

POSITION OF ALGERIA FOR PANEL 2

Algeria has been among the main CPCs that have made every effort and commitment for success of the multi-annual conservation and management plans for the purpose of rebuilding the bluefin tuna stocks.

Algeria, which was not represented at the 17th Special Meeting of ICCAT which was held in Paris from 17 to 27 November 2010, has seen its annual bluefin tuna catch quota drastically reduced from 684.90 t in 2010 to 138.46 t for 2011, in the absence of precise criteria for fishing quota allocation to the ICCAT parties concerned.

This reduction in the order of 80% cannot be explained by a general reduction of the TAC (total admissible catch) which fell from 13 500 t in 2010 to 12 900 t for 2011 (i.e. less than 5%).

If the evolution is analysed of the allocation keys of the members of Panel 2, all the countries have kept the same allocation key except for 4 countries, including Algeria which has seen its allocation key fall from 5.07% to 1.07%.

Algeria's quota has dropped considerably. In short, the quota that should have been allocated to Algeria in 2011 (654.417 t according to the 2010 key: 5.073%) was lowered significantly (515.957 t).

In 2012, and following considerable efforts made by Algeria, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas acknowledged indirectly the harm caused to Algeria by the Commission. In this regard, ICCAT established, in Recommendations 12-03 and 14-04 which established a multi-annual programme for rebuilding eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, that quota adjustments will continue until Algeria's combined quota amount reaches 5.07% of the TAC.

Algeria also obtained through ICCAT recommendations additional quotas and in particular that secured in 2016. Algeria's combined quota represents for 2017, 4.5% of the TAC.

Taking into account the situation of current data, the results of the assessment and the recommendations by the SCRS which underscores the positive trend in particular with a TAC of 36000 t in 2020, and taking into account the ICCAT commitments referred to above, Algeria requests, this time with the support of the CPCs, that the harm caused be remedied once and for all.

We sincerely hope that the Commission will fulfil its responsibilities in a fair and equitable manner with regard to allocation of quotas to Algeria.