INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

ICCAT CICTA CICAA

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

Madrid, 17 May 2018

Mr. Oleg Bulátov
VNIRO First Deputy Director
Federal State Office
Institute of Scientific Research of the Fisheries Industry and Oceanography
C/ Verkhniaya Krasnoselskaya, 17
107140 Moscow
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

ICCAT - SALIDA
Nº 3236 / 2018
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SUBJECT: LETTER REGARDING COMPLIANCE ISSUES IN 2017

Dear Mr. Bulátov,

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, at the 25th Regular meeting of ICCAT (14-21 November 2017, Marrakesh, Morocco), the Commission expressed its concerns regarding Russia's reporting deficiencies of ICCAT requirements.

During the 2017 Compliance Committee meeting, Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or 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 2017 Secretariat's Report to the Compliance Committee and other available information, the Committee noted the following deficiencies for Russia:

- The "n/a" / "not applicable" responses in the annual report summary tables were not explained;
- No information received regarding sea turtle interaction or mitigation of by-catch/discards [BYC 8003];
- The shark measures implementation check sheet, required by Rec. 16-13, was not submitted. Please note that compliance with this reporting requirement and ICCAT shark measures will be specifically reviewed in 2018;
- No list of ports into which foreign vessels may enter or contact points submitted, as required by paragraphs 9 & 7 Rec. 12-07, nor is there any indication in Russia's Annual Report (GEN 0011) of a specific prohibition on entry of foreign fishing vessels.

The Commission requests Russia to reply to this letter before **10 October 2018**, i.e. at least 30 days before the COC special session that shall be held in accordance with the *Resolution by ICCAT to facilitate an effective and efficient Compliance process* [Res. 16-22] prior to the ICCAT Commission 21st Special meeting (scheduled to be held from 12-19 November 2018 in Croatia). The response should indicate all the progress and plans made by Russia to address each of the issues raised in this letter. Russia's response will be reviewed by the Compliance Committee at its 2018 meeting to determine if Russia has taken sufficient and appropriate steps to address these issues.

If Russia has any questions about the issues raised in this letter or about ICCAT requirements, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat at info@iccat.int

Thank you for your attention to these important matters. Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Derek Campbell
Compliance Committee Chair

cc: R. Delgado, *Commission Chairman*