

Original: English

**DRAFT RESOLUTION BY ICCAT ESTABLISHING AN ICCAT WORKING GROUP
ON BLUEFIN TUNA (BFT) CONTROL AND TRACEABILITY MEASURES**

Proposal submitted by the European Union

ACKNOWLEDGING that ICCAT has adopted the Recommendation [18-02] establishing a multi-annual management plan for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna;

NOTING that paragraphs 8 and 116 c of Recommendation [18-02] calls for a discussion on potential additional measures to further strengthen the control and traceability of live bluefin tuna;

FURTHER NOTING that ICCAT has adopted Recommendation [17-06] establishing an interim conservation and management plan for western Atlantic bluefin tuna;

CONSIDERING that additional measures on control and traceability may be required to reinforce the efforts made over the past years for the recovery of bluefin tuna in the ICCAT Convention area;

CONSIDERING that the constitution of a Working Group under Panel 2 would contribute to facilitate progress on control and traceability measures on bluefin tuna through the discussion and exchanges drawing on the expertise available from all the Contracting Parties concerned;

RECOGNIZING that this Working Group should be initiated without delay;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RESOLVES THAT:

1. A Working Group is established to assess the effectiveness of the ICCAT control and traceability measures for bluefin tuna fishing, from catching to post-harvest trade activities, and to recommend to Panel 2 amendments to those measures and/or additional measures to strengthen the control and traceability of bluefin tuna and to prevent any IUU fishing activities and the trading of illegal bluefin tuna.
2. In carrying out the following tasks, the Working Group will preliminarily focus on the control and traceability measures for live eastern bluefin tuna as foreseen in paragraphs 8 and 116 c of the Recommendation [18-02]. In particular, the Working Group will:
 - a) Assess the measures on control and traceability of bluefin tuna in the relevant ICCAT Recommendations in force, from the catching to the post-harvesting trade activities, and identify existing weaknesses and/or loopholes;
 - b) Identify specific measures to address those weaknesses and/or loopholes, with a view to improve the control and traceability of bluefin tuna fishing from catching to post-harvest trade activities and to prevent any IUU fishing activities and the trading of illegal bluefin tuna;
 - c) Report to, and as appropriate, submit to Panel 2 recommendations to improve the current control and traceability measures and/or propose additional measures to strengthen the control and traceability effectiveness of the ICCAT bluefin tuna control system;
3. To the extent that the Working Group could touch upon issues related to future developments of the eBCD system, the eBCD Technical Working Group should be consulted on the implementation of those developments.
4. The Working Group will be assisted by the ICCAT Secretariat in its works. It shall appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair and establish a calendar for its discussions. The Working Group shall hold at least one meeting per year back to back with the inter-sessional meeting of Panel 2, before the ICCAT Annual Commission meeting in November.
5. The interested CPCs shall notify to the ICCAT Secretariat their interest to participate in the Working Group at the latest by 20 December 2019, and designate participants to the Working Group.