

Original: English

**HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY OF COC REFERRAL ISSUES FOR PRESENTATION BY PA4 CHAIR**

North Atlantic swordfish (Rec. 17-02)

- Rec. 17-02, para 3 specifies that CPCs with initial NSW0 catch limits (as specified in para 2.b) of more than 500 t (excluding quota transfers) may carry over a maximum underage of 15% of their initial catch limit. The calculations for the carryover of these underages vary for many CPCs, indicating a possible difference in interpretation of the carryover rule. PA4 member views on the proper interpretation of this rule should be sought.
- Task 1 data for NSW0 for a number of CPCs differs greatly from the catch they have reported on their NSW0 compliance table. This may reflect a difference in interpretation of whether the NSW0 total allowable catch includes all catches, including both landings and dead discards. PA4 is requested to confirm whether the NSW0 total allowable catch includes landings and dead discards.
- Currently, CPCs without a catch limit on the 17-02 quota table that nevertheless catch NSW0 are not included on the compliance table, which may result in an incomplete representation on that table of NSW0 catch. Should these CPCs be included on the compliance table for NSW0?

Marlin (Rec. 15-05)

- Regarding marlin compliance tables, a number of potential issues for certain CPCs are raised in COC-321. For example:
  - Some CPCs do not appear to reflect their adjusted landings limit, which results in an incomplete picture in the compliance table of the CPCs actual fishing possibilities for a particular year. Relevant CPCs are encouraged to address this issue in revisions to their tables.
  - Certain CPCs do not appear to be subtracting overharvest from their adjusted landings limit, in accordance with requirements of 15-05 paragraph 2. This could result in continued overharvest because the adjusted landings limits in the table are greater than is actually allowed under the rules. CPCs are requested to review their adjusted landings limits to ensure that they appropriately reflect reduction of any overharvests, and to provide changes to the Secretariat as soon as possible.
  - Some CPCs have reported significantly higher task 1 landings than are reflected in landings in the compliance tables. This could result in significant overharvest in future years, if actual overharvests are not fully deducted from adjusted landings. Panel 4 is encouraged to discuss this disparity and how to address.

Med SWO (Rec. 16-05)

- The Secretariat's report (COC-303) notes that para 11 stipulates that the choice of closed season for Med-SWO must be notified by 15 January 2017, but there is no provision regarding possible changes to such choice. The Panel should confirm whether CPCs may modify the choice of closure, as long as it is reported in advance to the Secretariat.
- One COC member inquired about the rationale and continued need for the measure's quarterly reporting requirements. COC referred this matter to PA4 as it concerns potential revisions to the measure, not a compliance issue.

Seabirds (Recs 11-09; 07-07)

- The Secretariat suggested that these two measures could be combined, and the COC Chair referred the matter to Panel 4 to consider developing a proposal consolidating these measures as a means of streamlining ICCAT measures and improving their implementation.

Turtles (Recs. 10-09; 13-11)

- The Secretariat suggested that these two measures could be combined, and the COC Chair referred matter to Panel 4 to consider developing a proposal consolidating these measures as a means of streamlining ICCAT measures and improving their implementation.