



Madrid – March 11, 2011

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 903 / 2011

**SUBJECT: TERMS OF REFERENCE – CALL FOR TENDERS – GBYP 03/2011
SHORT-TERM CONTRACT FOR GBYP BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING
SCHEME (ICCAT/GBYP Phase 2 – 2011)**

I have the honor to transmit to you the attached the Terms of Reference - Call for Tenders GBYP 03/2011 for the “Short-term Contract for GBYP Biological Sampling Scheme” of the ICCAT Atlantic-Wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP).

This information has been translated to French and Spanish by the ICCAT Secretariat.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Driss Meski
ICCAT Executive Secretary

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Korea	Jang Woo Seo	USA	R. Smith
Libya	H.A. Marai	Vanuatu	M. Amos

cc: Head Scientists

Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities (English):

Chinese Taipei H.Y. Huang
Guyana D. Permaul
Curaçao S. Mambi

Attachments: Terms of Reference – Call for Tenders GBYP 03/2011 & Appendix 1

TERMS OF REFERENCE - CALL FOR TENDERS – GBYP 03/2011

Short-term Contract for GBYP Biological Sampling Scheme

ATLANTIC-WIDE RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON BLUEFIN TUNA (ICCAT/GBYP Phase 2 – 2011)

Background and objectives

The objectives of the comprehensive ICCAT Atlantic-Wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP) are to improve data collection, knowledge of key biological and ecological processes, assessment models and management. As part of the GBYP, a long-term sampling programme dedicated to the collection of data on age, length, weight, sex, maturity, fecundity and stock structure will be carried out on the main bluefin fisheries (i.e. purse seine, longline, baitboat handline, traps and recreational fisheries) in 2011 and 2012. Although sampling is currently occurring at the national level, many sampling programs are not continuous in nature, do not sample all fisheries with the same level of effort or collect all the necessary biological material required under the GBYP. However, the GBYP should look for synergies with the current programmes wherever possible; for example, existing annual length sampling done within the EU program could be used to collect genetic samples and hard parts.

The report of the GBYP Operational Meeting on Biological Sampling (February 17, 2011) provided a first draft stratification (see **Appendix 1**), along with additional information. The same report also refers to the provision for this Call for Tenders and the short time available, due to the need to obtain an agreed biological sampling scheme before releasing the Call for Tenders for the GBYP Biological Sampling.

A short-term contract will be awarded to optimise sampling effort.

Contractor's tasks

The Contractor will work in close consultation with the GBYP Coordinator, the GBYP Steering Committee and the ICCAT Secretariat to utilize their critical knowledge on the nature and distribution of the various fisheries.

The Contractor will develop a sampling scheme that specifies the number of fish to be sampled by strata to ensure that all fish have an equal likelihood of being sampled. Data on length, weight, sex, maturity and hard parts material, such as otoliths (and/or spines and vertebrae) and tissue samples for genetic analysis are to be collected.

In addition, an indication of the costs of the sampling by strata should be provided and how the CVs of the biological parameters collected under the scheme will be affected by the different sampling effort levels.

Contractor minimum qualifications

- Experience in stock assessment and management advice.
- University degree in any of the following: Mathematics, Statistics, Engineering, Fisheries Science, Marine Biology Natural Sciences, Biological Sciences, Environmental Sciences, or a closely related field.
- Excellent working knowledge of one of the three official languages of ICCAT (English, French and Spanish). A high level of knowledge of English is highly desirable.

Request for bids

Interested entities should submit an offer to the attention of Mr. Driss Meski, the Executive Secretary of ICCAT, at the following address: driss.meski@iccat.int by **March 20, 2011**, including:

- a) A detailed offer, which should include: a description of methodology to be used
- b) A short *Curriculum vitae* of the tender (in case of individual scientists) and of any collaborators, i.e. his/her five most relevant scientific papers and involvement in research projects or management bodies
- c) An estimated budget which shall not exceed €5,000
- d) The name, address, and telephone number of the tendering body
- e) The institutional and administrative background of the tendering body (e.g.: statutes, type of institution, annual budget, budget control procedures, etc.), if applicable
- f) A detailed list of any subcontracts
- g) Acknowledgment of this Call for Tenders

h) A statement specifying the extent of agreement with all terms, conditions, and provisions included herein.

Offers that fail to furnish the required documentation or information, or reject the terms and conditions of the Call for Tenders will not be considered.

The Contractor should be available to report to the Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods, the Bluefin Tuna Species Group and the SCRS; if so required reasonable travel expenses will be paid.

The ICCAT Secretariat will make a selection of the offers, in consultation with the ICCAT GBYP Steering Committee. Following the selection process, the ICCAT Executive Secretary will notify the entity selected for the contract by **March 21, 2011**.

Deliverables

Deliverables should include a sampling scheme identifying the required sampling level for the different biological aspects to be studied. In addition, the Contractor shall provide the CVs of the biological parameters collected as a function of sampling effort, taking into account two hypothesis: (a) a complete scheme, including all strata and (b) a partial scheme, excluding the strata marked with a single asterisk in **Appendix 1**), and possibly an indication of the sampling effort of sampling in each strata (taking into account that the GBYP-Phase 2 budget includes a total of 470,000 Euros as the maximum available funds for biological and genetic sampling and analysis).

The software and the methodology used for elaborating the scheme should be provided along with the deliverables.

The final report shall be provided by **March 31, 2011**, at the latest.

Evaluation

Contracts will be awarded on the basis of competitive tendering and the evaluation of proposals will be undertaken objectively, consistently and without bias towards particular suppliers. Tenders will be evaluated against a pre-determined set of criteria, which include: (i) cost; (ii) proven track record; (iii) technical merit based on work plan; (iv) flexibility to future changes to requirements; and (v) contribution to the overall objectives of the GBYP.

The ICCAT Secretariat, in coordination with the GBYP Steering Committee, will examine each tender received and make recommendations as to which tender is the most economically advantageous. Once the decision to award the contract has been made, both the successful and unsuccessful tenders will be notified. Unsuccessful tenders may request a detailed letter explaining the reasons for the decision and the relative characteristics of their bid compared to the winning bid.

Payment details

Disbursements will be made according to the following schedule:

1. 50% of the total amount of the contract upon signing of the contract;
2. 50% after the approval of the final report by the ICCAT SCRS upon incorporation of comments by the ICCAT GBYP Steering Committee.

Taking into account the short time frame, the Contractor can choose to receive a single payment, after the approval of the final report by the ICCAT SCRS upon incorporation of comments by the ICCAT GBYP Steering Committee

Logistics

All documents provided by the Contractor must be in Open-source or MicroSoft Office or compatible software; all documents submitted must be in English, French or Spanish.

Copyright

All the material produced by the Contractor will remain the property of ICCAT GBYP and cannot, in any case, be circulated by the Contractor selected. The scientific use of the data by the Contractor shall always be notified to ICCAT in advance for clearance.

For information concerning this call for tenders, please contact the Program Coordinator at the following address: antonio.dinatale@iccat.int

SAMPLING REGIONS

(Abstract of the Report of the ICCAT-GBYP Operational Meeting on Biological Sampling, Madrid, February 17, 2011)

The Group reviewed recent Task 1 landings information, and together with expert knowledge on Atlantic bluefin tuna fisheries, identified the following key regions and areas that should be included in biological sampling activities:

Eastern Mediterranean

- Northern Levantine Sea (medium-large): Turkish PS
- North Egypt coast (medium-large): PS if in activity in that area (*)
- Crete (medium-large fish): Greek LL

Central Mediterranean

- Gulf of Syrta (medium-large): French, Italian and Libyan PS (*)
- Malta (medium-large): Maltese LL
- South of Sicily and Ionian Sea (medium-large): Italian PS and LL
- Adriatic Sea (small): Croatian and Italian PS
- Gulf of Gabes (small): Tunisian PS (*)

Western Mediterranean

- Balearic (medium-large): French and Spanish PS
- South Tyrrhenian (medium-large): Italian PS
- Sardinia (medium-large): Italian Trap
- Catalan-Gulf of Lion- Ligurian (small): Spanish, French and Italian artisanal fleets, French sport
- Tyrrhenian (small): Italian handline
- Southern Spain (juveniles and medium size): Spanish LL
- North African coasts (medium size): Algerian PS (*)

Northeast Atlantic

- Strait of Gibraltar (small, medium-large): Moroccan and Spanish HL, Portuguese and Spanish traps, Spanish BB
- Bay of Biscay (small): Spanish BB and French TW
- Western coast of Africa (medium-large): Moroccan Trap
- Madeira - Canary Islands (medium-large): Portuguese & Spanish BB

Central North Atlantic

- Central and North (medium-large): Japanese and Taiwanese LL
- Azores (small-medium): Portuguese artisanal

Northwest Atlantic

- US coasts (medium - large): US LL, recreational, RR, HL and PS (**)
- Gulf of Saint Laurence (large): Canadian HL (**)
- Nova Scotia (large): Canadian HL and LL (**)
- Newfoundland and St. Pierre et Miquelon (large): Canadian HL & LL (**)

Gulf of Mexico and Caraibes

- Gulf of Mexico (large): US and Mexican LL (**)
- Bahamas and Caraibes (medium-large): Japanese LL

Notes:

(*) strata to be considered as uncertain, due to the current situation in the region.

(**) strata to be possibly sampled under individual CPCs national programmes.