RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO AMEND THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE PERMANENT WORKING GROUP FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ICCAT STATISTICS AND CONSERVATION MEASURES (PWG)

RECALLING the 1992 Resolution by ICCAT to Establish a Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures and the Terms of Reference of the Working Group (Res. 92-02] and the 2002 Recommendation by ICCAT to Change the Terms of Reference of the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures [Rec.02-28];

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT calls at recent ICCAT meetings to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Permanent Working Group and the Compliance Committee to strengthen their operation, effectiveness, and efficiency;

RECOGNIZING the importance of robust MCS and other technical measures to ensure effective implementation of ICCAT's conservation and management measures, improve ICCAT statistics, and help address IUU fishing;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure that actions taken to support ICCAT conservation and management measures are non-discriminatory and in accordance with international law;

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

The Terms of Reference of the PWG be as follows:

- 1. Review trade and other relevant fishery information regarding species under the purview of ICCAT in order to identify deficiencies in ICCAT statistics.
- 2. Consider the effectiveness and practical aspects of the implementation of ICCAT's technical measures, including but not limited to:
 - a) Catch Documentation and Statistical Document Programs;
 - b) Observer programs
 - c) At-sea and in-port transshipment requirements
 - d) Rules for chartering and other fishing arrangements
 - e) At-sea vessel sighting and inspection programs
 - f) Port inspection schemes and other port State measures
 - g) Vessel listing requirements
 - h) Vessel Monitoring System requirements
 - i) Flag State responsibilities
- 3. Develop or modify, where needed, technical measures to ensure effective implementation of ICCAT's conservation and management measures, including measures for the collection and reporting of statistical data, and proper application of the provisions of the Convention.
- 4. Oversee development of ICCAT's list of vessels presumed to be engaged in illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities.
- 5. Recommend measures to the Commission based upon the findings of the Permanent Working Group.
- 6. In carrying out its responsibilities, the PWG shall cooperate closely with other ICCAT subsidiary bodies in order to remain informed on all issues that may affect its work and refer relevant matters identified during its deliberations to the appropriate subsidiary body for attention, such as issues of non-compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures.
- 7. This recommendation replaces the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Change the Terms of Reference of the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG)* [Rec. 02-28] and the *Resolution by ICCAT to Establish a Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) and the Terms of Reference of the Working Group* [Res. 92-02].