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

ICCAT-SALIDA
Nº 6574
DATE 18 SEPT 2019

Madrid, 18 September 2019

Mr. R. Ryan
Chief Fisheries Officer
Fisheries Division
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries,
Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour
Richmond Hill
VC0100 Kingstown
ST VINCENT &THE GRENADINES

SUBJECT: LETTER ON COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Dear Mr. Ryan,

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 St. Vincent & the Grenadines 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:

- Rec. 16-14: No information from domestic observer programmes as it is still being established, hence scientific observer programme data (ST09) not received.
- Rec. 17-02: NSWO Management plan submitted late.
- Rec. 16-13: Shark check sheet submitted late.
- Sailfish catches reported in Task I, but no report on Rec. 16-11 made in Annual Report (reported not applicable).
- Rec. 16-01: Tropical tuna management plan and some quarterly BET catch reports submitted late.
- Responses to Recs. 15-05 and 16-11 appear insufficient to meet the requirements.
- Rec. 12-06: Transhipment report submitted late.
- Rec. 16-13: No legally binding domestic measures adopted to implement shark requirements.
- Overharvest of SALB.

Lack of full implementation of ICCAT requirements can undermine the work of the Commission in fulfilling the Convention's objectives. And 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 the annual report), 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 would like to remind you that St. Vincent & the Grenadines 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 St. Vincent & the Grenadines 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 St. Vincent & the Grenadines 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

Derek Campbell
Compliance Committee Chair

cc: M. Delgado, *Commission Chair*

COMPLIANCE LETTER RESPONSE TEMPLATE

2018 Commission Meeting			
CPC: St VINCENT & THE GRENADINES			
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			
Statistical data reporting	Rec. 16-14: No information from domestic observer programmes as programmes still being established, hence scientific observer programme data (ST09) not received.		
MCS Measures	Rec. 17-02: N.SWO Management plan submitted late.		
	Rec. 16-13: Shark measures implementation check sheet submitted late.		
	Sailfish catches reported in Task I, but no report on Rec. 16-11 made in Annual Report		

	(reported not applicable).		
	Rec. 16-01: Tropical tuna management plan and some quarterly BET catch reports submitted late.		
	Responses to Recs. 15-05 and 16-11 may be insufficient to meet the requirements.		
	Rec. 12-06: transhipment report submitted late.		
	Rec. 16-13: No legally binding measures to implement shark requirements.		
Catch limits/quotas	Overharvest of SALB.		
Other issues			