



Madrid, 17 April 2017

Ms. Siphokazi Ndudane
Chief Director, Marine Resource Management
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Private Bag X2
8012 Rogge Bay
Cape Town
SOUTH AFRICA

SUBJECT: LETTER REGARDING REPORTING DEFICIENCIES IN 2016

Dear Ms. Ndudane,

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, at the 20th Special meeting of ICCAT (14-21 November 2016, Vilamoura, Portugal), the Commission expressed its concerns that South Africa had not submitted in a timely manner certain data and reports as required by ICCAT Recommendations.

During the 2016 Compliance Committee meeting, Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities (CPCs) were assessed for compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures and reporting requirements. Based on the review of the Secretariat Report on Statistics and Coordination of Research and the 2016 Secretariat's Report to the Compliance Committee and other available information, the Committee noted the following deficiencies for South Africa:

- The Part I and Part II of the Annual Report were submitted late,
- The Task I and Task II data were submitted late,
- No task I T1FC fishing fleet form was submitted,
- The Compliance tables were submitted late.

In addition, the Committee was concerned that South Africa did not reply to the Chair letter of February 2016 concerning continued reporting deficiencies in 2015, to which a response at least 30 days before the Commission meeting was requested.

The Commission stressed the importance of these data and requested South Africa to make the necessary efforts to collect these data and provide them to the Commission. Late or incomplete reporting causes difficulties for the Secretariat in preparing documents for the Commission and its Panels and Committees, and reduces the effectiveness of the Compliance Committee. The lists of reporting requirements are available at:

<http://www.iccat.int/en/submitCOMPreq.htm>
<http://www.iccat.int/en/submitSTATreq.htm>

The Commission requests South Africa to reply to this letter before **10 October 2017**, i.e. at least 30 days before the Commission meeting (scheduled to be held from 13-21 November 2017). The response should indicate the progress made by South Africa to address all the issues raised in this letter.

In thanking you for your attention to these important matters, let me express to you the assurances of my highest consideration.



Derek Campbell

Derek Campbell
Compliance Committee Chair

cc: M. Tsamenyi, *Commission Chair*
S. Depypere, *Acting Commission Chair*