INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

ICCAT CICTA CICAA

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

ICCAT-SALIDA
2020-09-21
S20-06465

Madrid, 21 September 2020

Mr. Ibrahim Abubakar
Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Division
Area II, Garki
Abuja
NIGERIA

SUBJECT: LETTER ON COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Dear Mr. Abubakar,

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, at the 26th Regular meeting of ICCAT (18-26 November 2019, Palma de Mallorca, Spain), the Commission noted certain reporting and implementation deficiencies, as listed in the attached response template.

During the 2019 Compliance Committee meeting, Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities (CPCs) were assessed for compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures and reporting requirements. Based on the review of the Secretariat Report on Statistics and Coordination of Research and the 2019 Secretariat's Report to the Compliance Committee and other available information, the Committee noted the following deficiencies for Nigeria:

- Annual report incomplete (only summary tables submitted)
- Rec. 18-09: no list of designated ports was submitted; status of Port entry by foreign vessels is unclear

Lack of full implementation of ICCAT requirements can undermine the work of the Commission in fulfilling the Convention's objectives. And late or incomplete reporting causes difficulties for the Secretariat in preparing documents for the Commission and its Panels and Committees and reduces the effectiveness of the Compliance Committee. The lists of reporting requirements, the relevant reporting forms, and ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions are published annually on the ICCAT web site at:

https://www.iccat.int/en/SubmitCOMP.html
https://www.iccat.int/en/submitSTAT.html
https://www.iccat.int/en/RecRes.asp

With regard to the absence of a list of designated ports, it would be appreciated if Nigeria could clarify either submit such a list, or alternatively confirm whether or not that foreign fishing vessels may be granted are generally prohibited from accessing to Nigerian ports.

The Commission requests Nigeria to reply to this letter before **20 October 2020** and complete the attached template (preferably submitted as an MS Word document) to indicate the actions taken by Nigeria to rectify the deficiencies indicated. Where possible, an earlier response would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions about the issues raised in this letter, including a request for a more detailed explanation of the issues, please do not hesitate to contact me and the Secretariat at info@iccat.int.

In thanking you for your attention to these important matters, let me express to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

Derek Campbell
Compliance Committee Chair

cc: M. Delgado, *Commission Chair*