

Original: French

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT A MULTI-ANNUAL PROGRAMME FOR MANAGEMENT OF
TROPICAL TUNAS**

QUOTA ALLOCATION

Reflections of the Chair of Panel 1

The situation of Atlantic bigeye tuna has been more than critical in the past few years and the last stock assessment confirms that our catch level is unsustainable. Nobody can afford to accompany this deterioration of the stock, coastal or non-coastal countries, developing countries or developed countries. Nobody. It is therefore time, today more than ever, that our rhetoric is in line with our actions to rebuild the bigeye tuna stock. **This will inevitably require sacrifices on everybody's part.** Yes, sacrifices, it seems that if we are in this situation, it is because we have not abided by the sustainable exploitation rules for this species. **And we are all responsible for this.**

While the CPCs in the quota table continued to quite happily fish their equivalent of 80% of the TAC, several CPCs outside of the table, for their part, have started to rapidly develop their fisheries, relying on a trigger threshold of 3500 tons. **Consequence: The TAC of 65000 t has been systematically exceeded since its implementation.**

Therefore, aware of the all this, we have chosen by consensus to comply with SCRS recommendations and to reduce the bigeye TAC to a maximum of **61,500 t** for the next three (3) years, while awaiting scientific advice which could lead to a revision of this TAC.

During this interim phase, ICCAT must take strong measures so that catches of all CPCs are in line with the approved TAC.

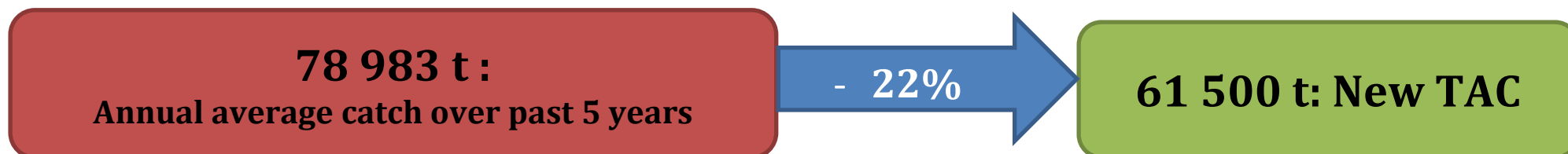
Following consultation with all CPCs present, I have expressed below the substance of my analysis and my proposal for quota allocation.

Points:

- The measures to be taken must ensure that maximum total annual catches are less or equal to the TAC.
- All CPCs are systematically concerned by the quota since non-inclusion in the table with a trigger threshold of 1250, 1575 or 3500 t would be detrimental for the stock although it would enable development of the fisheries of these CPCs not included in the table.
- The effort level (in terms of number of vessels) must be maintained at most at the 2018 level. CPCs, in particular developing CPCs but not only those, must not increase their number of vessels in the next 3 years.
- The measures to be taken must take into account the interests of all CPCs, in particular, the level of current development of the fisheries of developing coastal CPCs.
- The quota allocation must take into account all the ICCAT allocation criteria, highlighting in particular the needs of developing coastal States in accordance with their priority access right to resources based on international provisions known to all.
- The sum of average annual catches, over the past 5 years, of CPCs not included in the quota allocation table, which include several developing coastal CPCs, is around **24 887 tons**.
- The measures approved during this meeting must not undermine the artisanal fisheries of the different CPCs, in particular those of developing coastal CPCs.

PROPOSAL

- ✓ Annual average over the past 5 years of CPCs included in the table but not Ghana: **49 557 t, i.e. 62.7%** ;
- ✓ Annual average over the past 5 years of other CPCs + Ghana: **29 426 t (24 887 + 4 539), i.e. 37.3%**.



CHAIR'S PROPOSAL

N°	CRITERIA	CATEGORIES	QUANTITY (t)	PERCENTAGE OF TAC
1	20% reduction on average catches over 5 years of CPCs included in the quota table except Ghana	CPCs in the table except Ghana	39 646	64%
		Other CPCs + Ghana	21 854	36%
2	30% reduction on average catches over 5 years of the CPCs included in the quota table except Ghana	CPCs in the table except Ghana	34 690	56%
		Other CPCs + Ghana	26 810	44%
3	35% reduction on the average catches over 5 years of the CPCs included in the quota table except Ghana	CPCs in the table except Ghana	32 212	52%
		Other CPCs + Ghana	29 288	48%
4	65% reduction on the average catches over 5 years of the CPCs included in the quota table except Ghana	CPCs in the table except Ghana	17 345	28%
		Other CPCs + Ghana	44 155	72%