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Annex/Annexe/Anexo 1

**MEETINGS AT WHICH ICCAT WAS REPRESENTED
FROM JANUARY 2018 TO OCTOBER 2018**

SUMMARY

This document provides basic information on the meetings of an administrative and scientific nature at which ICCAT was represented by members of the Secretariat staff or by other persons acting on its behalf. The basic information on each meeting includes the main points of the agenda as well as their major implications for ICCAT.

**RÉUNIONS AUXQUELLES L'ICCAT A ÉTÉ REPRÉSENTÉE
ENTRE JANVIER 2018 ET OCTOBRE 2018**

RÉSUMÉ

Le présent document fournit des informations de base sur les réunions administratives et scientifiques auxquelles l'ICCAT a été représentée par des membres du personnel du Secrétariat ou par d'autres personnes au nom du Secrétariat. L'information de base pour chaque réunion inclut les principaux points de l'ordre du jour ainsi que les principales implications pour l'ICCAT.

**REUNIONES EN LAS QUE HA ESTADO REPRESENTADA ICCAT
ENTRE ENERO DE 2018 Y OCTUBRE DE 2018**

RESUMEN

Este documento presenta información básica sobre las reuniones administrativas y científicas en las que ICCAT estuvo representada, ya sea por miembros de la Secretaría o por otras personas que actuaron en su nombre. La información básica que se presenta para cada reunión incluye los puntos principales del orden del día y sus principales implicaciones para ICCAT.

TUNA COMPLIANCE NETWORK – TCN- (5 TUNA RFMOs): 2ND WORKSHOP (EXTENDED TO OTHER RFMOs)

Location: Honiara, Solomon Islands

Dates: 15-18 February 2018

Representatives: M'Hamed Idrissi, Compliance Officer, and, Carlos Mayor, IT/Data Manager, ICCAT Secretariat.

Main agenda items: Overview of each RFMO's current data management system as it relates to compliance assessment and reporting. Thinking about the future: Data collection, checking/validation and reporting needs for better compliance assessment. Advanced models in data management and reporting for compliance purposes and solutions to improved data management systems. Priorities and next steps in data management including opportunities for greater coordination. Conclusions and opportunities for more effective systems for data management/reporting for compliance. Compliance assessment procedures & international initiatives on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS). Operation and projects of the Tuna Compliance Network.

Summary: The 2nd TCN Workshop was organised by the International MCS Network (IMCSN) with the assistance of the FAO through the ABNJ. During the three first days the Workshop was held at the Pacific Islands Forum of Fisheries Agency (FFA) Headquarters; the last day was at Heritage Park Hotel.

The TCN, since it was launched in March 2017 in collaboration with the IMCSN and with support from the Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project, aims to facilitate communication and cooperation among officers responsible for compliance in the 5 tuna RFMOs. While it is focused on tuna fisheries, the Network also promotes the involvement of other relevant experts in fisheries MCS from other RFMOs, in order to share best practice compliance processes, and ultimately, to contribute to reducing illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

At the Workshop, participants exchanged information on each organization's current information systems and discussed opportunities for their enhancement. The participants recognized that tuna RFMOs and other similar regional organizations have a high number of reporting requirements, and that these translate into large quantities of information that need to be collected, compiled, analysed and reported on as efficiently as possible. They acknowledged that it is important to streamline the management of the information and data as this will assist each Secretariat in better supporting the monitoring of compliance with RFMO obligations as is envisaged under respective compliance monitoring schemes and procedures. The ICCAT compliance officer presented an overview of ICCAT and of the Secretariat's role in the collection and collation of information received from the numerous CPCs' reporting requirements stemming from ICCAT Recommendations, and, how the compiled information is reported to the Compliance Committee and also to the other subsidiary bodies of ICCAT. He also presented the ICCAT compliance review procedures and the actions taken following namely the recent ICCAT guidelines for a schedule of actions for the purpose to improve the reporting requirements. The ICCAT IT/Data manager presented an overview of the ICCAT data management system. He also gave presentations on both the Secretariat's advice and guidance in contribution to the development of Fisheries Online Reporting System (FORS) and the Statistical form prototypes being used, supported by practical demonstrations.

The Workshop offered an opportunity to discuss issues of special interest to compliance officers, such as the management and integration of data coming from RFMO members, the maintenance of adequate records of all vessels authorized to fish or transport tuna fish along with the Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels (CLAV), and the implementation of Port State Measures. Participants were informed about the FAO Transshipment Study whose report should be formally communicated to the tuna RFMOs' Secretariats. They also learned about other experiences of informal cooperation between States and international organizations to combat IUU fishing, and benefited from a visit to the FFA's Regional Surveillance and Coordination Centre.

The core members of the Network (tuna RFMO officers responsible for compliance at the five Secretariats) met on the last day to define the TCN membership and operation, the TCN continuity and funding operation, and, projects of the Network. The TCN Work Plan was also reviewed. Ms. Susie Iball, CCSBT Compliance Manager, was elected as Chair of the TCN for 2018-2019.

Future actions: The TCN Members agreed to continue their cooperation during 2018 and to explore opportunities for continuing the TCN activities beyond the end of 2018. Depending on the funding, a 3rd TCN Workshop is proposed in the first quarter of 2019. Continued participation in this TCN Network could provide valuable insights for the Secretariat, which would translate into more efficient procedures for collecting, including possible online reporting which should reduce the burden on both the ICCAT CPCs and the Secretariat, and, presenting information relating to implementation of and compliance with conservation and management measures. Some tuna RFMOs are well advanced in the areas of data management and web reporting, and it hoped that much can be learned from their experiences. The network is fully aware that it has no role in policy or any form of decision making, but merely aims to share practical implementation where similar measures or requirements exist across tuna RFMOs.

REUNION SUR L'ORGANISATION DE LA CONFERENCE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE POUR L'ETABLISSEMENT D'UN INSTRUMENT LEGAL OBLIGATOIRE SUR LA BIODIVERSITE EN DEHORS DES ZONES DE JURIDICTION

Lieu: New York, USA

Date: 16 au 18 Avril 2018

Représentant: Driss Meski (Secrétaire exécutif de l'ICCAT)

Objet: Réunion sur l'organisation de la Conférence Intergouvernementale pour l'établissement d'un instrument légal obligatoire sur la biodiversité en dehors des zones de juridiction.

En réponse à l'invitation de la Division DOALOS de l'ONU, le Secrétariat de l'ICCAT représentée par Mr. Driss MESKI a participé à la réunion citée en objet. Cette réunion consiste à s'accorder sur le processus de préparation du projet 0 de l'instrument, l'ordre du jour, les procédures, les accréditations et l'élection du bureau notamment la présidence de la Conférence.

Cela a été une opportunité pour revenir sur les sujets qui ont déjà fait l'objet d'une riche discussion dans les sessions de préparation précédentes notamment :

- Les ressources génétiques marines;
- Les instruments de gestion des zones marines particulièrement les aires marines protégées ;
- L'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement;
- L'amélioration des capacités et le transfert des technologies marines;

Parmi les points conclus au terme des travaux de cette réunion on peut citer:

- de convoquer la Conférence des Parties du 14 au 17 Septembre 2018 au siège de l'ONU;
- D'appliquer le mutatis mutandis des règles et procédures de l'AG de l'ONU pour cette Conférence;
- D'élire un bureau composé du Président et de 15 Vice-présidents ;

REUNION DU GROUPE DE TRAVAIL CONJOINT ENTRE NEAFC ET OSPAR SUR L'EXAMEN DE LA POSSIBILITE D'ETABLISSEMENT D'UNE AIRE MARINE PROTEGEE A L'EST DE L'ATLANTIQUE

Lieu: Berlin, Allemagne

Date: 7 – 8 Mai 2018

Représentant: D. Meski (Secrétaire exécutif de l'ICCAT).

En réponse à l'invitation de NEAFC et d'OSPAR, Mr. Driss MESKI, Secrétaire exécutif de l'ICCAT a participé à la réunion du groupe de travail conjoint entre NEAFC et OSPAR sur l'examen de la possibilité d'établissement d'une Aire Marine protégée à l'Est de l'Atlantique tenue à Berlin les 7 et 8 Mai 2018.

L'ordre du jour des travaux consisté à discuter les réflexions présentées par des ONG concernant l'établissement d'une aire protégée dans l'Est Atlantique pour préserver la population des oiseaux de mer dans la région.

Cela a été l'occasion pour de nombreuses organisations Régionales de présenter leurs objectifs et leur programme de travail. C'est à ce titre que le représentant de l'ICCAT a fait une présentation assez détaillée concernant ses activités dans la zone identifiée et les actions menées en ce qui concerne la mitigation des oiseaux de mer. Il a reporté l'activité menée par les navires palangriers qui ciblent le Thon Rouge, l'espadon et l'Albacore. Il a souligné que l'établissement d'une aire protégée devrait avoir un impact négatif sur l'activité de la flotte des palangriers qui opèrent dans la région.

Le représentant de l'ICCAT a donné une idée générale sur les activités menées en mettant l'accent sur les mesures prises pendant les 50 années d'existence dans la gestion et la conservation des ressources thonières dans sa zone de convention. Il a souligné que l'ICCAT accorde une grande importance à l'approche de précaution et examine toute activité qui vise à exercer une pression sur les prises accessoires des autres espèces qui ne sont pas incluses dans les textes de sa convention.

Les représentants de chacune des organisations invitées ont fait une présentation sur les activités et les possibles relations qui pourraient exister entre leur actions et celles menées par les autres dans la région.

Les présentations ont été suivies par un débat très intéressant qui a permis d'apporter des éclaircissements sur certaines questions.

Le rapport sur les discussions du groupe sera soumis au comité de la Biodiversité et à la réunion annuelle d'OSPAR pour d'éventuelles recommandations.

De son côté le Secrétariat de l'ICCAT continuera à suivre cette question afin de tenir informer les Parties Contractantes.

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WORKSHOP ON STOCK ASSESSMENT)

Location: Geneva, Switzerland

Dates: 11 June 2018

Representative: Miguel Neves dos Santos (Assistant Executive Secretary)

Agenda items:

The workshop was organized as part of WTO fisheries subsidies negotiations work programme, which was agreed by their Members. The idea was to assist WTO Members (who generally are represented in the Negotiating Group by trade experts) to understand and put into perspective some of the technical fisheries issues that have arisen in their discussions aimed at agreeing on disciplines on certain fisheries subsidies. Representatives from FAO, ICCAT, NPFC, CRFM and NOAA were invited to share their experiences. During the afternoon session, a few WTO members provided their own presentation (access to presentations.

A presentation was provided regarding the ICCAT own experiences in conducting stock assessments and determining stock status, and how the SCRS communicates the results to the Commission. After the presentation a number of delegations requested additional information, namely as regards the decision process by the Commission, Recovery and Management plans implementation, transparency of the stock assessment process and participation of stock holders. Presentations available at: <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2018/rd/FisheriesSubsidiesMeeting11June2018.docx>

THE SECOND JOINT TUNA RFMO MSE WORKING GROUP

Location: Seattle, USA

Dates: 13-15 June 2018

Representative: David Die (Chair of the SCRS) and Ai Kimoto (Population dynamics expert, ICCAT Secretariat)

Agenda items:

The second joint tuna RFMO MSE working group meeting was held in Seattle, USA on 13-15 June 2018 with the logistics and financial support by the ABNJ project. The Secretariat received an invitation to attend the meeting and Drs. David Die and Ai Kimoto attended. The current SCRS chair served as the chair for this meeting, and we provided a presentation on review of current MSE progress in ICCAT and assisted the meeting with the local host – Dr. Ianelli. In the meeting, there were 29 participants from CCSBT, IATTC, ICCAT, IOTC, IPHC, ISC, and IWC.

The WG covered a wide range of discussions related to MSE. The WG shared the progress and the experiences of MSE process from different RFMOs, and discussed MSE technical issues as well as general recommendations for commissions and scientific committee. There are 16 points of recommendations including the future work plan. Most of the recommendations will be helpful for the ICCAT Commission and SCRS, also a concise advisory document providing information on the implications of the MSE process which the Group will produce will be our good guide. There are many ongoing plans including direct tasks to the ICCAT Secretariat (maintain github site, create glossary, and maintain website), thus we need to provide our continuous supports to this WG on several following recommendations:

- the creation of a concise (1-4 page) advisory document
- small technical groups to discuss and advance key aspects of the MSE process
- visualization approaches for presenting MSE results
- the creation of a common 'github' for sharing of code etc.
- dialogue with MSC to discuss their criteria for MSE
- future works and assignments

It was the second physical MSE technical meeting for joint tuna RFMOs, and the meeting provided a good opportunity to gather main scientists from each RFMO to share/learn the experiences of MSE each other and to allow them to give feedback to their RFMO. Some topics were not fully discussed because the agenda was broad, probably they can concentrate on several topics for deeper discussion if they have another

meeting. The recommendation should be distributed to the each ICCAT species working group chair for their reference.

OSPAR CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT OF THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC MEETING OF THE OSPAR COMMISSION

Location: Tour Sequoia, Paris, France

Dates: 26 June 2018

Representative: Jenny Cheatle, Head of Compliance Department, ICCAT Secretariat

Main agenda items: ICCAT attended only the morning session of 26 June, in order to be present for item 8, Relations with other International Organisations and Forums.

Summary: OSPAR is considering creating an MPA in the North East Atlantic, mainly with the aim of protecting seabirds. Before decision is taken, OSPAR is undertaking a pilot consultative process, requesting views from other international organisations with competence in the area, including ICCAT. The exact impact of such MPA on ICCAT fisheries is not yet clear, but from initial study by the ICCAT Sub-Committee on Ecosystems it seems ICCAT would not be greatly affected. ICCAT, however, has expressed an interest in being kept fully informed and in participating in the process to ensure that the creation of such an MPA, if decided, would have no negative impact on legitimate ICCAT fisheries.

Discussions on this issue focused largely on the process to be followed. Future processes were considered, but given that consultations were already underway on the current MPA proposal, OSPAR agreed that agreement would be needed to go ahead with this specific process. The ICCAT Secretariat reiterated its willingness to cooperate with OSPAR by providing information.

The final report of the meeting reflects the agreed process, which also contains a series of questions posed to be posed to the IGOs concerned.

Future actions: The Commission may wish to follow discussions regarding the creation of MPAs in the north east Atlantic. Any additional information following the SCRS meeting should also be made available to OSPAR, preferably in line with the questions they pose.

REGIONAL FISHERIES BODY SECRETARIATS' NETWORK (RSN)

Location: Roma, Italy

Dates: 7 and 13 July 2018

Representative: Camille Jean Pierre Manel (Executive Secretary) and Miguel Neves dos Santos (Assistant Executive Secretary)

Agenda items:

Last 7 July, prior to COFI, 41 members of the Network participated in the 7th meeting of the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN-7), that is more than three quarters of the current Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) of the world. The Meeting noted the increasing interest of RFBs and RFMOs in international fora on fisheries, and recalled that the RSN is mainly seeking for more coordination, harmonization and information sharing among members. It also stressed that the RSN is not an FAO network, but just supported by it. There was also a call for a stronger support to the RSN from these organizations and their member States, for example during the COFIs. Member of RSN also asked for more visibility from the RSN with a better communication.

The Chair of the RSN presented a Statement to the COFI and particularly insisted on the key role of the regional dimension that allows the establishment of a collaborative framework that encompasses the whole ecosystem. In this regard, he highlighted the need for RFMOs/RFBs to strongly consider their direct participation in the rapidly enhanced global initiatives/UN initiatives to ensure these fora are fully aware of the work and role of RFMOs/RFBs in coordinating the outputs of their global initiatives through their members.

Mr. Guillermo Compean (Director of IATTC) has been nominated as new RSN Chair.

33RD Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI-33)

Location: Rome, Italy

Dates: 9 and 13 July 2018

Representative: Camille Jean Pierre Manel and Miguel Neves dos Santos

Agenda items:

The 33rd Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI-33) covered a wide range of items which are relevant for ICCAT. Among those discussions were held regarding the: State of world fisheries and aquaculture; Progress in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code) and related instruments; Fisheries and ocean governance (including combatting IUU fishing, small-scale and artisanal fisheries governance, global and regional ocean processes); 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Some side events were also organized, to debate specific themes such as: developments in combatting IUU fishing; importance of small-scale fisheries: global, regional and national initiatives; transforming transshipment – ensuring the legal and verifiable transfer of catch; and, Ensuring socially, environmentally and commercially sustainable fisheries.

COFI 33 was an opportunity for the Executive Secretary and his Assistant to contact many responsible persons from FRBs and RFMOs, as well as ICCAT CPC's representatives. A side meeting was held with the Coordinator of the FAO Common Oceans/ABNJ Tuna project to explore possibilities to enhance the engagement of ICCAT in the project. Finally, the Executive Secretary attended a side meeting of the KOBE process Steering Committee, which briefly revised and discussed the: history, rationale, successes and failures of the Kobe process; options for the organization of future work; sourcing and commitments; and governance issues.

KOBE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Location: Roma, Italy

Dates: 11 July 2018

Representative: Camille Jean Pierre Manel (Executive Secretary)

The Chair of the Kobe Steering Committee, Stefaan Depypere (First Vice-Chair, ICCAT) opened the meeting by explaining that participants represented both the five t-RFMOs (ICCAT, IOTC, IATTC, CCSBT and WCPFC) as well as others he had invited to contribute to the future direction of the group. The meeting was attended by: See list below.

After discussing the developments of the Kobe Process, the Steering Committee stressed the importance of having a clear mandate from their membership to participate in cross t-RFMO activities, while noting the need for strategic communication at different levels.

The meeting also stressed the need to explore and seize the opportunities offered by the ABNJ Tuna project especially in its second phase under preparation.

The Steering Committee, limited to members *stricto sensu*, discussed the issue of governance and agreed to keep the Kobe Process informal. It also tasked the Chair to prepare a concept note, which should outline the further work under the Kobe process, to be shared with members of the Steering Committee for feedback. Stefaan Depypere, 1st ICCAT Vice-Chair, was reelected as Chair of the Kobe Steering Committee.

The idea of holding a big meeting in late 2019 to revitalize the Kobe Process was shared. It was also asked to participants to report back to their tuna-RFMO for a way forward mostly regarding the Concept Note.

FIFTH PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC) OF THE COMMON OCEANS ABNJ TUNA PROJECT

Location: *FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy*

Dates: *16 -18 July 2018*

Representative: *Jenny Cheatle, Head of Compliance Department, ICCAT Secretariat*

Main agenda items: Overview of activities carried out through the four components of the project, as well as a brief overview of the other projects being carried out under the Common Oceans Programme. The draft work plan and budget for year 6 was reviewed, and some discussion was held on the future process for developing a project proposal for GEF 7.

Summary: Satisfactory progress was reported for all activities under the various components, with few exceptions.

A 12 month no cost extension had been approved for the project in order to finish those activities which were still ongoing. Among the funding approved are the financing of a 2rd Joint Working Group on FADs, a 3rd meeting of the MSE Working Group, if requested, (which can include funding for the establishment of a github), funding for participants from developing countries to attend the next SWGM (if held before end June 2019), funding for a second meeting of the Ecosystems Working Group and some additional funding for on-line reporting.

Future actions: The Commission will wish not only to follow, but to be heavily involved in, the development of proposals for phase 2, to ensure that ICCAT can be in the vanguard of innovative activities which will help to strengthen and complement (but not replace) the activities being undertaken by of ICCAT. The GEF officer at FAO suggested that partners suggest as early as possible that partner countries be requested to allocate STAR funding for biodiversity to ABNJ related activities, particularly those relevant to ecosystems and by-catch mitigation. Following closely the progress and activities of the UN BBNJ process would also help to ensure that the requests made by ICCAT are in line with the overall philosophy of the programme. More details on the process to be followed will be available in the report of the Steering Committee. It is envisaged that all proposed activities will start with the theory of change and the identification of specific outcomes. Activities will be selected in accordance with their suitability. FAO will compile the activities into a single project.

Report availability: <http://www.fao.org/in-action/commonoceans/documents/en/>

10ÈME SESSION ORDINAIRE DE LA CONFERENCE DES MINISTRES DE LA CONFERENCE MINISTERIELLE SUR LA COOPERATION HALIEUTIQUE ENTRE LES ÉTATS AFRICAINS RIVERAINS DE L'OCEAN ATLANTIQUE (COMHAFAT)

Lieu: *Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire*

Date: *26-28 aout 2018*

Représentant de l'ICCAT: *Camille Jean Pierre Manel (Secrétaire exécutif de l'ICCAT)*

La 10ème Session Ordinaire de la Conférence des Ministres de la Conférence ministérielle sur la Coopération halieutique entre les États africains riverains de l'Océan Atlantique (COMHAFAT) a enregistré la participation de 21 États membres ainsi que de plusieurs organisations internationales. La session a été précédée par une réunion des experts.

Lors de réunion des experts, Monsieur Camille Jean Pierre MANEL, Secrétaire exécutif de l'ICCAT, s'est félicité de l'excellence des relations existantes avec la COMHAFAT et réitéré sa disponibilité à renforcer cette coopération pour la réalisation des objectifs communs des deux organisations.

Le Président de la Conférence des Ministres a présenté à la Conférence le nouveau le nouveau Secrétaire exécutif de l'ICCAT et lui a souhaité plein succès dans ses nouvelles fonctions.

LA Conférence a adopté la Déclaration d'Abidjan axée notamment sur la lutte contre la pêche INN, l'utilisation durable des ressources marines vivantes, le renforcement de la COMHAFAT (où les possibilités de hisser la COMHAFAT au statut d'une organisation régionale de gestion des pêches seront examinées) et la consolidation de la voix de l'Afrique.

En marge de la rencontre, M. Manel a rencontré des Ministres ainsi que de représentants de Ministres de différents États. Il a saisi cette occasion pour davantage sensibiliser ces autorités par rapport à l'ICCAT ainsi qu'au soutien à apporter aux questions dont l'ICCAT a la charge. Il a également sollicité des autorités un appui supplémentaire aux équipes chargées des questions de l'ICCAT au niveau du pays.

Le Secrétariat examinera les possibilités d'établir un cadre de partenariat entre la COMHAFAT et l'ICCAT à travers un protocole d'entente.

THE INFORMAL OPERATING MODEL AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE TECHNICAL MEETING (INFORMAL OMMP), AND THE EXTENDED SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR THE 23RD MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (ESC 23), CCSBT

Location: San Sebastian, Spain

Dates: 2-4 September 2018

Representative: Ai Kimoto, Population dynamics expert, ICCAT Secretariat

Agenda items:

CCSBT is the most advanced tuna RFMO for MSE, therefore the scientists from CCSBT led a good discussion during the second joint t-RFMO MSE meeting in June 2018. ICCAT has been working on the MSE for various species, and needs to learn more on technical aspects and agreement processes for both scientists and managers. The CCSBT meetings provided a wide range of information to ICCAT MSE works.

The Informal Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Meeting (Informal OMMP), and The Extended Scientific Committee for the 23rd Meeting of the Scientific Committee (ESC 23), CCSBT were held in San Sebastian, Spain on 2 and 3-8 September 2018, respectively. The Secretariat received an invitation to attend the meeting and Dr. Ai Kimoto attended the informal OMMP and the first two days of ESC 23 with observer status. In the meeting, there were 38 participants from the member countries of CCSBT (Australia, EU, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, and Fishing entity of Taiwan), the advisory panel, CCSBT Secretariat, and ICCAT Secretariat. Several countries had scientists, managers and stakeholders in the meeting.

CCSBT has just started to revisit their Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) procedure and revise their Operating Model (OM) and Management Procedure (MP) in 2018. The new OM/MP has to be implemented by 2020. In the both meetings, the members discussed the detailed results of the candidates of new MP (CMP) by incorporating the advices of the first review in their technical meeting in June 2018. There were 3 CMPs and they compared and discussed the statistical performances among CMPs using Shiny application. This allows the developers to learn from the other CMPs and to improve their own CMP by the next meeting in 10 months. This process will be helpful for ICCAT MP developments, especially for BFT. It should be noted that all outputs from OM and MP are created by CCSBT contractor, and the national scientists could concentrate on the discussions and the additional calculations for the requests by the members.

WORKING GROUP (WG2) ON PELAGIC FISHES –ICCAT, THE MEDITERRANEAN ADVISORY COUNCIL, MEDAC

Location: Rome, Italy

Dates: 11 October 2018

Representative: Mauricio Ortiz, Head of the Department of Research and Statistics, ICCAT Secretariat

Agenda items:

The Mediterranean Advisory Council, MEDAC role includes the preparation of opinions on fisheries management and socio-economic aspects in support of the fisheries sector in the Mediterranean, to be submitted to the Member States and the European institutions in order to facilitate the achievement of the objectives of the European Union Common Fisheries Policy. The ICCAT Secretariat received an invitation to attend the meeting and Dr Mauricio Ortiz provided a presentation on the recent findings of the SCRS as regards to the status of the stock of Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Bluefin Tuna, as well as for the Mediterranean Albacore and Swordfish stocks.

It was noted the continued improvement of the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Bluefin tuna stock status after the adoption of management recommendations by ICCAT. Most of the discussions focused on the European Commission proposal regarding Bluefin tuna management in the near future. As regards Mediterranean swordfish, it was noted that ICCAT had approved a recovery management plan including reducing quota allocations, time closures and several gear and fishing restrictions aiming to reduce the fishing mortality of this stock. For Mediterranean Albacore it was noted the lack of sampling and biological data for major fisheries that translate in the large uncertainty regarding stock status.