



Madrid, 18 September 2019

Mr. Hyacinth Anebi Okpe  
Assistant Director (Fisheries)  
Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Division,  
1 Kapital Street, Area 11, Garki Abuja  
900001  
**NIGERIA**

**SUBJECT: LETTER ON COMPLIANCE ISSUES**

Dear Mr. Okpe,

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 Nigeria regarding ICCAT requirements, which are listed below and attached in the 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. 16-13: No shark check sheet submitted.
- Rec. 17-08: No response provided to requirement to submit N-SMA catch data.
- Rec. 12-07: No list of designated ports was submitted.
- Rec. 11-11: Compliance tables were not submitted.

In addition, the Committee noted that Nigeria did not reply to its letter of concern of 2017, to which a response at least 30 days before the Commission meeting was requested.

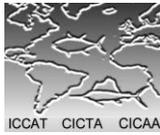
Lack of full implementation of ICCAT requirements can undermine the work of the Commission in fulfilling the Convention's objectives. Late or incomplete reporting causes difficulties for the Secretariat in preparing documents for the Commission and reduces the effectiveness and efficiency of the COC 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 would like to remind you that Nigeria 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 Nigeria 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 Nigeria to rectify the deficiencies indicated.

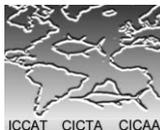
If you have any questions about the issues raised in this letter, including a request for a more detailed explanation of the issues, please do not hesitate to contact me and the Secretariat at [info@iccat.int](mailto:info@iccat.int).

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**

<b>2018 Commission Meeting</b>			
<b>CPC: NIGERIA</b>			
<b>AREA OF DEFICIENCY</b>	<b>SPECIFIC ELEMENT</b>	<b>REMEDIAL ACTION TAKEN</b>	<b>DATE MISSING DATA/INFORMATION SENT (if applicable)</b>
Response to COC Chair letter from previous year: <b>did not reply</b>			
MCS Measures	Rec. 16-13: No shark measures implementation check sheet submitted.		
	Rec. 17-08: No response to request for SMA catches.		
	Rec. 12-07: No list of designated ports.		
Catch limits/quotas	Rec. 11-11: Compliance tables were not submitted.		