

MEETING PARTICIPATION FUND¹

In 2014 the Commission adopted the *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation 11-26 on the Establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for Developing ICCAT Contracting Parties* [Rec. 14-14] which substitutes and repeals Rec. 11-26 in its entirety.

Recommendation 14-14 establishes a Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) to support representatives of those ICCAT Contracting Parties which are developing States for the purpose of attending and/or contributing to the work of the Commission and other subsidiary bodies. This fund was initially provisioned with €60,000.00 from the Working Capital Fund.

The new recommendation differs from the previous one in that participation of two members per delegation (a manager and a scientist) will be financed for SWGSM meetings only, for the remainder of meetings one member per delegation will be financed.

This fund was financed in 2017 with an allocation of €200,000.00 charged to the Working Capital Fund, as approved by the Commission in 2016. In addition, the Secretariat has received a voluntary contribution from the United States in the amount of €12,630.00, and one from Norway in the amount of €22,153.11 and two from the European Union, through the European Union Funds for Capacity Building, one from the 2017 fund in the amount of €52,500.00 and another one from the 2016 carryover of the same fund in the amount of €16,206.35.

To these funds, the carryover of financial year 2016 must be added, which amounted to €67,853.42. Therefore, the available amount in 2017 has been €371,342.88.

Implementation of this fund has significantly driven participation by representatives of developing Contracting Parties, so much so that 92 trips have been organised and 28 CPCs have benefited. This initiative has not posed a risk to the Commission's finances until 2016. However, in recent years, use of the Working Capital Fund to finance this and other activities such as Commission and intersessional meetings, as well as other activities related to databases, such as the eBCD, has significantly reduced the Working Capital Fund. Therefore, the Commission has been requested the inclusion of a budgetary item for the annual financing of this fund.

Taking into account the number of requests for participation in meetings, and therefore, the expense incurred and charged to this fund, it is considered appropriate to destine €100,000.00 as the allocation for 2018. This amount together with the carryover from year-end 2017, would be approximately €230,000.00, which is an amount similar to the expenses incurred in 2017.

Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities are requested to inform STACFAD and the Executive Secretary of the amounts which they could commit to the MPF through voluntary contributions for 2018.

Finally, it is recalled that access to the funds for participation in meetings is governed by a protocol published on the web site and sent to the delegations for each meeting. The requests received are submitted for approval to the ICCAT Chairman and the STACFAD Chair.

¹ Information at 6 November 2017.

Special Meeting Participation Fund (MPF)	
Opening balance for financial year 2017	€67,853.42
REVENUE	€303,489.46
Financed by the Working Capital Fund	€200,000.00
Voluntary contribution from the United States	€12,630.00
Voluntary contribution from Norway	€22,153.11
Voluntary contribution from the European Union through the European Union Fund for Capacity Building for 2016	€16,206.35
Voluntary contribution from the European Union through the European Union Fund for Capacity Building for 2017	€52,500.00
EXPENSES	€228,704.76
Scientific meetings	€118,690.77
<i>Bluefin Tuna Data Preparatory Meeting (Madrid, Spain, 6 to 11 March 2017)</i>	€3,928.53
<i>Shortfin Mako Data Preparatory Meeting (Madrid, Spain, 28 to 31 March 2017)</i>	€9,451.31
<i>Atlantic Swordfish Data Preparatory Meeting (Madrid, Spain, 3 to 7 April 2017)</i>	€8,029.10
<i>Small Tunas Species Group Intersessional Meeting (Miami, United States, from 24 to 28 April 2017)</i>	€21,855.28
<i>Meeting of the ICCAT Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods (Madrid, Spain, March 8 to 12 May, 2017)</i>	€7,009.83
<i>Albacore Species Group Intersessional Meeting (including Assessment of Mediterranean Albacore) (Madrid, Spain, 5 to 9 June 2017)</i>	€3,241.67
<i>Bigeye Tuna Stock Assessment Session (Madrid, Spain, 12 to 16 June 2017)</i>	€8,927.61
<i>Atlantic Swordfish Data Preparatory Meeting (Madrid, Spain, 3 to 7 July 2017)</i>	€16,609.52
<i>Intersessional Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Ecosystems (Madrid, Spain, 10 to 14 July 2017)</i>	€10,225.45
<i>Bluefin Tuna Stock Assessment Meeting (Madrid, Spain, 20 to 28 July 2017)</i>	€8,952.88
<i>Intersessional Meeting of the Tropical Tunas Species Group (Madrid, Spain, 4 to 8 September 2017)</i>	€2,455.44
<i>SCRS Species Groups Meeting and Meeting of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (Madrid, Spain, 25 September to 6 October 2017)</i>	€18,004.15
Intersessional Meeting of Panel 4 on Mediterranean Swordfish <i>(Madrid, Spain, 20 to 22 February 2017)</i>	€6,450.01
Meeting of the Working Group on Convention Amendment / Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Follow Up of the Second ICCAT Performance Review / Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists And Managers <i>(Madrid, Spain, 26 to 30 June 2017)</i>	€50,711.98
3rd Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs <i>(Madrid, Spain, 11 to 12 September 2017)</i>	€10,502.42
25th Regular Meeting of the Commission <i>(Marrakech, Morocco, 14 to 22 November 2017)</i>	€42,349.58
Balance at 6 November 2017	€142,638.12

Summary of expenses CPC	Scientific meetings		Intersessional Meeting of Panel 4 on Mediterranean Swordfish		Meeting of the Working Group on Convention Amendment / Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group On Follow Up of the Second ICCAT Performance Review / Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers		3rd Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs		25th Regular Meeting of the Commission	
Albania			X	€1,457.35					X	€2,241.61
Angola					PER_REV/SWGSM	€3,852.85				
Algeria	a)	€1,972.31	X	€1,240.39	CONV/PER_REV/SWGSM	€1,709.13			X	€1,975.84
	j)	€2,665.98								
	l)	€3,457.60								
Belize					CONV/PER_REV/SWGSM	€3,185.92			X	€3,807.58
Brazil	b)	€2,570.83			CONV PER_REV/SWGSM SWGSM	€1,493.54 €2,225.54 €1,826.74			X	€2,228.80
	c)	€2,920.58								
	f)	€3,241.67								
	h)	€3,347.67								
Côte d'Ivoire	b)	€2,154.48					X	€1,918.74	X	€2,207.23
	c)	€2,358.27								
	d)	€4,437.67								
	g)	€2,285.88								
	h)	€2,312.62								
Egypt					CONV	€1,234.67			X	€2,222.62
Gabon					CONV	€2,038.48	X	€2,061.97	X	€2,885.80
					SWGSM	€1,976.16				
					SWGSM	€1,976.16				
Guatemala, Rep. of									X	€3,452.24
Guinea, Rep. of									X	€2,317.47
Honduras					CONV/PER_REV/SWGSM	€3,208.27			X	€3,063.64
Liberia					CONV	€2,175.70				

CPC	Scientific meetings	Intersessional Meeting of Panel 4 on Mediterranean Swordfish	Meeting of the Working Group on Convention Amendment / Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group On Follow Up of the Second ICCAT Performance Review / Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers	3rd Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs	25th Regular Meeting of the Commission
Morocco	d) €3,281.27				
Mauritania	b) €2,122.86				
	d) €3,929.12				
	i) €2,491.54				X €2,056.74
	j) €3,799.19				
Mexico	l) €4,607.71				
Namibia	e) €2,835.80				
	g) €2,715.19				
	h) €3,366.70		CONV/PER_REV C) SWGSM	€2,288.52 €1,216.00	
	i) €3,330.75				
	l) €3,432.77				
Nicaragua			CONV/PER_REV/SWGSM	€2,710.10	X €1,905.26
Nigeria	l) €1,933.14		SWGSM SWGSM	€1,899.66 €1,829.31	X €2,103.26
Panama		X €2,248.62			X €2,894.13
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines					P
São Tomé and Príncipe	d) €3,999.59		CONV/PER_REV SWGSM	€2,372.70 €2,408.46	X €2,513.19
Senegal	d) €2,886.80		CONV/PER_REV/SWGSM SWGSM	€2,380.13 €814.02	
Sierra Leone					P
Syria					P
South Africa	k) €2,455.44				
	l) €4,572.93				

CPC	Scientific meetings		Intersessional Meeting of Panel 4 on Mediterranean Swordfish		Meeting of the Working Group on Convention Amendment / Meeting of the <i>Ad Hoc</i> Working Group On Follow Up of the Second ICCAT Performance Review / Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers		3rd Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs		25th Regular Meeting of the Commission	
Tunisia	a)	€1,956.22	X	€1,503.65	CONV/PER_REV/SWGSM	€2,116.03			X	€1,822.55
	d)	€3,320.83								
	e)	€1,535.14								
	j)	€2,487.71								
Uruguay	b)	€2,603.14			CONV/PER_REV/SWGSM	€3,773.89			X	€3,338.18
	c)	€2,750.25								
	e)	€2,638.89								
	g)	€3,926.54								
	h)	€4,055.47								
	i)	€4,403.16								
Venezuela	h)	€3,527.06								
Total	€118,690.77		€6,450.01		€50,711.98		€10,502.42		€42,349.58	

- a) Bluefin Tuna Data Preparatory Meeting
 b) Shortfin Mako Data Preparatory Meeting
 c) Atlantic Swordfish Data Preparatory Meeting
 d) Intersessional meeting of the small tunas species group
 e) Meeting of the ICCAT Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods
 f) Albacore Species Group Intersessional Meeting (Including Assessment of Mediterranean Albacore)
 g) Shortfin Mako Stock Assessment Meeting
 h) Intersessional Meeting of Panel 4 on Mediterranean Swordfish
 i) Intersessional Meeting of the Sub-committee on Ecosystems
 j) Bluefin Tuna Stock Assessment Meeting
 k) Intersessional meeting of the tropical tunas species group
 l) Species groups and SCRS

C: Trip cancelled / P: Pending issue of ticket