

MEETING PARTICIPATION FUND¹

In 2014 the Commission adopted the *Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation 11-26 on the Establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for Developing ICCAT Contracting Parties* (Rec. 14-14) which substitutes and repeals Rec. 11-26 in its entirety.

Recommendation 14-14 establishes a Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) to support representatives of those ICCAT Contracting Parties which are developing States for the purpose of attending and/or contributing to the work of the Commission and other subsidiary bodies. This fund was initially provisioned with €60,000.00 from the Working Capital Fund.

The new recommendation differs from the previous one in that participation of two members per delegation (a manager and a scientist) will be financed for SWGSM meetings only, and for the remainder of meetings one member per delegation will be financed.

This fund was financed in 2019 with an allocation of €72,000.00 charged to Chapter 13b) of the ICCAT budget, as approved by the Commission in 2018. In addition, the Secretariat has received voluntary contributions from the United States (€57,087.65), from Canada (€75,000.00) and from the European Union, through the European Union Fund for Capacity Building (€28,000.00).

To these funds, the carryover of financial year 2018 must be added, which amounted to €51,381.75. Therefore, the available amount in 2019 has been €283,469.40.

Implementation of this fund has significantly driven participation by representatives of developing Contracting Parties, so much so that this year 105 trips have been organised and 30 CPCs have benefited.

In 2017, the Commission approved the inclusion in the budget of an item to finance the expenses of this fund. The contribution from the 2019 budget has been €72,000.00 and therefore insufficient to cover all costs, but as the Commission decided, this item will be gradually regularised so that in 2021 all annual costs can be covered. Until that time, it will be necessary for CPCs to make voluntary contributions so that all requests can be covered.

Taking into account the number of requests for participation in meetings, and therefore, the expense incurred and charged to this fund, it is estimated that for 2020 it is necessary to allocate some €320,000.00. This amount will be allocated from the 2019 carryover (€20,000.00), charged to Chapter 13.a) of the ICCAT budget (€200,000.00), and through the funds provided under the contract with the European Union that is pending formalization.

Given the number of requests and meetings that will be held in 2020, as in 2019, even if fully completed requests are submitted by the established deadlines and even where they have been pre-approved, the Secretariat will only guarantee financing of travel if the Meeting Participation Fund has available funds. A circular will be sent to CPCs twice a year informing of the balance.

Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities are requested to inform STACFAD and the Executive Secretary of the amounts which they could commit to the MPF through voluntary contributions for 2020.

Finally, it is recalled that access to the funds for participation in meetings is governed by a protocol published on the web site and sent to the delegations for each of the meetings. The requests received are submitted for approval to the ICCAT Chairman and the STACFAD Chair.

¹Data at 13 November 2019.

Special Meeting Participation Fund (MPF)

Opening balance for financial year 2019	€51,381.75
REVENUE	€ 232,087.65
Financed by ICCAT	€ 72,000.00
Voluntary contribution from the United States	€ 57,087.65
Voluntary contribution from Canada	€ 75,000.00
Voluntary contribution from the European Union through the European Union Fund for Capacity Building for 2018	€ 28,000.00
Available balance for the first quarter	€ 141,734.70
Expenses first semester	€ 121,767.32
Scientific meetings	€ 88,389.89
<i>Bluefin Tuna Species Group Meeting (Madrid, Spain, from 11 to 15 February 2019)</i>	€ 2,906.05
<i>Intersessional Meeting of the Swordfish Species Group (Madrid, Spain, from 25 to 28 February 2019)</i>	€ 3,782.17
<i>White Marlin Data Preparatory Meeting (Madrid, Spain, from 12 to 15 March 2019)</i>	€ 14,707.30
<i>Intersessional Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Ecosystems (Madrid, Spain, 8 to 12 April 2019)</i>	€ 7,016.08
<i>Meeting of the ICCAT Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods (Madrid, Spain, 8 to 12 April 2019)</i>	€ 5,275.98
<i>Yellowfin Data Preparatory Meeting (Madrid, Spain, from 22 to 26 April 2019)</i>	€ 20,332.29
<i>Shortfin Mako Shark Stock Assessment Update Meeting (Madrid, Spain, from 20 to 24 May 2019)</i>	€ 10,625.06
<i>White Marlin Stock Assessment Meeting (Miami, United States, from 10 to 14 June 2019)</i>	€ 9,463.39
<i>Intersessional Meeting of the Small Tunas Species Group (Olhão, Portugal, from 24 to 27 June 2019)</i>	€ 14,281.57
<i>Meeting of the Technical and Legal Editing Group of Contracting Parties (Madrid, Spain, from 28 to 29 January 2019)</i>	€ 13,305.73
<i>Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2 (Madrid, Spain, from 4 to 7 March 2019)</i>	€ 4,683.69
<i>13th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (Madrid, Spain, from 2 to 4 April 2019)</i>	€15,388.01
Balance of first semester	€ 19,967.38
Transfer of balance from first semester	€ 19,967.38
Available balance for the first quarter	€ 141,734.70
Expenses first semester	€ 140,997.31
Scientific meetings	€ 82,498.47
<i>Yellowfin Tuna Stock Assessment Meeting (Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire, from 8 to 16 July 2019)</i>	€ 21,830.84
<i>Meeting of the Bluefin Tuna MSE Technical Group, SCRS Species Groups Meeting and Meeting of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) (Madrid, Spain, 19 September to 4 October 2019)</i>	€ 60,667.63
<i>Panel 1 Meeting / 26th Regular Meeting of the Commission (Palma de Mallorca, Spain, from 16 to 25 November 2019)</i>	€ 58,498.84
Balance at 13 November 2019	€ 20,704.77

Summary of expenses	Scientific meetings		Meeting of the Technical and Legal Editing Group of Contracting Parties		Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2		13th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM)		Panel 1 Meeting / 26th Regular Meeting of the Commission	
CPC										
Albania					X	€ 1,663.60			X	€ 2,220.00
Angola			X	€ 1,915.71						
Algeria	b)	€ 1,520.00	X	€ 751.75	X	€ 1,546.98			X	€ 1,896.82
	d)	€ 1,905.10								
	i)	€ 682.78								
	k)	€ 2,862.18								
	k)	€ 1,766.22								
Belize									X	€ 3,463.28
Brazil	c)	€ 2,234.68					X	€ 1,991.71	X	€ 3,636.84
	d)	€ 255.76								
	e)	€ 3,025.21								
	f)	€ 3,434.63								
	h)	€ 2,337.90								
	i)	€ 1,867.69								
	j)	€ 3,332.38								
	k)	€ 4,815.46								
Cabo Verde									X	€ 3,302.49
Côte d'Ivoire	b)	€ 2,262.17	X	€ 1,017.75			X	€ 1,662.17	X	€ 3,320.92
	c)	€ 1,939.69								
	f)	€ 2,624.67								
	g)	€ 2,428.93								
	h)	€ 3,194.63								
	i)	€ 1,242.79								
Egypt	k)	€ 2,497.16								
El Salvador									C	€ 1,039.18
Gabon	i)	€ 2,074.90					X	€ 2,174.67	X	€ 3,260.32
	j)	€ 1,826.87								
	k)	€ 4,364.87								
Gambia, The									X	€ 3,411.36
Ghana	f)	€ 3,034.42	X	€ 2,092.91			X	€ 1,839.28		
	k)	€ 4,345.82								
Guatemala			X	€ 1,150.25					X	€ 2,999.39
Equatorial Guinea									X	€ 3,120.67
Honduras			X	€ 1,215.50						
Liberia	d)	€ 3,191.72	X	€ 2,514.11						
	j)	€ 1,950.82								
	k)	€ 3,518.04								
	k)	€ 2,353.05								

Summary of expenses			Meeting of the Technical and Legal Editing Group of Contracting Parties	Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2		13th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM)	Panel 1 Meeting / 26th Regular Meeting of the Commission	
CPC	Scientific meetings							
Mauritania	c)	€ 2,495.74						
	f)	€ 2,570.73						
	g)	€ 2,459.27					X	€ 3,323.45
	i)	€ 1,804.10						
	j)	€ 2,710.42						
	k)	€ 5,450.01						
Mexico	c)	€ 2,808.86						
	f)	€ 3,232.89					X	€ 3,322.81
	h)	€ 2,002.88						
	k)	€ 4,697.29						
Namibia	g)	€ 2,847.32				X	€ 2,455.24	
	k)	€ 3,662.28						
	k)	€ 3,582.94						
Nicaragua			X	€ 809.00			X	€ 3,600.45
Nigeria	j)	€ 2,571.78				X	€ 2,338.83	X
	k)	€ 1,811.75						€ 2,498.54
São Tomé e Príncipe	c)	€ 3,406.71						
	i) C	€ 1,086.14						
Senegal	c)	€ 1,821.62						
	e)	€ 2,250.77						
	f)	€ 2,572.55						
	h)	€ 1,927.98						
	i)	€ 1,326.90	X	€ 884.25		X	€ 1,525.52	X
	j)	€ 1,646.86						
	k)	€ 2,065.92						
Sierra Leone	j)	€ 2,294.19						
South Africa	k)	€ 4,812.89						
Trinidad and Tobago							X	€ 3,568.11
Tunisia	a)	€ 2,906.05						
	d)	€ 1,663.50						
	i)	€ 1,511.06	X	€ 954.50	X	€ 1,473.11	X	€ 2,211.95
	k)	€ 4,588.49						
Turkey							X	€ 2,328.84
Uruguay	f)	€ 2,862.40						
	g)	€ 2,889.54						
	i)	€ 2,685.21					X	€ 3,276.46
	k)	€ 3,473.26						
Venezuela	j)	€ 5,497.52						
Total		€ 170,888.36		€ 13,305.73		€ 4,683.69		€ 15,388.01
								€ 58,498.84

- a) *Intersessional Meeting of the Bluefin Tuna Species Group*
- b) *Intersessional Meeting of the Swordfish Species Group*
- c) *White Marlin Data Preparatory Meeting*
- d) *Intersessional Meeting of the Sub-committee on Ecosystems*
- e) *Meeting of the Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods*
- f) *Yellowfin Data Preparatory Meeting*
- g) *Shortfin Mako Shark Stock Assessment Update Meeting*
- h) *White Marlin Stock Assessment Meeting*
- i) *Intersessional Meeting of the Small Tunas Species Group*
- j) *Yellowfin Stock Assessment Meeting*
- k) *MSE, Species Groups and SCRS meeting*

C: *Trip cancelled*