

**STATEMENT FROM KOREA REQUESTING BFT QUOTA**

Korea is writing to express its position with regard to the discussion to be held by the Panel 2 on the allocation of bluefin tuna quota for CPCs.

In 2000, Korea's allocation key was set at 2.1% of the TAC, taking its 1994's catch record as a basis (Recommendation 00-09) and in 2002, it was decreased to a level of 1.5%. Once again, in 2007, Korea yielded a part of its allocation key to other CPCs, agreeing to further reduce it to 0.6% for 3 years to join a collective effort to recover bluefin tuna stock. It was our belief that the Commission will reinstate Korea's allocation key in 2011, however any increase of the allocation key has not been realized until today.

Times have changed. The SCRS, most importantly, recommended to gradually increase TAC to 36,000 tons until 2020 indicating that bluefin tuna stock is recovered. As it is a proud result of the efforts that all CPCs including Korea have made according to the multi-annual recovery plan, proper consideration is to be given to the all CPCs who have made a commitment to the recovery of the stock by cutting their allocation keys.

In addition, Korean longliners have initiated bluefin tuna fishery in 2016 and exhausted almost all quota allocated to Korea. Voluntarily deploying observers with 100% of coverage, Korea could enhance scientific contribution particularly to estimate biological parameters and to provide data on fishing efforts in high latitude areas of the North Atlantic Ocean. All in all, Korea would like to request for increasing its allocation key to 1.5% of TAC previously allocated to Korea.