

Original: Spanish

**NICARAGUA'S POSITION STATEMENT RELATED TO THE CHAIR'S LETTER
(ICCAT CIRCULAR #8107/18)**

Managua, 8 November 2018
PE/EJA/483/11/2018

Mr. Raul Delgado, ICCAT Chair

Mr. Chair,

We hereby extend our greetings and reiterated respect to you. In reference to your letter No. 8107/2018 sent on the same date, Nicaragua shows its appreciation and shares these considerations. The Commission's work is of the utmost importance and relies on our joint effort.

The 21st Special Meeting of the Commission promises to be a historic success. The challenges included in the agendas will be addressed positively for the purposes of sustainable use of resources and entitlement to development of CPCs, in particular, developing coastal countries.

We agree with you that it is important to modernize the Convention that constitutes the legal framework of ICCAT. Nicaragua wishes therefore to highlight the effort of the Parties, Secretariat, Chairs and Vice Chairs and in particular the Chair of the Working Group on Convention Amendment, which concluded with the proposal that is likely to be adopted as the new text of the Convention, which takes the joint form of the documents and instruments that we agreed upon in Madeira, Portugal, at the beginning of the year.

Nicaragua wishes to confirm to you that, in response to the recommendation noted in the report of the Working Group, we wish that, following the effort made, the new text be adopted in such a manner so as to ensure the most balanced and least costly transition for the Commission. Nicaragua confirms that its delegation has full powers to support adoption of the text, its annexes and the recommendations described in the report of the Working Group. We trust that the other delegations have the same commitment and the same powers. In the future we will remember that the new text of the Convention was approved in Dubrovnik, whose entry into force will also take place through the formal channels with the support of all members in the near future.

We thank you for your commitment and guidance during the meeting with that objective and we request that this note be distributed to the delegations in attendance at the meeting.

Please allow me to reiterate to you Nicaragua's commitment to the joint, constructive and efficient work which characterizes ICCAT.

Edward Jackson Abella
Executive Chair
Nicaraguan Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture
INPESCA
(signed and stamped)