

Original: French

**NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CHAIR OF PANEL 2 OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT)**

(Submitted by Senegal)

Senegal has a baitboat fleet that fishes mainly on tropical tuna schools between latitudes 12 and 21°N and its main fishing area is in Mauritania.

In the eastern Atlantic, the theoretical ecological limit of bluefin tuna to the south is Cap Blanc (21°N). However, in seeking bait (trophic migrations) or due to environmental changes, the bluefin tuna descend below this limit of 21°N.

In 2013, a Senegalese baitboat took 5.8 t of incidental catches of bluefin tuna in Mauritania around latitudes 18° and 17°. These bluefin tuna were mixed with tropical tuna schools (see SCRS/2014/158).

In addition, in 2010, a Spanish baitboat based in Dakar caught incidentally bluefin tuna in the same area (see SCRS/2010/113).

From a scientific point of view, membership of Panel 2 will enable our scientists to collect samples to carry out studies on the biology and ecology of this species.

In light of the foregoing, Senegal requests membership of Panel 2 of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and requests a scientific quota of five (05) tons of bluefin tuna.