

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, 23 August 2022

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 6353 / 2022

SUBJECT: FOURTH INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF PANEL 2 ON BLUEFIN TUNA MSE (BFT MSE)
(Madrid, Spain / hybrid, 14 October 2022)

Further to ICCAT Circular #5948/22 of 5 August 2022, the Secretariat has received only 3 responses from members of Panel 2, all in favour of the upcoming Fourth Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2 on Bluefin Tuna MSE, scheduled for 14 October 2022, being held in a hybrid format. Given that the Chair of Panel 2 agrees with the hybrid format, I am pleased to inform that the Secretariat has initiated the internal procedures to organize the meeting at the Secretariat in Madrid (Spain).

Bearing in mind the current pandemic situation and current measures regarding the use of the ICCAT building in Madrid, there will be restrictions on the total number of participants that can physically attend the meeting. Accordingly, a maximum of **two participants per delegation will be allowed to attend the in-person meeting**, although relevant officers (e.g. PA2 Chair, SCRS Chair and Vice Chair, BFT rapporteurs and BFT Technical Sub-group on MSE Co-Chairs) will not be taken into account for the maximum number of participants per delegation. No restriction will be imposed on the number of participants attending the meeting online. The maximum number of in-person participants by delegation may be revised later, based on the total number of in-person participants registered for the meeting. Observers are kindly requested to attend the meeting online. Meeting hours will be from 09:00 to 18:00 (Madrid time) with a coffee break in the morning (10:30), a break for lunch (13:00-14:30) and a coffee break in the afternoon (16:30).

In order to organize the meeting in advance of the session, in particular regarding in-person participation, you are kindly requested to send to the Secretariat by **16 September 2022** a list of delegates who will attend the meeting in-person, together with the list of additional official members of the delegation that will participate virtually in the meeting. Any late submission of the online participants may cause delay in providing online access to the meeting. Participants must also register for the meeting by **5 October 2022**, using the [Online Registration Form](#) that will shortly be available on the ICCAT current meetings webpage.

All the participants attending the meeting virtually will have full access to the meeting documents and discussions through the ZOOM platform, to ensure appropriate participation and transparency in decision making, i.e. so that when decisions are taken in the room there is sufficient transparency and clarity for those who are attending virtually (not in the room).

The Secretariat will implement several additional measures, aiming at reducing the possibility of contamination of COVID among meeting participants, as follows:

- All in-person participants shall be COVID antigen tested immediately before the start of the meeting. Entrance to the meeting room will only be granted to participants who have tested negative. These tests, which will be mandatory, will be carried out by a certified entity and supported by the Secretariat. Participants are therefore required to be at the Secretariat by 08:15 for testing purposes so that the meeting may begin on time.
- All participants will be required to use a face mask. During the whole course of the meeting, participants shall ensure the masks are properly fitted, covering both mouth and nose.



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Please note that as the meeting will be held in a hybrid format, it is not possible to comply with the rules set out in the [Rules of Procedure for the Administration of the Special Meeting Participation Fund \(Ref. 20-10\)](#). However, since the meeting was originally scheduled in a hybrid format, exceptionally, the Secretariat will accept applications received by **2 September 2022**.

The meeting agenda and other meeting documents will be posted in the meeting OwnCloud folder as soon as they become available. Therefore, you are requested to regularly check the [meeting documents folder](#).

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary



Camille Jean Pierre Manel

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