INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATL.

ICCAT CICTA CICAA

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

ICCAT-SALIDA
Nº 6574
DATE 18 SEPT 2019

Madrid, 18 September 2019

Mr. George Jervis
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture
Regent and Vlissegen Roads
P.O. Box 1001
Georgetown
GUYANA

SUBJECT: LETTER ON COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Dear Mr. Jervis,

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, at the 21st Special meeting of ICCAT (12-19 November 2018, Dubrovnik, Croatia), the Commission noted certain reporting and implementation deficiencies for Guyana regarding ICCAT requirements, as 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 in the case of Guyana:

- No reporting summary (Section 3) received with Part II of Annual Report;
- Statistical data sent late;
- Rec. 16-14: No national scientific observer programme data (ST09) received;
- Rec. 17-08: No response to request for shortfin mako catches;
- Rec. 16-01 No quarterly reports of bigeye tuna catches;
- Rec. 12-07: No list of designated ports. Rec. 16-13;
- Rec. 16-13 and other shark Recommendations: No legally binding measures to implement ICCAT shark requirements;
- Rec. 12-07: No list of designated ports;
- Rec. 11-11: Compliance tables submitted late;
- Rec. 17-02: Overharvest of swordfish.

The Commission noted the progress made by Guyana in comparison with previous years, and encourages Guyana to continue its efforts in this regard. Nevertheless, we wish to underscore that incomplete reporting of the nature that continues in the case of Guyana causes difficulties for the Secretariat in preparing documents for the Commission and its Panels and Committees and reduces the effectiveness of the Compliance Committee. The lists of reporting requirements, relevant reporting forms (such as ST09 or the Guidelines for Annual Reports), and ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions are published annually on the ICCAT website 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 Guyana 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 Guyana to reply to this letter before **18 October 2019** and complete the attached template (preferably submitted as an MS Word document) to indicate the actions taken by Guyana to rectify the deficiencies indicated.. Based on the actions taken by Guyana in response to this letter, the Compliance Committee will recommend appropriate actions at the next meeting, to address any persistent data deficiencies as well as any other failure to rectify the deficiencies in compliance. This may include identification under the *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures* [Rec. 06-13], which could lead to more severe actions, such as reductions in quota and prohibitions related to trade.

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: Guyana			
AREA OF DEFICIENCY	**SPECIFIC ELEMENT**	**REMEDIAL ACTION TAKEN**	**DATE MISSING DATA/INFORMATION SENT (if applicable)**
Response to COC Chair letter from previous year: **did reply**			
Annual Report	No reporting summary (Section 3) received with Part II of Annual Report.		
Statistical data reporting	Statistical data sent late. Rec. 16-14: No national scientific observer programme data (ST09) received.		
MCS Measures	Rec. 17-08: no response to request for shortfin mako catches. Rec. 16-01: No quarterly reports of bigeye tuna catches. Rec. 12-07: No list of designated ports. Rec. 16-13: No legally binding measures to implement shark requirements. Rec. 12-07: No list of designated ports.		
Catch limits/quotas	Rec. 11-11: Compliance tables submitted late. Rec. 17-02: Overharvest of SWO.		