- RECOMMENDATION -EXTENSION OF SOUTHERN ALB MANAGEMENT & IMPROVE MONITORING

TITLE: Recommendation by ICCAT to Extend the Southern Albacore Management Arrangement and to Improve Monitoring (Entered into force: June 15, 2000)

RECALLING the 1998 Recommendation on Revision, Implementation and Sharing of the Southern Albacore Catch Limit which called for countries, entities and fishing entities actively fishing for southern albacore to adopt a management arrangement for this species, and calling for other countries to limit their southern albacore catch;

NOTING that the actively fishing countries, entities and fishing entities have indicated that their projected catch in 1999 will likely be within the 27,200 MT limit set for these four parties;

FURTHER NOTING that control of this fishery is necessary to avoid overexploitation of the stock;

RECOGNIZING that the establishment of a long-term sharing arrangement should be negotiated once there is further progress in the efforts of the ICCAT Working Group on Allocation Criteria;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that problems were experienced in reporting in 1999 and desiring to improve such reporting;

DESIRING to improve timely monitoring of the fishery, particularly in those four "actively fishing" countries, entities and fishing entities;

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

- 1 The United States endeavor to limit its total catch of southern albacore to no more than 4% by weight of its total longline swordfish catch in the Atlantic Ocean South of 5 degrees North.
- 2 The 1998 recommendation be amended as noted in point 1, and extended to include the 2000 fishing year.
- 3 Countries, Entities and Fishing Entities improve their monitoring systems for southern albacore catches so as to ensure that catches are reported to the designated Contracting Party within two (2) months of such catches having been made.

ALB