09-05

ALB

RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO ESTABLISH A REBUILDING PROGRAM ON NORTH ATLANTIC ALBACORE

RECALLING the 1998 Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Limitation of Fishing Capacity on Northern Albacore [Rec. 98-08] and the Recommendation by ICCAT on North Atlantic Albacore Catch Limits for the Period 2008-2009 [Rec. 07-02];

NOTING that the objective of the Convention is to maintain populations at levels that will support maximum sustainable catch (usually referred to as MSY);

CONSIDERING that the 2009 Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) stock assessment concluded that the northern albacore stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring, and recommended a level of catch of no more than 28,000 t to meet the Convention management objective by 2020;

RECALLING the importance that all fleets participating in the northern albacore fishery submit the required data (catch, effort and catch-at-size) on their fisheries for transmission to the SCRS;

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

- 1. The establishment of a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 28,000 t for 2010 and 2011.
- 2. This catch limit shall be allocated among the ICCAT Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereafter referred to as CPCs) according to the following:

Party	2010 and 2011 Quota
European Community	21,551.3 t
Chinese Taipei	3,271.7 ¹ t
United States	527 t
Venezuela	250 t

- 3. With the exception of Japan, CPCs other than those mentioned in paragraph 2 shall limit their catches to 200 t.
- 4. Japan shall endeavour to limit its total northern albacore catches to a maximum of 4% in weight of its total bigeye tuna longline catch in the Atlantic Ocean.
- 5. Any unused portion or excess of a CPC's annual quota/catch limit may be added to/shall be deducted from, according to the case, the respective quota/catch limit during or before the adjustment year, in the following way:

Year of Catch	Adjustment Year
2010	2012 and/or 2013
2011	2013 and/or 2014

However, the maximum underage that a Party may carry-over in any given year shall not exceed 25% of its initial catch quota.

¹ Chinese Taipei will each year transfer 100 t from its quota to St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

If, in any year, the combined landings of CPCs exceed the TAC of 28,000 t, the Commission will re-evaluate the northern albacore recommendation at its next Commission meeting and recommend further conservation measures, as appropriate.

- 6. The 1998 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Limitation of Fishing Capacity on Northern Albacore* [Rec. 98-08] remains in force.
- 7. The SCRS shall monitor the northern albacore stock and provide advice to the Commission on the appropriate management measures to achieve and maintain the Convention objectives.
- 8. This Recommendation replaces *Recommendation by ICCAT on North Atlantic Albacore Catch Limits for the Period 2008-2009* [Rec. 07-02];