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. William Naviti
Director of Fisheries Department
Department of Foreign Affairs
VMB 9045
Port Vila
VANUATU

ICCAT - SALIDA
Nº 3236 / 2018
17/05/2018

SUBJECT: LETTER REGARDING REPORTING DEFICIENCIES IN 2017

Dear Mr. Naviti,

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, Marrakech, Morocco), the Commission noted improvement in the reporting requirements however expressed its concerns that about deficiencies in Vanuatu's fulfilment of certain ICCAT data and reporting 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 Vanuatu:

- The Annual Report was not submitted complete: only the summary and the reporting summary Table 2 were received:
- No list of designated ports that may be entered by foreign fishing vessels or contact points were submitted, in accordance with paragraphs 9 & 7 of Rec. 12-07, nor is there any indication in Vanuatu's Annual Report (GEN0011) of a specific prohibition on entry of foreign fishing vessels. (Vanuatu is reminded that Rec. 12-07 applies to all ports, including those outside the Convention area).

In addition, the Committee noted that Vanuatu, as in 2015 and in 2016, did not reply to the Chair letter of April 2017 reporting deficiencies, to which a response at least 30 days before the Commission meeting was requested.

The Commission stressed the importance of these data and requested Vanuatu 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 list of SCRS reporting requirements are available here and the list of Commission reporting requirements are available here.

The Commission requests Vanuatu 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 made by Vanuatu 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
Compliance Committee Chair

cc: M. R. Delgado, *Commission Chairman*