INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

ICCAT CICTA CICAA

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

ICCAT-SALIDA
Nº 6574
DATE 18 SEPT 2019

Madrid, 18 September 2019

Mr. Ramon Chong
President of the Fishery
Ministry of Economic Development of Curaçao, International Fisheries Commission
Directorate of Economic Affairs
Amidos Building, Pletterijweg 41
Willemstad
CURAÇAO

SUBJECT: LETTER ON COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Dear Mr. Chong,

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 Curaçao 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.
- Statistics may be incomplete as unclear whether catches made in EEZ [by or including] artisanal fisheries are included.
- ST08 (FADs) refers to 2016 data only; 2017 data missing.
- Rec. 16-13: for many general/specific requirements, no domestic legal instrument is cited. It is not clear to the COC whether the prohibition on retention and requirement for)release are legally binding.
- Rec. 12-07: no list designated ports submitted.
- Overharvest of BUM according to Task 1 data, but no compliance table (Rec. 11-11) submitted for BUM.

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 Curaçao 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 Curaçao to reply to this letter no later than **18 October 2019,** and that the attached template be included (preferably submitted as an MS Word document) to indicate the actions taken by Curaçao 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: CURAÇAO			
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	Statistics may be incomplete as unclear as to whether catches in EEZ/ artisanal fisheries are included.		
	ST08 (FADs) refers to 2016 data, 2017 data missing.		
MCS Measures	Rec. 16-13: For many general/specific requirements, no legal instrument is cited. It is not clear whether the prohibition and (requirement for) release is legally binding.		
	Rec. 12-07: No list designated ports.		
Catch limits/quotas	Overharvest of BUM according to Task 1 data, but no compliance table (Rec. 11-11) submitted for BUM.		