port 5. Canakkale Province: Kabatepe fishing port	Ministerial Communiqué on E-BFT Fishing, Farming and Trading.	

		Gulpınar fishing port 6. Istanbul Province: Gurpinar fishing port Tuzla fishing port 7. Izmir Province: Karaburun fishing port		
7.	VMS (para. 87)	Fishing vessels requesting any of the E-BFT fishing vessel permits for the 2018 fishing season shall be equipped with a full-time operational satellite based vessel monitoring system (VMS) onboard, as required by MoFAL. Position reporting every two hours shall be required from the authorized fishing vessels.	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries / Communiqué on E-BFT Fishing, Farming and Trading.	
8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	Presence of “CPC Observers” on E-BFT Towing Vessels shall be required during the whole E-BFT catching, transferring and caging operations at sea and at farm sites in 2018.	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries / Communiqué on E-BFT Fishing, Farming and Trading.	
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	Presence of “ICCAT Regional Observers” on E-BFT Catching Vessels and at E-BFT Farming Facilities (at the time of caging and harvest operations) is mandatory.	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries / Communiqué on E-BFT Fishing, Farming and Trading.	
	<i>Other requirements, such as tagging program</i>	Usage of stereoscopic cameras in the farms shall be provided.	Ministerial notification regulating commercial fisheries / Communiqué on E-BFT fishing, farming and trading.	

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

In collaboration with Turkish Coast Guard Command (TCGC), comprehensive at-sea inspection coverage shall be ensured by MoFAL during 2018 E-BFT fishing season. To that end, an autodyne research vessel - namely ARAMA 1- will be commissioned by MoFAL to carry out inspections at sea.

A continuous monitoring, control and inspection shall be ensured at potentially active landing ports through the assignment of MoFAL inspectors. Additionally, random inspections by MoFAL shall continue even before/after the fishing season at the landing ports to check and record any landing of dead E-BFT.

As for E-BFT caging operations, MoFAL inspectors shall control proper implementation of caging programmes at farming facilities on a regular basis. Modern technologies will be utilized to implement the aforementioned controls in an effective way.

Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

Turkey plans to participate to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection of 2018 with 59 TCGC Boats, 16 aircraft (planes/helicopters) and 216 inspector staff. Due to logistical reasons, envisaged numbers of inspection boats and inspector staff may be subject to some changes subsequently.

Since the potential patrolling coverage of the TCGC inspection boats is relatively limited, participation of high seas inspection vessels from Turkish Naval Forces Command (TNFC) to the inspection scheme is expected to conduct some high-sea inspections in the Mediterranean.

Furthermore, an additional inspection vessel - namely ARAMA 1- that has been assigned by MoFAL will also contribute to the activities under ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspections in the region.

Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

The number of fishing vessels and the corresponding fishing capacity is given below.

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TUNA VESSEL FLEET	Fleet (vessels)														Fishing capacity											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 (*)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018			
Purse seiner over 40m	70.7	41	32	12	13	0	3	0	16	16	15	8	2899	2262	848	919	0	212	0	1131	1131	1061	565.6			
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78	49	34	11	4	11	7	13	0	3	14	17	2439	1693	548	199	548	348	647	0	149	696.6	846.26			
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total Purse Seine Fleet																										
Longliner over 40m	25																									
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68																									
Longliner less than 24m	5																									
Total Longline Fleet																										
Baitboat	19.8																									
Handline	5																									
Trawler	10																									
Trap	130																									
Other (please specify)	5																									
Total fleet/fishing capacity													5439	3955	1396	1118	548	561	647	1131	1281	1757	1411.86			
Quota													887	683	419	536	536	554	557	1223	1462	1775	1414			
Adjusted quota (if applicable)																										
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)																										
Under/overcapacity													4552	3272	978	582	12	3.9	90	-92	-136	-17.6	-2.14			

(*) Number of vessels to be authorized and their length distributions are provisional figures based on presumptions.
Definite number and breakdown of vessels will add up by May 12.

Turkey's provisional inspection plan within the framework of ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection 2018

Introduction

Turkish Coast Guard Command (TCGC) plans to participate to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection of 2018 with 59 Coast Guard Boats, 16 aircraft (planes/helicopters) and 216 inspector staff.

Since the potential patrolling coverage of the TCGC inspection boats is relatively limited, participation of high seas inspection vessels from Turkish Naval Forces Command (TNFC) to the inspection scheme is expected to conduct some high-sea inspections in the Mediterranean.

Due to logistical reasons, envisaged numbers of inspection boats and inspector staff may be subject to alterations until early 2018, and a definite list of active inspection vessels will be submitted subsequently, as soon as it is available.

Details of the planned at-sea inspection plan are given in the following sections.

Planning of Inspection Activities

Based on a risk analysis approach, the locations where the fishing vessels were mostly concentrated during previous seasons is planned to be focused on for 2018. In this context, bluefin tuna (E-BFT) fishing and transferring activities, as well as, Med-SWO fishing activities will continue to be inspected on a regular throughout the upcoming fishing campaign.

The records of the VMS signals will regularly be monitored at the premises of Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock and at Coast Guard Main Operation Center in Ankara, as well as, at regional operation centers of TCGC.

TCGC shall take into account the probable position data of the fishing vessels which will be obtained from the VMS during the ICCAT inspections.

Inspection Time and Area by Regions

The inspections shall be conducted in territorial waters of Turkey, high seas of Mediterranean and high seas of the Aegean Sea. ICCAT inspections by the TCGC assets shall be carried out during the whole period of E-BFT Fishing Season.

Means of at-sea Inspections

The means of at-sea inspections shall be deployed mainly at E-BFT and Med-SWO fishing grounds which are determined based on 2017's risk assessment data.

Planned Number of ICCAT Inspection Assets to be deployed

Number of Coastal Patrol Vessels: 59

Number of Aircrafts: 16

Additional boats/vessels and/or inspector staff could be assigned in case of necessity. Aerial inspections may also be scheduled by Maritime Patrol Aircrafts of TCGC during 2018's fishing campaigns.

CHINESE TAIPEI

Introduction

For the purpose of recovery of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (E-BFT), Chinese Taipei has established regulations which prohibit its fishing vessels from catching bluefin tuna since 2009, and such regulation has remained in force to date. Notably, we pay attention to the Mediterranean Sea, which is the spawning area for E-BFT, hence we prohibit our fishing vessels from engaging in any fishing activity within such area. Therefore, our policy towards E-BFT remains the same in that no fishing vessel flagged to Chinese Taipei is permitted to catch bluefin tuna in the ICCAT Convention area in 2018. It should be noted that we review the aforementioned policy annually to determine appropriate time to resume the bluefin tuna fishery in the future.

Our domestic legislation also requires fishermen to release or discard any by-catch of bluefin tuna, record relevant information in the logbook or e-logbook, and further report to the Fisheries Agency. To date, no by-catch of bluefin tuna has been reported to this Agency.

In terms of quota management, our initial quota of E-BFT for 2018 is 79 t, 50 t of which is transferred to Korea in accordance with paragraph 5(b) of the ICCAT Rec. 17-07.

Fishing plan

As mentioned above, our fishing vessels are prohibited from catching bluefin tuna in the ICCAT Convention area in accordance with our domestic regulations. Therefore, both the total number of vessels and quota allocated to each vessel are zero.

	ICCAT Requirement (per 14-04)	Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement	Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)	Note
1.	Catch recording and reporting (para. 61-67, 69)	In case that there is any by-catch of bluefin tuna, it should be released or discarded into the sea immediately, and the relevant information should be recorded and further reported to this Agency of Chinese Taipei.	As stipulated in Art. 41 of 'Regulations for Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels Proceeding to the Atlantic Ocean for Fishing Operation', our fishing vessels are prohibited from catching and retaining onboard any bluefin tuna.	
2.	Fishing Seasons (para. 18-23)	No fishing for bluefin tuna is permitted throughout the year 2018.	Same as above.	
3.	Minimum size (para. 26-28)	No bluefin tuna is permitted to retain onboard, so the requirements for minimum size are not applicable.	Not applicable.	
4.	By-catch (para. 29)	Up to date, there is no by-catch of bluefin tuna being reported to this Agency.	Same as above.	
5.	Recreational and sports fisheries (para. 30-34)	Not applicable.	Not applicable.	

6.	Transshipment (para. 58-60)	No fishing vessel is permitted to catch bluefin tuna, so the requirements for transshipment are not applicable.	Not applicable.	
7.	VMS (para. 87)	All vessels operating in the ICCAT Convention Area have installed VMS and are monitored by our Fisheries Monitoring Center.	As stipulated in Art.33 (2) of 'Regulations for Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels Proceeding to the Atlantic Ocean for Fishing Operation', all fishing vessels authorized to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in the ICCAT Convention Area are required to install satellite-based VMS and report their positions every hour.	
8.	CPC Observer (para. 88)	No fishing vessel is permitted to catch bluefin tuna, so the requirements for national observer are not applicable.	Not applicable.	
9.	Regional observer (para. 89-90)	No fishing vessel is permitted to catch bluefin tuna, so the requirements for regional observer are not applicable.	Not applicable.	
	Other requirements, such as tagging program	None.	None.	

Inspection Plan

CPC's inspection (para 64, 99)

Even though Chinese Taipei is not a port State bordering the Atlantic Ocean, we require any foreign fishing vessel entering into our ports to report its catches onboard, and currently carry out a minimum of 5% inspection rate in accordance with our National Plan of Control and Inspection. To date, no Atlantic bluefin tuna has been reported or found.

Joint international inspection (para 97-98)

Due to our regulations on the prohibition of catching bluefin tuna, the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection is not applicable to Chinese Taipei.

Capacity Management Plan (para 35-42, 44-45a)

Taking into consideration the stock status of Atlantic bluefin tuna, Chinese Taipei has prohibited its fishing vessels from catching E-BFT over the past years. Nevertheless, it should be noted that Chinese Taipei reserves the rights to resume this fishery in the future, once the stock is recovered. The table recording number of fishing vessels and fishing capacity is attached as follows.

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TUNA VESSEL FLEET	Fleet (vessels)												Fishing capacity											
Type	Best catch rates defined by the SCRS (t)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Purse seiner over 40m	70.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Purse seiner between 24 and 40m	49.78	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Purse seiners less than 24m	33.68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Purse Seine Fleet		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Longliner over 40m	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Longliner between 24 and 40m	5.68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Longliner less than 24m	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Longline Fleet		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Baitboat	19,8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Handline	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Trawler	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Trap	130	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other (please specify)	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total fleet/fishing capacity		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Quota		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	68.71	66.30	41.60	39.75	39.75	41.29	41.29	48.76	58.28	69.97	79	
Adjusted quota (if applicable)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	68.71	66.30	41.60	39.75	39.75	31.29	31.29	38.76	48.28	59.97	29	
Allowance for sport/recreational (if applicable)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Under/overcapacity		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Appendix 5

Statement by Algeria to Panel 2

Since 2010, Algeria has seen how its annual bluefin tuna catch quota has fallen significantly from 684.90 t in 2010 to 138.46 t for 2011, in an arbitrary manner that is not in accordance with any ICCAT rule. Algeria has not been consulted in relation to this action, which has always been viewed as an injustice by those involved in this fishery.

This reduction of about 80% cannot be explained by a general reduction in the TAC (total allowable catch), which decreased from 13,500 t in 2010 to 12,900 t for 2011 (i.e. less than 5%).

In 2012, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas acknowledged and admitted the harm that has been caused to Algeria through implementation of this decision. As a result, ICCAT, in Recommendations 12-03 and 14-04 which establish a multi-annual programme for recovery of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, granted quota adjustments which will continue until Algeria's combined quota reaches 5.07% of the TAC.

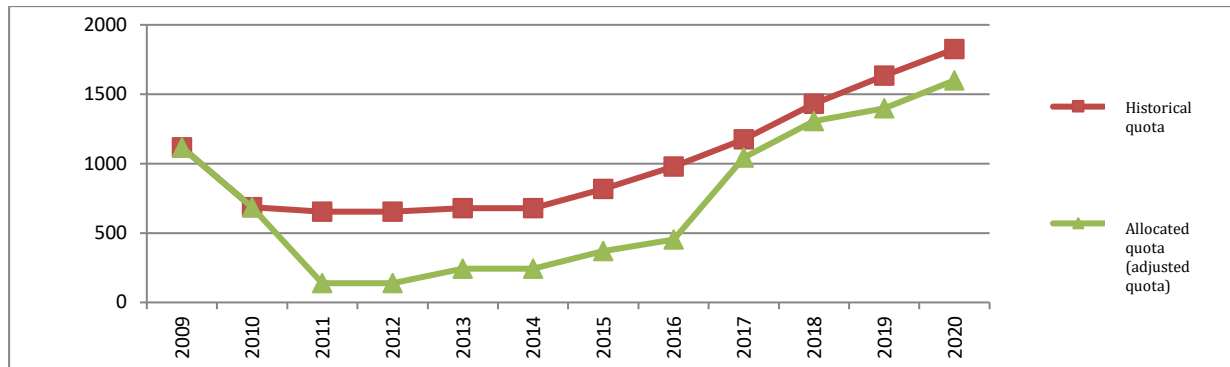
The Commission's commitment was partly put into effect in 2016. Through the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Supplement Recommendation 14-04 by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation 13-07 by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-annual Recovery Plan For Bluefin Tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* (Rec. 16-09), the Commission allocated a complementary quota to Algeria of about 500 t in addition to the combined quota established by Recommendation 14-04.

The quotas allocated to Algeria at the annual meeting held in Marrakesh in November 2017, do not overcome the annual deficit, without prejudice to the 3591.74 t foregone since 2011. The table below shows the evolution of Algeria's quotas since 2009.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Historical quota (5.07% key)</i>	<i>Allocated quota</i>	<i>Key</i>	<i>Balance</i>
2009	1117.42	1117.42	5.0733333	0
2010	684.9	684.9	5.0733333	0
2011	654.03	138.46	1.07333333	-515.57
2012	654.03	138.46	1.07333333	-515.57
2013	679.38	243.83	1.81962687	-435.55
2014	679.38	243.83	1.81962687	-435.55
2015	818.3994	369.81	2.29098005	-448.5894
2016	978.3072	452.98	2.34753317	-525.3272
2017	1173.9585	1043.98	4.50865904	-129.9785
2018	1429.8414	1306	4.63087724	-123.8414
2019	1634.568	1398	4.33622829	-236.568
2020	1825.2	1600	4.44444444	-225.2
Total				-3591.7445

It can also be seen from the table that the maximum combined quota (adjusted quota) allocated to Algeria for 2018 is 4.63% of the TAC. However, it can be observed that this quota decreases in 2019 and 2020.

Despite improvement in the situation of the bluefin tuna stock and the evolution of the TAC of 28,200 t, 32,240 t and 36,000 t for 2018, 2019 and 2020, respectively, Algeria has not yet recovered its historical quota, i.e. 5.07% of the TAC, which is important to recall. The graph below shows the evolution of the allocation key of Algeria's quota (combined quota), which is still below its historical key.



Given the losses that have resulted from the decision taken by the Commission in 2010, the improvement in the stock's situation, the decision to establish a reserve quota for 2019 and 2020 and previous undertakings by ICCAT, Algeria appeals to CPCs and their sense of fairness, to restore the rights of our country and to definitively close this painful chapter that began in 2010.

Algeria has been prevented from developing this fishery, and prohibits to date fishing by artisanal fishers, who constitute more than 70% of its fleet i.e. more than 3000 fishing vessels. It is hoped that through an allocation from the reserve under discussion, this activity (bluefin tuna fishing) can be restarted and opened up to these fishers who have consented to this dual sacrifice for the sake of recovery of this species.

By way of reminder and as in the case of other coastal countries, this artisanal fishery for "subsistence" is in most cases the only source of income for households and is in some isolated coastal villages in some areas, the only economic activity.

Prohibition, with a sense of arbitrariness, has always constituted a the source of illicitness.

Fishers can view any iniquity as a challenge and a burdensome constraint.

Therefore, Algeria undertakes to allocate to the artisanal fishery from 2019 the quotas allocated from the reserve.

We sincerely hope that the CPCs of Panel 2 act responsibly, fairly and justly in deciding to allocate quotas to Algeria.

Appendix 6**Statement by Korea to Panel 2**

Korea invited the Panel to recall that Recommendation 02-08 clearly expresses that Korea redeems its 1.5% share of any given TAC when it individually has fished its current level of underages. As Korea has been exhausting all of its national quota since 2016, Korea should have redeemed its share of 1.5% from 2017. However, this was not reflected on the quota allocation for the quota block 2018-2020. In this regard, Korea strongly stresses that this share should be accommodated in any future allocation of the bluefin TACs and any reserves thereof, including the quota block 2021~2023 and then on, and these needs should be clearly taken into account.

In accepting the allocation of the reserves for 2019 and 2020, Korea invited the Panel to recognize that further allocation of remaining reserves at this meeting had taken into account and prioritized artisanal fisheries and developing countries. In this regard, Korea highlighted the need to consider as a matter of priority fishing nation's legitimate share, especially Korea's share of 1.5% of TAC in accordance with Rec. 02-08, next time we allocate any reserves and TACs.

Statement by Morocco to Panel 2

At its 25th regular meeting held in Marrakesh (Morocco), the Commission adopted the *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation 14-04 on bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean* (Rec. 17-07).

The aim of this document is to provide information on the bluefin tuna fishing activity in the Kingdom of Morocco.

The bluefin tuna fishery in Morocco is particularly important from a socio-economic view, owing to the generation of foreign currency and creation of direct and indirect employment.

Atlantic bluefin tuna is a migratory species managed by ICCAT. Morocco, like other Contracting Parties of this Commission, is one of the main countries that exploit this species during its migration from the Atlantic to the Mediterranean coasts, from April each year.

Therefore, Morocco has an annual fishing quota fixed by this Commission which is distributed annually among the operational segments of this fishery through a management plan which is consistent with the spirit and principle of ICCAT recommendations.

Through active participation in all Commission work and subscription to all ICCAT provisions, Morocco has demonstrated its commitment and affinity to the objectives of preservation of the marine ecosystems and sustainable use of the fisheries resources managed by this Commission.

Socio-economic context

- The bluefin tuna fishery in the area of the Atlantic and Moroccan Mediterranean is artisanal and selective by nature, and consists of:
 - Artisanal boats with a LOA<7m (< 3 tons) and engine power < 20 CV.
 - Traps, which are considered by all scientists to be an important observatory of this fishery.
- The artisanal fishery is particularly significant from a socio-economic view owing to the large number of fishers that rely on it. Some 3,000 artisanal boats take bluefin tuna as by-catch during its migration period, and these catches will be counted against the quota allocated to the artisanal segment. Selective fishing gears are used by these vessels and artisanal boats, i.e. longline and handline. This activity creates around 60,000 direct and indirect jobs;
- The average catches of bluefin tuna in the area of the Atlantic and Moroccan Mediterranean in the period from 2007-2017 are estimated at 1,916 t;
- In the period from 2007-2014, the average catches of bluefin tuna taken on the Atlantic coast and Moroccan Mediterranean decreased by 55%;
- There are several interaction phenomena between marine cetaceans and fishing activity in the Mediterranean which result from depredation, i.e. attacks by some cetacean species on fishers' catches during fishing operations. These phenomena undermine the economic performance of fishers and contribute to the increase in socio-economic pressure on Mediterranean fisheries. Two types of depredation are observed in the Mediterranean which impact the Moroccan tuna fishery directly or indirectly:
 - Attacks by killer whales on tuna catches taken by artisanal vessels.
 - Attacks by bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) on purse seines in the pelagic fishery, which results in economic loss and partial loss of catches, and a reduction in fishing activity.

Strengthening of conservation and management measures

Morocco has contributed to all phases of the Atlantic-wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP). In addition, in Morocco, several bluefin tuna electronic tagging campaigns have been carried out, and conventional tagging has been tested for the first time in Morocco.

Morocco was among the first countries to implement, unconditionally from the outset, the electronic bluefin tuna catch document programme (eBCD), and to participate in the financing and all the phases of its development.

In line with ICCAT recommendations and advice, Morocco has adopted a management plan for this fishery based on the setting of a minimum trade size, establishment of a TAC by segment and by vessel (joint fishing), definition of fishing areas, use of stereoscopic cameras for live bluefin tuna and the presence of onboard observers. The following should also be noted:

- Implementation of VMS for vessels greater than 15 m.
- Implementation of a computerised traceability system along the chain (from capture to export).
- Radiofrequency identification of artisanal boats.

Improvement in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock of bluefin tuna is demonstrated by the positive signs in the response of this fishery to the multi-annual recovery programmes for this stock which have been implemented since 2006, and is confirmed by the performance of traps in particular, and is illustrated by the release, in recent fishing seasons, of thousands of large size individuals by Moroccan traps (see tables below). It is important to note that the quantities released by Moroccan traps in some years have doubled the amounts caught.

<i>Year</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>
Release (number)	3818	2000	2400	10000	35500	25023	10230	15950	10850
Release (t)	802	420	504	2100	7455	5255	2148	3350	2278
Catches (t)	1909	1348	1055	990	960.47	959.46	1176	1433	1716

Average weight of bluefin tuna = 210 kg

The trap fishery was described by the SCRS as a real-life scientific laboratory, given the valuable scientific data that this fishery continues to provide systematically for the assessment needs of this stock.

<i>Fleet type</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
Trap	15	17	13	9	9	10	10	11	12	12	15

Morocco has always contributed to preservation of the eastern bluefin tuna stock through compliance with ICCAT management recommendations:

- In July 2008, Morocco proceeded to limit the number of traps. Fishing capacity was reduced in 2010 to 10 vessels, i.e. a reduction of around 41%. In 2016, this capacity decreased by about 30% compared to the peak in 2009.
- There was a 51% decrease in the level of catches recorded in the period from 2010-2014 compared to the peak in 2007, which has caused great economic difficulties for the local trap industry.

On the basis of these indicators, Morocco has demonstrated its ability to act for sustainable management of the bluefin tuna stock, at institutional level and in relation to private operators and the community of fishers involved in this fishery. This capacity is even more crucial given that Morocco is situated, with its Atlantic and Mediterranean coastlines, in a strategic position for sustainability of the bluefin tuna stock. Bluefin tuna are effectively obliged to cross the Strait of Gibraltar during its genetic migration from the Atlantic to the Mediterranean and its feeding migration from the Mediterranean towards the Atlantic in the months of March to April and July to October.

So all these efforts have not been made in vain, it is important that Morocco benefits from an equitable distribution of unallocated reserves for 2019 and 2020 following the Panel 2 meeting in March 2018, commensurate with Morocco's numerous efforts, investment and commitment as a developing coastal country.

It should be noted that Morocco's quota has decreased since implementation in 2008 of the bluefin tuna recovery plans; its TAC will not reach the 2008 level until 2020.

Finally, the Kingdom of Morocco is convinced of the need to conserve this stock, and as a coastal CPC requests an equitable and fair distribution of unallocated reserves in accordance with the provisions of Recommendation 17-07 amending Recommendation 14-04 and ICCAT Resolution 15-13.

Appendix 8

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT AMENDING THE RECOMMENDATION 17-07 ON BLUEFIN
TUNA IN THE EASTERN ATLANTIC AND MEDITERRANEAN**
(submitted by Chair of Panel 2)

ACKNOWLEDGING the outcomes of the intersessional meeting of Panel 2 held in Madrid in 5-7 March 2018,

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

The subparagraph 5(a) of the recommendation 17-07 shall be replaced by the following subparagraph:

5 (a) The total allowable catches (TACs) for the years 2018-2020 shall be set at: 28,200 t for 2018; 32,240 t for 2019; and 36,000 t for 2020, in accordance with the following quota scheme:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Quota 2018 (t)</i>	<i>Quota 2019 (t)</i>	<i>Quota 2020 (t)</i>
Albania	100	156	170
Algeria	1,260	1,446	1,655
China	79	90	102
Egypt	181	266	330
European Union	15,850	17,623	19,460
Iceland*	84	147	180
Japan	2,279	2,544	2,819
Korea	160	184	200
Libya	1,846	2,060	2,255
Morocco	2,578	2,948	3,284
Norway	104	239	300
Syria	66	73	80
Tunisia	2,115	2,400	2,655
Turkey	1,414	1,880	2,305
Chinese Taipei	79	84	90
Subtotal	28,915	32,140	35,885
Unallocated Reserves	5	100	115
TOTAL	28,200	32,240	36,000

*Notwithstanding the provision of this Part, Iceland may catch beyond the quota amount each year by 25% while its total catch for 2018, 2019, and 2020 shall not exceed 411 t (84 t + 147 t + 180 t).

In 2018 and 2019, the Commission may distribute the unallocated reserves for 2019 and 2020 in consideration of the stock status updated by SCRS and the needs of CPCs, in particular the needs of coastal developing CPCs in their artisanal fisheries.

This table shall not be interpreted to have changed the allocation keys shown in Recommendation 14-04. The new keys shall be established in the future consideration by the Commission.

Mauritania may catch up to 5 t for research in each year. The catch shall be deducted from the unallocated reserve.

These TACs shall be reviewed annually on the advice of the SCRS.

Appendix 9

Requests for clarification by ROP-BFT consortium and responses from CPCs

Topic	Clarification sought	Algeria	Turkey	EU
1. Transfers	During the past season, we saw more at-sea transfer from the seine to two cages (or more) simultaneously. Can you please detail the official procedure to be followed in terms of PTN, video, ITD and eBCD production?	From an operational point of view: The cages nearest to the fishing boat have a capacity of 200 t. The transfer into two different cages and individually caused significant mortality because the door of the purse seine closed in the middle of the crossover operation of the fish which led to entanglement and a large number of fish died. Distribution between the two cages meant that there was more living space. From the point of view of requirements on monitoring and control of the transfer operations: As to transfer authorisations, it was reported that in accordance with the provisions of Rec. 14-04 regarding documentation of transfer operations and product traceability, each towing vessel is obliged to carry onboard the transfer authorisation. In this regard, and given that it was a single fishing operation, in compliance with the provisions of Rec. 14-04, two (02) different transfer authorisation documents were issued but with the same transfer authorisation number (DZA/2017/002/1 and DZA/2017/002/2). It should also be noted that in accordance with provisions of the same recommendation, an eBCD is issued for each fishing operation. On this basis, a single eBCD was issued for this fishing operation and the number was indicated in part 4 on transfers. In relation to video recordings and in order to ensure control and counting of the number of specimens, two (02) videos were installed to film the transfer operation: the first was located between the door separating the purse seine from the first cage and the second between the two transport cages. The first video showed the total number of fish caught while the second showed the amount that had crossed over into the second cage.	In the event of at-sea transfers from the seine to two cages (or more) simultaneously, the procedure to follow as defined [by Algeria] is quite correct. In such cases, a single eBCD, 2 transfer authorizations and 2 video footages (for each caging) should be ensured. Since there will be a single eBCD two it would be convenient to use the same towing vessel for the towing operation.	From an operational point of view: Transfers from the seine to two cages (or more) simultaneously, never take place. In case a purse seiner (PS) make a large catch, fish is first transferred from the PS to a first towing vessel cage (TWC1). To avoid high mortality of fish, a second transfer of part of the catch from the TWC1 to a second towing vessel cage (TWC2) can take place. Split between the two cages means that there is more free space and consequently less likelihood of mortality. All receiving transport cages should be empty. From the point of view of requirements on monitoring and control of the transfer operations: In accordance with the provisions of Rec. [17-07], both operations are treated independently, and need individual authorisations. One eBCD is issued for the PS-TW transfer operation; and then the eBCD will continue to be filled in with the further transfer operations between towing vessels. All transfers should be recorded in the ITD (see Annex 4 of Rec. [17-07]). For all transfers of live bluefin tuna the transfer activities shall be monitored by conventional and/or stereoscopic video camera in the water with a view to verify the number of fish being transferred.

Topic	Clarification sought	Algeria	Turkey	EU
2. Group eBCDs	<p>At the time of caging, relevant BCDs may be grouped as a “Grouped BCD” with a new BCD number in the following cases, provided that caging of all the fish is conducted on the same day and all the fish is caged in the same farming cage:</p> <p>a) Multiple catches made by the same vessel</p> <p>b) Catches made by JFO</p> <p>The Grouped BCD shall replace all the related original BCDs and be accompanied by the list of all the associated BCD numbers. The copies of such associated BCDs shall be made available upon request of CPCs.</p> <p>Is that OK to have two caging operations and only one eBCD? Or it should be one eBCD per caging operation?</p>	No comment	<p>It might be cases where splitting BFTs under the scope of one BCD into two cages is necessary in the actual practices in the field. The eBCD System need to have the functionality to split one eBCD automatically for a certain caging operation.</p> <p>Delivery of eBCD and ICD to the observer could sometimes take a longer time than it should be due to some specific operational restraints. Accordingly, setting a certain maximum number of days (between the caging operation and the signature by the observer) may not be always so practicable in reality. However, in no case the delivery should exceed the length of requested deployment of that particular observer.</p>	<p>Two caging operations represented by one BCD are required when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A grouped BCD is issued in line with ICCAT Rec. 11-20 2. A catch was split in two separate cages and caged through two separate caging operations. Parallel caging operations through a single BCD is allowed through the e-BCD system. <p>Thus, a single BCD will be issued in scenarios 1 and 2 above.</p> <p>Prior to the finalisation of e-BCDs and ICDs the following steps are required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of Stereoscopic camera footages to estimate the number and weight of fish caged 2. Submission of results to catching flag state 3. Finalisation of any release operations 4. Amendment of e-BCDs in line with catching flag state decision <p>The length of requested deployment of that particular observer should bound number of days between the caging operation and the signature of the documentation by the observer.</p>

Topic	Clarification sought	Algeria	Turkey	EU
	During this caging season, a big gap has been observed between the caging operations at sea and the issuing of the official document (eBCD and ICD when any) to the observer. Can you give a maximum number of days between the caging operation and the signature of the documentation by the observer, or is this bounded only by the length of requested deployment of that particular observer?			The steps above take a considerable amount of time to be processed and in most cases exceed the period of deployment of the Regional observer (RO). The Observer must indicate at least its presence in the correspondent box of the eBCD. If results of stereoscopic camera are not available before the end of the Observer deployment, the National authorities have the possibility to sign the e-BCD.

Topic	Clarification sought	Algeria	Turkey	EU
3. Caging authorisation information	Information in caging authorisations is often inconsistent with information in the ITDs and eBCDs. In these cases, should the observer sign the ICD / eBCD?	No comment	ITDs and eBCDs are the final documents indicating verified number of pieces /quantities of BFTs. Until issuing of these documents all the figures suggested are only rough estimations that could be slightly different from the final values. The observer should sign ITD / eBCD without considering transfer authorization if these documents and the observer records are coherent.	<p>Caging authorisations are based on the provisional amounts declared in the e-BCDs as it stands at the moment of the authorisation's request, thus the information between ITD, e-BCD and caging authorisation should match.</p> <p>Paragraph 83 of the ICCAT Rec. [17-07] provides that the quantities derived in the programme using stereoscopic cameras systems or alternative techniques that provide the equivalent precision shall be used to complete the caging declarations and relevant sections of the BCD when the caging operation is finalised. The RO should therefore decide to sign or not to sign the ICDs and caging section of the e-BCDs after analysing the caging transfer footage. RO decision should therefore be based on the outcome of these results and not on the information presented through the caging authorisation. The RO must indicate at least its presence in the correspondent box of the eBCD. If results of stereoscopic camera are not available before the end of the RO deployment, the National authorities have the possibility to sign the e-BCD.</p>

Topic	Clarification sought	Algeria	Turkey	EU
4. Caging authorisation	<p>In annex 8, of Rec. 14-04, the caging authorisation number is required to be shown. The assumption is that this authorisation number should follow the format of the transfer authorisation number set out in para 72. As no authorisation number format is established in the caging operations section (para 78-86).</p> <p>However, it is noted that several CPCs use different formats for caging authorisation which are completely different to that described in para 72. Furthermore, one caging authorisation may be used to cover several different caging authorisations, including control cagings. Is this permissible?</p>	No comment	<p>There is no caging authorization number format. But CPCs are free to impose a domestic format, if they consider it opportune.</p> <p>The EU's suggestion may be acceptable, without prejudice to the related provisions of Rec [17-07], and several caging operations covered by a single caging authorisation may not constitute a PNC.</p> <p>As Turkey; we will continue to use the same caging authorisation standards.</p>	<p>As no authorisation number format is established in the caging operation section, the CPCs may use formats for caging authorisation, which can be different from that described in paragraph 72 of Rec. [17-07].</p> <p>Rec. [17-07] is silent regarding the use of a single caging authorization for each caging operations, therefore several caging operations covered by a single caging authorisation should not constitute a PNC.</p>

Topic	Clarification sought	Algeria	Turkey	EU
5. Cage numbers	<p>Rec. 14-04 states that:</p> <p>CPCs shall assign a unique number to all cages. Numbers shall be issued with a unique numbering system that includes at least the three letter CPC code followed by three numbers.</p> <p>Is the at least referring only to the 3 letter CPC code, or can the cage number also include more than 3 numbers. For example, several towing cages were noted to have an additional letter after the 3 numbers. Is this permissible?</p>	No comment	Although the current rule stipulates only 3 letter CPC code and year, a unique numbering system should also include additional codes specific to the related company/operator.	It should be coherent with the Rec. [17-07]: at least the three letter CPC code followed by three numbers. More characters than those indicated above can be added to the cage number.

Topic	Clarification sought	Algeria	Turkey	EU
6. Cage numbers	<p>Following on from the above point, it was noted that cage numbers are often transferred from the donor cage to the receiving cage (which was unnumbered) following the operation.</p> <p>The implication is that the receiving cage does not have a unique number, or that this number is the same as the donor cage. Is this permissible?</p> <p>In these cases, it is permissible for the observer to sign the ICD and eBCD?</p>	No comment	<p>It is not convenient to transfer cage numbers from the donor cage to the receiving cage. The cage number should be unique for only one cage without allowing of its transfer. In such cases it is advisable that the observer could sign the ICD and eBCD by reporting this case as a PNC.</p>	<p>Each cage should have a unique number. The receiving cage should not have the same number as the donor cage. If the donor cage has the same number as the receiving cage, the observer should not sign the ICD and eBCD.</p>

<p>7. Intra farm transfers and control cagings</p>	<p>Intra-farm transfers are often carried out as control operations following inconclusive caging videos. However, as previously stated these often do not have a separate authorisation.</p> <p>In these cases, can the observer view this footage to verify the amount of tuna caged? Furthermore, can the observer sign the eBCD / ICD?</p>	<p>No comment</p>	<p>EU's comments are deemed applicable.</p> <p>No separate authorization may be required for control transfers since Farm CPC Authority issues order for subsequent control transfers.</p> <p>Therefore, there is no need for a different authorisation, and the observer should proceed as for the first caging operation.</p> <p>Apart from control transfers, other intra-farm transfers may not even require the presence of ICCAT Observers (to sign the ICD and e-BCD) but authorization and farm State control authorities (and/or CPC Observers) should be present there.</p>	<p>Intra-farm transfers do not require observer to sign the ICD and e-BCD but are subject to authorization and presence of the farm state control authorities (see paragraph 84 of Rec. [17-07]). Control transfers do not require authorization.</p> <p>The operations described by the consortium are not intra-farms transfers, but repetitions of the initial caging operation due to inconclusive caging video. Therefore, there is no need of a different authorisation, and the observer should proceed as for the first caging operation.</p>
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Topic	Clarification sought	Algeria	Turkey	EU
			<p>Additional Suggestion: The following adjustments could be made in the relevant procedures;</p> <p>-Intra-farm transfer could be made under the supervision of CPC Observer only, provided that the required transfer authorisation is given. Necessary modifications should be reflected (in a way to indicate intra-farm transfers shall only be made under the presence of CPC Observers) either in Rec. 17-07 or in other documents elsewhere.</p> <p>-In eBCD system CPC Administrator could be authorized to arrange “a new caging information” in the farm information following an intra-farm transfer.</p>	