

**DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANISATION
AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS**

The South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (hereafter SEAFO) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (hereafter ICCAT), hereafter collectively referred to as the "Organizations":

NOTING that the objective of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fisheries Resources in the South East Atlantic Ocean (hereafter SEAFO Convention) is to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Convention Area;

NOTING FURTHER that the objective of the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (hereafter ICCAT Convention) is to maintain the populations of tuna and tuna-like fishes of the Atlantic Ocean at levels that will permit the maximum sustainable catch for food and other purposes;

RECOGNISING that Article 18 of the SEAFO Convention requires SEAFO to cooperate, as appropriate, with other relevant organisations on matters of mutual interest;

[...]

RECOGNISING that the ICCAT Convention requires ICCAT, in carrying out its responsibilities, to, insofar as feasible, utilise the technical and scientific services of, and information from, official agencies of the Contracting Parties to the ICCAT Convention and their political sub-divisions, and that ICCAT may, when desirable, utilise the available services and information of any public or private institution, organization or individual, and may, within the limits of its budget carry-out independent research to supplement the research work being done by governments, national institutions or other international organizations;

DESIRING to put in place arrangements and procedures to promote cooperation in order to enhance the conservation and rational use of stocks and species that are within the competence of both Organisations.

Have decided to record the following arrangements;

1. OBJECTIVE OF THIS ARRANGEMENT

The objective of this Arrangement aims to facilitate, where appropriate, cooperation between the Organisations to enhance the conservation and rational use of stocks and species that are of interest to both Organisations.

2. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The Organisations intend to establish and maintain consultation and cooperation in respect of matters of common interest, in particular to:

- (i) exchange meeting reports, information, documents and publications regarding matters of mutual interest, consistent with their respective information sharing policies;
- (ii) exchange data and scientific information in support of the work and objectives of the Organisations, consistent with their respective information sharing policies including, but not limited to information on:
 - (a) vessels authorised to fish in accordance with their respective conservation measures;
 - (b) illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing vessels and IUU Vessel Lists;
 - (c) catch, bycatch and vessel information or data;

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- (iii) cooperate to harmonise approaches in areas of mutual interest and concern, most notably on bycatch of non-target, associated and dependent species (ecologically related species), compliance monitoring and evaluation schemes;
- (iv) where appropriate, collaborate on analyses and research efforts relating to species of mutual interest;
- (v) consider methods of recognising and cooperating with each other's conservation and management measures; and
- (vi) consistent with their respective rules of procedure and confidentiality rules, grant each other's representatives, reciprocal observer status in relevant meetings of each Organisation.

3. CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

(i) To facilitate effective development, implementation and enhancement of cooperation, the Organisations may establish a consultative process between their respective Secretariats that includes, telephone, email and similar means of communications.

(ii) The consultative process may also proceed on the margins of meetings at which both Organisations' Secretariats are represented by appropriate staff.

4. MODIFICATION

This Arrangement may be modified at any time by the mutual written consent of the Organisations.

5. LEGAL STATUS

This Arrangement does not create legally binding rights or obligations.

This Arrangement does not alter the obligations of members of either Organisation to comply with the management and conservation measures of those bodies.

6. OTHERS

(i) The Organisations intend for this Arrangement to commence on the date of signature.

(ii) Either Organisation may discontinue this Arrangement by giving six months' prior written notice to the other Organisation.

(iii) The Organisations intend for this Arrangement to continue to operate until discontinued by either.

7. SIGNATURE

Signed thisday of20

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Mr. Venancio Gomes (Angola), Chair SEAFO

Signed thisday of20

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Mr. Raúl Delgado (Panama), Chair ICCAT