

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

Mr. Raúl Delgado
Chairman of the International Commission
for the Conservation of Atlantic tunas (ICCAT)

Dear Mr. Chairman,

The Republic of Guatemala reiterates the assurances of its full respect and consideration.

Further to your Circular #8107/18 received this week, we would like to express our appreciation for your effort and that of the Secretariat in guiding the important work that the Commission will carry out throughout its meetings which will be held from 10 to 19 November in the city of Dubrovnik and we commit to the success required to achieve the Commission's important objectives, in particular, regarding the conservation of tunas and the adoption of the new Convention text.

The delegation of Guatemala would like to reiterate to you and to all the other CPCs that, pursuant to our joint efforts, we have the sufficient mandate and powers to adopt, without further delay, the new text of the Convention, allowing our countries immediately to start the ratification and deposit to modernize our fundamental legal framework. We understand that when we review the agenda of the Working Group on Convention Amendment, we will have the opportunity to adopt the text and the relevant recommendations in accordance to what we agreed in the last Working Group meeting held in Madeira, Portugal.

For our delegation, the modernization that ICCAT requires, through the update of its Convention, cannot be delayed any further and therefore with an updated legal framework we will be granted greater operational projection and greater consistency as regards our short, medium and long-term actions. We would like to endorse the process together with the other Delegations.

Your sincerely,

(Signed and stamped)

Byron Omar Acevedo Córdón
Vice Minister of Agricultural Health and Regulations,
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food
Directorate of Fisheries and Aquiculture Standardization (DIPESCA)