INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS
COMMISSION INTERNATIONA CONSERVATION DES THONIDES
ICCAT CICTA CICAA
COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

ICCAT-SALIDA
Nº 6574
DATE 18 SEPT 2019

Madrid, 18 September 2019

Ms. N. Lucky
Acting Director
Ministry of Agriculture, Land & Fisheries
Fisheries Division
35 Cipriani Boulevard
Port of Spain
TRINIDA & TOBAGO

SUBJECT: LETTER ON COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Dear Ms. Lucky,

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, at its 21st Special meeting (12-19 November 2018, Dubrovnik, Croatia), the Commission noted certain reporting and implementation deficiencies for Trinidad & Tobago regarding ICCAT requirements, which are listed below and in the attached response template.

Specifically, based on Compliance Committee (COC) review of the Secretariat Report on Statistics and Coordination of Research, the 2018 Secretariat's Report to the Compliance Committee, and other available information, the Committee noted the following:

- Part 1 of Annual Report was received late.
- Rec. 16-14: No national scientific observer programme data (through form ST09) received. and, domestic scientific observer program not yet implemented.
- Rec. 12-07: No list of authorised ports submitted, or port inspection reports received.
- Recs. 10-09 and 15-05: Measures for turtles and marlins not yet implemented.
- Rec. 16-13: No legally binding domestic measures adopted to implement shark requirements.
- Overharvest of BUM and WHM.

Lack of full implementation of ICCAT requirements can undermine the work of the Commission in fulfilling the Convention's objectives. Late or incomplete reporting causes difficulties for the Secretariat in preparing documents for the Commission and reduces the effectiveness and efficiency of the COC and other ICCAT bodies. The lists of reporting requirements, the relevant reporting forms (such as ST09 or the Guidelines for Annual Reports), and ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions are published annually on the ICCAT web site at:

https://www.iccat.int/en/SubmitCOMP.html
https://www.iccat.int/en/submitSTAT.html
https://www.iccat.int/en/RecRes.asp

The Commission is pleased to note the progress made by Trinidad & Tobago in comparison with previous years, and thanks you for your work to date to improve compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures. The Compliance Committee (COC) in particular has taken note of the improvements, and encourages Trinidad & Tobago to continue its efforts in this regard.

The Commission would like to remind you that Trinidad & Tobago can request assistance in data collection and reporting from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), from other ICCAT CPCs and from the ICCAT Secretariat, including a request for financial assistance from the Data Funds established by the *Resolution by ICCAT on Improvements in Data Collection and Quality Assurance* [Res. 03-21], and from other available funds.

The Commission requests Trinidad & Tobago to reply to this letter no later than **18 October 2019** and to include the attached template (preferably submitted as an MS Word document) to indicate the actions taken by Trinidad & Tobago to rectify the deficiencies indicated.

If you have any questions about the issues raised in this letter, including a request for a more detailed explanation of the issues, please do not hesitate to contact me and the Secretariat at info@iccat.int.

I would also like to express my regret that due to serious health issues, I was unable to send this letter sooner. However, my recovery is going well and I remain fully committed, and am now fully available, to help ensure that the COC continues to build on its recent progress at this year's annual meeting.

In thanking you for your attention to these important matters, let me express to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

Derek Campbell

Compliance Committee Chair

cc: M. Delgado, *Commission Chair*

COMPLIANCE LETTER RESPONSE TEMPLATE

2018 Commission Meeting			
CPC: TRINIDA & TOBAGO			
AREA OF DEFICIENCY	**SPECIFIC ELEMENT**	**REMEDIAL ACTION TAKEN**	**DATE MISSING DATA/INFORMATION SENT (if applicable)**
Response to COC Chair letter from previous year: **replied**			
Annual Report	Part 1 of Annual Report received late.		
Statistical data reporting	Rec. 16-14: no national scientific observer programme data (ST09) received - Domestic scientific observer program not yet implemented.		
MCS Measures	Rec.12-07: no list of authorised ports or port inspection reports received.		
	Recs. 10-09 and 15-05: measures for turtles and marlins not yet implemented.		
	Rec. 16-13: no legally binding measures to implement shark requirements.		
Catch limits/quotas	Overharvest of BUM and WHM.		