INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POU CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'A

ICCAT CICTA CICAA

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

ICCAT-SALIDA
Nº 6574
FECHA 18 SEP 2019

Madrid, 18 September 2019

Mr. Arian Palluqi
Director – Agriculture Production & Trade Policies
Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development & Water Administration
Blv. "Dëshmorët e Kombit", Nr. 2, kp.1001
Tirana
REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

SUBJECT: LETTER ON COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Dear Mr. Palluqi,

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 Albania 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:

- Part 1 of Annual Report was received late and Part II slightly late,
- Statistical data were reported late,
- Rec. 16-14: No national scientific observer programme data were received (through the form ST09),
- Rec. 16-14: Not yet implemented, but the COC noted that actions have currently been taken to implement it in 2019,
  Rec. 16-13: No legally binding domestic measures adopted to implement some species specific shark requirements.

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 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 Albania in fulfilment of reporting requirements in comparison with previous years, and thanks you for your work to date to improve compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures. The COC, encourages Albania to continue its efforts in this regard.

The Commission requests Albania 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 Albania 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: ALBANIA			
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 and Part II slightly late.		
Statistical data reporting	Statistical data reported late.		
	Rec. 16-14: no National Scientific Observer Programme data received (ST09).		
MCS Measures	Rec. 16-14: Not yet implemented, but actions currently being taken to implement in 2019.		
	Rec. 16-13: No legally binding measures taken to implement species specific shark requirements.		