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INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY SOME CPCs IN SECTION 5 OF THE ANNUAL REPORT
Summary made with information received before 12 October 2018

Section 5 of Part II of the annual report invites CPCs to inform the Commission of the main difficulties encountered in their implementation of and compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures.

The Secretariat has summarized their main issues. The complete sections 5 are reported in document **COC-301/2018** and its addenda. The summary might assist the Compliance Committee (COC) in considering if technical assistance in Compliance matters might be useful to some Contracting Parties. Following discussion and decision at the COC, the financial aspect will have to be raised at STACFAD in order to be able to finance this possible technical assistance.

Main issues:

1. Raised in particular, but not only, by small and/or developing countries: few personnel to comply with the many ICCAT requirements to be fulfilled (Belize, Liberia, Angola and Namibia/limited availability of resources and research vessels; Suriname/limited financial and human capacity; UK-OT/limited human and financial resources available), lack of specific expertise (Ghana/on shark taxonomy to be able to fill ICCAT forms) or lack of capital to finance ICCAT measures (Cabo Verde, Gabon/financial constraints have led to a decrease in the number of inspectors at the landing sites of the artisanal fishery).
2. Need for technical assistance (Angola for by-catch and sharks; Cabo Verde to be able to implement the reporting requirements; El Salvador to collect scientific information, its analysis and interpretation; Namibia to develop and implement requirements on sharks, turtles and other by-catch species; Syria to better implement ICCAT Recommendations; and Tunisia has some difficulties in completing some forms), difficulties to report by-catch or discards (Chinese Taipei), need for training to improve the reporting (Ghana, in particular to report catches depending on their catchability, availability or other criteria used by ICCAT).
3. Administrative or management difficulty to transpose into national law ICCAT requirements (Senegal), to adapt to ICCAT changing formats for requirements (Ghana) or to reply to too many ICCAT requirements (Tunisia).
4. Outdated fisheries legislation hampers compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures: in particular in Port states measures (Suriname has been requesting since 2013 assistance to train its inspectors; Trinidad and Tobago where the lack of capacity for monitoring, control and surveillance remains a significant limitation).
5. Difficulty to implement some ICCAT Recommendation such as Rec. 11-10 for Chinese Taipei because some by-catches are required to be released alive or discarded dead without being taken on-board: measuring weight and length of these by-catches tend to be difficult; or because the definition of any species as "by-catch" is not appropriate in the context of most Barbadian fisheries as it is only under extraordinary circumstances that any of the catch is deliberately discarded.
6. Need to coordinate at national level among many departments: making it difficult to fulfil ICCAT requirements on time (Algeria, Senegal).
7. Exceptional political situation to be able to fulfil in time all the ICCAT requirements (Libya: in particular to implement the use of alternative third countries ports for the BFT-ROP programme and to collect scientific data in the artisanal fishery sector where the few catches of SWO, ALB and SHK are the livelihood of the fishermen; and in Syria where due to the crisis many fishermen moved to alternative works).

8. Specific difficulty raised by Algeria: In relation to the swordfish fishery, it is important to highlight that there has almost been a categorical refusal by the swordfish fishery professionals regarding implementation of Recommendation 16-05 establishing a multi-annual recovery plan for Mediterranean swordfish, in particular, regarding the individual quota and biological closure period.