

MEDITERRANEAN SWORDFISH FISHING PLANS SUBMITTED IN 2019
Rec. 16-05

Paragraph 10 of the *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing the Recommendation [13-04] and Establishing a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Mediterranean Swordfish [Rec. 16-05]* states that: "Starting in 2018, CPCs shall submit their fishing plan to ICCAT by 15 March each year. Such plan shall include detailed information regarding the quota allocated by gear type, including to sport and recreational fisheries (if applicable) and by-catches".

Fishing plans were received within the deadline from Algeria, European Union, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey. Recommendation 16-05 does not include any provision relating to the purpose of the fishing plans, as no endorsement is required. The plans were circulated to all Contracting Parties through ICCAT Circular 1646/19 of 22 March 2019, and are attached for the information of Panel 4.

1. ALGERIA

Year of Fishing Plan: 2019

1 Introduction

In accordance with the provisions of Recommendation 16-05, in particular Article 10, Algeria presents its fishing plan for 2019 to catch its quota which is 517.5 t, i.e., a 3% reduction compared to the 2018 quota. The Algerian fishing plan for 2019 is based on the relevant provisions of Recommendation 16-05 referred to above as well as legislation and the national regulation.

The catching vessels authorised to actively fish for swordfish use surface longlines in accordance with the relevant requirements of Recommendation 16-05.

Algeria is implementing its fishing plan to catch 522.82 t which will be distributed among the national swordfish fleet, which consists of 451 fishing vessels, with a length between 4 and 14.5 m. In addition, a quota of 1%, i.e. 5.17 t has been deducted from the overall quota of 517.5 t and set aside to by-catch and incidental catches.

2 Details of fishing plan

The 2019 swordfish fishing plan will be implemented to ensure compliance with Algeria's quota limit and the relevant provisions contained in legislation, the national regulation and ICCAT recommendations, in particular Recommendation 16-05.

Individual quotas for each of the vessels authorised to fish for swordfish will be set using a quota distribution formula, according to the length and engine power of each fishing vessel. This formula will enable equitable distribution of the individual quota among the vessels.

In accordance with the current Algerian regulation, individual fishing permits will be issued by the fisheries administration to the vessels authorised to actively fish for swordfish in 2018.

Algeria has an artisanal swordfish fishery which uses small vessels with a length between 4 m and 14.5 m. Vessels targeting swordfish use small surface longlines in accordance with the requirements of Recommendation 16-05.

With regard to the by-catch taken by vessels not targeting swordfish (trawlers and sardine fishing vessels), catches will be declared, landed and deducted from up to 2% of the Algerian overall quota, i.e. 5.17 t.

In relation to control, a system is in place to ensure that the amounts of swordfish landed at the designated ports comply with the individual quota allocated to each vessel and the minimum trade size, which is 120 cm calculated from the tip of the snout to the end of the caudal fin on the dorsal side.

From 2019, Algeria will prohibit swordfish fishing during the period from 1 January to 31 March.

	<i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 16-05)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note:</i>
1	Fleet development plan (para 9)	<p>The swordfish fishery in Algeria is a purely artisanal fishery for subsistence purposes, carried out by vessels mostly with a length less than 12 m and with low engine power. Algeria is in the process of elaborating, for development and management of the subsistence artisanal fishery in general, a specific legal framework that defines the conditions and methods for operation of this fishery.</p> <p>Within this framework, as part of the project of cooperation with the EU regarding the diversification of the economy (DIVECO II), a survey is being implemented to establish the technical support for the development and implementation of an artisanal fishing strategy for highly migratory species (swordfish and bluefin tuna in Algeria).</p> <p>In addition, to provide employment for unemployed youth, credits have been extended in recent years to young unemployed people to purchase artisanal fishing vessels with a length less than 12 m. As a result, some vessels are in the process of being built and will be ready this year, becoming operational next year.</p>	Article 7 of Law No. 15-08 of 2 April 2015 which amends and supplements Law No. 01-11 of 3 July 2001 relating to the fisheries and aquaculture.	
2	Choice of fishery closure periods (para 11-13)	Further to the request of swordfish fisheries professionals, Algeria has modified the fishery closure period as of 2019, from 1 January to 31 March each year.	Decree of 25 February 2018 establishing the swordfish fishery closure period in waters under national jurisdiction.	
3	Recreational and sports fisheries (para 21-26)	There are no recreational and sports swordfish fisheries in Algeria.		
4	Allocation of by-catch and detail of the limits by vessel/operation (para 30)	Algeria has reserved 1% for by-catch, i.e. 5.17 t.	Executive Decree No. 08-118 of 9 April 2008 which amends and supplements Executive Decree No. 04-86 of 18 March 2004	

			which fix the minimum trade sizes of biological resources.	
5	Recording and communication of catches (para 35-37)	<p>Catches are recorded in a logbook as well as in information collection sheets on fishing operations. Controls are carried out by the Coast Guard and landings are recorded by fishing inspectors.</p> <p>In accordance with paragraph 37, Algeria reports within 30 days of the end of the period during which the catches were made.</p>	<p>Executive Decree fixing the fishing methods for large migratory species is in the process of being adopted.</p> <p>Order of 16-04-2006 establishing the logbook.</p>	
6	Measures taken to control landings (para 34)	Random controls are carried out at sea by coast guards. In addition, the products are controlled at port accesses by the coast guard services and at landing points by fishing inspectors.	<p>Circular notes and forms have been developed and disseminated nationally.</p> <p>Order of 16-04-2006 establishing the logbook.</p>	
7	CPC Scientific Observer (para 44)	Algeria does not have any small open-construction vessels allowing scientific observers to embark.	No device on board.	Alternative measures are used for the control at landing of catches and biological samples by fishing inspectors which are mainly biologists.
8	Other requirements (please specify)			

Inspection Plan

a) CPC inspection and control (para 13)

Algeria has established a swordfish fishery closure period, from 1 January to 31 March of each year. The control and inspection system is established as follows:

The National Coast Guard Service, as the authority in charge of the maritime police, carries out the control and inspection of fishing activity at port access points, to ensure strict compliance with the national regulation on fishing activity. In addition, at-sea controls are carried out by the same service.

However, the fishing inspectors of Fisheries Provincial Directorates carry out the surveillance of landings of fishing products, in particular during the swordfish fishery closure period.

Centrally, weekly reports are transmitted by the Fisheries Provincial Directorates, regarding the monitoring situations of the swordfish fishery closure period.

b) International joint inspection (paras 39-41; Annex 1)

Algeria has an artisanal fleet which operates in waters under national jurisdiction. Therefore, Algeria will not deploy in 2019 a vessel of international joint inspection in international waters.

Capacity management plan (paras 6-10)

The fishing capacity, represented by the fleet of 441 longline vessels is adapted to the quota allocated to Algeria, i.e. 517.5 t. Therefore, Algeria is not affected by fishing overcapacity.

The adopted list of recorded vessels targeting swordfish transmitted to ICCAT on 14 January 2019.

MED SWO vessel fleet	Choose one		Vessels New < 7m vessels in 2017 (para 7)	Total Fleet (vessels)			% difference between reference period and 2017 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period and 2018 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period and 2019 (max 5%)
Type	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)	Number of vessels in reference period (Year 2016)		2017	2018	2019			
Longliner over 40m	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Longliner between 20 and 40m	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Longliner less than 24m	0	0	2	2	0	2			
Handline	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Harpoon	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Sport/recreational (Rod and reel)	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Trap	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Other (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total number of vessels < 7 m	-	-	144	144	134	146			
Total number of vessels > 7 m	304	297		297	301	305	1,30%	1,3%	0,18 %
Total fleet	304	297		441	441	451			
Quota	N/A	N/A	550	533,5	522.83*	517,5			
Adjusted quota (if applicable)	N/A	N/A		522,83*		517,5**			

* 2% of the Algerian quota, i.e. 10.67 t has been set aside for incidental catches.

**1% of the Algerian quota, i.e. 5.17 t has been set aside for incidental catches.

2. EUROPEAN UNION

Fishing Plan Year: 2019

1. Introduction

The European Union hereby provides its Fishing plan in the context of the Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Mediterranean swordfish (MED-SWO), ICCAT Recommendation [16-05].

The seven EU Member States actively fishing Mediterranean swordfish are: Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain. These EU Member States fish with a range of fishing gears, with the majority of the quotas being attributed to the surface longline sector. However, catches are also made by more artisanal sectors, such as long liners < 12 m, and harpoons. The seven EU Member States also cooperate to implement a Joint Deployment Plan of inspections means, in coordination with the European Commission and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA).

The Recovery Plan for Mediterranean Swordfish, ICCAT Recommendation [16-05], is currently being transposed into European Union (EU) law by way of a Regulation co-decided by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union.

The EU communicated to ICCAT on 22 December 2016 that it fully implemented the Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Mediterranean swordfish as from 1st January 2017.

The closure period has been incorporated into EU Law by its inclusion in the Annex ID of Council Regulation (EU) 2019/124 of 30 January 2019¹.

Concerning the implementation of a minimum fish size, Article 5a of the Commission Delegated Regulation 2018/191² published on 9 February 2018 clearly defines the minimum size for Mediterranean swordfish in line with Recommendation [16-05].

2. Details of fishing plan

The European Union adopted Council Regulation (EU) No. 2019/124 of 30 January 2019 fixing the fishing opportunities for Mediterranean swordfish for 2019 and defining the closure period for vessels targeting Mediterranean swordfish as well as the closure period applicable for vessels targeting Mediterranean albacore.

In accordance with the current Total Allowable Catch (TAC), the quota for the EU in 2019 was fixed in Council Regulation (EU) No. 2019/124 as 6.965,85 t. In 2019, the TAC for Mediterranean swordfish was decreased by 3% in line with the ICCAT Recommendation [16-05]. As it is already the case for the stock of Eastern and Mediterranean Bluefin tuna, it is appropriate that catches in recreational fisheries of all other ICCAT stocks, including Mediterranean swordfish should be subject to the catch limits adopted by the ICCAT.

The EU will continue to submit the lists of authorised vessels that will participate in the fishery in 2019 in accordance with the reporting deadlines laid down under paragraph 27 of Recommendation [16-05].

¹ Council Regulation (EU) 2019/124 of 30 January 2019 fixing for 2019 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters

² Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/191 of 30 November 2017 amending Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/98 on the implementation of the Union's international obligations, as referred to in Article 15(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, under the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, regarding the Mediterranean stock of swordfish (OJ L36; 9.2.2018, p.13)

The EU submits a complementary Inspection Plan covering all Mediterranean fisheries, including highly migratory species fisheries, and capable of addressing effectively the control requirements of those fisheries.

The EU undertakes a real-time monitoring of the Mediterranean swordfish fishery and is committed to take the necessary measures to ensure full compliance with ICCAT Recommendation [16-05].

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation [16-05] the EU has allocated its quota to the following sectors:

<i>Mediterranean Vessel Fleet</i>	<i>2019</i>
Type	Fleet (No. vessels)
Longliner over 40m	1
Longliner between 24 and 40m	38
Longliner less than 24m	1629
Total longliners	1668
Handline	51
Baitboat	0
Harpoon	13
Sport/Recreational (Rod & reel)	5464
Trap	0
Other (polyvalent)	270
Total number of vessels < 7 m	3847
Total number of vessels > 7 m	3619
Total fleet/fishing capacity	7466
Quota (t)	6948,45
Adjusted quota (if applicable)	
Under-capacity (t)	

	ICCAT Requirement (per 16-05)	Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement	Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)	Note
1	Fleet development plan (para. 9)			Not applicable
2	Choice of closed Fishing Seasons (paras. 11-13)	Period from 1 January to 31 March. ICCAT Secretariat has been informed on 5th December 2017.	The close period is inserted in Annex ID of Regulation (EU) N° 2019/124 of 30 January 2019.	Within the EUs Specific Control and Inspection Programme, inspection missions focus on the verification of compliance with the fishing seasons
3	Recreational and sports fisheries (paras. 21-26)	Only rod and line is authorized for recreational fishing. All catches are counted against the EU quota. The marketing of Mediterranean swordfish fish caught during sport and recreational fishing is prohibited.	Management of recreational fisheries is under the responsibility of EU Member states. However, the European Commission is informed at request of measures taken by Member States.	The way these provisions are implemented varies amongst EU Member States, including in some cases total prohibition of sport and recreational fishing activities by certain EU Member States. The limit of one fish per vessel per day shall apply for all recreational vessels.
4	Allocation for by-catch and detail of limit per vessel/operation (para. 30)	The maximum by-catch limit allowed for EU vessels is fixed at 5% per fishing operation and per trip. By-catches and discards are also counted against the EU quota.		Trawlers and purse-seiners targeting small pelagic species and tuna traps are allowed to catch one specimen of swordfish by trip per day.
5	Catch recording and reporting (paras. 35-37)	EU vessels fully implement the obligation to daily record all catches in the logbook (paper or electronic). All catches of Mediterranean swordfish, including discards (if any) are counted against the EU quota. Cumulative catches are later on reported quarterly to ICCAT, until quota reaches 80% when catches are communicated more frequently.	Art. 33 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 establishing a Union control system.	

6	Measures taken to control landings (para 34)	Compulsory pre notification before entering into a port.	Based on annual risk assessment, the EU inspections services will include in their national control plans as well in the Specific Control and inspection program, benchmarks for inspections at sea, ashore and the commercial chain for MED SWO fisheries.	For 2018, those inspection benchmarks are fixed by Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/1986 ³
7	CPC Scientific Observer (para. 44)	Part of the scientific tasks under the data collection regulation ⁴ .	National data collection plans include already Mediterranean swordfish as one of their priorities for the Mediterranean.	
8	Other requirements (specify) Closure of albacore fishery (para 12)	The closure period from 1 October to 30 November applies to longline vessels targeting Mediterranean albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>). A list of vessels has been communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat, under ICCAT Recommendation [17-05]	The close period is inserted in Annex ID of Regulation (EU) N° 2019/124 of 30 January 2019.	

³ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1986 of 13 December 2018 establishing specific control and inspection programmes for certain fisheries.

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2017/1004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of a Union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy

3. Inspection Plan

3.1 *CPC's inspection and control (para 13)*

Under the EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), the primary responsibility for control and enforcement lays with the Member State Authorities.

The European Commission and the EFCA (European Fisheries Control Agency) coordinate with the EU Member States to ensure that the provisions laid down by ICCAT are reflected in the EU and Member States law and fully enforced. The tools in place are explained under point B below. In addition, the following verification activities are carried out by the European Commission:

3.1.1 European Commission inspections

The European Commission is responsible for monitoring whether EU laws are applied correctly and on time. The European Commission also take steps if an EU country has not applied EU law correctly.

Whilst different in its powers and mandate, the European Commission also has its own permanent team of inspectors whose mission is control and evaluate the application of the fisheries rules by the Member States, including those under the Mediterranean swordfish recovery plan, by means of the examination of information and documents and by conducting verifications, autonomous inspections and audits.

Although the inspection plan is still subject to change in response to the specificities of the 2019 fishing activities, European Commission inspectors will once again be very active in 2019.

3.1.2 Vessel monitoring system and Operations team

All vessels will be continually monitored by VMS and any interruption in the transmission of VMS data will be immediately followed up with the Member State concerned.

3.2 *Joint international inspection (para 39-41; Annex 1)*

In accordance with Part IV of Recommendation [16-05] (ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection in International waters), when at any time more than 50 catching vessels are engaged in Mediterranean swordfish directed fishing activities, the EU activate the Scheme and consequently during that time will deploy an inspection vessel in the Mediterranean Sea.

3.2.1 *Specific Control and Inspection Programme*

Working under the framework of the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection and building on experiences from recent years, the EU has currently in place a Specific Control and Inspection Programme (SCIP)³ to monitor and enforce the implementation of the Bluefin Tuna Recovery Plan and the Mediterranean Swordfish Recovery Plan. This programme is a joint initiative bringing together the resources of the European Commission, EFCA and the Member States involved in those fisheries.

The SCIPs ensure a uniform and effective implementation of the conservation and control measures of all relevant stocks, including Mediterranean swordfish. With an approach based on risk analysis and the establishment of minimum benchmarks for inspections, the SCIPs increases the transparency, level playing field and efficiency of the inspections carried out within the framework of the EU.

3.2.2 *Joint Deployment Plan (JDP) for Mediterranean fisheries (including Mediterranean swordfish)*

In cooperation with the European Commission and Member States, EFCA adopts annually a Joint Deployment Plan (JDP), which includes Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, Mediterranean Swordfish from 2017 and, Mediterranean Albacore from 2018. This Joint Deployment plan (JDP) brings the Specific Control and Inspection Programme into effect focusing its activity on controls at sea and on land.

Under the JDP, EFCA will coordinate in 2019 joint inspections and control activities in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean involving a number of fishery patrol vessels and aircrafts. An additional patrol vessel will be chartered and deployed by EFCA in 2018. Whilst the operational strategies and precise areas of operation remain confidential, the general areas covered by the 2018 JDP will be the Eastern Atlantic (ICES Areas VII, VIII, IX X and COPACE 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2.0) and the Mediterranean (Western, Central and Eastern). These patrols particularly focus on, but are not restricted to Purse Seiners and farming activities for Bluefin tuna and longline fisheries and landings for the Mediterranean stock of swordfish. Focus will also be given to sport and recreational fishery. In 2019, the EU will conduct up to 421 days of control and inspection activities at sea and around 36 days of air surveillance in the framework of the JDP, covering as indicated above several fisheries in the Mediterranean Sea and Eastern Atlantic.

A JDP Steering Group, composed by representatives of EFCA, the European Commission and the European Member States, guides the overall strategy of inspection activities and supervises the JDP implementation. The strategy and control priorities are based on an annual risk assessment carried out by Member States under the coordination of EFCA.

All cases of potential non-compliance will be forwarded to the flag state of the vessel/operator concerned and to the ICCAT Secretariat where required under the dedicated ICCAT recommendations to the species covered by this JDP.

The EFCA is also cooperating with EMSA (European Maritime Safety Agency) and FRONTEX (European Border and Coast Guard Agency), each within its mandate, to support the national authorities carrying coast guard functions, by providing services, information, equipment and training as well as by coordinating multipurpose operations. Among the tools used to support these multipurpose operations is the MARSURV service, an application that provides an integrated maritime picture based on the real-time fusion of VMS, Automatic Identification System (AIS) and other maritime related data, such as sightings. It is proving to be a useful tool that greatly contributes to the operational risk assessment. Cooperation of EFCA in the context of Coastguard function has allowed identifying serious PNCs in non-EU waters in recent years.

3.2.3 Member States annual Inspection plans

Following Article 46 (National control action programmes) of Council Regulation (EC) N° 1224/2009 and in line with paragraph 6 of Rec. [16-05], each EU Member State concerned has developed and submitted a 2018 ICCAT Inspection plan as part of its National Control Action programme for Mediterranean swordfish. These are extensive programmes that contain the resources and inspection strategies that Member States commit to implement within their jurisdiction.

These programmes, as required under the Specific Control and Inspection Programme (see above), are drafted annually on the basis of a risk management strategy in conformity with Article 4 (18) of Regulation (EC) N°1224/2009 and Article 98 of Implementing Regulation (EU) N° 404/2011, following procedures for a risk assessment and including a series of inspection 'benchmarks' consistent, in the particular case of the recovery plan of Mediterranean swordfish with:

- a) the monitoring of inspections at sea in the EU and international waters on the basis of a minimum percentage of sea inspections on vessels depending on the risk identified for the sector;
- b) the monitoring of the technical measures and, in particular of the closure periods (for Mediterranean swordfish and Mediterranean albacore); and
- c) the monitoring of inspections ashore, including inspections at landing and at first sale

These National Programmes are in full accordance with the conservation and management measures adopted in Recommendation [16-05].

4. Capacity Management Plan (para 6-10)

The EU capacity plan is included below.

MED SWO Vessel Fleet	Choose one		New < 7 m vessels in 2017 (para 7)	Total Fleet (vessels)			% difference between reference period (Year 2016) and 2017 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period (Year 2016) and 2018 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period (Year 2016) and 2019 (max 5%)
	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)	Number of vessels in reference period (Year 2016)		2017	2018	2019			
Longliner over 40m	3	0	0	1	1	1			
Longliner between 24 and 40m	121	18	0	39	38	38	117%	111%	111%
Longliner less than 24m	6589	1836	0	1682	1657	1629	-8%	-10%	-11%
Total longliners	6713	1854	0	1722	1696	1668	-7%	-9%	-10%
Handline	50	58	5	52	52	51	-10%	-10%	-12%
Baitboat	3	4	0	0	0	0	-100%	-100%	-100%
Harpoon	86	13	0	13	13	13	0%	0%	0%
Sport/Recreational (Rod & reel)	5822	5463	0	5464	5464	5464	0%	0%	0%
Trap	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Other (please specify)	1867	1567	0	300	312	270	-81%	-80%	-83%
Total number of vessels < 7 m	6574	4557	5	3873	3861	3847	-15%	-15%	-16%
Total number of vessels > 7 m	6937	4380	0	3678	3675	3619	-16%	-16%	-17%
Total fleet	14540	8959	5	7551	7537	7466	-16%	-16%	-17%
Quota	0	0	0	7410,48	7188,17	6948,45		-3%	-3%
Adjusted quota (if applicable)									

3. LIBYA

Fishing Plan Year: 2019

1. Introduction

No quota is allocated to Libya for 2019.

2. Details of fishing plan

Taking into consideration the fact that no quota has been allocated to Libya it was decided to take the same action as last year; therefore the six industrial long-line vessels listed in CP-01 for 2019 have not been granted any licence to fish for SWO in 2019.

Long liners between 24-40 meters are not allowed to fish for SWO and no landings have been registered by this fleet.

However small vessels of the artisanal fishery, mostly small hand-liners, in the lesser villages on the coastline do catch SWO ; taking into consideration that these fishermen are striving to make a living with their sporadic catches and that the economy of the country is still recouping from a period of uncertainty they are to be regarded as fishing communities which are dependent mainly on fishing for their survival and consequently a certain amount of tolerance is practiced in their regard.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 16-05)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1	Fleet development plan (para. 9)	CPC Libya has been reducing its fishing effort over the past years	Regulations regarding this fishery is presently being elaborated.	
2	Choice of closed Fishing Seasons (paras. 11-13)	1 Jan to 31 March		
3	Recreational and sports fisheries (paras. 21-26)	This fishery is not present nor allowed in Libya		
4	Allocation for by-catch and detail of limit per vessel/operation (para. 30)	Vessels over 15m: 100kg per operation		
5	Catch recording and reporting (paras. 35-37)	Fish Market landings		
6	Measures taken to control landings (para 34)	Any landings exceeding by-catch limits by vessels over 15m will be confiscated		
7	CPC Scientific Observer (para. 44)	No scientific Observer		
8	Other requirements (specify)	Null		

Inspection Plan

a) CPC's inspection and control (para 13)

Controls to ensure that industrial vessels over 24m do not target SWO are in place

b) Joint international inspection (para 39-41; Annex 1)

CPC-Libya does not participate in Joint International Inspections

Capacity Management Plan (para 6-10)

Each CPC will provide the number of fishing vessels using the template provided by the Secretariat (attached).

MED SWO Vessel Fleet	Choose one		New < 7 m vessels in 2017 (para 7)	Total Fleet (vessels)			% difference between reference period and 2017 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period and 2018 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period and 2019 (max 5%)
Type	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)	Number of vessels in reference period (Year 2016)		2017	2018	2019			
Longliner over 40m	10	10	0	6	5	5			
Longliner between 24 and 40m	360	360	0	360	162	55			
Longliner less than 24m	520	520	0	331	331	110			
Handline	822	822	0	822	822	822			
Harpoon									
Sport/Recreational (Rod & reel)									
Trap									
Other (please specify)									
Total number of vessels < 7 m									
Total number of vessels > 7 m									
Total fleet	1712	1712	0	1519	1321	987			
Quota	0	0							
Adjusted quota (if applicable)									

4. MOROCCO

Fishing Plan Year: 2019

1. Introduction

In accordance with the fishing allocations adopted by ICCAT during its Annual meeting held in Vilamoura, November 2016 (Rec. 16-05), the 2019 national quota, established at 982.26 t, will be distributed among the following operational sectors: artisanal boats and coastal vessels actively fishing swordfish.

Mediterranean swordfish fishing is currently regulated by Ministerial Decrees 3315-17 of 18 December 2017 and Decree No. 2406-18 of 27 July 2018 amending and supplementing Decree No. 1176-13 of 8 April 2013 on the implementation of a fishing management plan for Mediterranean and Atlantic swordfish.

2. Details of fishing plan

In accordance with the provisions of the national fishing capacity management plan, established in Articles 6 to 10 of ICCAT Recommendation 16-05 amending Recommendation 13-04, the maximum fishing capacity authorized to fish Mediterranean swordfish is distributed as follows:

- Artisanal fishing boats and coastal fishing vessels are authorised by the Moroccan administration to catch Mediterranean swordfish and their catches are accounted within the quota limit allocated to Morocco by ICCAT. The fishing gear used by these artisanal boats and coastal vessels is longline and handline.
- In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 9 of Recommendation 16-05, Morocco will apply a 5% increase of its total capacity between the reference period (2016) and the years 2017, 2018 and 2019.
- In the 2019 fishing season, the Mediterranean swordfish fishing quota is not distributed among individual quotas. Fishing vessels catch swordfish until they reach the quota allocated to Morocco by ICCAT.
- Fishing conditions are regulated by Ministerial Decrees No. 3315-17 of 18 December 2017 and Decree No. 2406-18 of 27 July 2018 amending and supplementing Decree No. 1176-13 of 8 April 2013 regulating swordfish fishing which is based mainly on ICCAT Recommendation 16-05.
- The Kingdom of Morocco will comply with all the provisions of Recommendation 16-05 amending Recommendation 13-04 during the 2019 fishing campaign which will start in April for all the sectors authorised in the Mediterranean, following a three-month biological resting period (from 1 January to 31 March each year / Decree No. 3315-17 of 18 December 2017).

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per Rec.16-05)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1	Fleet Development Plan (para. 9)	List of coastal vessels and artisanal boats catching Mediterranean swordfish registered in the ICCAT SWO-MED Record. Morocco will apply a 5% increase of its capacity between the reference period (2016) and 2019.	These vessels are recorded in the national registry of the fleet and hold a fishing license in accordance with the Decree No. 02-92-1026 of 29 December 1992 establishing the terms and conditions of issuance and renewal of fishing licenses in the EEZ.	
2	Choice of closed Fishing Seasons (paras. 11-13)	The closure of the fishing season is established from 1 January and 31 March each year.	Ministerial Decree No. 3315-17 of 18 December 2017 regulating swordfish fishing.	
3	Recreational and sport fisheries (paras. 21-26)	Currently, Morocco does not account for any recreational and sport fisheries but they could be developed in the coming years.	Dahir No. 1-14-95 of 12 May 2014 enacting Law No. 15-12 to prevent and combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and amending and supplementing Dahir No. 1-73-255 of 23 November 1973 on the maritime fishing regulation.	
4	Allocation for by-catch and detail of limit per vessel/operation (para. 30)	5% of the allocated quota to Morocco will be reserved to vessels which are not authorised to actively fish Mediterranean swordfish. This catch is deducted and counted from the quota allocated to Morocco by ICCAT for the 2019 fishing season.		
5	Catch recording and reporting (paras. 35-37)	Use of the ICCAT swordfish statistical document programme and quarterly reporting of swordfish catches. Notifying the ICCAT Secretariat of the swordfish fishery closure (when the quota is reached).		
6	Measures taken to control landings (para. 34)	Control at landing ports, fishing sites and fish		

		markets with the obligation of effective weighing of landings of the artisanal and coastal fishing fleet prior to the first sale. Mandatory system of reporting of catches at landing and monitoring of trade flow through a catch certification scheme. Use of the ICCAT swordfish statistical document programme.		
7	CPC scientific observer (para. 44)	Vessels over 15m that do not actively fish Mediterranean swordfish, therefore, national observers will not be deployed.		
8	Other Requirements (specify)			

Inspection Plan

a) CPC's inspection (para. 13)

Fishery monitoring, control and surveillance practices will be implemented in accordance with national regulation and the provisions of ICCAT recommendations on control and inspection, in particular those stated in Recommendation 16-05. These practices fall under the framework of the national control plan of maritime fishery activities and will focus on measures concerning the following actions:

- Monitoring and control of landings of coastal and artisanal fleets with the obligation of effective weighing before the first sale and compliance with the catch documentation system implemented at national level. This national documentation system allows the control by direct systematic cross-checks between catch reporting at landing and the data of the first sale and allows a supplementary cross-checking tool for the validation of ICCAT statistical documents.
- VMS monitoring of fishing vessels is conducted by the FMC of the Fisheries Department with an online availability of real time position data for the Regional Administration of Maritime fisheries (Maritime Fishery Delegations).
- Implementation of a procedure for communication and recording of fishery information, in particular, through the implementation of an ICCAT statistical document programme.
- Compliance with the provisions regarding port inspection measures of foreign vessels and, compliance with the international commitments of the Kingdom of Morocco with respect to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

Sea surveillance is also ensured by other authorities empowered within the framework of assignments conferred by national regulations.

b) Joint international inspection (paras. 39-41; Annex 1)

The Kingdom of Morocco does not account for catching vessels that participate in fishing activities directed at Mediterranean swordfish outside the EEZ (international waters).

Therefore, the Kingdom of Morocco will not deploy an inspection vessel.

Capacity Management Plan (paras. 6-10)

MED SWO Vessel Fleet	Choose one		New < 7 m vessels in 2017 (para. 7)	Total Fleet (vessels)			% difference between reference period and 2017 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period and 2018 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period and 2019 (max 5%)
Type	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013- 2016)	Number of vessels in reference period (Year 2016)		2017	2018	2019			
Longliner over 40m		0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner between 24 and 40m		30		30	0	0	0	-100	-100
Longliner less than 24m		389		389	245	279	0	-37	-28.3
Handline		2936		2936	3110	3244	0	+5.9	+10.6
Harpoon		0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Sport/Recreational (rod & reel)		0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Trap		0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (please specify)		0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of vessels < 7 m		2912		2912	3086	3220	0	+5.9	+10.6
Total number of vessels > 7 m		443		443	269	303	0	-39	-31.6
Total fleet		3355		3355	3355	3523	0	0	+5
Quota (t)				1045	1013.61	982.26			
Adjusted quota (if applicable)*				1045	1013.61	933.15			

* 5% of the quota, i.e., 49,11 t, deducted from the national quota, is set aside for possible over-quota and possible dead swordfish discards.

5. TUNISIA

Fishing Plan Year: 2019

1. Introduction

The 2019 swordfish fishing plan is presented in this document in accordance with the Rec. 16-05 establishing a multiannual recovery programme for swordfish in the Mediterranean (§10).

Tunisia has an artisanal swordfish fishery whose average coastal units measure between 3 and 20m and of which only 10% measures over 15m. The total number of these units is established at 801 units.

In Tunisia, swordfish fishing is regulated by:

- The provisions of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and in particular Rec. 16-05, establishing a multi-annual recovery programme for swordfish in the Mediterranean;
- Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 regarding fishing activities.
- Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture of 28 September 1995 regarding the organization of fishing activity.
- Circular No. 251 of 25 December 2018 (a specific decree is being published).

Access rights to this resource is submitted to an authorization of coastal fishing issued by the competent authority. This authorisation is not specific to swordfish as this segment of the fleet targets other stocks of species using different types of selective gear, including longline.

However, fishermen comply with fishery closures and not target swordfish in these closure periods. The majority of the swordfish caught is destined to the local market.

Swordfish fishing is therefore prohibited during three consecutive months, i.e., from 1 January to 31 March each year. The regulatory size is established at 100 cm calculated from the end of the lower jaw to the posterior tip of the smallest caudal ray, the authorised hooks have a minimum size of 7 cm and the number of hooks by fishing boat is limited to 2,500 units.

In 2019, the swordfish fishing quota allocated to Tunisia amounts to 948.14 t.

2. Details of fishing plan

Swordfish fishing is conducted by pelagic longline and management of the fishing activity will be regulated in compliance with the provisions of ICCAT Rec. 16-05 and domestic legislation.

Tunisia's TAC, established at 948.14 t, will not be distributed by vessel, and it will more like affect all the coastal fishing fleet registered in the ICCAT vessel record. The fishing season will be closed once the national quota becomes exhausted and a circular, concerning this issue, will be distributed to all the maritime services for the prohibition of swordfish fishing, landing, transport and transformation.

	ICCAT Requirement (per Rec. 16-05)	Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement	Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)	Note
1	Fleet Development Plan (para. 9)	Reduction in number of swordfish catching vessels (801 vessels in 2019 compared to 872 vessels in 2017).	Law No. 99-2130 of 27 September 1999 establishing the composition and functioning modalities of the advisory board for the organization of fishing activity, as amended by Law No. 2004-2138. Law No. 99-2129 of 27 September 1999 establishing the composition and functioning modalities of the advisory board issuing authorisations for the construction and the import of fishing units.	
2	Choice of closed Fishing Seasons (paras. 11-13)	Swordfish fishing is prohibited from 1 January to 31 March each year.	Internal circular 251 dated 25 December 2018. Decree (being published).	
3	Recreational and sport fisheries (paras. 21-26)	No sport or recreational fisheries will be allowed.		
4	Allocation for by-catch and detail of limit per vessel/operation (para. 30)	By-catch is recorded and accounted against the national quota.		
5	Catch recording and reporting (paras. 35-37)	Number of days at sea of the vessels (small boats) actively fishing swordfish does not exceed one week. The captain of the fishing vessel records the information on fishing operations in the logbook. A copy of this logbook is transmitted to the competent authority at landing.	Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994.	
6	Measures taken to control landings (para. 34)	In-port inspections are ensured by fishery services who are responsible for controlling swordfish landings, fishing gear and onboard documents.	Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994.	
7	CPC scientific observer (para. 44)	Swordfish fishing vessels over 15m, like all the other coastal fishing vessels, do not only target swordfish, therefore it is not foreseen to deploy a scientific observer onboard these vessels.	A scientific monitoring programme of swordfish fisheries is launched. It will be based on the collection of scientific data at landing in the main production ports.	
8	Other Requirements (specify)			

3. Inspection Plan

a) CPC's inspection and control (para. 13)

During the closure period of the swordfish fishery, sea inspections will be conducted by the certified national officers, i.e., fishing officers, coast guards, national navy and customs officers.

Control operations will be strengthened through control campaigns between the fishery services and other bodies (coast guards, national navy and customs officers). Control missions will be conducted during the closure period at the fishing ports and markets to ensure compliance of provisions taken in this regard.

b) Joint international inspection (paras. 39-41; Annex 1)

Catching vessels do not carry out swordfish directed fishing activities. However, these include multi-specific activities. In fact, Tunisia does not account for an inspection vessel in the Convention zone.

c) Capacity Management Plan (paras. 6-10)

Table attached.

<i>MED SWO Fleet</i>	<i>Choose one</i>		<i>Vessels New < 7 m vessels in 2017 (para. 7)</i>	<i>Total Fleet (vessels)</i>			<i>% difference between reference period and 2017 (max 5%)</i>	<i>% difference between reference period and 2018 (max 5%)</i>	<i>% difference between reference period and 2019 (max 5%)</i>
<i>Type</i>	<i>Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)</i>	<i>Number of vessels in reference period (Year 2016)</i>		<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>			
Longliner over 40m	0			0	0	0			
Longliner between 24 and 40m	0			0	0	0			
Longliner less than 24m	0			0	0	0			
Handline	0			0	0	0			
Harpoon	0			0	0	0			
Sport/Recreational (rod & reel)	0			0	0	0			
Trap	0			0	0	0			
Other (specify)	402			872	810	801			
Total number of vessels < 7 m	4		24	28	28	28			
Total number of vessels > 7 m	398			844	782	773			
Total fleet	402			872	810	801			
Quota				1007,694	977,463	948,14			
Adjusted quota (if applicable)									

6. TURKEY

Fishing Plan Year: 2019

1. Introduction

Mediterranean swordfish quota of 414,92 metric tons pertinent to Turkey will be assigned for utilization by 217 Med-SWO fishing vessels with special fishing permits for the year 2019. A 10% of the quota will be assigned for coastal artisanal fisheries. There will be no activities envisaged for sports and recreational fisheries targeting Med-SWO. Distribution of the authorized number of fishing vessels by gear type in 2019 is provided below:

Mediterranean swordfish fishery will be regulated through the updated Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries.

2. Details of fishing plan

Details of all fishing gear groups that catch Mediterranean Swordfish, including the total number of vessels in each group, is attached.

The individual quotas shall be allocated in accordance with criteria developed domestically in consideration of past performances of fishing vessels as well as regional and socio-economic aspects of coastal artisanal fisheries in Turkey.

A reporting system that would require fishermen to record and report to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MoAF) following each landing within 48 hours will be mandatory. The reporting system shall involve regular landing controls and checks will be implemented to monitor and control catches and to ensure vessel and gear group quotas are respected.

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per 16-05)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1	Fleet development plan (para. 9)	N/A	N/A	
2	Choice of closed Fishing Seasons (paras. 11-13)	Closed Season: 15 Feb – 15 March 1 October – 30 November	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries	
3	Recreational and sports fisheries (paras. 21-26)	No specific quota is assigned for recreational and sports fisheries	N/A	
4	Allocation for by-catch and detail of limit per vessel/operation (para. 30)	Maximum by-catch limit per vessel and per fishing operation shall not be more than 5 individuals. The by-catch in question shall be deducted from Turkey's TAC.	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries	
5	Catch recording and reporting (paras. 35-37)	Authorized Med-SWO catching vessels above 15 m LoA shall record, report and	Ministerial Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries	

		<p>communicate to the Ministry (either by electronic or bound logbooks or in other means) weekly catch reports on relevant details of Med-SWO catches (spatial, temporal and biological details) following any given fishing operation without delay.</p> <p>Ministry shall submit a compilation of weekly catch reports to the ICCAT Secretariat on a quarterly basis in line with the required format.</p>		
6	Measures taken to control landings (para 34)	Ministerial inspectors shall perform regular inspections and checks at landing spots to ensure the validity of catches and level of compliance to individual quotas, by-catch limitations and other rules.	Ministerial Notice and Circulars	
7	CPC Scientific Observer (para. 44)	<p>Scientific observers shall be deployed on at least 5% pelagic longliners over 15 meters LoA.</p> <p>Additionally, Ministerial inspectors accompanied by scientific observers shall perform regular checks at the most busy and operational landing spots to account for a 10 % of the total landings points, in a way to improve data collection and sampling.</p>	Ministerial Notification, Notice and Circulars	
8	Other requirements (specify)	<p>Technical Regulations</p> <p>The catch of swordfish smaller than 125 cm is prohibited.</p>		

		<p>It is mandatory for the fishing vessels catching swordfish to obtain a "Fishing Permit" from the provincial directorate issuing vessel's license. Applications by the fishermen to acquire a special fishing permit for swordfish is subject to some technical criteria. When an application made is approved by the Ministry, the special permit information is simultaneously recorded in the Fisheries Information System (FIS) operated by the Ministry.</p> <p>When longlining for tuna and swordfish only hooks No. 1 and No. 2 with a gape width smaller than 2.8 cm is permitted.</p> <p>During the closed season, Med-SWO fishermen engaged in other types of coastal fisheries, trawling, tourism and/or aquaculture activities.</p>		
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Inspection Plan

a) CPC's inspection and control (para 13)

Inspection and controls have been the major components of the activities of MoAF for ensuring the efficiency of the closed season and size regulations set for the Mediterranean Swordfish. The inspection activities, which are still ongoing, have been concentrated at most potential fishing grounds, landing points, retail and wholesale markets. Ministerial inspectors shall perform regular inspections and checks at landing spots to ensure the validity of catches and level of compliance to individual quotas, by-catch limitations and other rules.

In this context, 290 Kgs of Med-SWO have been seized in 2018 in consequence of the inspections conducted by MoAF inspectors at several coastal provinces. A total of 508 Kgs. of Med-SWO were seized by ministerial inspectors previously in 2017.

In accordance with the relevant provisions of ICCAT Rec. 16-05; a list of designated landing points for Med-SWO has been made available and reported to ICCAT on 19 February 2019.

In 2002 and 2003, EU and ICCAT enforced a recommendation prohibiting the usage of driftnets in the Mediterranean. Afterwards, drift-netting in Turkey was also banned in 2006. Subsequently, Turkey announced its position for elimination of modified driftnet usage with the ICCAT Circular # 3225/10. Accordingly, usage of all modified driftnets has been prohibited as from 1 July 2011. Accordingly, all fishing vessels with the modified driftnets have gone under obligation to shift their fishing gears in accordance with provisions of Revised Notification No. 2/1 Regulating Commercial Fishing. MoAF continued its efforts to promote the usage of more selective fishing methods and fishing gear by the majority of Turkish swordfish fishermen, with several regional training activities.

b) Joint international inspection (para 39-41; Annex 1)

Inspectors from Turkish Coast Guard have been trained to actively participate to inspections for Med-SWO in the context of IJIS.

In 2019, Turkey plans to participate to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection of 2019 with 58 Turkish Coast Guard Command (TCGC) boats, 16 aircraft (planes/helicopters) and 255 inspector staff. Due to logistical reasons, envisaged numbers of inspection boats and inspector staff may be subject to some changes subsequently.

Furthermore, an additional inspection vessel - namely AKDENİZ ARAŞTIRMA 1- that has been assigned by MoAF will also contribute to the activities under ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspections in the region.

Based on a risk analysis approach, the locations where the fishing vessels were mostly concentrated during previous seasons are planned to be focused on for 2019.

The means of at-sea inspections shall be deployed Med-SWO fishing grounds which are determined based on 2018's risk assessment data.

Capacity Management Plan (para 6-10)

Med-SWO Vessel Fleet Capacity Management Plan is attached below.

MED SWO Vessel Fleet	Choose one		New < 7 m vessels in 2017 (para 7)	Total Fleet (vessels)			% difference between reference period and 2017 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period and 2018 (max 5%)	% difference between reference period and 2019 (max 5%)
	Number of vessels in reference period (average 2013-2016)	Number of vessels in reference period (Year 2016)		2017	2018	2019*			
Longliner over 40m	3			0	0	0	0	0	0
Longliner between 24 and 40m	9			3	5	0	0	0	0
Longliner less than 24m	235			244	230	217	4	5	5
Handline									
Harpoon									
Sport/Recreational (Rod & reel)									
Trap									
Other (please specify)									
Total number of vessels < 7 m			6372						
Total number of vessels > 7 m									
Total fleet									
Quota				441	428	415			
Adjusted quota (if applicable)									

*Number of vessels may be updated during the fishing season.