Original: English/Spanish/French

PLANS AND INTENTIONS REQUIRED BY REC. 19-02

The Fishing and Capacity Management Plans and the Statements of development intentions for tropical tuna required by paragraphs 20 and 21 of Rec. 19-02, as well as the FAD management plans required under paragraph 34 were circulated through ICCAT Circulars 941/2020 of 14 February 2020 and 1939/2020 of 2 April 2020, and are attached here for the information of the Panel. The documents received are shown in the table below.

CPC	FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS	FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN	STATEMENT OF DEVELOPMENT INTENTIONS
Belize	X	X	
Brazil	X		
China	X		
Curacao	x	X	
El Salvador	X (late)	X (late)	
EU	X	X	
Ghana	X	X	
Guatemala	X	X	
Japan	X		
Korea	X		X
Russia	X (late)		
Senegal	X	X	
SVG	X	X	
USA	X	X	X
UKOT	X	X	X
Chinese Taipei	X		
ALGERIA			X
COLOMBIA			X
GABON			X
MOROCCO			X
NICARAGUA			X

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (INCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLANS)

Name of CPC: **Belize**

Fishing Plan Year: **2020**

1. Introduction

This Plan outlines Belize's involvement in the fishery of tropical tunas and more specifically Bigeye Tunas in the ICCAT Convention Area and identifies its needs as a coastal State as well as its intention for its involvement in this fishery over the next three years.

1.1 Tropical Tuna Statement

Belize introduced its High Seas Fishing Act (HSFA) in 2003 to provide a legal framework for the regulation of the activities of its high seas fishing vessel. This Act was revised in 2013 and makes provisions for the adoption of and compliance with all conservation and management measures adopted by the relevant RFMOs for the protection of the high seas resources.

Pursuant to the adoption of the HSFA, 2013, Belize has also adopted Sanctions; Licensing; and Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Regulations. This regulatory framework promulgates the furtherance of various international treaties and arrangements that Belize has ratified including the FAO "Compliance Agreement"; the UN "Fish Stocks Agreement"; the FAO IPOA-IUU; and the United Nations convention on the Laws of the Sea.

These actions formalize Belize's commitment to the elimination of activities which diminish the effectiveness of conservation and management measures. In addition to these regulations, Belize has adopted its National Plan of Action to prevent, deter, and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing on the high seas; a National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks on the High Seas; a National Plan for Reducing the Incidental By-Catch of Seabirds in Long Line Fisheries as well as a High Seas Fleet Management Policy and a National Inspection Plan. The FAO Guidelines on Sea Turtles has also been implemented.

Belize currently has 23 vessels engaged in the tropical tuna fishery in the ICCAT area of competence. This includes 11 long liners, 8 purse seiners and 4 support vessels and is representative of 50% of its operational high seas fishing fleet. While the purse seine vessels are engaged in directed tropical tuna fisheries, the long liners also target swordfish and albacore in addition to tropical tunas. As a result, this Administration has implemented a system for the allocation and management of quotas to vessels engaged in tropical tuna fisheries which this plan explains in detail.

2. Details of Fishing Plan

The Belize high seas fishing fleet which operates within the ICCAT Convention Area and which targets tropical tunas consist of two gear groups as indicated in the table below.

Gear Type	No. of Vessels	Tropical Tunas			Other Tunas	
		BET	YFT	SKJ	ALB	SWO
Longline	11	√	√		√	√
Purse Seine	8	√	√	√		
Support	4					

2.1 Total vessels in each gear groups

Belize has only two gear groups which target tropical tuna in the ICCAT Convention area. This comprises of 11 long liners and 8 purse seiners and 4 support vessels as reflected in the above table. These vessels utilize almost 90% of our tropical tuna (BET) allowable catch.

2.2 Quota Allocation System and Management of Quotas

Since our membership with ICCAT and the allocation of our total allowable catches for the species regulated by ICCAT, Belize has implemented a quota allocation and management system. One of the important factors that are considered when allocating quotas is the total available catch that has been allocated to Belize for each species.

Belize's quota allocation and management system is simple and focuses primarily on adherence to the limits established by the relevant ICCAT recommendations. The quota allocation system summarized below is applicable to all vessels, inclusive of all gear types.

(a) Once the total allowable catch for each species has been determined based on the relevant ICCAT recommendation for each species, a total allowable commercial catch is set for each vessel in accordance with individual applications made by a vessel owner.
(b) Quotas are only allocated to those vessel owners that hold a high seas fishing license. Each vessel owner has the right to catch and trade their quota.
(c) Quotas are allocated in metric tons and are allocated from the time of approval of application to the end of the current calendar year in which it is approved.
(d) Any unused quotas allocated to a vessel owner cannot be transferred therefore operators must ensure full utilization. Any unused quotas shall be considered lost; however, a percentage of the unused quota may be considered for transfer only after careful consideration of the circumstances.
(e) Any overharvest of allocated quotas is discouraged and is subject to a payback scheme by a reduced quota allocation of similar amount the following year or any other measures this Administration considers appropriate.
(f) Annual quota renewal requests are considered upon submission of a new application and are approved based on the activities of the vessel, its previous utilization and the availability of a catch allocation for relevant species.
(g) Where there is no capacity/quota limitation by ICCAT for a species, this process still applies; except for internal catch limits which this Administration establishes for these species.

It should be noted that Belize makes exceptions for any overharvest or by-catches by their vessels by ensuring that 10% of its total allowable catch remains in reserve.

3. Expansion of capacity in 2020

Without prejudice to its right to develop and expand its high seas fishery as a coastal developing State, Belize does not plan to expand the capacity of its fleet in 2020.

4. FAD Management Plan

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Scope

This Plan sets out the methods and measures that the Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit (BHSFU) will use to standardize the use of Fish Aggregating Devices (FAD) for various purposes including limiting fishing mortality on vulnerable tropical tuna species such as juvenile bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna.

Fundamentals of this Plan apply to Belize flagged purse seine vessels operating on the High Seas. Unless otherwise indicated, references to fishing or fishing vessels apply to purse seine fishing vessels, group purse seine fishing vessels and their support vessels.

4.1.2 Legal status

In the first order, this FAD Management Plan represents the strategy of the BHSFU and does not have legal effect. It is the aim of the BHSFU to introduce specific features of the Plan through various means in the short term which may contain permit conditions and legally binding Fishing Vessel Circulars.

In the long term, this Plan will be reviewed according to further developments, such as to ICCAT Recommendation 19-02. Specific Regulations will be introduced to give legal effect to the Plan.

4.1.3 Objective

The objectives of this FAD management plan include, *inter alia*:

(a) Reinforce the gathering of scientific data;
(b) Decrease the catch of bycatch of small tunas on FADs;
(c) Effectively manage the deployment and retrieval of FADs;
(d) Limit the number of FADs deployed

4.2 Description

4.2.1 Definition and Types of FADs

For the purpose of this Plan, the following definitions shall apply:

"Floating object (FOB)" is any natural or artificial floating (i.e. surface or subsurface) object with no capability of moving on its own. FADS are thise FOBs that are man-made and intentionally deployed, and/or, tracked. Logs are those FOBs that are accidentally lost from anthropic and natural sources.

"Fish-Aggregating device (FAD)" is any permanent, semi-permanent or temporary object, structure or device of any material, man-made or natural, which is deployed, and/or tracked, and used aggregate fish or subsequent capture. FADs can either be anchored (aFADs) or drifting (dFADs).

"FAD set " is setting a fishing gear around a tuna school associated with a FAD.

"Operational buoy" is any instrumented buoy, previously activated, switched on and deployed at sea, which transmits position and any other available information such as eco-sounder estimates.

"Activation" is the act of enabling satellite communication services by the buoy supplier company at the request of the buoy owner. The owner then starts paying fees for communication services. The buoy can be transmitting or not, depending if it has been manually switched on.

4.2.2 FAD Limits

Purse seine vessels that are licensed in accordance with Belize's High Seas Fishing Act, 2013 may deploy and use FADs. The total number of FADs that may be deployed shall not exceed 350 FADs per vessel at any one time for the period from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020; and 300 FADs per vessel at any one time for the period from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. The total number may be reviewed on a case by case basis and depending on the vessel size.

The deployment of FADs in the EEZ of other States are outside the restrictions imposed by this management plan and shall be in accordance with the laws of that State.

4.2.3 Consideration of interaction with other gear types

In reference to possible conflict between purse seine fishing and the long line fleet which may result from the wide range use of FADs in the purse seine fishery, the situation will be monitored. Specifically, data will be gathered on the operation of the tuna long line fleet as it continues to grow and on the characteristics of purse seine catches as determined through our observer program. Any unfavorable impacts resulting from FAD fishing or FADs having obstructed the operation of the long line fleet will result in this policy being reviewed should such impacts be clearly established.

4.2.4 By-Catch Policy

Vessel owners/operators in the purse seine FAD fishery shall be required to submit information on the by-catch taken during fishing operations by species, estimates of volume or estimate of number of fish in catches. This shall be reported through the catch log sheets.

If the by-catch taken in utilized in any way, it is required that the operator submit a report on the disposition of the by-catch on a species-by-species basis.

The Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit through its observer program shall monitor the by-catch in FAD tuna purse seine fishery with a goal of establishing the average weight of species make-up of by-catch.

4.2.5 FAD ownership

This Plan does not generate any property rights over FADs or fish that may aggregate to them. No exceptionality of access is considered when a particular vessel deploys a FAD in accordance with this Plan.

5. Institutional arrangement

5.1 Institutional responsibilities for the FAD Management Plan

The Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit, under the Ministry of Finance is the competent authority responsible for the development and implementation of this FAD Management Plan.

5.2 Application process for FAD deployment approval

Vessel owners/operators shall provide prior notice to the Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit of their intention to deploy FADs. The information to be provided shall include:

i. Location in latitude and longitude,
ii. Date of deployment,
iii. New or replacement FAD,
iv. FAD number assigned.

All FAD deployment, for new or replaced FADs shall be witnessed and documented by an observer approved by the BHSFU.

5.3 FAD replacement Policy

The owners/operators shall notify the Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit before any lost FADs are replaced and a report from an observer shall be required as testimony of the replacement of the FAD. Replacement of FADs shall be deployed with a new identification number in accordance with this Plan.

5.4 Additional reporting obligations

Location of FADs and reporting

Owners/operators of tuna purse seine FAD fishery should submit quarterly list of FADs deployed. The list should provide, at a minimum, position of each FAD in terms of latitude and longitude, date of deployment and identification of lost FADs. This list should be submitted no later than 30 days after the preceding quarter has ended.

Monitoring of the FAD Fishery

Catch data shall be collected from all purse seine vessels based on the use of FADs in order to monitor the species make-up of tunas and other information of the FAD associated catches.

Reporting requirements for FAD fishing

Owners and operators that utilized FADs in their fishery shall comply with the reporting requirement as set out in this Plan and other legally binding circulars and submit information on their catches.

Owners/operators involved in FAD fishery shall be required to carry on board fisheries observers to monitor their fishing activities, FAD deployment operations, supply and mothership activities up to 100%.

FAD License

FADs cannot be deployed and utilized without a FADs license issued by the Director of the Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit.

(a) Any vessel owner/operator who intends to deploy FADs on the high seas shall be required to have a FAD license.
(b) A FAD license shall be issued simultaneously with the fishing license issued to the vessel and shall be valid for similar period.
(c) Each purse seine vessel shall be required to keep its FAD license on board with fishing on FAD.
(d) FADs can only be deployed consistent with their FAD license.

5.5 Conflict resolution in relation to FADs

Any conflict arising between the operators in the purse seine FAD fishery shall be referred to the Director of the Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit and where a resolution cannot be made then the matter shall be taken to the Registrar of Ships in accordance with Belize's High Seas Fishing Act, 2013 and subsidiary regulations, and whose decision shall be final.

5.6 Details of any closed areas or periods

This section of the Plan describes the provisions that will be applied to Belize flagged purse seine fishing vessels operating in the high seas in accordance with ICCAT's Guidelines for the Preparation of FAD Management Plan as contained in ICCAT Recommendation 19-02

The requirements below will be endorsed via conditions of fishing licenses issued to relevant vessels until such time as this Plan is reflected in Belize's Regulations.

All Belize flagged purse seine fishing vessels operating in the high seas and any other jurisdictions utilizing FAD in the ICCAT Convention area will be required to observe the Area/Time closure in relation with the protection of juveniles as contained in Recommendation 19-02 from January 1st to February 28th 2020 and from January 1 to March 31 2021 as specified below:

- Southern limit: parallel 4° / South latitude
- Northern limit: parallel 5° / North latitude
- Western limit: meridian 20° / West longitude
- Eastern limit: the African coast

The prohibition outlined above includes but is not limited to:

- Launching any floating objects, with or without bout;
- Fishing around, under, or in association with artificial objects, including vessels;
- Fishing around, under, or in association with natural objects;
- Towing floating objects from inside to outside the closure area.

Vessels fishing on unassociated 'free schools' shall be required to have an authorized observer on board for the duration of their fishing activities within the area/time closure.

5.7 Requirements for Deploying FADs

The deployment of any FADs during the FAD closure periods specified above is strictly prohibited. At any other times, deployment must be directed in accordance with the requirements below.

Consistent with para. 37 of ICCAT Recommendation 15-01, all Belize flagged purse seine fishing vessels operating on the high seas during the area/time closure specified above will be subject to 100% observer coverage under the ICCAT Scientific Observer Program. Observers will monitor all FAD deployments of all surface fishing vessels 20 meters LOA or greater fishing tropical tunas in the area/time closure referred to above.

The vessel master must provide the following information in writing to the Director of High Seas Fisheries of the Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit, when deploying a drifting FAD:

i. The date of deployment;
ii. The location (latitude and longitude) recorded in degrees and minutes;
iii. FAD type (anchored FAD, drifting artificial FAD, etc.);
iv. The FAD number that has been assigned; and
v. A declaration that the FAD meeting the marking and design requirements contained in sections 4.1.4 and 4.1.5 respectively.

No FAD shall be deployed unless prior authorization from the BHSFU is granted and which shall be reliant on:

i. Provision of all the information above; and
ii. The number of FADs already deployed by the vessel

The BHSFU shall not authorize the deployment of a FAD if records show that the FAD limit would be surpassed by the relevant vessel.

6. FAD Construction, Specification and Requirements

6.1 FAD Marking

Deployed drifting FADs must be clearly marked as follows:

(a) With the raft section clearly pained with reflecting paint so that it can be seen from a distance of 1 kilometer;
(b) The raft section should support a radar reflector that must be suspended at least 2 meters above the waterline of the raft;
(c) With the name of the vessel that has deployed it;
(d) The FAD number;

(e) Electronic devices such as transponders and radio beacons which mechanically and constantly indicate their location by way of signals may be used in addition to other devices but should not be activated at radio signals that could clash with other devices used for navigation and search and rescue purposes.

The name of the vessel and FAD number shall be contained on a removable plate such that in the event that FADs are changed, the plate can be connected to the new FAD ensuring that the same FAD number corresponds to the same deployment location in terms of latitude and longitude.

The marking of the FAD above must be in lettering at least 30cm high and of a color that contrasts with the color of the plate. The plate must be connected to a point on the FAD where it is clearly noticeable.

The FAD number is to be allocated by the vessel master and shall be the first three letters of the vessel name followed by a two digit number (which shall be sequential according to the number of FADs deployed in the high seas), followed by the letters "HS" to indicate deployment in the high seas. For example:

Vessel Name: RANDOM
FAD ID: RAN01HS

6.2 FAD Design and Construction

In order to minimize the ecological impact of FADs, in particular the entanglement of sharks, turtles and other non-target species, and the release of synthetic persistent marine debris, all deployed man-made FADs must meet the following minimum criteria:

i. The surface structure of the FAD should not be covered or only covered with material implying minimum risk of entanglement by-catch species and should be constructed such that they can be easily located at their place of deployment.

ii. The sub-surface components should be exclusively composed of non-entangling material (e.g. ropes or canvas).

iii. The use of biodegradable materials should be prioritized in the designing of FADs.

iv. The design should include an appropriate number of counterweights along the synthetic rope to ensure that it sinks to the bottom in the event that the floater becomes detached and drifts away.

v. The design and maintenance of FADs shall be the responsibility of the owner/operator deploying the FADs

6.3 Replacing lost FADs

The vessel master shall notify the BHSFU that a FAD has been permanently lost by providing the following information:

i. The date of last sighting of the FAD;
ii. The location (latitude and longitude) recorded in degrees and minutes of last sighting;
iii. The FAD number; and
iv. FAD Construction material.

The BHSFU will review this information and may grant approval to deploy a replacement FAD depending on the situations.

6.4 Requirement for Retrieving FADs

Consistent with ICCAT Recommendation 15-01, all Belize flagged purse seine fishing vessels operating on the high seas during the area/time closure will be subject to 100% observer coverage under their Scientific Observer Program. Observers will monitor all FAD retrievals.

The vessel master must supply the following data in writing to the BHSFU:

i. The date of retrieval;
ii. The location (latitude and longitude) recorded in degrees and minutes of retrieval; and
iii. The FAD number.

7. Applicable period for FAD Management Plan

This plan is applicable for a period of 2 year from date of issuance.

8. Monitoring and Review of the Implementation of FAD Management Plan

This FAD Management Plan shall be reviewed every two year and may be amended at any time as deemed necessary. The next review is scheduled for January 2022.

Capacity Table

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			***Total Estimated Capacity***	
TYPE	***2019***	***2020***	*Estimated best catch rate per unit*	***2019***	***2020***
Purse Seiner over 40m	7	8	BET allocation	200-400 m/t	200-400 m/t
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m					
Purse seiners less than 20m					
Long liner over 40m	4	0	BET Allocation	100-200 m/t	100-200 m/t
Long liner between 20 and 40m	10	11	BET Allocation	30-50 m/t	30-50 m/t
Long liner less than 20m					
For Capacity Expansion					
Bait boat					
Support Vessels	4	4			
Other gears (specify)					
Total fishing capacity					
Quota					
Initial quota	Not applicable				
Quota transfer made (if applicable)	Not applicable				
Quota transfer received (if applicable)	Not applicable				
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	Not applicable				

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

Brazilian Fishing Plan for Atlantic Tropical Tunas,
in conformity with paragraphs 20, 21 and 22a, of Rec. 19-02

Name of CPC: Brazil

1. How Brazil will implement any catch reductions necessary as a result of paragraph 4 (Ref. Rec. 19-02/ Par. 20)

According to Paragraph 4.b, CPCs that have a recent average catch greater than 3,500 t, shall apply a catch limit that is 17% less than their recent average catch for the 4 year period 2014-2017. Brazilian catches from 2014 through 2017 were, respectively: 6456t, 7750t, 7660t, and 7258t, resulting in an average of 7281t, which reduced by 17% equals 6.043t. From November 2018 to December 2019, Brazil already adopted the following normative measures:

09/11/2018: Portaria interministerial 59A

- Prohibits the use of FADs to fish for tunas;
- Prohibits fishing in the vicinity of oceanographic buoys at distances less than 200m;
- Prohibits tying the fishing boat to oceanographic buoys;
- Makes the use of VMS mandatory to all boats fishing for tunas larger than 10 m (to be enforced on 09/11/2019);
- Limits the number of boats authorized to fish with handline in associated schools to 250, with the process of establishing the new license and licensing all the interested boats to be completed within one year (until 09/11/2019);
- Makes the authorization to fish for tunas with handline in associated schools exclusive, i.e. boats that are authorized to fish with such a permit can't have any other fishing license;
- Limits the amount of bycatch of boats authorized to fish with handline in associated schools to 20% of the total catch (it prevents using the fishing license to other fishing modalities);
- Establishes the obligation for all fishing boats authorized to fish for tunas and tuna-like species to land their catches in specifically authorized ports.

09/05/2019: Portaria SAP/MAPA 89:

- Prohibits the emission of any new fishing licenses, including licenses for building new fishing boats, for any modality of fishing methods targeting tunas or tuna-like species, except boats authorized to fish with handline (already frozen at 250, by Portaria 59A).

02/10/2019: Instrução Normativa 44, plus Edital

- Calls for all ports interested to be authorized to land tunas and tuna-like fish to send all required documentation;
- Calls the owners of fishing boats interested to have a specific license to fish for tunas by handline in associated schools to present their documentation until 18/10/2019 (including proof of delivery of fishing logsheets), for the specific fishing licenses to be published by 02/11/2019.

04/11/2019: Portaria 5.174

- In response for a call to boat owners to issue a specific license to fish for tunas by handline in associated schools (Normative Instruction 44), the Brazilian Government authorized only 152 fishing boats, a number that is about HALF of the present fleet of 300 boats.

So, Brazil has already frozen the number of longliners at the level of May 2019, by Portaria SAP/MAPA 89, and the number of boats authorized to fish with handline at 250, by Portaria Interministerial 59A. Due to all the measures already adopted by the Brazilian Government since 2018, Brazilian catches of bigeye tuna were reduced from 7.258t, in 2017, to 5.096 t, in 2019, a reduction of 30%. The expected landings for 2019 and 2020 should, therefore, be around 6,000 t, within the limit provisionally established for Brazil, for 2020.

2. Statement of Brazil development intentions for tropical tunas, informing other CPCs of potential changes in the fishery over time (Ref. Rec. 19-02/ Par. 21, 22a)

Brazil has the firm intention to develop its fishery for tropical tunas, mainly by expanding its artisanal fishery with handline, in a progressive and gradual manner, in conformity with international law.

Starting with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea- UNCLOS, Article 116, on the rights to fish on the high seas, establishes that *all States have the right for their nationals to engage in fishing*, but subject to, inter alia, the rights and duties as well as *the interests of coastal States*. In Article 119, on the conservation of the living resources of the high seas, UNCLOS states that in determining the allowable catch and establishing other conservation measures for the living resources in the high seas, States shall take measures which are designed, on the best scientific evidence available to the States concerned, to maintain or restore populations of harvested species at levels which can produce the maximum sustainable yield, as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors, *including the special requirements of developing States.* The same article also requires the States concerned to ensure that conservation measures and their implementation *do not discriminate in form or in fact against the fishermen of any State.*

In the United Nations Fish Stock Agreement, there is an entire section, Part VII, on the special requirements of Developing States, including Article 24, obliging states to take into account, in particular, the vulnerability of developing States which are dependent on the exploitation of living marine resources, including for meeting the nutritional requirements of their populations; the need to avoid adverse impacts on, and *ensure access to fisheries by, subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fishers* and to ensure that conservation and management measures do not result in transferring, directly or indirectly, a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States. In Article 25, it requires all States to cooperate, inter alia, to enhance the ability of developing States, to conserve and manage straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and to develop their own fisheries for such stocks; *and to enable them to participate in high seas fisheries for such stocks, including facilitating access to such fisheries*. That article is reiterated in Article 5 of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, which, in its Article 7, also calls upon States, when adopting conservation and management measures, to take into account the interests of fishers, including those engaged in subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisheries. The FAO Conference, in its resolution adopting the Code, also URGED all States, in implementing its provisions, to take into account the special requirements of developing countries.

In 2014, the FAO Committee on Fisheries adopted the Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries, which, among over a hundred paragraphs recognizing the importance of small-scale fisheries to food security and poverty alleviation, calls upon States *to adopt measures to facilitate equitable access to fishery resources for small-scale fishing communities, including, as appropriate, redistributive reform.*

In the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 66/288, on the Future we Want, United Nations Member States not only urged the identification and mainstreaming of strategies that *further assist developing countries, in developing their national capacity* to conserve, sustainably manage and *realize the benefits of sustainable fisheries,* but also committed themselves to observe the need *to ensure access to fisheries and the importance of access to markets, by subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisherfolks and their communities, particularly in developing countries.* More recently, member States of the United Nations agreed on the Sustainable Development goals, requiring States, in Goal 14b, explicitly *to provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources* and markets, a requirement that was just reiterated by the 33rd FAO Committee on Fisheries, as reflected in Paragraph 66, of the report of the meeting that happened in July, last year.

Finally, in the ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities, the Commission agreed, when allocating fishing possibilities, to take into account: 7) The distribution and biological characteristics of the stock(s), including the occurrence of the stock(s) in areas under national jurisdiction and on the high seas; 8) the interests of artisanal, subsistence and small-scale coastal fishers; 9) the needs of the coastal fishing communities which are dependent mainly on fishing for the stocks; and 11) the socio-economic contribution of the fisheries for stocks regulated by ICCAT to the developing States.

All the legal background provided above, therefore, make the priority treatment that should be given to small-scale fisheries and developing coastal States very clear. A priority that has also been already recognized in Rec. 19-02, paragraph 6[1]. There are many solid reasons for that. One of them is the lack of a strong domestic market that makes developing nations much more vulnerable to unilateral trade sanctions, like the one Brazil is presently suffering, unjustly and unfairly, due to technical allegations. Brazil has been prohibited to export not only seafood from capture fisheries, but all seafood, including from aquaculture activities, to the European Union. In the case of small-scale fisheries, their vulnerability is also directly linked to their lack of mobility, differently from large industrialized fishing vessels that can easily move from one region to another, even between different oceans, as indeed happens quite often. Fishing communities can't move that way and depend ultimately on the fishery resources they fish for food security. By giving priority to small-scale fisheries we are, therefore, protecting livelihoods, not profits.

Presently, bigeye tuna quotas are distributed mainly among developed nations with industrialized fisheries, in a way that is not only unfair and unequitable, but also not in conformity with international law. Brazil is prepared to accept the history of catch, as established in Rec. 19-02[2] (2014 through 2017) as one of the criteria for quota allocation, but if, and only if, the criteria related to the presence of the stock in the EEZ of the country, i.e. whether the CPC is coastal or not, the nature of the CPC, i.e. whether it is developing or not, and the nature of the fishery, i.e. whether it is artisanal/ small scale or not, to a minimum, also be taken into account. With the quota redistribution that should happen from the observance of international law, Brazil has the intention to expand its bigeye tuna fishery to a level close to 10,000 t, although understanding this expansion should be achieved in a gradual manner, in a way compatible with the quota redistribution, in conformity with international law.

[1] 6 small scale artisanal fishers shall be given special consideration to their specificities and needs.
[2] The annual average catch for the 4 year period 2014-2017 or the average of real catches for the 5-year period 2014-2018 if in that period the catch was equal to zero in any of those years.

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

Name of CPC: China

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

1. Introduction

Both China's BET recent average catches and its catch limit in Rec. 16-01 is more than 1000 t, thus it is necessary for China to produce an annual capacity/fishing plan according to Rec. 19-02.

China will maintain its fishing vessel number to recent average levels and will not increase its fishing capacity dramatically given the limited catch quotas, thus make its fishing capacity equivalent with its fishing opportunities. Note that China only has a longline fishery in the Atlantic Ocean targeting BET and no other fishing gear. According to statistics in the past, longline fishing vessels targeting BET only had few catches of yellowfin and basically no catch of skipjack.

Each year, by issuing a governmental document, the total BET catch quota is be divided and allocated equally to each BET fishing vessel, including by-catch quotas (SWO, ALB, etc.), if any. In doing so we can monitor, through the onboard observer program, logbook, monthly catch report, catch documentation program, etc., each fishing vessel's compliance with its allocated catch quota. If there is any over-harvest of quota, then we will definitely pay back such overage according to the BET recommendation and impose a penalty on the vessel in question and its owner. In the past several years, we have never actually had an overharvest of BET quotas. We always complied with the rule on the BET quarterly catch report since its inception as well as all the other reporting requirements.

We will implement the scientific observer program according to our National Observer Program to make sure the minimum observer coverage is satisfied, the observer is trained and collects, among others, all the necessary datas required by the Recommendation.

We can monitor our vessels and poll their positions whenever we want and is necessary. From this year, we have increased the polling rate to 24 positions per day which is much higher than the ICCAT VMS recommendation.

2. Details of fishing plan – For those with >1,000 t average catch

	ICCAT Requirement (per 19-02)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch limits* and Catch reductions (Part II)**	According to the catch limit in para. 3 of Rec.16-01, China's BET quota falls into the category of (b) of para.4 in Rec.19-02, that is 17% reduction of its catch limit in para. 3 of Rec.16-01, plus the quota transfer from Japan and the transfer of underage from 2018.	Circular issued by General Office of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs on further strictly complying with conservation and management measures adopted by tuna-RFMOs.	
2.	**Capacity Limits (Part III)**	China only have a longline fishery in the Atlantic Ocean, the	Circular issued by General Office of Ministry of	

		fishing vessel number will maintain the recent average levels so as to make its fishing capacity commensurate with its fishing opportunities.	Agriculture and Rural Affairs on further strictly complying with conservation and management measures adopted by tuna-RFMOs.	
3.	**Management of FADs **and FAD Closure(s)(Part IV)**	Not applicable as China has no purse seine fishery.	Not applicable as China has no purse seine fishery.	
4.	**Control Measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)**	China's control measures including: national observer program, VMS, logbook, Monthly catch report, BET statistics certificate, etc. Currently, China has not conducted E-monitoring program in the Atlantic Ocean fishing vessels, but we indeed implemented a trial program in the Pacific Ocean fishing vessels.	Circular issued by General Office of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs on further strictly complying with conservation and management measures adopted by tuna-RFMOs. Implementation Guideline on the Management of Distant Water Fishery National Observer Programme. VMS program.	
5.	**Other information / measures to be taken**	Each year, we will issue document to divide and allocate the total BET catch quota equally to each fishing vessel targeting BET in the Atlantic Ocean.		

* Note this should include, where options exist, which option the CPC is choosing.
** The FAD management plan is required through para 34 and in accordance with Annex 1 of Rec. 19-02, see below.

3. Planned an expansion of capacity in 2020- for those with <1,000 t average catch

Not applicable as China's average catch is more than 1000 t.

4. FAD Management Plans (if applicable)

Not applicable as China has no purse seine fishery.

CAPACITY TABLE

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			Total Estimated Capacity	
Type	2019	2020	Estimated best catch rate per unit	2019	2020
Purse seiner over 40m					
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m					
Purse seiners less than 20m					
Longliner over 40m	32	34			
Longliner between 20 and 40m					
Longliner less than 20m					
For capacity expansion					
Baitboat					
Other gears (specify)					
Total fishing capacity					
Quota					
Initial quota	5376	4462			
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)					
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)	1000 (from Japan)	600 (from Japan)			
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	7182.4	5868.4			

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (INCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN)

Name of CPC: Curaçao

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

2. Introduction

2. Details of fishing plan – For those with >1,000 t *average catch*

	ICCAT Requirement (per 19-02)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch limits* and Catch reductions (Part II)**	An official instruction will be sent out to the vessels under the flag of Curacao that the limit of big eye tuna will be reduced with 10 %. The Fishery Monitoring Centre monitors quarterly the catches of the vessels under the flag of Curacao. By reaching 80% of the limit, the vessels will be advised and monitored closely not to overshoot the quota.	The relevant Fishery law is Fishery Ordinance of 1993 P.B. no 74	The instructions must be turned into a decree according to the fishery ordinance
2.	**Capacity Limits (Part III)**	The fleet is limited to five purse seiners and there are no current plans to increase.	The relevant Fishery law is Fishery Ordinance of 1993 P.B. no 74	The new instructions must be turned into a decree according to the fishery ordinance
3.	**Management of FADs **and FAD Closure(s)(Part IV)**	Curacao shall ensure that for vessels flying their flag the following limits shall apply on the number of FADs with instrumental operational buoys at any one time according to definitions given in paragraph 26. The number of FADs with operational buoys will be verified through the verification of	The relevant Fishery law is Fishery Ordinance of 1993 P.B. no 74	The new instructions must be turned into a decree according to the fishery ordinance

		telecommunication bills. Such verifications shall be conducted by the competent authorities of the CPCs: a) 2020: 350 FADs per vessel b) 2021: 300 FADs per vessel FAD closure is being monitored by observers		
4.	**Control Measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)**	Curacao has already 100 % control. Electronic Monitoring will be tested soon. The fleet has 100% observer coverage all the year.	The relevant Fishery law is Fishery Ordinance of 1993 P.B. no 74	Since 2015 Curacao has 100% Monitoring on all vessels
5.	**Other information / measures to be taken**	The total quantity of fishing vessels in ICCAT will stay the same in 2020 and 2021		This is in the Flaat Policy of Curaçao

* Note this should include, where options exist, which option the CPC is choosing.
** The FAD management plan is required through para 34 and in accordance with Annex 1 of Rec. 19-02, see below.

Capacity Table

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			*Total Estimated Capacity*	
Type	*2019*	*2020*	*Estimated best catch rate per unit (t)*	*2019*	*2020*
Purse seiner over 40m	5	5	10,000	5 vessels	5 vessels
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m					
Purse seiners less than 20m					
Longliner over 40m					
Longliner between 20 and 40m					
Longliner less than 20m					
For Capacity Expansion					
Baitboat					
Other gears (specify)					
Total fishing capacity					
Quota					
Initial quota	3,500	2,558			
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)					
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)					
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)					

FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR VESSELS FLAGGED IN CURAÇAO

1. Background

According to the fisheries management policies that Curaçao has been traditionally carrying out in order to assure the sustainable management of the fishing resources in general; also considering that the control of fishing effort is a necessary issue in the ICCAT area; and with the aim to guarantee the sustainability of the target and by-catch populations of species related to tuna fisheries, the following Fish Aggregating Device[1] Management Plan is hereby established.

2. Objectives

- To provide a scientific basis for the approval of measures that guarantee the rational use of FADs in the tuna fisheries of the Atlantic Ocean.

- To widen the technical knowledge of these devices and of their eventual positive or negative impact on the ecosystems.

- To develop joint information exchange schemes between operators, scientists and administrations to facilitate the communication of any progress made in this field and the implications it could have.

- To improve the knowledge on the composition of species and sizes to be found in the sets made on FADs.

3. Application field

This Management Plan applies to the tuna purse seiner vessels licensed to fish in the Atlantic Ocean as defined in the annual plan.

4. Definitions

Fish Aggregating Device (FAD):

Floating objects, either natural or man-made, which gather some species underneath, thus making those species more accessible to their search and subsequent catch by fishing vessels.

FAD types:

- Anchored FADs: those that are artificially fixed to the bottom of the sea preventing them from drifting; these include the support vessels anchored at an underwater mountain.

- Drifting object with a net: those non anchored FADs composed of either a continuous panel or one in the shape of a grill, which is associated to a hanging piece of net or rope, which serves as a sail under the sea.

- Drifting object without hanging materials: those non anchored FADs composed of either a continuous panel, or one in the shape of a grill.

- Natural FADs: any floating object found at sea, such as vegetable waste, dead animals or debris of human origin used as a FAD.

[1] Hereinafter referred to as FADs.

- Other drifting FADs: any FAD that differs from the above-mentioned.
- Instrumented FAD: any of the above when monitored remotely through the use of a tracking device (buoy).

Activities related to FADs:

- Deployment: The activity that involves the deployment of any given FAD at sea.

- Checking: The fishing activity that involves the monitoring of the previously deployed FADs to carry out maintenance tasks or verify the fish gathering underneath the device.

- Set: The fishing operating to catch the fish schools associated to a FAD.

- Collection: The fishing activity that involves the recovery of a FAD from the sea.

Buoy types:

- GPS buoy: A buoy equipped with a GPS system for satellite monitoring.

- Radio buoy: A buoy equipped with a radio system.

- Visual buoy: A buoy equipped with no electronic system, only identifiable at sight.

- Oceanographic buoys: buoys used for oceanographic research.

5. Identification of FADs

Each FAD to be deployed must be previously assigned a sequence of characters that will identify it. That sequence must be maintained during its lifetime.

Identification of each FAD will be preferably done through the unique buoy identifier assigned by the buoy provider. However, operators might propose other alternative identification systems for the consideration of the Administration, provided that the sequence assigned remains individual and unique for each FAD.

Depending on the results obtained by the application of the present Plan, this Administration could, if needed be, establish common and compulsory marking system for all the FADs used by the fleet flagged in Curaçao.

6. Register and communication of FAD related information

6.1 Inventory

As an initial measure, by 31 December 2012 all operators must deliver to the Ministry of Economic Development a list of the operative FADs used by the fleet before that date.

The list must include the information requested in Annex I for each FAD, and be updated at least on a quarterly basis.

The objective of this inventory is to provide all possible information on the characteristics of the FADs in use. It also aims to provide the scientific community with an analysis of the logbook entries derived from the individual identification of each FAD.

6.2 Specific Activity Registry

Operators must keep a Registry that includes all activities related with FADs (FAD Logbook).
The information to be incorporated in this registry is included in Annex II.

In the event of using a natural FAD, operators must also register this information, assuming by "deployment" the assignment of a buoy and as "collection" its removal. If this FAD is intended to be of further use, its information must be included in the inventory already mentioned in the previous chapter.

Whenever a fishing or auxiliary boat carries out any given activity which is related to a FAD that originally did not belong to that ship, all information regarding this activity must still be registered. In these cases, the box that contains the identification of the FAD must be filled with the word "external", along with a visible character sequence that leads to the identification of the FAD.

Lastly, for each activity carried out on a FAD, all events related to by catch must be recorded, including the following data: species, number of individuals and number of individuals which were set free alive.

This Registry of Activity must be delivered to the competent Authorities at least on a quarterly basis.

6.3 Logbook entries

Apart from the specific record mentioned in the previous section, Masters must continue to record in the logbook the following information related to the activity over FADs:

- Set on FADs: position, date, identification and results must be indicated.
- As stated in the previous point, all the sets made on FADs not originally belonging to the fishing vessel, as well as set made on natural FADs which are to be included in the inventory, must be duly recorded in the logbook.
- Catches associated to marine mammals, whale sharks, underwater mountains, or any element that could contribute to gather fish (such as dead animals, concentration of random materials, etc.) have to be recorded as well. The aim is to provide the most complete possible information about the set made, including position, date and result of the set.

7. FAD monitoring

The vessels must, to the extent possible, keep the monitoring information for each FAD that carries a satellite buoy. Such information must be linked to the ID number assigned to that particular FAD.

8. Measures to avoid the loss of FADs

The operators of the vessels must avoid as much as possible the loss of FADs at sea.

In case of loss or impossibility to recover any given FAD (i.e. those that fall in areas or periods closed for the fishing) operators must record in the Specific Activity Registry its last known position and date.

9. Measures to mitigate the catch of juvenile and non-target species

The use of the most selective methods to avoid the catch of juvenile and associated species will be encouraged. These might include, among others, size-sorting grids incorporated in the purse seine nets.

Along with that, the use of acoustic systems (such as echo sounders) will also be encouraged. They should help to avoid the catch of non target species or sizes, allowing their identification before the set is made.

Research related to mechanisms that provide an alternative to net pieces hanging below the FADs will be promoted, so as to endeavor that all FADs deployed are no entangling. These systems should avoid the entangling of marine species, especially turtles, by using different materials or smaller nets, in order to minimize their negative impact.

Vessel shall also develop new FAD prototypes made of biodegradable materials.

10. Specific closures on FAD fisheries. ICCAT Recommendation 19-02

FAD closure

During the FAD closure period established by ICCAT Rec. 19-02, fishing activities, or those in support of them, which are related to bigeye and yellowfin tuna, and are also associated with floating objects (including FADs), are forbidden, as follows:

- From 1 January to 28 February in 2020, and from 1 January to 31 March in 2021.
- Throughout the Convention area.

The prohibition includes any activity related to FADs, that is to say, deployment, checking, set or collection, or any other activity related to FADs, as follows:

- The deployment, checking, set or collection of any floating object, with or without buoys;
- Fishing around, under or in association with artificial objects, including vessels;
- Fishing around, under or in association with natural objects, and
- Towing floating objects located inside the area to a position outside it.

FAD limits

Curaçao shall ensure that for purse seiners flying our flag and fishing for bigeye, yellowfin or skipjack tunas on FADs the following provisional limits are not exceeded:

No more than 350 FADs with or without instrumental buoys will be active at any one time (in relation to each of the tuna purse seiners flying the flag of Curaçao) in 2020, being reduced to 300 in 2021, establishing their control through such measures as, for example, the verification of telecommunication bills.

11. Control and monitoring measures

The relevant authorities could carry out documentary inspections regarding the provisions specified in the present plan. They might request, if needed be, the data referred to in the sixth paragraph.

The Ministry of Economic Development will be the responsible for processing and monitoring the information supplied by the operators. This Authority shall be entitled to prepare the monitoring reports of the present plan and also to propose the measures it may see fit in order to improve the overall performance of the system.

12. Measures for the confidentiality of the data supplied by the operators

The information supplied by the operators will always be treated confidentially. Its use will be strictly limited to scientific ends, or those of control, if necessary. The Ministry of Economic Development assumes that this information will not be made public beyond the above-mentioned limits, at least without the express consent of the shipowners.

TROPICAL TUNA CAPACITY / FISHING MANAGEMENT PLAN
(IINCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN)

CPC name: Republic of El Salvador
Fishing Plan Year: 2020

1. Introduction

Guided by its policy to revive social and economic development opportunities, at the end of the past century the Republic of El Salvador identified the need to develop high seas fishing activity on highly migratory and straddling species due to its contribution to national productivity and food security. In this context, in 2003 El Salvador inaugurated its tuna industry, which is dependent on raw material from this fishery and currently has a processing capacity of 150 t per day.

There are currently five vessels under the flag of El Salvador, four of which are purse seiners fishing in the ICCAT Convention area, targeting species known as tropical tunas[1].

The tuna industry is a priority source of employment and foreign exchange for the impoverished communities of El Salvador. This industry has contributed 0.44% to the gross domestic product over the past three years at current prices, generating 1,500 direct and 5,000 indirect jobs and making a much larger contribution to food security and the socio-economic revival of the country. It is therefore fundamental to develop catch activity to guarantee the industry, within the framework of the opportunities provided by the international law of the sea and the corresponding legal and technical regulations, in addition to the collaborative work of regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs), and all within the context of responsible fishing.

At the 26th Regular Meeting of ICCAT held in Palma de Mallorca (Spain) in November 2019, a Multi-Annual Conservation and Management Programme for Tropical Tunas was adopted. This is duly reflected in the current Recommendation 19-02, which El Salvador is obliged to fulfil.

This Plan presents the objectives related to the management of the tropical tuna capacity of vessels under the flag of El Salvador, which have the following capacity and potential:

Vessels	*Capacity (m^3)*
MONTEALEGRE	1860
MONTELAPE	1559
MONTEROCIO	1919
MONTEFRISA NUEVE	1,358
MONTECELO	1,358

2. Details of fishing plan – For CPCs with an average catch of >1,000 t

In 2020, El Salvador will implement Rec. 19-02, with particular emphasis on compliance with measures regarding catch limits and the number of FADs, as detailed below:

[1] Bigeye (*Thunnus obesus),* Yellowfin *(Thunnus albacares)* and Skipjack *(Katsuwonus pelamis)*

	ICCAT requirements (per 19-02)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch limits and capacity reductions (Part II)**	In accordance with Paragraph 4 of Rec. 19-02, El Salvador undertakes to reduce its average catch of 1,725.30 t by 10%. Consequently, the catch limit to be applied in 2020 is 1,533 t. All aspects of Rec. 19-02 will be fulfilled.	In accordance with Articles 5 and 96 of the General Law on Fishing and Aquaculture Management and Promotion, the provision of ICCAT Rec. 19-02 is binding.	El Salvador undertakes to comply with the provisions of Rec. 19-02 in 2020 on an exceptional basis. However, it does not renounce its right to participate equally in the fishing of tropical tunas on the high seas of the Atlantic. Appealing to its status as a developing State and as per Paragraph 7 of Rec. 19-02, El Salvador advocates for a fairer distribution in accordance with the fishing opportunity criteria adopted by the Commission, and hopes that the unsustainability of the sacrifice to be made by its active fleet in 2020 to avoid exceeding the limits will be recognised, as well as the consequent negative impacts on the national economy.
2.	**Capacity Limits (Part III)**	These were communicated in writing on 29/1/2020 (in response to circular 196/2020).		
3.	**Management of FADs and FAD Closure(s) (Part IV)**	The FAD management plan was enacted, with the elements described in Rec. 19-02, including: a. Reduction of FADs b. Total FAD closure in the area c. FAD characteristics d. Control, data collection and communication measures established in Rec. 19-02.	In accordance with Articles 5 and 96 of the General Law on Fishing and Aquaculture Management and Promotion, the provision of ICCAT Rec. 19-02 is binding. The Management Plan was issued as an official document of the Fishing Authority.	
4.	**Control Measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)**	a. El Salvador issues specific tropical tuna fishing licenses to ICCAT-registered vessels. b. Catches are	In accordance with Articles 5 and 96 of the General Law on Fishing and Aquaculture Management and Promotion, the provision of Rec. 19-02 by ICCAT is binding.	

	ICCAT requirements (per 19-02)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
		recorded in the vessel's fishing logbooks. c. The progress of catches is monitored. d. El Salvador's fleet has 100% onboard observer coverage. e. There is a port sampling programme. f. El Salvador has a satellite monitoring centre.	The satellite monitoring system is in force and mandatory, in accordance with Executive Decree 54 "Regulation on the satellite monitoring and control system of industrial fishing vessels of the General Law on Fishing and Aquaculture Management and Promotion"	
5.	**Other information / measures to be taken**			

Capacity allocation in 2020

Given its real authorised capacity and catch history, it must be taken into account that El Salvador is currently making efforts to reduce its capacity by 42%, which is not sustainable in the long term and is damaging for the country. Its four active vessels have an average bigeye tuna catch potential of 2,800 t, and the limit established in paragraph 4 of Rec. 19-02 only authorises the catch of 58% of this potential. This figure implies a sacrifice above the reduction perspective of 21% established by the Recommendation for large fishers. Notwithstanding the above, each purse seiner was assigned a bigeye tuna capacity limit of 388 t, with the possibility of transferring underage between vessels in the national fleet during the same year. CENDEPESCA will be informed of any transfers. Periodic catch monitoring will allow the country to avoid exceeding its total limit of 1,553 t for 2020.

3. Capacity extension plans in 2020 for CPCs with an average catch of <1,000 t

Not applicable. As El Salvador has an average catch of over 1,000 t, it is not appropriate to issue an extension plan reserve.

Nonetheless, bearing in mind its status as a developing State[2] and its intention to maintain its current capacity in the short or medium term, on several occasions El Salvador has stated the urgent need to establish catch limits that are linked to its current capacity, mainly in accordance with its recent real bigeye tuna catch rate, as the current measure imposes a harmful sacrifice on the country.

Therefore, international organisms must ensure fair and non-discriminatory distribution, which implies, among other aspects, that any permanent capacity limitations imposed on El Salvador must be similar to the limitations established for CPCs of a similar status, and must never be lower than other CPCs in a similar position or with lower priority, in accordance with ICCAT fishing opportunity allocation criteria, as this would be discriminatory and contravenes the right to exploit high-sea fisheries in a reasonable and

[2] The current total capacity of ICCAT-registered vessels under the flag of El Salvador is 8,054 m^3

proportionate manner. To that effect, El Salvador advocates a correction of this effect by increasing its catch limit.

However, it recognises the need to ensure that global catches are consistent with the agreed MSY for the fishery in 2020, but also advocates equal and proportionate measures that are fair and non-discriminatory, in line with the provisions of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

Enacted in Santa Tecla, La Libertad, Republic of El Salvador, 31 January 2020.

4. FAD Management plan in fisheries developed in the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Convention Area

The FAD management plan was drafted and is in effect as per the guidelines and formats adopted by ICCAT, in accordance with the following text:

FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE NATIONAL FLEET TARGETING TROPICAL TUNAS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNA CONVENTION AREA

FIRST SECTION: GENERAL FRAMEWORK

This plan establishes the obligatory guidelines that tuna purse seiner operators must follow and abide by in the construction, use, placement, retrieval and deactivation of fish aggregating devices (FADs) and the corresponding components.

Material scope*:* This plan covers the operations of all national flagged vessels that are authorised to fish tropical tuna or perform tropical tuna fishing support operations in the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Convention Area.

Temporal scope: This plan will be in force for the duration of the validity period of Recommendation 19-02 by ICCAT. It must be adapted as required in the event of any amendments to the aforementioned Recommendation, in order to ensure that it meets the guidelines determined by ICCAT, without detriment to any more robust measures taken by the State of El Salvador to support the management measures established in that organization.

Binding nature**:** This plan is binding. Failure to fulfil the plan implies a serious breach of the law by the operator responsible for this violation and may be sanctioned in accordance with the law following a due trial. This sanction could involve a monetary fine, or even the cancellation of fishing authorizations.

Monitoring**:** CENDEPESCA will constantly monitor compliance with the management plan and will report any breaches to the corresponding national authorities, with a view to adopting the respective sanctions or legal measures. Likewise, CENDEPESCA will monitor the evolution of correlative management measures adopted in ICCAT to maintain a perspective of adaptation to management improvements.

Participation**:** Under the leadership of CENDEPESCA and in consultation with the national authorities, experts, scientists and associated industry will help follow up the plan in the framework of the existing relationship and coordination forums, in order to ensure monitoring, fulfilment and improvement of the plan.

Nomenclature**:** The nomenclature found in paragraph 26 of Recommendation 19-02 shall be adopted, in addition to the general and specific concepts included in this Recommendation.

Objectives**:** In accordance with paragraph 35 of Recommendation 19-02, the objectives of this plan are as follows:

i. *improve knowledge of FAD characteristics, buoy characteristics, FAD fishing, including the fishing efforts of purse seiners and associated support vessels, and related impacts on targeted and non-targeted species;*
ii. *effectively manage the deployment and recovery of FADs, the activation of buoys and their potential loss;*
iii. *reduce and limit the impacts of FADs and FAD fishing on the ecosystem, including, where appropriate, by acting on the different components of fishing mortality (e.g. number of deployed FADs, including number of FAD sets by purse seiners, fishing capacity, number of support vessels).*

SECOND SECTION: Description of FADs

FADs with the following description will be used in purse seine fishing activity:

a) FAD type

The Republic of El Salvador has authorised its fishing fleet to use non-entangling drifting FADs (*dFADs*). Both the raft and tail of the dFADs must meet the requirements and possess the conditions and characteristics described in this plan, especially those mentioned in point a) "FAD design characteristics" of the section regarding FAD production.

b) Type of beacon/buoy

All FADs used by the national fleet must have a satellite buoy echosounder installed, and the number of the device associated with the respective vessel, as well as the series and number of the associated electronic devices must be identified in the corresponding records. These identification methods form the basis of dFAD traceability. The buoy will transmit by satellite and echosounder, as mechanisms to ensure drifting floating objects can be located and monitored.

c) Max. number of FADs

The operator will ensure that its tuna vessels fishing bigeye, skipjack or yellowfin tuna with FADs do not exceed the established limits while ICCAT Recommendation 19-02 is in force, namely:

1. Year 2020: 350 FADs per vessel
2. Year 2021: 300 FADs per vessel

These figures may vary in the event that ICCAT Rec. 19-02 is amended. In this case, the amendment will be indicated in this plan. The maximum number of active FADs per vessel will be adjusted to the binding stipulations issued by ICCAT.

The number of FADs is monitored by the fishing authority to guarantee compliance with the regulations in force.

d) Minimum distance between aFADs

Not applicable, as El Salvador does not use aFADs and, therefore, no ordinances have been issued regarding the separation distance that must be observed by the national fleet when deploying aFADs.

e) Incidental by-catch reduction and utilization policy

As established in national law, by-catch is defined as a catch of any species other than the target species during fishing operations. Some species may be prohibited and must be returned to the sea after being caught, and should be released alive insofar as possible. In addition, special activities must be carried out to prevent these catches or at least limit undesired discard, and they may only be used on the condition that the amount of the catch clearly shows that it was unintended.

In addition to its national legislation, El Salvador also has a Code of Ethics for Fishing and Aquaculture (CODEPESCA)[3] to complement higher level regulations, including relevant international treaties and in accordance with the principles and regulations of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. In this context, the national policy aims to:

> *"…2.2 Promote the protection and sustainable usage of living aquatic resources and their environments, in addition to coastal areas and aquatic reserves;*

[3] http://www.fao.org/3/ad941s/ad941s0b.htm

2.3 Establish and apply the principles and criteria under the relevant regulations included in international law to ensure that fishing and aquaculture activities are carried out *responsibly;*

2.4 Serve as a reference instrument that promotes the refinement of the political, legal and institutional frameworks necessary to implement the principle of responsible fishing;…"

In this framework, it stipulates that:

"All persons that are involved in fishing and aquaculture in any manner must…/…

4.1 Contribute to the sustainable use of fishery resources to meet the needs of current and future generations, while striving to carry out the different phases of fishing and aquaculture in a manner that maintains the nutritional value, quality and safety of the products, and also reduces waste and minimizes negative impacts on the environment.

4.2 Comply with rationally established fishing and aquaculture management regulations that aim to maintain the quality, diversity and availability of fishery resources within a context defined by sustainability and food security.

4.4 Protect the ecosystems in which fisheries and aquaculture activities are developed…"

4.5 Encourage research and fishery and aquaculture technology, with the intention of orienting the results towards permanent responsible behaviour. The management measures will be supported by duly substantiated and verified scientific research, or precautionary criteria when no research has been carried out, considering the opinions of persons involved in the measures to be implemented.

4.6 Transmit the precepts of CODEPESCA, in addition to knowledge and experience, to future generations in order to ensure that members of the fishing and aquaculture sector are increasingly aware of their responsibility to safeguard and protect the balance of the aquatic ecosystem, the productivity of which is a source of food, employment and financial income.

4.8 Promote compliance with the constitutional, legal, obligatory and all other regulations formally issued by the competent State authorities, undertaking to refrain from participating in or encouraging acts that contravene legal precepts, or associating with those who promote or carry out such illegal acts.

4.9 Consider solidarity as a basis and stimulus to push the adoption of productive cooperation policies and participatory practices that ultimately improve the quality of life enjoyed by current and future generations, based on equal access to fishery resources.

4.10 Ensure that conduct is always guided by the principles of decorum, dignity and integrity, while faithfully complying with this Code. Accordingly, apply, monitor and follow up on its precepts in cooperation with the competent authorities.

In accordance with the above-mentioned points, vessel owners or operators, especially the captain, must present information on by-catch during fishing activity. The information will describe the position of the catch, species, estimated volume and number of fish, and will also indicate the actions that could have been applied to reduce by-catch and ensure the survival of any species caught that cannot be used or are subject to special conservation measures.

The report must make special reference to the provision and use of by-catch that may have occurred during fishing operations.

The information must be presented in the formats defined by CENDEPESCA for this purpose, and will be evaluated with the aim of adapting fishing operations to reduce the chances of potential by-catch and therefore avoid discards or threats to non-target species. Chelonians, pinnipeds and marine mammal catches continue to be forbidden.

Additionally, the best practices management system, based on joint management by the State and operators in association with non-government and trade associations, will remain in place.[4] This system aims to improve the techniques used in purse seine fishing, including improving the selectivity of tuna purse seine fishing within the framework of responsible and sustainable fisheries that minimises the consequent effects on the marine ecosystem.

These best practices can be summarised as follows:

1. Design and use of non-entangling FADs for sensitive associated species (turtles and sharks)
2. Development and application of release techniques that entail a lower risk and maximise these species' chances of survival, including specific equipment and material.[5]
3. A FAD management system based on the implementation of a fishing logbook for monitoring and control purposes.
4. FAD logbooks, which are used to complete the ICCAT ST08 form
5. 100% observer coverage on fishing trips.
6. Training for captains and crew
7. Verification of activities related to good practices by scientific organisms, and
8. Constant monitoring by a review committee.

New practices that are consistent with management and aim to reduce the impact of by-catch on the ecosystem will be constantly analysed to evaluate the possibility of including them in this plan.

The coverage of independent onboard observers who collaborate with activities allows us to discover, develop and gain feedback on the practice of best techniques to avoid by-catch and ensure the correct release of associated species that have been accidentally caught.

f) Consideration of interaction with other gear types

Purse seine gear is quite selective as it is used on a school. It has a minimal impact on the habitat as it is used far off the coast and does not disturb the sea bed. As many dFADs as possible are retrieved as their geolocation is available.

The main interaction with other gear types is with drifting and surface longline.

It has been noticed in certain cases that, in the event of unintended interaction between a drifting longline and a dFAD, the longline operator weakens the structure and, therefore, the normal stability of the dFAD by cutting its tail when it gets tangled with their gear. Consequently, this causes the loss of the device, creates waste and potentially leads to ghost fishing. In this case, El Salvador does not have longline vessels in the Convention area and, therefore, we do not have governance capacity over the conduct of other fishing gear operators.

Although there are studies on interactions with artisanal fishing, the work of auxiliary vessels minimises the impact of FADs in areas where artisanal fishers operate.

Purse seine operators are asked to fully document any cases of interaction and/or loss of devices and notify CENDEPESCA so that mechanisms may be developed to mitigate the effects of negative interaction.

g) Statement or policy on "FAD ownership"

FADs are owned by the operator subject to the operating conditions in existing regulations. When fishing with or deploying FADs, tuna vessel operators must keep a record and inventory that includes all the information regarding FAD-related activities (Appendix I: FAD and beacon journal and Appendix II: FAD and beacon inventory) each time a FAD is deployed, each visit to a FAD (regardless of whether it is followed by a set), or whenever a FAD is lost.

[4] This includes the Code of Best Practices for responsible purse seine tuna fishing: https://www.azti.es/atuneroscongeladores/recursos/buenas-practicas-para-una-pesca-atunera-de-cerco-responsable/

[5] Metallic manta release structure, use of Velcro

In order to record the relationship between a vessel and a dFAD under its ownership, the operator of the tuna fishing and auxiliary vessels must carry out an inventory of all the deployed FADs and buoys, including at least the following information (Appendix II FADs and beacon inventory):

- FAD Identifier
- Type of FAD and electronic equipment (associated beacon type).
- FAD design characteristics (material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure and whether the latter is entangling or non-entangling, as well as whether it is biodegradable).

h) Use of support vessels, including from other flag CPCs

El Salvador-flagged tuna vessels may have support from auxiliary vessels during fishing operations. These must be duly registered with ICCAT and have all the valid certificates and licenses necessary to carry out their activity. Currently, the Salvadoran fleet receives support from three Panama-flagged vessels with 100% physical or electronic observer coverage.

In accordance with paragraphs 23 and 48 of Rec. 19-02, correspondence between fishing vessels and auxiliary vessels that have provided them with support services will be delivered to ICCAT before 31 July every year while this plan is in force.

El Salvador acknowledges the strategic need for support vessels flying the flag of El Salvador and reserves this right in operating conditions of efficiency and sufficiency to serve its fleet in accordance with international law and the principle of responsible fishing.

THIRD SECTION: Institutional arrangements

a) Institutional responsibilities for the FAD Management plan.

The competent authority responsible for monitoring the plan is the Directorate-General of the Centre for the Development of Fishing and Aquaculture (CENDEPESCA), which is in charge of ensuring compliance with the plan and monitoring the actions of vessels on the high seas through a monitoring, control and surveillance system.

b) Application processes for FAD deployment approval

Operators do not require prior approval from the national fishing authorities for deployment, but they must abide by the amounts and conditions established in this plan. Additionally relevant information regarding FAD use, deployment, activation, visits and sets must be recorded in the fishing logbook and FAD logbook, and the number of deployments must be controlled to ensure it does not exceed the limit established in Rec. 19-02. Furthermore, monthly positions and speed histograms are reviewed, allowing us to determine the number of active FADs controlled by the vessel owner for fishing purposes.

c) Obligations of vessel owners and captains in respect of FAD deployment and use

The vessel owner and captain have two obligations with regards to FAD deployment and usage:

1. Keep a FAD logbook to record all activities related to this type of device, in accordance with Recommendation 16-01 paragraph 21, and

2. Provide all the information resulting from these activities to the fishing authorities after each month of activity.

Without prejudice to any other information formally stipulated by ICCAT, and which is therefore understood to be included in the following non-exhaustive list, the information below must be immediately recorded by the fishing vessel owner and captain:

1. Each time a FAD is deployed
   - Position
   - Date
   - FAD type (artificial or natural drifting FAD, anchored FAD)
   - FAD Identifier
   - FAD design characteristics (material of the floating part and of the underwater hanging structure and whether the latter is entangling or non-entangling, as well as whether it is biodegradable).

2. Each time a FAD is visited (regardless of whether it is followed by a set)
   - Type of visit (FAD and/or buoy deployment, FAD and/or buoy recovery, strengthening/consolidation of a FAD, intervention on electronic equipment, random encounter of and visit (without fishing) to a FAD belonging to another vessel, fishing set on a FAD).
   - Position
   - Date
   - FAD type (artificial or natural drifting FAD, anchored FAD)
   - FAD Identifier
   - If the visit is followed by a set, the terms of the catch will be recorded: species, no. of fish and no. of live released fish
   - If the visit is not followed by a set, note the reason (e.g. not enough fish, fish too small, etc.)

3. Each time a FAD is lost
   - Last registered position
   - Date of the last registered position
   - FAD Identifier

d) FAD replacement policy

Whenever the vessel owner determines that a FAD has been lost, they must submit a report to CENDEPESCA with the following information:

a. Vessel that deployed the FAD
b. Date of deployment
c. FAD identifier number
d. Buoy data
e. Date of activation
f. Date on which deactivation and signal loss is reported
g. Course taken
h. Actions taken to recover the FAD, if possible, and the outcome
i. Specific substitution requirement

Once CENDEPESCA has received this information, it may ask for additional information within a period of 72 hours. In any case, substitution will be authorised within the same timeframe if no additional information is required and it is demonstrated, at the discretion of CENDEPESCA, that the lost FAD can no longer be used by the owner for fishing purposes.

If the vessel owner receives a reactivation signal from the FAD, recovers the FAD, or finds it following a visit, they must collect it and inform CENDEPESCA of these events, especially the disablement of the FAD.

e) Additional reporting obligations beyond this Recommendation

Tuna and support vessel owners and/or an independent scientific organism hired by the owner for this purpose must regularly send a report for each tuna vessel to CENDEPESCA, which details all the information on the number of active buoys and accredits compliance with the limits established in the section on number of active FADs per vessel. Likewise, the operator will regularly send the buoy inventory and FAD logbook to CENDEPESCA, including at least the information indicated in the FAD markings and identifier section.

If non-compliant FADs (non-entangling) belonging to other vessels are found at sea, this must be recorded in the FAD logbook, identifying the location and, insofar as possible, any characteristics and identifying elements visible on the device, such as the series number and names or inscriptions indicating the owner.

f) Conflict resolution policy in respect of FADs

All vessel owners and operators must respect the ownership of foreign FADs and refrain from setting on a foreign FAD. In the event of a FAD ownership conflict, CENDEPESCA will review the case in accordance with the documentation provided and the ownership and activity records delivered by the parties in order to make a decision. Setting on a foreign FAD is a violation of the law and will be sanctioned in accordance with the corresponding legislation.

g) Details of any closed areas or periods e.g. territorial waters, shipping lanes, proximity to artisanal fisheries, etc.

Vessels under the flag of El Salvador are subject to the area/time closure defined for 2020, which means that they cannot set on FADs in a defined area and timeframe. Furthermore, the Salvadoran fleet is aware that fishing activities in the territorial waters of coastal countries is forbidden, unless the relevant license has been issued by the country in question. For this reason, our Department of Fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance closely monitors the navigation routes and activities of vessels through VMS.

FOURTH SECTION: FAD construction specifications and requirements

a) FAD design characteristics (a description)

FAD design must minimise the impact of fishing activity on non-target species, especially turtles and sharks. Based on this consideration, it is established that FADs must be constructed with non-entangling materials that have the basic agreed characteristics, as established in the guidelines of Appendix 5 of Rec. 19-02 by ICCAT. These characteristics should be understood as a minimum, and each company may develop and apply designs that further minimise the impact on non-target species and the environment.

With regards to NON-ENTANGLING FAD components, the following minimum obligatory requirements for construction materials and characteristics are established:

a. RAFT The raft of the FAD that ensures the object's buoyancy must: - be free (no covering), or - be covered with a non-entangling material (such as hessian or a tightly woven material), or - be covered by netting with a maximum mesh size of 7 cm (2.5 inches), approved by the ISSF as a material with a low risk of entanglement.

b. FAD TAILS Any elements that hang from the raft must not cause entanglement and may be made from: - loose ends, or - nets with a maximum mesh size of 7 cm, or - nets with a mesh size of over 7 cm tied in sausage-like bundles, or - any other non-meshed material (for example, tarp). Likewise, the underwater structure may have ornaments (palm leaves, pieces of net), as long as they have a mesh size of under 7 cm.

When designing FADs, priority is given to biodegradable materials when they offer similar performance to non-biodegradable materials. Technical advice from ICCAT will allow for a more certain implementation of the definition and guidelines regarding the use of biodegradable materials in FAD construction.

b) Lighting requirements

Not applicable. dFADs authorised by El Salvador do not have lighting. Nonetheless, it is recognised that the beacon emits a light signal in recovery mode. This is considered desirable and necessary, and is therefore permitted.

c) Radar reflectors

Not applicable. dFADs authorised by El Salvador do not have radar reflectors.

d) Visible distance

Not applicable.

e) FAD markings and identifier

Each FAD and beacon will have an alpha-numeric identification code provided by the manufacturer, which must not be changed throughout its useful life. The identifier will be included in the inventory and the FAD logbook onboard the vessel, and any modifications must be reported indicating the date of the change and the former FAD or beacon identifier. The identification code must be visible. In the event that the observer cannot see the code, the captain or the crew must assist the observer by providing the FAD/beacon identification code.

f) Radio buoys markings and identifier (requirement for serial numbers)

Not applicable considering that El Salvador's tuna purse seine fleet uses satellite beacons instead of radio buoys.

g) Identifier and tag of echosounder buoys

Echosounder buoys will be physically tagged and identified with an alpha-numeric code. Each beacon/buoy must have one single identifier, chosen by the operator, throughout its entire useful life. This code is a sequence of characters placed in a visible area of the beacon/buoy. The identifier will be recorded in the vessel's FAD logbook and CENDEPESCA will be notified of its designation and any modifications.

h) Satellite transceivers

Not applicable for the same reasons as explained in point "f".

i) Research undertaken on biodegradable FADs

Committed to improvement in order to reduce or mitigate the environmental impact of activities at sea, cooperation will continue on pilot programmes carried out alongside NGOs such as ISSF and the Association of shipowners and vessels in order to ensure the use of biodegradable materials and report the conditions of materials, structures and devices until a prototype is established that allows for fishing with a minimal long-term environmental impact. El Salvador urges its vessel owners to facilitate these processes with the State and reserves the right to use non-confidential data in its power to develop national strategies that may be shared with other countries in the search for a collaborative proposal, especially within the framework of ICCAT.

j) Prevention of loss or abandonment of FADs

The use of buoys in FADs allows them to be located and prevents loss or abandonment. Planning the deployment of FADs minimises the risk of the devices drifting into unintended areas.

The need to control FAD movements and locations is recognised.

k) Management of FAD recovery

The support of auxiliary vessels is fundamental to recover objects that have drifted outside of the fishing area.

In the event of a loss of signal, the operator will use the means available to recover the FAD, including support from auxiliary vessels to prevent FAD loss or abandonment, and will act in accordance with the guidelines established in paragraph **1.d)** of this Section.

FIFTH SECTION: Applicable period for the FAD Management Plan

This plan will be applicable during 2020 and 2021, considering that it is a Rec. 19-02 implementation plan regarding FADs, and is limited by the validity of this Recommendation.

SIXTH SECTION: Means for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the FAD Management Plan

Through the Department of Fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance, as the competent national authority the Centre for the Development of Fishing and Aquaculture will coordinate, access the unrestricted information of vessel owners and captains, and control vessel owner documentation in order to monitor and verify compliance with the plan.

Enacted in Santa Tecla, La Libertad, Republic of El Salvador, 31 January 2020.

CAPACITY TABLE[6]

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET							
	Number of vessels:				Total estimated capacity[7]		
Type	2018	2019	2020	Estimated best catch rate per unit[8]	2018	2019	2020
Purse seiner over 40m (ACTIVE)	4	4	4	700 t (x4)	2,634	2,452	1,553
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m	0	0	0		0	0	0
Purse seiner less than 20 m	0	0	0		0	0	0
Longliner over 40m	0	0	0		0	0	0
Longliner between 20 and 40m	0	0	0		0	0	0
Longliner less than 20 m	0	0	0		0	0	0
For capacity expansion	0	0	0		0	0	0
Bait boat	0	0	0		0	0	0
Other gears (specify)	0	0	0		0	0	0
Total fishing capacity				2,800 t	2,634 t	2,452 t	1,553 t
Quota					N/A	N/A	1,553
Initial quota[9]							
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)	N/A	N/A	N/A		0	0	0
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)	N/A	N/A	N/A		0	0	0
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	N/A	N/A	N/A		0	0	0

[6] This table refers exclusively to capacity and catches of bigeye tuna. It does not describe the vessels' total capacity.

[7] Catch and resulting total capacity for 2019 will be confirmed when data is provided before 31 July 2020 through the official ICCAT form.

[8] Only referring to bigeye

[9] Until 2019 El Salvador was not subject to quotas, but rather to expected limits in accordance with Rec. 16-01 and its amendments.

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (INCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN)

Name of CPC: European Union

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

1. Introduction

On 20 December 2019, the European union (EU) informed ICCAT CPCs that it would not wait for the date of entry into effects of Recommendation [19-02], and instead would implement it starting on 1 January 2020. This reflects the concerns of the EU about the status of the stock of bigeye tuna (BET) and the urgency in implementing the new management measures agreed during the last ICCAT Annual Meeting.

As part of these measures, in 2020 the EU is freezing its fishing capacity and implementing significant catch reductions. The EU has also established procedures to improve the monitoring and reporting of catches by its operators, with the objective of ensuring full compliance with its catch limit. Additional measures are also being implemented to verify the full implementation of the closure period for vessels operating on FADs.

Three EU Member States are actively fishing for tropical tunas in the ICCAT Convention area: EU-France; EU-Portugal and EU-Spain; all with different fleet profiles and different levels of involvement in these fisheries. Specific details are provided for these three EU Member States:

EU-France

In 2020 the quota of BET for EU-France will be 4,428 t.

Consistent with ICCAT Recommendations on the management of tropical tunas EU-France implements the following measures:

- monitoring catches and consumptions of the unallocated bigeye tuna quota on a monthly basis;
- allocating national bigeye tuna quota among three fishing vessels categories: purse-seiners and baitboat which are targeting tropical tuna, other fleets, notably pelagic trawler, that are fishing tropical tuna as a by-catch (national order under the process of adoption);
- respecting the ICCAT existing closure areas and period;
- limiting the use of Fish aggregating devices (FADs) and working towards a better knowledge of their potential impacts on the environment;
- controlling the fishing capacity through the implementation of a licensing system.

EU-Portugal

In 2020 EU-Portugal will benefit from a bigeye tuna quota of 2.823t, mainly used by the Portuguese outermost regions of Azores and Madeira, whose fleets are highly dependent of tropical tuna and, consequently, highly exposed to any fluctuations in the availability of this resource. This fleet is mainly composed by artisanal vessels, engaged in seasonal fisheries, operating mainly with pole and line and handlines, with a LOA below 12m, utilizing low impact gears in a fishery also known as a «one by one fishery». The most relevant species in the Portuguese tropical fisheries are bigeye and skipjack.

The longline fishing segment also contributes to the consumption of the Portuguese quota, but only as by-catch during the main fishery (swordfish and blue shark). Although collateral, this fishery observes incidental catches of tropical tuna which, overall, contribute to the economic sustainability of the longline fishery, especially if we take into account recent additional constraints felt by this segment, due to de continued decrease of fishing possibilities, not only of the main targeted species, but also of all by-catch as a result of recently adopted measures. For these reasons, the fishing plan includes the surface longline segment within the list of authorized segments to catch tropical tuna (pole and line as targeted species and longline as by-catch).

By doing this the longline segment is allowed to take advantage of eventual opportunistic catches while providing flexibility to the fishery, bearing in mind that these catches are very limited due to the specificities of the targeted species and the gear configuration.

Additional details on the Portuguese fishery are provided in **Annex**.

EU-Spain

In 2020, Spain's quota for BET will be 8055t. Spain has allocated this quota among the various fleet segments that fish for that stock, either as target species or as by-catch, including the following six groups: purse seiners, baitboats in the Canary Islands, artisanal vessels in the Canary Islands, baitboats in African waters, longliners and other fleets. Other fleets include sport and recreational fisheries and vessels targeting northern albacore in the Cantabric Sea. A total of 689 vessels are included in this fishing plan, including those with potential by-catches. Most of them may be considered as small-scale coastal vessels.

EU-Spain adopted a national regulation (Orden Ministerial) to create a permanent record for vessels authorised to fish for bigeye tuna in the Atlantic, which enshrines the principles of sustainable management of the fishery for 2020 and the years to come. Article 17 of the EU Common Fisheries Policy Regulation (Regulation (EU) no 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council) is to be implemented so that these fleets with less impact in terms of juvenile mortality would get a fair share of the quota due to their lower environmental impact.

2. Details of fishing plan – For those with >1,000 t *average catch*

	ICCAT Requirement (per 19-02)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch limits and Catch reductions (Part II)**	The EU accepted to implement in 2020 a 21% reduction of its TAC for BET to facilitate the implementation of the overall TAC in ICCAT. Specific catch limits have been fixed accordingly for each EU Member State under the TAC et Quota Regulation adopted in January 2020. EU Member States have allocated quotas internally to various gears, and specifically allocated quota for potential bycatches. All EU vessels over 12m are equipped with electronic logbooks, allowing daily transmission of catches to the competent authorities. Vessels under 12m have the obligation to transmit logbook details at the end of each fishing trip. Upon landing, catches must be weighed and each vessel must provide a landing declaration to its competent authorities.	Council Regulation (EU) 2020/123 fixing for 2020 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 Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy	

		Catches are compiled and validated before being transmitted to the European Commission (EC) through the Aggregated Catch Data Report system (ACDR). In 2020, the EU will report catches of all three species of tropical tuna according to paragraphs 13-16 of Rec. 19-02. Once catches reach 80% of the TAC, EU Member States are required to notify the EC and to monitor the TAC uptake to prevent overfishing. In the case of BET, EU Member States will transmit catches on a weekly basis once 80% of the TAC has been caught. To facilitate reporting on all tropical tuna species, ACDR has been updated to introduce new required species/areas code. In order to closely monitor the catches of BET occurring in the context of the fishery for skipjack tuna on FADs, EU-Spain is also allocating specific quotas for each purse seine and baitboat vessel.	Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy The specific quota allocation at the vessels levels is implemented through a Ministerial Order.	The deadline for reporting in Rec. 19-02 (weekly/monthly) should be clarified.
2.	**Capacity Limits (Part III)**	The number of EU fishing vessels has been frozen to the 2019 level, pending further discussions on the allocation of fishing opportunities in PA1. This number of vessels is consistent with the various catch limits (not only BET) for the EU in 2020. It should be noted that a large proportion of these vessels do not target specifically bigeye tunas, and instead are often engaging in fishing activities for other tropical tunas stocks. The number of supply vessels has also been frozen, pending further discussions in Panel 1.		The Commission should decide on how capacity limits should be implemented. The template provided by the ICCAT Secretariat makes reference to catch rates but these catch rates are not available for tropical tunas. The number of purse seine vessels authorized in 2020 does not reflect the full EU capacity since three additional vessels are currently being

		Details regarding the PS vessels associated to the supply vessels are also provided in this fishing plan.		rebuilt following sinking incidents.
3.	**Management of FADs and FAD Closure (s) (Part IV)**	In 2020, the EU is implementing the FADs limits adopted under Rec 19-02 (Maximum 350 FADs per vessel). Verifications of the number of FADs per vessel will be conducted by the competent authorities. The EU will also provide to SCRS the necessary information on the number of FADs sets. EU vessels fishing on FADs will comply with paragraph 32 of Recommendation 19-02 (observer onboard). Along with this fishing plan, the EU is also providing FADs management plans for the two Member States concerned (EU-France and EU-Spain). Regarding the FADs closure, the EU is implementing the two months closure in January-February 2020 over the ICCAT Convention area. The implementation of this measure is verified through the compulsory deployment of observers onboard and through the analysis of the catches composition.		It remains challenging for the COC to determine if the limits on the maximum number of FADs are being implemented. Panel 1 and IMM should explore the potential value of a scheme of regional observer for this purpose. Panel 1 should explore the possibility to adopt specific measures to verify compliance with the closure period by vessels fishing in January-February on free schools.
4.	**Control Measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)**	The EU provides to the ICCAT Secretariat the list of its vessels authorized to fish tropical tunas in 2020. The EU is implementing the provisions of Recommendation 19-02, including on the compulsory deployment of observers on 100% of its purse seiners. The list of support vessels operating in 2019 and 2020, as well as the names of the purse seiners associated with these support vessels, are provided in this fishing plan. Trials for electronic observers have not been established yet,		

		and the work of the IMM in 2020 should guide this exercise. However, some EU Member States are already exploring how EMS could be used.		
5.	**Other information / measures to be taken**			

4. FAD Management Plans (if applicable)

FADs management plans are provided for EU-France and EU-Spain.

CAPACITY TABLE[1]

	Number of Vessels	
	2019	2020
Purse seiner	26	25 [2]
Supply vessels[3]	4	4
Baitboats[4]	175	175
By-catch (longliners + artisanal)	1,718	1,718
	Quota (t)	
Initial quota	16,989	13,591
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)		
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)[5]		
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)		15,542

[1] The capacity table does not include calculations based on catch rates, as suggested in the template provided in CP48, because these rates are not available.

[2] Does not reflect full available capacity. Three vessels sank in recent years and have not been replaced yet.

[3] In 2020, and similarly to 2019; GARBOLA gives support to ALBONIGA, EGALUZE and ZUBEROA; HAIZEA BAT gives support to ALBACORA QUINCE; ZAHARA TRES gives support to MAR DE SERGIO. AVEN (Belize) support CAP BOJADOR, GEVRED, GUEOTEC, GUERIDEN, PENDRUC, STERENN

[4] Mostly artisanal, only 8 large baitboats.

[5] A 300t quota transfer from Japan must be confirmed during the intersessional meeting of Panel 1.

Annex

EU-Portugal

In order to operationalize Recommendation 19-02, and consistent with its paragraph 6, the fishing plan provides special consideration to the specificities and needs of the outermost regions of Azores and Madeira, whose fleets are responsible for the bulk of the catches of tropical tuna in EU-Portugal. These fleets are highly dependent on these resources and therefore extremely exposed to any fluctuation of the fishing opportunities.

Although extensive in area, the Portuguese EEZ around these archipelagos lacks a continental shelf and instead is characterized by a pronounced slope and the presence of important depths at short distances from the shore. This is due to the volcanic nature of these islands. As a consequence, both archipelagos have a strong dependency on pelagic, oceanic and migratory resources, namely tuna, and also some deep sea species, like the black scabbard.

Tropical tunas are therefore fundamental for the existence and subsistence of the fishing sector in Azores and Madeira, representing around half of the total production, and an essential element to the processing industry, such as the Azorean canning industry. Overall, tuna represents more than half of the total landings and around 50% of the global economic value at first sale. It is important to highlight that most of the bigeye catches originated in these regions are composed by adult individuals, fished with low impact gears in a sustainable manner. Market value of adult specimens is higher than for juveniles acting also as an incentive to selectivity. We would like to emphasize the existence of communities where fishing activities are the only source of subsistence, playing a vital element in the livelihood of such communities who live from the fishery and for the fishery. Although with diverse intrinsic characteristics, these communities share the same structural problem: the lack of viable alternatives to their fishing activities, making them disproportionally vulnerable to fluctuations in the availability of the traditional fishing resources, like skipjack and bigeye tuna.

In terms of fleet composition, the pole and line fleet is mainly composed of artisanal vessels, the vast majority of them below 12m. As for the longline segment, although contributing to the quota consumption of the bigeye Portuguese quota, this only happens in a marginal and limited portion. Nevertheless, these limited catches are an important element to maintaining the economic viability of this segment, naturally taking into account the current context whereby most of the by-catch is now subject of more stringent measures which, all in all, lead to the impossibility of taking any economic advantage of these incidental catches (like billfish).

Taking all this into account, it is the intention of the Portuguese Administration to maintain the *status quo* in this fishery in terms of the number of authorized vessels. This addresses the concerns and meets the objectives enshrined in article 6 of Recommendation 19-02 (Recommendation by ICCAT to Replace Recommendation 16-01), by providing special consideration to the specificities and needs of the artisanal fleets of both outermost regions of Azores and Madeira.

2020 NATIONAL FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE ATLANTIC – EU FRANCE

Chapter 1 – Management measures framework

Article 1 – Reference texts

- *Recommendation by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 by ICCAT on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas* (Rec. 19-02);
- *Recommendation by ICCAT on the by-catch of sea turtles in ICCAT fisheries* (Rec. 10-09), in particular paragraph 2.a;
- ICCAT recommendations 05-05, 10-07 and 11-08 on the conservation of sharks;
- FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations, adopted by FAO at the 26th session of COFI in March 2005;
- Recommendations of the CECOFAD programme on data collection on floating objects;
- ISSF recommendations on types of FAD susceptible to entanglement.

Article 2 - Scope

2.1 Vessels covered by the French FAD plan for the Atlantic Ocean

This FAD management plan applies to tuna purse seiners registered with a French port and operating in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean in 2020. Table 1 lists these vessels.

Table 1. Vessels covered by the French FAD management plan for the Atlantic Ocean.

Vessel name	Vessel type	Purse seiners assisted by a buoy tender
AVEN (Belize flag)	**Buoy tender**	**CAP BOJADOR, GEVRED, GUEOTEC, GUERIDEN, PENDRUC, STERENN**
CAP BOJADOR	**Purse seiner**	
GEVRED	**Purse seiner**	
GUEOTEC	**Purse seiner**	
GUERIDEN	**Purse seiner**	
PENDRUC	**Purse seiner**	
STERENN	**Purse seiner**	
VIA MISTRAL	**Purse seiner**	
VIA AVENIR	**Purse seiner**	
VIA EUROS	**Purse seiner**	

This management plan also applies to French-flagged support vessels that operate within the tropical purse seine tuna fishery.

2.2 Vessels covered by the French FAD management plan for the Atlantic Ocean

The management plan is concerned with drifting FADs and their instrumented buoys deployed and used by French purse seiners and their buoy tenders.

Article 3 - Definitions

Activation of a beacon: The act of enabling activate the satellite communication services by the buoy supplier at the request of the buoy owner. The owner then starts paying fees for communication services. The buoy can be transmitting or not, depending if it has been manually switched on.

Fishing activity: Any activity related to locating fish, release, deployment, trailing or hauling fishing gear, embarking catches, transhipment, retaining on board, processing on board, transferring, and landing fish and fisheries products.

Instrumented beacon / buoy: Electronic device used to locate and track a FAD. The beacon must carry a clearly marked unique reference number to enable identification of its owner and be equipped with a satellite monitoring system for surveillance of its position.

Active beacon*:* Beacon whose satellite communication system has been initiated by the buoy supplier at the request of the vessel owner or beacon manager. At this stage, the beacon does not transmit its position or any additional information such as biomass estimates produced by echosounder beacons.

Beacon in storage: Instrumented beacon that has been acquired by the owner but not made operational. Any beacon onboard a vessel that is the owner is considered to be in storage in this management plan.

Operational beacon: A beacon is considered to be active when it has been registered on the satellite system (active beacon), switched on (an active beacon that has been switched on is said to be "in transmission"), deployed at sea and transmits its position or any other available information such as echosounder estimates.

Shared beacon: A beacon whose information (position and echosounder signal) is transmitted to at least two vessels (purse seiners or navigation aid vessels), which therefore share the beacon. The contribution of a shared beacon to the number of operational buoys of a given purse seiner is equal to 1/number of purse seiners sharing the beacon.

Deactivation of a beacon: Cancellation of the satellite communication service. It is carried out by the buoy supplier at the request of the purse seine vessel owner or operator or its buoy tender. A deactivated buoy can only be reactivated if it is onboard the purse seiner that owns it or a buoy tender.

Fish aggregating device (FAD)**:** Within the meaning of Recommendation 19-02, a FAD is a permanent, semi-permanent or temporary object, structure or permanent device of any material, either manmade or natural, which is deployed and/or tracked, and used to aggregate fish for subsequent capture. FADs can be anchored (aFAD) or drifting (dFAD). Article 5 of the management plan completes and states this definition.

Drifting FAD (dFAD): A FAD that is not anchored. A dFAD generally has a floating structure (such as a bamboo or metal raft and its floatability is ensured by buoys, corks, etc.) and a submerged structure (made of canvas, rope, etc.).

Beacon supplier: Any company that supplies beacons to track dFADs.

Fishing vessel: Any vessel equipped with a view to commercial exploitation of live aquatic resources.

Support vessel / buoy tender: Any vessel that assists the fishing vessel in its fishing activities. The support vessel is not equipped with fishing gear. In the case of tropical tuna purse seiners, the function of the buoy tenders is to deploy FADs and beacons, to transfer beacons from other vessels to FADs found at sea or in addition to signal the presence of fish to the purse seiners that they are assisting.

Number of operational beacons per vessel at any one time: The sum of the number of operational beacons that are owned by the vessel and the number of common beacons (managed by a purse seiner or a buoy tender) divided by the number of tuna vessels using these common beacons.

Beacon owner: Any individual or company, entity or branch, that pays for the communication service of a beacon associated with a FAD and/or that is authorised to receive information from the beacon (position, echosounder data) as well as request its activation and/or deactivation.

Floating object: Any natural or artificial floating (i.e. surface or subsurface) object that with no capability of moving on its own. FADs are those floating objects that are manmade and intentionally deployed and/or tracked. Logs are those floating objects that are accidentally lost from anthrophic or natural sources.

FAD set: Setting a fishing gear around a tuna school associated with a FAD.

Reactivation of a beacon: The act of reactivating the satellite communication services by the buoy supplier company at the request of the buoy owner or operator. As in any beacon activation, this procedure can only take place onboard a purse seine vessel or buoy tender. In addition, activation cannot take place if the beacon has not previously been brought back to port by the owner vessel or another vessel authorised to do so.

Article 4 - Objectives of the French FAD management plan

The French FAD management plan pursues three objectives:

4.1 Improve knowledge on the impacts of FADs

Increased knowledge on the use of FADs and their instrumented beacons will enable better assessment of potential impacts and definition of suitable management measures.

Section II of the management plan describes the methods used to track the use of FAD and their instrumented beacons.

4.2 Control the use of FADs and their instrumented beacons

For French vessel owners, the most effective management measure to reduce all the negative impacts of FAD use is to limit their use. These impacts include, among others (1) an increase in the fishing efficiency of purse seiners, (2) potential reduction in productivity of yellowfin and bigeye tuna stocks in the Atlantic Ocean due to catches of juveniles of these two species being taken and (3) impacts of FADs on the ecosystems described in paragraph 4.3.

Section III of the management plan establishes the conditions concerned with limitation of use as well as the methods to monitor the numbers of operational beacons.

4.3 Reduce the impacts of FADs on ecosystems

In addition to the reduction of potential impacts as a result of limitation of the number of FADs, complementary measures are needed to reduce the impacts of FADs on ecosystems in terms of : (1) catches of yellowfin and bigeye juveniles, bycatch and incidental catches of sensitive species, (2) ghost catches of sensitive species such as turtles and sharks (3) pollution related to and grounding of lost FADs.

Section IV of this management plan sets out the solutions implemented to reduce these impacts as well as the methods used to verify their implementation.

Chapter II – Measures to improve knowledge on the use and impacts of FADs

Article 5 – Monitoring of activities on floating objects and their instrumented beacons

5.1 Types of activities on floating objects and on their instrumented beacons

The objective of monitoring activities on FADs and on their instrumented beacons is twofold:

(i) To assess the contribution of these devices to the fishing effort of tuna purse seiners in order to estimate the impact of this fishing method on tropical tuna stocks.

(ii) To assess the contribution of FADs to the modification and/or alteration of the ecosystems in which these devices are present.

Definitions consistent with these scientific objectives have been established within the framework of the European project CECOFAD. These definitions are also included in Table 1 and conform with Annex 3 of ICCAT Recommendation 19-02.

These definitions distinguish between FADs in a strict sense (objects/structures/devices specifically introduced into water by purse seiners and their buoy tenders to aggregate tropical tunas), and logs (other types of objects / structures capable of aggregating fish – of natural origin such as branches or anthropic origin such as plastic debris).

Table 1. Types of floating objects (CECOFAD classification).

Type	Material	Code	Name	Example (s)
FAD	Natural and / or artificial	dFAD	Drifting FAD	Drifting bamboo raft
	Natural and / or artificial	aFAD	Anchored FAD	Anchored floating platform
LOG	Artificial	FALOG	Artificial log related to fishing activities	Net, hawser
	Natural and / or artificial	HALOG	Artificial log resulting from other human activities	Wooden plank, plastic debris
	Natural	ANLOG	Natural log of animal origin	Carcasses, whale shark
	Natural	VNLOG	Natural log of plant origin	Branches, algae

These definitions also explicitly separate activities on floating objects from activities on their instrumented beacons to facilitate reporting by vessels. These definitions are included in **Table 2**. Several successive activities can be carried out on the same floating object and each of these activities must be reported.

Table 2. Types of activities on floating objects and their beacons (CECOFAD classification).

Type	Activity	Description
FLOATING OBJECT	**Deployment**	**Deployment at sea of a new FAD. By definition, there is no deployment of logs.**
	Strengthening	**Consolidation of a floating object to strengthen its floatability.**
	Visit	**Visit to a floating object without fishing, in particular to assess the quantity of biomass aggregated under the object.**
	Fishing	**Fishing on a floating object.**
	Recovery	**Recovery of a floating object by the (one of the) owner vessel(s).**
	End of use	**End of use of a floating object due to its deteriorated state or its drifting outside of the active fishing area. It is prohibited to abandon a FAD even if deteriorated and without a beacon.**
	Loss	**End of tracking of a floating object unrelated to its appropriation by a vessel other than the owner vessel(s).**
BEACON	**Deployment**	**Deployment of a buoy on a floating object. This activity can also be called "marking" of a floating object.**
	Transfer	**Change of beacon on a floating object belonging to another vessel (replacement of beacon with a beacon of the vessel).**
	Visit	**Mere visit to a floating object with a beacon.**
	Recovery	**Recovery of a beacon on a floating object drifting at sea. It is prohibited to abandon a FAD without a beacon at sea and it is encouraged to recover a log if there is a risk of pollution.**
	End of transmission	**Voluntary cease of transmission of a remote beacon at the request of the vessel or vessel owner.**
	Loss	**Involuntary cease of transmission of a beacon following appropriation of the floating object by another vessel or due to a technical fault of the beacon.**

5.2 Reporting of activities on floating objects and on their instrumented beacons

The master of a fishing vessel or a support vessel records in the logbook the activities carried out on floating objects and on their instrumented buoys in accordance with the categories described in Tables 1 and 2.

The master of a fishing vessel also records in the logbook for each fishing operation on a floating object or on a free school the tonnage caught by species (tuna targeted or bycatch).

For each of these activities, the following information is collected in the logbook:

- Vessel (name and registration number);
- Date (DD/MM/YYYY);
- Position (latitude, longitude in degrees and minutes) ;
- Type of floating object as defined in **Table 2**;
- If appropriate, FAD type. Article 16 describes the dimensions and materials of the floating part and submerged part of the FAD authoritised for the French fleet;
- Size / presence of meshing on the surface of the floating object and in the submerged part;
- Type of activity or sequence of activities on the floating object as defined in **Table 3**;
- Beacon type (make and model) and identifier, failing that, ownership of the beacon;
- In the case of a beacon transfer, beacon type and identifier or failing that, ownership of the beacon for the withdrawn beacon and for the deployed beacon;
- Type of activity or sequence of activities on the floating object as defined in **Table 3**;
- Catches by species.

Annex III details the structure of the logbook used by French purse seiners and their buoy tenders in 2020. The logbook is provided to national scientists at the end of each trip and used for transmission of information to the SCRS in the required format through form 3 FA.

Chapter III – Measures to limit the use of the number of FADs and their instrumented beacons

Article 6 – FAD identification and marking

Any FAD introduced into the water by a French tuna purse seiner or a buoy tender is identified by the serial number of the beacon that is associated with it. This number must be visible without having to remove the beacon from the FAD. It should be designed to withstand the submersion time of the beacon and remain readable throughout the lifetime of the beacon.

Article 7 – FAD without a beacon

It is prohibited to deploy or abandon a FAD at sea without a beacon.

Article 8 – Prohibition of HF beacons

To ensure independent control of operational beacons and to limit the loss of FADs linked to beacons whose positions are not known remotely, only beacons that transmit their position via the GPS system are authorised. HF beacons are prohibited.

Article 9 – FAD ownership

The owner or operator of the vessel whose beacon is on the floating object is the owner, even if the vessel did not introduce the floating object into the water.

Article 10 – Limitation of the number of operational beacons

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 19-02;

Considering that limitation of the number of active beacons per vessel at any one time enables effective limitation of the number of FADs at sea;

Considering that, to ensure responsible and sustainable fishing, ORTHONGEL will continue to foster rational use of FADs through the limitation of the number of operational beacons adopted by RFMOs and applicable to all fleets;

Encouraging vessel owners not to increase the number of FADs beyond levels considered to be reasonable by OP in 2012 and not to increase fishing effort under FADs beyond 2018 levels;

The French management plan sets a limits of 300 operational beacons per purse seiner. The limit on the number of purchases of beacons per purse seiner and year is established at 600.

French purse seiners and their buoy tenders will organise deployment of FADs and instrumented beacons so as to never exceed these limits. In the event of repeated overruns, the vessel will be notified and deployment placed under the control of the vessel owner.

Article 11 – Monitoring of the number of operational beacons

Each month, beacon suppliers will transmit no later than three weeks after month end a full list of the operational buoys used by each purse seiner and each day in accordance with the format established in Table 3.

Table 3. Format for monthly reporting of operational beacons.

Date	Operational beacons	Activations	Deactivations
2019/01/01			
2019/01/02			
2019/01/03			
…			
2019/01/30			
2019/01/31			

This report will be extracted from the operating system of each beacon supplier who will certify that the data reported tally with the activation / deactivation reports provided by the central server system.

Transmitting beacons will be recorded as operational (at least one position transmitted in the 24 hour period considered) as well as drifting (speed greater than 0 knots and less than 6 knots).

Beacons that are shared by several purse seiners are divided by the number of purse seiners receiving information (position, echosounder report) from the beacon.

Recommendation 19-02 provides for monitoring of operational beacons for purse seiners, no beacon can be attributed to a support vessel within the context of this monitoring. All the beacons that have been activated and deployed by support vessels must be recorded in the monthly reports on operational beacons of at least one purse seiner.

Article 12 – Prohibition on remote activation of beacons

To prevent temporary deactivation followed by reactivation of some beacons so that they are not recorded as operational, remote activation or reactivation by a vessel, by the owner or by the vessel operator is prohibited. A beacon can only be activated or reactivated onboard a purse seiner or its buoy tender via the beacon supplier's software. Figure 1 defines the only cycle of beacon use is authorised within this context.

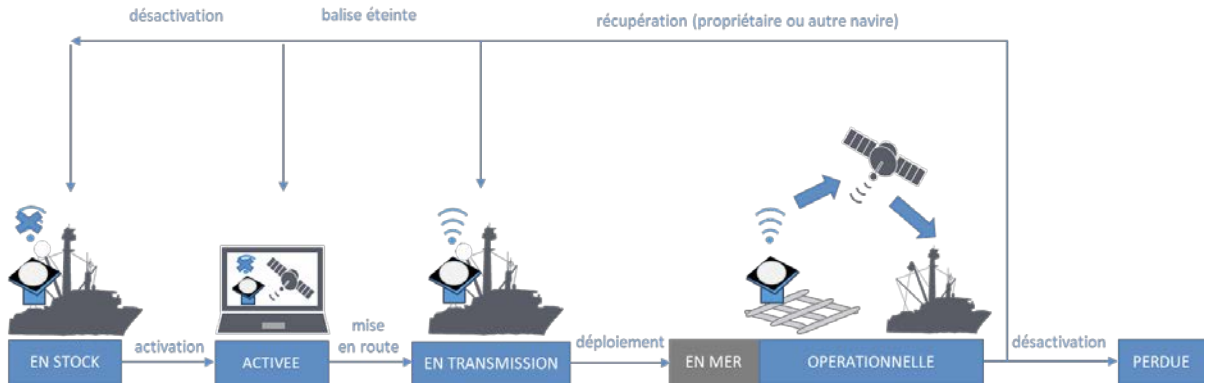

Figure 1. Cycle of beacon use that is authorised under the French FAD management plan.

Verification of the distance between the vessel and beacon at the time of first transmission following activation or reactivation will be carried out based on information prepared by the beacon suppliers as defined in Table 4.

Table 4. Format for reporting activation of beacons.

Information	Objective / Description	Format
Beacon identifier	Identical to that of the logbook	
Beacon serial number	Identifier provided by the supplier	
Owner vessel	Vessel with active beacon	
Vessel to which the beacon has been allocated	Vessel(s) tracking the beacon	
Buoy tender	Beacons activated by a support vessel	
Date of activation	Start of beacon use	UTC
Vessel position at activation	Latitude and longitude	Decimal degrees
Date of first transmission		UTC
Beacon position on first transmission	Latitude and longitude	Decimal degrees
Vessel position on first transmission	Latitude and longitude	Decimal degrees
Date of deactivation	End of beacon use	UTC
Beacon position on last transmission		UTC
Vessel position on last transmission		Decimal degrees

Vessel position reported by the beacon supplier will be obtained via the antenna of the supplier's software. Verification of the accuracy of these reports will be carried out through comparison with the **VMS.**

Article 13 – Supervision of buoy tenders and other devices to aid management of number of FADs

FAD management can be ensured by buoy tenders on the following conditions:

- Inclusion in the specific ICCAT records;
- Lights must not be used by these vessels (aerial or underwater) for the purpose of favouring fish aggregation.
- A buoy tender must serve at least two designated purse seiners that are not associated with another support vessel.

It is also prohibited for fishing vessels or buoy tenders, to use helicopters and/or drones from onboard.

Article 14 – Onboard and electronic observers

Fishing under a floating object is authorised provided that the purse seiner has an onboard observer or a functional electronic observation system capable of verifying the type of operation, species composition and fishing activities.

Chapter IV – Measures to reduce FAD impacts on ecosystems

Article 15 – Non-entangling FADs

FADs constructed and / or deployed by French purse seiners or buoy tenders must not be made from materials with meshing that is more than 6.5 cm.

The following information is systematically collected in the logbook when a FAD is deployed:

- Verification of mesh size at the FAD surface
- Verification of mesh size on the submerged part of the FAD

For any other activity involving a floating object, either a FAD or a log, the presence and size of meshing is assessed in the logbook, at the surface, and if possible, on the submerged part of the floating object. Replacement of high risk mesh (meshing > 6.5 cm) with risk free mesh (absence of meshing) is encouraged.

Article 16 – FAD structure and dimensions

Figures 2 and **3** describe the dimensions and materials authorised for construction of French FADs in 2020.

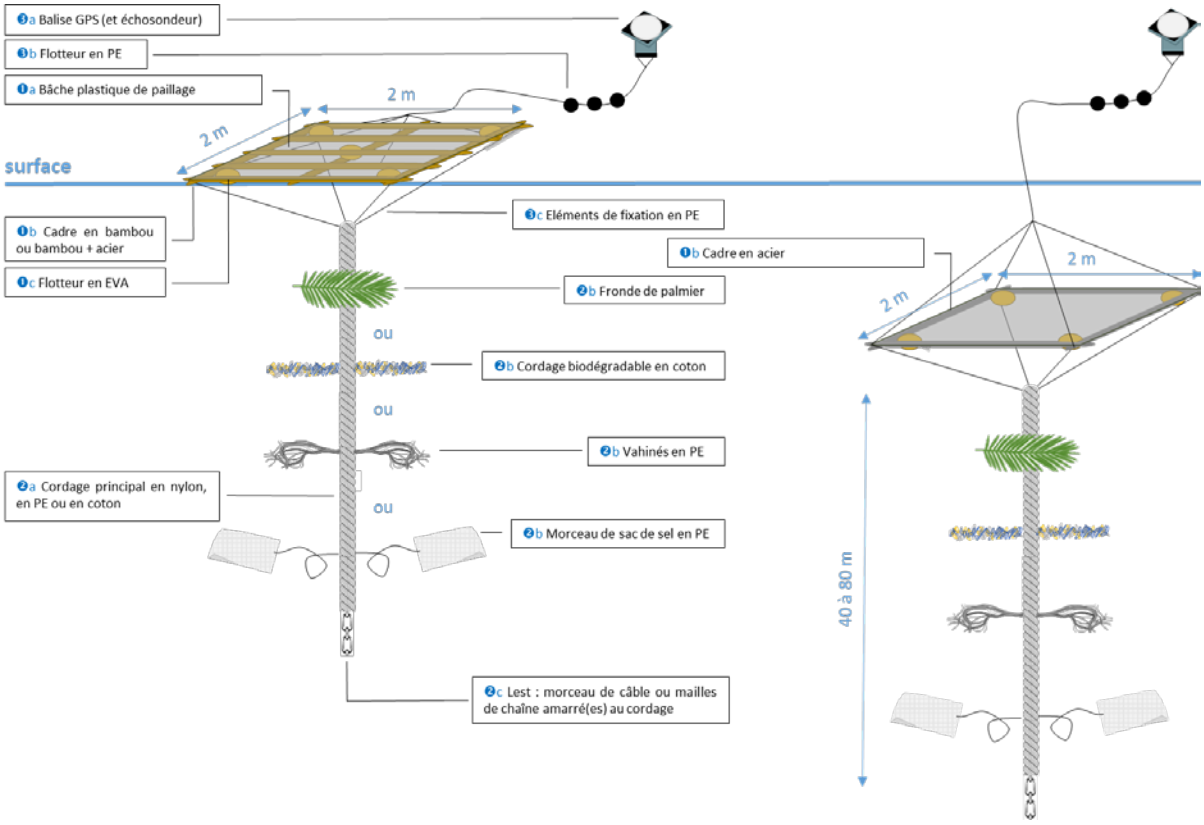

Figure 2. Structure of French FADs with a raft above water (left) and submerged (right).

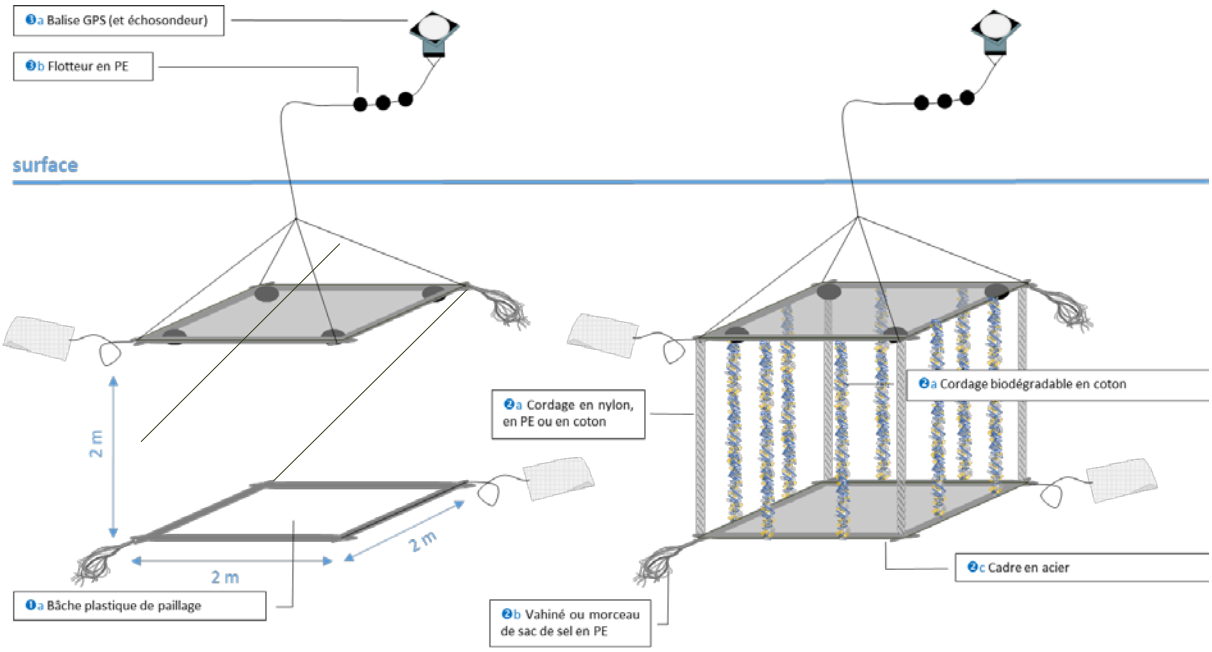

Figure 3: Structure of French FADs with a cage and canvas panels (left) or rope curtains (right).

For each activity on a FAD, the master of the fishing vessel or support vessel records the FAD type in the logbook. Since structure and materials can differ between tropical tuna purse seiners of the Atlantic Ocean, Table 5 describes the possible FAD types.

Table 5. FAD types in the Atlantic Ocean.

	Surface visibility		Main structure				
			Form		Materials		
	Above water	Stealth	Raft	Cage	Bamboo	Metal	Plastic
French above water bamboo FAD	✓	×	✓	×	✓	×	✓
French above water metal FAD	✓	×	✓	×	×	✓	✓
French above water bamboo-metal FAD	✓	×	✓	×	✓	✓	✓
French stealth FAD	×	✓	✓	×	×	✓	✓
French cage FAD	×	✓	×	✓	×	✓	✓
Spanish above water bamboo FAD	✓	×	✓	×	✓	×	✓
Spanish above water metal FAD	✓	×	✓	×	×	✓	✓
Spanish above water bamboo-metal FAD	✓	×	✓	×	✓	✓	✓
Spanish above water plastic FAD	✓	×	✓	×	×	×	✓
Spanish stealth FAD	×	✓	×	✓	p	✓	✓
Spanish cage FAD	×	✓	×	✓	p	✓	✓
Korean FAD	✓	×	✓	×	✓	p	✓

✓: The FAD is constructed with this structure or its main structure (raft or cage) contains this material / ×: The FAD is not constructed with this structure or its main structure does not contain this material / p: The FAD can potentially contain this material.

Article 17 – Biodegradable FADs

All non-biodegradeable materials used in the construction of FADs must be replaced by biodegradable materials as soon as possible. The progress of the work will be presented to the Working Group on Ecosystems and Bycatch or at the annual meeing of the Tropical Tunas Species Group.

The following definition applies for biodegradable materials:

- Decompose in normal conditions of FAD use (temperature, salinity, etc.).
- Non-toxic for the marine environment (no micro-particles or toxic products as a result of decomposition).
- Enable the FAD to be used between 8 and 10 months.

Article 18 – Recovery of FADs and their buoy tenders

It is encouraged to recover FADs and their beacons to prevent to the maximum extent the risks of plastic pollution in the sea and grounding of FADs. It is prohibited to abandon a FAD without a beacon at sea and it is encouraged to recover logs if there is a risk of pollution.

In addition, the positions of all instrumented buoys used by French purse seiners and their buoy tenders will continue to be communicated to the Research Institute for Development (IRD). These positions could contribute, among others, to research work on FAD grounding risks according to their deployment area or to the organisation of FAD recovery campaigns at sea.

Article 19 – Use of lights on floating objects

It is prohibited to use lights (aerial or underwater) on floating objects or their instrumented beacons.

Article 20 – Closure of activities on FADs / floating objects

To reduce catches of juvenile yellowfin and bigeye tuna, it is prohibited to fish on FADs / floating objects from 1 January to 28 February 2020. It is only authorised to fish on free schools (and on logs not equipped with an instrumented buoy).

It is prohibited to deploy FADs and instrumented beacons from 16 December 2019 to 28 February 2020 and from 16 December 2020 to 31 March 2021.

Article 21 – Policy on reduction and use of bycatch

Provisions to limit the number of FADs (articles of Section III) will help to reduce bycatch.

It is encourage to maintain onboard and trade bycatch.

Article 22 – Consideration of interactions with other gears and conflicts of use

The provisions to limit the number of FADs (articles of Section III), to reduce the impacts of lost FADs (articles 15 to 18), and on close of activities on floating objects (article 20) will help to:

- Reduce the risk of a decrease in productivity of yellowfin and bigeye tuna stocks linked to catches of juveniles of these two species.
- Reduce the risks connected with lost FADs of entanglement of sensitive species, grounding of FADs, pollution or collision at sea.

Annexe I:

Conformité du plan de gestion français des DCP avec les dispositions relatives aux objets flottants et à leurs balises de la recommandation CICTA 19-02

Article de la recommandation 16-01	**Article du plan de gestion**
24. Définitions	
25. et 26. Fermeture des activités sur DCP pour les senneurs et leurs baliseurs	
27. Interdiction de déploiement des DCP pendant 15 jours avant la fermeture	
28. a) 300 bouées opérationnelles par senneur	
30. Données historiques sur les opérations sur DCP	
30. Encouragement à ne pas augmenter l'effort sous DCP par rapport à 2018	
31. Autorisation de pêche sous DCP à condition qu'il y ait un observateur à bord ou électronique	
32. Effets des navires de soutien sur les captures (déclaration du lien baliseur – senneur)	
34.i) amélioration des connaissances sur les caractéristiques des DCP	
34. ii) gestion du déploiement et de la récupération des DCP, gestion de l'activation des bouées et des pertes	
34. iii) réduction des impacts des DCP sur les écosystèmes	
36, 37 et 38. Annexes 2, 3 et 4. Obligations déclaratives dans les livres de bord et au SCRS	
39. et Annexe 5. DCP biodégradables	
64. Transmission des données aux scientifiques nationaux	
65. Travaux scientifiques sur les DCP	

Annexe II

Conformité du plan de gestion français des DCP avec l'annexe 1 de la recommandation CICTA 19-02

Information à fournir		**Article du plan de gestion**
Description	a) types de DCP	
	b) types de balise / bouée	
	c) nombre maximum de DCP devant être déployés par senneur et par type de DCP et nombre de bouées opérationnelles par senneur à un moment donné	
	d) distance minimum entre les DCPa	Non applicable
	e) réduction des prises accessoires et politique d'utilisation	
	f) considération des interactions avec d'autres types d'engins	
	g) déclaration ou politique à suivre sur la propriété des DCP	
	h) utilisation de navires de soutien, dont ceux battant le pavillon d'autres CPC	
Accords institutionnels	a) responsabilités institutionnelles pour le plan de gestion des DCP	
	b) processus de demande d'autorisation du déploiement des DCP	
	c) obligations des armateurs et des capitaines en ce qui concerne le déploiement et l'utilisation des DCP	
	d) politique de remplacement des DCP	
	e) obligations de déclaration additionnelles au-delà de la présente recommandation	
	f) politique en matière de résolution des conflits en ce qui concerne les DCP	
	g) détails de toute fermeture de zone ou de période, par ex. eaux internationales, couloirs maritimes, proximités de pêche artisanale, etc	
Spécifications et exigences en matière de construction des DCP	a) caractéristiques de la conception des DCP (description)	
	b) exigences en matière d'éclairage	
	c) réflecteurs par radar	
	d) distance visible	
	e) marques et identifiant du DCP	
	f) marques et identifiants des radiobalises	
	g) marques et identifiants des balises échosondeur	
	h) transmetteurs par satellite	
	i) recherche sur les DCP biodégradables	
	j) prévention des pertes et de l'abandon des DCP	
	k) gestion de la récupération des DCP	
	Période applicable pour le plan de gestion des DCP	
	Moyens pour le suivi et l'examen de la mise en œuvre du plan de gestion des DCP	

Annexe III

Structure du livre de bord utilisé par les senneurs français et leurs baliseurs en 2020

DATE	HEURE	LATITUDE chaque calée ou à midi	LONGITUDE chaque calée ou à midi	ZEE	T°C mer	VENT / VIENTO / WIND		CALEE / LANCE / FISHING SET		
FECHA	HORA	LATITUDE cada lance o mediada	LONGITUD cada lance o mediada	ZEE	T°C mar	Direction / Direccion / Direction Degrés / Grados / Degrees	Vitesse / Velocidad / Speed Nœuds / Nudos / Knots	Portante / Positivo / Successful	Nulle / Nullo / Nil	Type de calée / Lance typo / Fishing set type
DATE	TIME	LATITUDE each set or at midday	LONGITUD each set or at midday	EEZ	T°C sea					

CAPTURE ESTIMEE (en tonnes) / ESTIMATION DE LA CAPTURA (en toneladas) / ESTIMATED CATCH (metric tons)																	
1				2		3				4		5			6		
ALBACORE				LISTAO		PATUDO				GERMON		AUTRES ESPECES			REJETS		
RABIL				LISTADO		PATUDO				ALBACORA		OTRAS ESPECIES			DESCARTES		
YELLOWFIN				SKIPJACK		BIGEYE				ALBACORE		OTHER SPECIES			DISCARDS		
YFT +10		YFT-10		SKJ		BET +10		BET - 10		ALB		OTH			DSC		
Taille	Capture	Taille	Capture	Taille	Capture	Taille	Capture	Taille	Capture	Taille	Capture	Espèce	Taille	Capture	Espèce	Taille	Capture
Tailla	Captura	Tailla	Captura	Tailla	Captura	Tailla	Captura	Tailla	Captura	Tailla	Captura	Especie	Tailla	Captura	Especie	Tailla	Captura
Size	Catch	Size	Catch	Size	Catch	Size	Catch	Size	Catch	Size	Catch	Species	Size	Catch	Species	Size	Catch

ASSOCIATION / ASSOCIACION / ASSOCIATION							OBJET FLOTTANT / OBJETO / FLOATING OBJECT					BOUEE INSTRUMENTEE / BOYA / INSTRUMENTED BUOY					COMMENTAIRES / COMMENTARIOS / COMMENTS
Banc Libre / Banco Libre / Free School	Objet flottant / Objeto / FOB	Balise / Balisa / Beacon	Baliseur / Barco de appoyo Support vessel	Requin baleine / Tiburon ballena Whale shark	Baleine / Ballena / Whale	Oiseaux / Aves / Birds	ACTIVITE SUR L'OBJET	TYPE D'OBJET	TYPE DE DCP DERIVANT	RISQUE DE MAILLAGE		ACTIVITE SUR LA BOUEE	BOUEE DÉJÀ PRESENTE		BOUEE DEPLOYEE		Problèmes divers Détails sur les prises accessoires Taille du banc Autres associations Autres remarques
										RIESGO DE ENMALLAMIENTO			BOYA ANTIGUA		BOYA NUEVA		
							ACTIVIDAD SOBRE EL OBJETO	TIPO DE OBJETO	TIPO DE DCP	ENTANGLING RISK		ACTIVIDAD SOBRE LA BOYA	BUOY ALREADY ON THE FOB		DEPLOYED BUOY		
										En surface Parte surperficial Surface	Sous la surface Parte sumergida Underwater		TYPE	NUMERO	TYPE	NUMERO	
							FOB ACTIVITY	FOB TYPE	DFAD TYPE			BUOY ACTIVITY	TIPO	NUMERO	TIPO	NUMERO	
													TYPE	ID	TYPE	ID	

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FAD) – 2020 – EU-Spain

1. Basis and background of this plan

The current legislation in force covers the following provisions that justify the elaboration of this management Plan for fishing aggregating devices utilized by the Spanish purse seiner fleet targeting tropical tunas:

- The 1995 United Nations Stock Agreement has as the main goal the assuring of long-term conservation and sustainable exploitation of the stocks of highly migratory species.

- FAO code of good practices, with regard to fishing investigation, sets the obligation of the reliable data collection which enables the due stock assessment just like the implementation of studios on fishing gear selectivity and its environmental impact and to promote the results of the investigation as the basis to establish the management objectives.

FAO code of conduct points out that "fishing gear should be marked according to national legislation to identify the owner of the gear. The requirements of this marking should have into account uniform marking systems and internationally acknowledged."

Lastly, and following the FAO Code, "the States should cooperate in the perfection and implementing of operative fishing technologies, materials and methods to minimize the loss of fishing gear and its effect as ghost fishing".

- EU Regulation 1380/2013, 20th Dec 2002, on the Common Fisheries Policy, points out as the main target is the sustainable exploitation of living aquatic and aquaculture resources in the context of sustainable development, having into account environmental, economic and social aspects in a balanced fashion. This regulation modifies EC Regulations 1954/2003 and 1224/2009, and repeals Regulations 2371/2002 and 639/2004, as well as Council Decision 2004/585.

- Law 3/2001, of Maritime Fisheries, sets amongst its goals, in article 3 the safeguard of the responsible fisheries resources exploitation, encouraging its development and adopting all necessary measures to protect, preserve and regenerate the said resources and their ecosystems and promote the fisheries and oceanographic research.

The experience from the first FAD plan in Spain of 2010, as well as the new international provisions, has led to the current revision of the Plan.

2. Scope of application of the present plan

The present plan is aimed at Spanish-flagged freezer tuna purse seiners operating in the Indian, Atlantic and Pacific Ocean, targeting tropical tuna as well as Spanish. Flagged supply vessels supporting the mentioned purse seiner vessels.

The Secretary General for Fisheries is the authority that ensures the implementation of this plan.

3. Objectives

The objectives of this plan are the followings:

- Improving information collection for scientific advice purposes.

- Contributing to enhanced knowledge of catch composition in FAD sets.

- Increasing knowledge of these devices with regard to their technical features and their possible impact on ecosystems.

- Establishing information-sharing mechanisms among operators, scientists and administrations, in order to achieve better knowledge of progress made in this field and the implications thereof.

4. Definitions

IATTC: *"For the purposes of this Resolution, the term "Fish-Aggregating Device" (FAD) means anchored, drifting, floating or submerged objects deployed and/or tracked by vessels, including through the use of radio and/or satellite buoys, for the purpose of aggregating target tuna species for purse-seine fishing operations." (18-05)*

WPCFC:
At the 16º Annual Commission, the CPC could not agree a definition of FADs. Therefore, this issue is going to be part of the agenda of the 2020 annual meeting.

IOTC:
"Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) means a permanent, semi-permanent or temporary object, structure or device of any material, man-made or natural, which is deployed and/or tracked, for the purpose of aggregating target tuna species for consequent capture." (19/02)

ICCAT:

i. *"Floating object (FOB): Any natural or artificial floating (i.e. surface or subsurface) object with no capability of moving on its own. FADs are those FOBs that are man-made and intentionally deployed and/or tracked. Logs are those FOBs that are accidently lost from anthropic and natural sources."*

ii. *"Fish-Aggregating device (FAD): Permanent, semi-permanent or temporary object, structure or device of any material, man-made or natural, which is deployed and/or tracked, and used to aggregate fish for subsequent capture. FADs can either be anchored (aFADs) or drifting (dFADs)." (19/02)*

5. Obligations under the RFMOS regarding FADS

Tuna RFMO have adopted the following provisions:

WCPFC:

- Conservation and Management Measure for bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin tuna (CMM 2018-01). It includes provisions on FADs.
- Conservation and Management Measure on the application of high seas.
- FAD closures and catch retention (CMM 2009-02), which sets out the specifications regarding FAD closure.
- Conservation and Management Measure on instrumental buoys (CMM 2009- 05).
- Conservation and Management Measure on cetaceans (CMM 2011-03).

IOTC:

- Resolution 19/02, on FAD management Plan.
- Resolution 18/01, on a yellowfin stock recovery plan in the Indian Ocean.
- Resolution 18/04, on BIOFAD experimental project.
- Resolution 15/02, on the recording of statistical data. Sets the obligation of reporting number of FADs by quarter, including position, type and other information.
- Resolution 15/09 that sets a Working Group on FADs.
- Resolution13/04, on the conservation of cetaceans.
- Resolution 13/05, on the conservation of whale sharks.

IATTC:

- Resolution 2018-05, on FAD provisions.
- Resolution 2017-02, on the multiannual program for the conservation of tunas in the East Pacific Ocean (2018-2020).

ICCAT:

- Recommendation 19-02, replacing Recommendation 16-01 on conservation of tropical tunas.

6. Identification of FADs

Each buoy must have a sequence of characters which will serve as an identifier for each device and this sequence shall not change during its useful life. This identifier needs to be always easily legible.

Operators may choose the identification system, with the only requirement that it have to be individual and unique for each FAD. Any modification must be communicated indicating the date of change and the previous identification of the DCP or beacon.

This identifier will be the one that must appear in the FADs inventory and in the FAD logbook.

If a harmonized identification system is adopted within an RFO, the current identification will be changed, if applicable. In the event it happens, the previous identification of the FAD as well as the date of this change must be communicated as indicated.

7. Register and information-sharing regarding FADs: Inventory and Specific Activity Register (FAD logbook). Records in fishing logbooks

Operators will send to the General Secretariat of Fisheries information on the operational FADs and buoys associated with their corresponding identification through a template (Annex I).

The information contained in the said template for each FAD is grouped by fishing vessel, respecting the format and instructions for completing them.

On the other hand, the operation on FADS is recorded in the corresponding section of the vessel's electronic fishing logbook.

8. Monitoring of FADs

As far as possible, vessels must record monitoring information for each FAD, which has a satellite beacon, based on its assigned number. Moreover, efforts should be made to record information obtained from other beacons (e.g. visual, radio).

There shall be no obligation to communicate the recorded information. However, such information may be requested in order for the designated scientific personnel to conduct specific studies or in order to carry out monitoring activities. This information may be requested, prior approval by the operators for its use.

9. Measures to prevent loss of FADs

Vessel operators shall prevent, as far as possible, loss of FADs at sea.

In the event of a loss or of the impossibility of hauling in a FAD (areas or seasons closed to fishing), operators must record, in the Specific Activity Register, its last known date and position.

10. Measures to mitigate the catch of juvenile tuna and non-target species

From 30 June 2015 on all activity on entangling FADs is forbidden.

The use of methods that reduce juvenile catches and associated species is encouraged in order to get cleaner catches.

The parties involved in this plan may propose pilot actions in order to advance in some of the aspects described.

11. Specific closures on fishing with FADs

WCPFC

- Closure:

Since last February 6, 2018, fishing on FAD between July 1 and September 30 is prohibited for all purse seiners fishing in the EEZ or high seas. In addition, for the high seas three additional months of closure are fixed (between April and May or, November and December for all the purse seiners fishing).

The prohibition referred to includes:

- Hauls cannot be made in 1 nautical mile around the FAD.
- It is forbidden to catch concentrated fish under a boat or move this fish, including the use of lights and mist to attract it.
- FADs and beacons can only be withdrawn, with prior authorization, provided they are kept on board until the landing or the end of the closure and no haul is made within 7 days or within 50 nautical miles around the point of departure.
- In addition, in relation to the previous section, two vessels cannot cooperate to avoid this measure by prohibiting hauls of any ship in a nautical mile around the FAD withdrawal point in the following 24 hours.

In order to comply with the Recommendation, each vessels must submit the available information on satellite tracking of all FADs and beacons on a weekly basis during the closure period.

- Limitation of the number of buoys:

No more than 350 FAD can be deployed with active instrumented buoys, (clearly identified and equipped with a tracking system).

For the follow-up of this measure, each vessel operating in the WCPFC area shall send a certificate from the buoy supplier company that collects the number of active buoys per vessel.

CIAT

Whale shark sets are prohibited.

- Closure:

72 days closure is established since 2018 until 2020, and it applies since 00:00 hours on July 29 to 24:00 hours on October 8, or, since from 00:00 hours on November 9 until 24:00 hours on January 19 of the following year.

In addition, purse seiners are not allowed to fish from 00:00 hours on October 9 to 24:00 hours on November 8 within the area of 96º and 110º W and between 4ºN and 3ºS, "corralito".

During this period, only innocent passage will be authorized with the appropriate request.

- Limitation of the number of buoys:

No more than 450 FAD per vessel can be deployed. For the follow-up of this measure, each vessel operating in the WCPFC area shall send a certificate from the buoy supplier company that collects the number of active buoys per vessel. The information must be sent quarterly to the CIAT Secretariat.

ICCAT

FAD closure

In order to reduce the fishing mortality of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tunas, purse seine and baitboat vessels fishing for, or vessels supporting activities to fish for, bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas in association with FADs in the high seas or EEZs shall be prohibited during a two- and three-month period, split into 2020 and 2021, respectively, as indicated in paragraph 28 below:

1 January to 28 February for 2020 and 1 January to 31 March in 2021, throughout the Convention area. This should be reviewed and, if necessary, revised based on advice by the SCRS taking into account monthly trends in free school and FAD-associated catches and the monthly variability in the proportion of juvenile tuna in catches. SCRS should provide this advice to the Commission in 2020.

In addition, each CPC shall ensure its vessels do not deploy drifting FADs during a period of 15 days prior to the start of the closure period.

FAD limitations

CPCs shall ensure that, for vessels flying their flag, the following limits shall apply on the number of FADs with operational buoys at any one time according to definitions given in paragraph 26. The number of FADs with operational buoys will be verified through the verification of telecommunication bills. Such verifications shall be conducted by the competent authorities of the CPCs:

a) 2020: 350 FADs per vessel

b) 2021: 300 FADs per vessel

With a view to establishing FAD set limits to keep the catches of juvenile tropical tunas at sustainable levels, in 2021 SCRS should inform the Commission about the maximum number of FAD sets which should be established per vessel or per CPC. To support this analysis, CPCs with purse seine vessels shall urgently undertake to report to the SCRS by 31 July 2020 the required historical FAD set data. CPCs that do not report these data in accordance with this paragraph shall be prohibited from setting on FADs until such data have been received by the SCRS.

In addition, each CPC with purse seine fishing vessels is encouraged not to increase its total fishing effort on FADs from its 2018 level. CPCs shall report the difference between the 2018 level and the 2020 level to the 2021 Commission meeting.

CPCs may authorize their purse seine vessels to set on floating objects provided that the fishing vessel has either an observer or a functioning electronic monitoring system on board which is capable of verifying set type, species composition, and providing information on fishing activities to the SCRS.

CTOI

- Limitation of the number of buoys:

Non instrumental buoys are prohibited. Only instrumental buoys have to be used for drifting FADS.
300 active instrumental buoys cannot be exceed per vessel at any time. In addition, the number of instrumental buoys acquired by each vessel is fixed at a maximum of 500.

In order to comply with the FAD limit, each vessels must submit a certificate issued by the company that supplies the beacons or by a scientific institute that certifies the following data:

- Number of instrumental buoys per vessel at any time by quarter.
- Number of instrumental buoys contracted by year.

Non instrumental buoys where eliminated in 2017.

12. Control of the regulatory measures of the RFMOs

12.1 Control of the limitation of the number of buoys:

The industry control the number of FADs since 2014 and, thanks to AZTI that carries out the control tasks.

In 2019, the General Secretariat for Fisheries established the obligation of the control of FADs in the annexes of the Temporary Fishing License. The guarantee of compliance are the certificates of a Scientific Institute which include the information of the number of instrumental buoys active and acquired by vessels.

Each FAD is associated with a buoy, so the control is done through the number of active instrumented buoys per day and per vessel.

The main information is provided aggregate by the suppliers of instrumented buoys to the Scientific Institute who receives this information per month in .csv files containing the daily information.

The main tasks includes control mechanisms as analysis of buoys deactivated in port, data crossing of the first moment of activation of a buoy and VMS location of the vessel, as well as with FAD notebooks and observer information.

In **Annex II**, AZTI Methodology, the methodology carried out to control the FAD number is explained in detail.

12.2 Control of FAD's spatial and temporal closures

The General Secretary of Fisheries carries out the control of the FAD closures in the Fisheries Monitoring Center thanks to VMS systems.

13. Measures to monitor and follow up the present plan

The relevant authorities may perform documentary monitoring of the provisions envisaged in the present plan, and they may require, if necessary, the data described in section 6.

The Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO), as the Spanish scientific authority in this regard, shall be responsible for processing and monitoring the information provided by the operators, and shall be authorized to draft the follow-up reports for this plan and to propose the measures it deems appropriate in order to improve the functioning thereof.

Moreover, the General Secretariat for Fisheries may determine, in coordination with the IEO, the participation of other scientific bodies in order to fulfill the objectives set forth in the present plan.

14. Confidentiality measures for the information provided by operators

The information provided by the operators shall be treated as confidential at all times, and its use shall be restricted solely to scientific or monitoring purposes, if necessary. The General Secretariat for the Sea undertakes not to disclose this sensitive information, other than for the aforementioned purposes, without the express consent of the ship-owners.

15. Amendments to the present plan

This plan shall be amended in line with future measures adopted within the different RFMOS and with the conclusions of the reports envisaged in section 12.

16. Implementation

All provisions in this Plan will be in force until further modifications are adopted or new international provisions are set.

Anexo 1

REGISTRO DE DCPs y BALIZAS:

Envíos y dudas al correo: DCP@ieo.es

Buque: Matrícula:

					Baliza			Posición			Estructura flotante					Rabo						Captura (tons)			Captura accidentales				
Nº de viaje	Fecha	Hora	Origen	¿Baliza?	Modelo	Identificación numérica	Actividad	Lat	Lon	Tipo de DCP	Material / Estructura	Flotación	Recubrimiento externo	Malla con luz > 3 cm en el recubrimiento exterior	Dimensiones	Material / Estructura	Añadidos	Lastre	Malla con luz > 3 cm sin 'achorizar'	Calado (m)	Estimación banco (tons)	SKJ	YFT	BET	Grupo	En nº ejemp. o peso (t)	N/P	Nº/Peso ejemp. liberados vivos	Observaciones
AAAA-nnn	DDMMAAAA	HHMM		(S/N)				ggmm	gggmm					(S/N)	aaxbbxcc				(S/N)									
2016-006	01/12/2016	09:01	Buque1	S	m3i+	133259	Lance	01°30'S	009°58'W	A la deriva	Cañas	Corchos	Malla	S	2x3x0,5	Malla en chorizo	De origen artificial	Aros / Cáncamos	N	20.5	30	10	2	1	Tiburón ballena	1	N	1	

	Campo	Formato	Descripción/Comentarios	Ejemplo
	Nº de Viaje	AAAA-nnn	Introducir el número de viaje anual, donde AAAA es el año y nnn es el número de viaje 3 dígitos), entendiendo como viaje a la marea comprendida entre la salida y la llegada a puerto. *Si el viaje se ha iniciado el año anterior, continua con la numeración ya asignada.* *Sólo es necesario introducir esta numeración al inicio de cada viaje.*	2016-001
	Fecha	DDMMAAAA	Día (DD): Dos dígitos (15 p.e.) (*no es necesario el 0 inicial*) Mes (MM): Dos dígitos (06 p.e.) Año (AAAA): Cuatro dígitos (2016 p.e.) *Automáticamente, la fecha aparecerá en formato 'dd/mm/aaaa'.*	28092016
	Hora	HHMM	Hora **GMT** (HH): Dos dígitos (12 p.e.) (*no es necesario el 0 inicial*) Minutos (MM): Dos dígitos (08 p.e.) *Automáticamente, la hora aparecerá en formato 'hh:mm'.*	603
	Origen		Seleccionar de la lista desplegable en función del origen del DCP con el que se está trabajando (ver **Tabla 0)**	Propio
	¿Baliza?	S/N	Seleccionar '**S**' (Si) en caso de que el objeto con el que se trabaja porte una baliza o '**N**' (No) si carece de ella *Este campo se ha diseñado para registrar de forma más cómoda el encuentro de objetos no balizados, tanto de origen natural como artificial (redes, carroña, hierbas, palés…). En caso de añadirse una baliza a cualquier otro elemento al objeto, insertar una nueva línea con las características del nuevo DCP. (ver Tabla 1 - Modificaciones sobre objeto anterior) (ver hoja de Ejemplos).*	S
BALIZA	**Modelo**		Seleccionar de la lista deslegable el modelo de baliza (d+, dl+, ds+, dsl+, te7, m3i, m4i…) En caso de no encontrarse el modelo en la lista, seleccionar **"Otro"** y **sobreescribir** el modelo. Evitar genéricos como: Nautical, Tunabal, Satlink…	ds+
BALIZA	**Identificación numérica**	número	Anotar el código numérico empleado para la identificación de la baliza (el que se anota habitualmente tras el modelo) sin espacios ni signos en medio.	13448
	Actividad		Identificar la actividad realizada sobre el DCP en el cuadro desplegable (ver **Tabla 1** y *hoja de Ejemplos*).	Recogida en el mar
POSICIÓN	**Lat**	ggmm	Grados (gg): Dos dígitos (03 p.e.) (*no es necesario el 0 inicial*) Minutos (mm): Dos dígitos (08 p.e.) Comenzar con el **signo '-'** en caso de tratarse de *latitud sur* . Automáticamente aparecerá en la casilla la latitud en formato ggºmm'N/S.	-203 (para 02º03'S)
POSICIÓN	**Lon**	ggmm	Grados (gg): Tres dígitos (050 p.e.) (*no son necesarios los 0 iniciales*) Minutos (mm): Dos dígitos (08 p.e.) Comenzar con el **signo '-'** en caso de tratarse de *longitud oeste* . Automáticamente aparecerá en la casilla la latitud en formato gggºmm'E/W.	5023 (para 050º23'E)

	Campo	Formato	Descripción/Comentarios	Ejemplo
	Tipo de DCP		Seleccionar de la lista desplegable el tipo de DCP objeto de la actividad (ver **Tabla 2** y *hoja de Ejemplos*). *NOTA: No es necesario rellenar los campos de características del DCP (estructura flotante y rabo) en caso de DCP fondeado/anclado (buque de apoyo p.e.)*	Fondeado
ESTRUCTURA FLOTANTE	**Material / Estructura**		Seleccionar de la lista desplegable el material que configura estructura flotante (o semisumergida) principal del DCP (ver **Tabla 3**).	Cañas
ESTRUCTURA FLOTANTE	**Flotación**		Seleccionar de la lista desplegable el principal material empleado para la flotabilidad del DCP (ver **Tabla 4**).	Corchos
ESTRUCTURA FLOTANTE	**Recubrimiento externo**		Seleccionar de la lista desplegable el material empleado para envolver la **parte más superficial** del DCP (ver **Tabla 5**).	Malla
ESTRUCTURA FLOTANTE	**Malla con luz > 3 cm en el recubrimiento exterior**	S/N	Seleccionar '**S**' (Si) en caso de que el recubrimiento **más superficial** de la estructura flotante posea una luz de malla superior a 3 cm o '**N**' (No) en caso contrario. *NOTA: En caso de emplearse red con luz de malla > 3 cm como recubrimiento de la parrilla y envolver luego, **en su totalidad** , con malla de ocultación (rafia, lona, malla <3 cm…) seleccionar 'N' (No).*	
ESTRUCTURA FLOTANTE	**Dimensiones**	aaxbbxcc	Anotar en este campo, los dígitos necesarios para indicar el largo (aa), ancho (bb) y alto (cc) de la estructura flotante del objeto, en **metros**.	2x1x0.3
RABO	**Material / Estructura**		Seleccionar de la lista desplegable el material/estructura mayoritario empleado para elaborar el rabo del DCP (ver **Tabla 6**).	Malla mixta (con 'velas')
RABO	**Añadidos**		Seleccionar de la lista desplegable el grupo de materiales añadidos a la estructura mayoritaria. *En caso de ser varios materiales de origen natural+artificial, seleccionar el más abundante* (ver **Tabla 7**).	Cintas de colores
RABO	**Lastre**		Seleccionar de la lista desplegable el material empleado como lastre para el DCP (ver **Tabla 8**).	Ninguno
RABO	**Malla con luz > 3 cm sin 'achorizar'**	S/N	Seleccionar en esta casilla '**S**' (Si) en caso de incluir en alguna parte del **rabo** o en algún **añadido,** red con luz de malla > 3 cm sin 'achorizar'.	S
	Calado (m)	número	Anotar en esta casilla, con dígitos, la profundidad máxima alcanzada por el DCP.	30

	Campo	Formato	Descripción/Comentarios	Ejemplo
	Estimación banco (tons)	número entero	Anotar en esta casilla, con una cifra única, las **toneladas** de YFT, BET y SKJ estimadas en caso de no realizarse un lance. En caso de detectarse otro tipo de pescado o mancha (pescado de objeto, carnada, basura…), *anotar 0.*	5
Capturas (tons)	SKJ	número	Anotar las capturas de SKJ (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) ingresadas en bodega más los descartes de esta especie, en toneladas.	10
Capturas (tons)	YFT	número	Anotar las capturas de YFT (*Thunnus albacares*) ingresadas en bodega más los descartes de esta especie, en toneladas.	2
Capturas (tons)	BET	número	Anotar las capturas de BET (*Thunnus obesus*) ingresadas en bodega más los descartes de esta especie, en toneladas.	1
Capturas accidentales	**Grupo**		Seleccionar en la lista desplegable el grupo de especies capturados. Si hay más de un grupo, anotarlos en las líneas siguientes (*ver hoja de Ejemplos*) (ver **Tabla 9**).	Otros peces
Capturas accidentales	**En nº ejemp. o peso (t)**	número	Anotar en número el nº de ejemplares o peso (*en toneladas*) del grupo de especies en cuestión (un número para cada grupo). No es necesario indicar las cantidades por especie, únicamente el total del grupo. **En caso de estimar parte de la captura en peso y parte en número, indicarlo en dos líneas consecutivas.**	0.5
Capturas accidentales	**N/P**		Seleccionar '**N**' (número) o '**P**' (peso) según el caso.	P
Capturas accidentales	**Nº/Peso ejemp. liberados vivos**	número	Anotar con dígitos el número o peso (*en toneladas*) de los ejemplares del grupo que se hayan liberado vivos. No es necesario indicar las cantidades por especie, únicamente el total del grupo.	0.1

Tabla 0

ORIGEN	
Propio	En caso de tratarse de un objeto del propio buque.
"Nombre buque"	En caso de tratarse de un objeto perteneciente a otro buque conocido, seleccionar de esta opción y **sobreescribir** el nombre del buque.
Desconocido	En caso de no conocer el nombre del propietario.
No aplicable	En caso de tratarse de un objeto no balizado.

Tabla 1

ACTIVIDAD	Descripción/Comentarios
Despliegue	En caso de efectuarse la plantación de un DCP (**no** para balizado de objeto natural ni para adiciones al objeto visitado, ya que serían *'Modificaciones sobre objeto anterior'*) (*consultar los campos anteriores en esta tabla y la hoja de Ejemplos*).
Comprobación	Siempre que se visite un objeto y **no** haya una **recogida** o un **lance,** independientemente de que haya o no modificaciones posteriores (*ver hoja de Ejemplos*).
Lance	En caso de efectuarse un lance sobre cualquier tipo de objeto. Se añadirá **una línea por cada grupo de especies** que forme parte de la captura accidental (ver Tabla 8), rellenando en las líneas siguientes únicamente los campos referidos a estas capturas accidentales (*ver hoja de Ejemplos*). Si se realizaran modificaciones sobre el objeto sobre el que se ha largado o recogida sin regreso al agua del mismo, se añadirá una línea más identificando la actividad ("Modificaciones sobre el objeto anterior" o "recogida").
Modificaciones sobre objeto anterior	Esta actividad se añadirá en una nueva línea **tras un lance o una comprobación** cuando: (i) se balice un objeto natural, (ii) haya un cambio de baliza y/o (iii) se modifique la estructura de un objeto, rellenando **exclusivamente** aquellos campos modificados (*ver hoja de Ejemplos*).
Recogida en el mar	Esta actividad se añadirá cuando se recoja un objeto sin regreso al agua. En caso de izarse a bordo el DCP (sin regreso al agua) **tras un lance**, se añadirá esta actividad en una nueva línea (*ver hoja de Ejemplos*).
Baja	Pérdidas (o bajas) de **balizas** por la no localización de su señal. En esta línea incluir detalles de la última posición registrada (campos 'Lat' y 'Lon'), además de la 'Fecha' y 'Hora' de esta última posición.
Recogida en puerto	Recuperación de **balizas** en puerto. En esta línea rellenar sólo los datos referentes a la baliza (campos 'Modelo' e 'Identificación numérica' y los referentes a la 'Fecha', 'Hora' y posición de recogida (campos 'Lat' y 'Lon').

Tabla 2

TIPO DE DCP	
A la deriva	En caso de tratarse de cualquier DCP que se encuentre derivando.
Fondeado	En caso de tratarse de un buque de apoyo fondeado en un monte submarino.

Tabla 3

MATERIAL / ESTRUCTURA (DCP)	Descripción/Comentarios
Cañas	Estructura de la parte flotante (o semisumergida) del DCP fabricada con cañas de bambú.
Metal	Estructura de la parte flotante (o semisumergida) del DCP fabricada con metal.
Plástico / PVC	Estructura de la parte flotante (o semisumergida) del DCP fabricada con material plástico y/o PVC.
Natural	Como objeto natural se entiende cualquier objeto de origen natural o artificial (***carroña, tronco, hierbas, trasmallo, palé, txikotes…***) no diseñado expresamente para agregar pescado.
Otro	Estructura flotante (o semisumergida) fabricada de modo que no coincida con los tipos anteriores (chorizo de cañas y red, chorizo de corchos y red, barriles grandes, cabos unidos por red…)
Mixta	Estructura flotante (o semisumergida) combinando los componentes anteriores enumerados en esta tabla o parrillas unidas con estructuras diversas, incluidos objetos naturales (*describir en la casilla de 'Observaciones'*).
Baliza sola	Seleccionar en caso de realizar alguna actividad sobre una baliza sola (sin estructuras asociadas) *En este caso no es necesario indicar el resto de las características del objeto.*

Tabla 4

FLOTACIÓN	Descripción/Comentarios
Garrafas	Sistema de flotación elaborado con garrafas plásticas.
Corchos	Sistema de flotación elaborado con corchos o boyas.
Bolos	Sistema de flotación elaborado con esferas de plástico.
Otro	Sistema de flotación elaborado con **otro material** o ***mixto*** *(mezcla de materiales)* *(describir en la casilla de 'Observaciones').*

Tabla 5

RECUBRIMIENTO EXTERNO	Descripción/Comentarios
Rafia/Nylon	Seleccionar en caso de emplear algún tipo de malla de ocultación para envolver la estructura flotante (rafia, nylon, lona…)
Malla	Seleccionar en caso de emplear malla de red para envolver la estructura flotante, con cualquier luz de malla (red de cerco, porpera, trasmallo, arrastre…)
Sin recubrimiento	Seleccionar en caso de tratarse de una estructura flotante sin recubrimiento de malla de ningún tipo
Otro	Seleccionar en caso de tratarse de **otro tipo** de recubrimiento o recubrimiento ***mixto*** *(mezcla de materiales)* *(describir en la casilla de 'Observaciones').*

Tabla 6

MATERIAL / ESTRUCTURA (RABO)	Descripción/Comentarios
Malla en chorizo	Paño de red 'achorizado' **en toda su longitud**
Malla abierta	Paño de red abierto **en toda su longitud**
Malla mixta (con velas)	Paño de red abierto por **tramos**
Cabos	Cabos / 'Txikotes' como material mayoritario y/o único
Otro	Cualquier **otro material** no contemplado en las líneas anteriores de esta tabla o material ***mixto*** *(mezcla de materiales)* . (describir en la casilla de '*Observaciones* ').

Tabla 7

AÑADIDOS	Descripción/Comentarios
De origen natural	En caso de añadir hojas de palmera o algún otro material de origen natural al rabo
De origen artificial	En caso de añadir algún material de origen artificial (cintas de colores, bolsas o sacos en retales, trozos de boyas de color naranja…)
Ambos	En caso de añadir tanto materiales de origen natural como artificial al rabo según las descripciones señaladas en los dos campos anteriores.
Ninguno	En caso de no añadir materiales a la estructura seleccionada en la Tabla 6

Tabla 8

LASTRE	Descripción/Comentarios
Aros / Cáncamos	En caso de emplear aros metálicos, cáncamos u otra estructura similar como lastre
Cable metálico	En caso de emplear cables metálicos (trozos de jareta p.e.) u otra estructura similar como lastre
Ninguno	En caso de no añadir materiales como lastre al rabo del DCP
Otros	En caso de emplear algún **otro material** no relacionado en la lista anterior de esta tabla o emplear varios de los mismos (**mixto**) (*describir en la casilla de 'Observaciones'*)

Tabla 9

GRUPO*	Descripción/Comentarios
Tiburones (pez martillo, marrajo, tiburón sedoso…)	Seleccionar tiburones en caso de capturar ejemplares de este grupo, independientemente de su destino. *NOTA: No seleccionar en caso de tratarse de un tiburón ballena.*
Marlines/Picudos/Peces espada	Seleccionar este grupo cuando en la captura se incluyan peces conocidos como marlines, picudos o peces espada, independientemente de su destino.
Tortugas	Seleccionar tortugas en caso de capturar algún ejemplar de las mismas, independientemente de su destino.
Rayas y mantarrayas	Seleccionar este grupo en caso de capturar mantas, rayas o mantarrayas, independientemente de su destino.
Mamíferos marinos (ballenas, delfines…)	Seleccionar este grupo en caso de capturar mamíferos marinos en la red de cerco, independientemente de su destino.
Tiburón ballena	Selleccionar este grupo en caso de capturar algún ejemplar de tiburón ballena (pinto), independientemente de su destino.
Otros peces (pinchudos, bananas…)	Seleccionar otros peces en caso de capturar pinchudos (*Balistidae* p.e.), bananas, dorados o cualquier otro tipo de pez que no se incluya en las líneas anteriores de esta tabla.

***NOTA: Se deben incluir todas aquellas especies que se encuentren en el interior de la red de cerco una vez se hayan izado los cáncamos (cierre de jareta)**

						Baliza			Posición			Estructura flotante					Rabo						Captura (tons)			Captura accidentales				
	Nº de viaje	Fecha	Hora	Origen	¿Baliza?	Modelo	Identificación numérica	Actividad	Lat	Lon	Tipo de DCP	Material / Estructura	Flotación	Recubrimiento externo	Malla con luz > 3 cm en el recubrimiento exterior	Dimensiones	Material / Estructura	Añadidos	Lastre	Malla con luz > 3 cm sin 'achorizar'	Calado (m)	Estimación banco/Captura (tons)	SKJ	YFT	BET	Grupo	En nº ejemp. o peso (t)	N/P	Nº/Peso ejemp. liberados vivos	Observaciones
DESCRIPCIÓN DE LA ACTIVIDAD	AAAA-nnn	DDMMAAAA	HHMM		(S/N)				ggmm	gggmm					(S/N)	aaxbbxcc				(S/N)										
Plantación de un objeto balizado propio en 02º02'S / 008º01E el 06/03/2016 a las 12:05	2016-002	6032016	1205	Propio	S	dsl+	56234	Despliegue	-202	801	A la deriva	Plástico/PVC	Corchos	Sin recubrimiento	N	3x2	Cabos	Ninguno	Cable metálico	N	40									
Plantación de un objeto balizado propio en 02º02'N / 008º01'W el 06/03/2016 a las 13:30		6032016	1330	Propio	S	m3i	165222	Despliegue	202	-801	A la deriva	Cañas	Corchos	Malla	S	4x2	Malla mixta (con velas)	De origen artificial	Aros / Cáncamos	S	50									
Plantación de un objeto balizado para otro buque conocido de nombre "Cerquero 1"		6032016	1440	Cerquero1	S	dl+	60111	Despliegue	ggmm	gggmm	A la deriva	Cañas	Corchos	Malla	S	3x2	Malla en chorizo	Ambos	Aros / Cáncamos	N	40									
Detección de un objeto balizado propio y recogida en el mar		9032016	1415	Propio	S	te7	150	Recogida en el mar	ggmm	gggmm		Plástico/PVC	Corchos	Sin recubrimiento	N	3x2	Cabos	Ninguno	Ninguno	N	40	2								
Detección de un objeto balizado ajeno perteneciente a un buque desconocido		9032016	1730	Desconocido	S	m4i	80442	Comprobación	ggmm	gggmm	A la deriva	Metal	Garrafas	Rafia/Nylon	N	4x1.5	Malla en chorizo	De origen natural	Aros / Cáncamos	N	60	0								
Cambio de baliza del objeto anterior						dsl+	56235	Modificaciones sobre el objeto anterior																					
Lance a un banco agregado por un buque de apoyo anclado a un monte submarino		10032016	645	No aplicable	N			Lance	ggmm	gggmm	Fondeado											15	8	5	3	Tiburones	6	N	6	
Lance a un objeto balizado propio		10032016	1100	Propio	S	isl+	109215	Lance	ggmm	gggmm	A la deriva	Plástico/PVC	Corchos	Sin recubrimiento	N	3x1.5	Cabos	Ninguno	Cable metálico	N	40	25	10	2	1	Tiburones	4	N	2	
Introducción de otro grupo de capturas accidentales																									Marlines/Picudos/Peces espada	3	N	0	
Recogida en el mar del objeto sobre el que se ha largado en la línea anterior								Recogida en el mar																					
Lance a un objeto natural no balizado		10032016	1500	No aplicable	N			Lance	ggmm	gggmm		Natural (carroña, trasmallo, palé...)			N	2x0.3				N	0.3	40	20	10	8	Tiburones	1	N	1	Lance a tronco
Introducción de otro grupo de capturas accidentales																									Marlines/Picudos/Peces espada	1	N	0	
Introducción de otro grupo de capturas accidentales																									Tortugas	1	N	1	
Balizado del objeto natural sobre el que se ha largado en la línea anterior y adición de una parrilla				Propio	S	dsl+	56236	Modificaciones sobre objeto anterior				Mixta	Corchos	Malla	S	6x2	Malla mixta (con velas)	Ninguno	Aros / Cáncamos	S	40	0								
Lance a un objeto ajeno (tronco balizado)		11032016	625	Desconocido	S	d+	11777	Lance	ggmm	gggmm		Natural (carroña, trasmallo, palé...)				2x0.3				N	0.2	5	1	1	1	Tiburones	2	N	1	
Cambio de baliza y adición de un rabo al objeto sobre el que se ha largado en la línea anterior						m3i	165333	Modificaciones sobre objeto anterior				Mixta	Corchos	Sin recubrimiento	N		Malla en chorizo	De origen artificial	Cable metálico	N	45									
Detección de un objeto perteneciente a otro buque llamado "Cerquero 2"		12032016	820	Cerquero 2	S	te8	224	Comprobación	ggmm	gggmm		Cañas	Corchos	Malla	S	4x2	Malla mixta (con velas)	De origen artificial	Cable metálico	S	35	5								
Cambio de baliza del objeto detectado en la línea anterior				Propio		m3i	165444	Modificaciones sobre el objeto anterior																					
Detección de un objeto natural (sin balizar) por parte de un buque de apoyo		14032016	900	No aplicable	N			Comprobación	ggmm	gggmm		Natural (carroña, trasmallo, palé...)			N	1x0.3					2									Trasmallo
Balizado del objeto natural detectado en la línea anterior para un buque ajeno denominado "Cerquero 3"				Cerquero 3	S	m3i	165555	Modificaciones sobre el objeto anterior																						Balizado de trasmallo

Buque 0
Matrícula 0

		Baliza			Posición										
Fecha	Hora	¿Baliza?	Identificación	Actividad	Lat	Lon	Tipo de DCP	Captura (tons)			Captura accidentales				Observaciones
DDMMAAAA	HHMM	(S/N)	numérica		ggmm	gggmm		SKJ	YFT	BET	Grupo	En nº ejemp. o peso (t)	N/P	Nº/Peso ejemp. liberados vivos	
Date	*Time*		*Buoys*	*Type of visit*	*Latitude*	*Longitude*	*FAD Type (falta campo vacío en Material)*	*Estimated catches (SKJ)*	*Estimated catches (YFT)*	*Estimated catches (BET)*	*Taxonomic group (bycatch)*	*Estimated catches (bycatch)*	*Unit*	*Specimen released alive (Bycatch)*	*Observations*
01/12/2016	09:01	S	m3i+133259	Lance	01º30'S	009º58'W	Artificial_A la deriva	10	2	1	Tiburón ballena	1	N	1	Buque1
00/00/00	00:00	0		0	00º00'N	000º00'E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
00/00/00	00:00	0		0	00º00'N	000º00'E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
00/00/00	00:00	0		0	00º00'N	000º00'E		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Anexo II

Metodología de verificación

La información básica utilizada para hacer un seguimiento del número de boyas activas y, por tanto, verificar el cumplimiento de sus límites, la facilitan los fabricantes de boyas instrumentadas. Bajo declaración jurada de veracidad, estos fabricantes proporcionan información diaria sobre la posición y velocidad de cada una de las boyas activas. Los fabricantes asignan a las boyas códigos únicos de identificación asociados con un único cerquero, al margen de si las boyas las coloca el propio cerquero o un buque de apoyo. AZTI recibe los datos de las boyas directamente de los fabricantes de las boyas, a título mensual, con un desfase de dos meses; este tiempo garantiza la protección de unos datos, de carácter industrial, que están sujetos a protección por parte de la ley. Los ficheros incluyen registros diarios de todas las boyas activas gestionadas para cada buque individual.

Para identificar los registros que no se corresponden con balizas activas en el mar se aplican diferentes filtros a los datos:

- Registros fuera de la zona del Convenio [20 > longitud > -100]
- Registros en tierra: tienen que cumplirse dos condiciones, 1) la posición del registro se superpone a una máscara de tierra, y 2) velocidad = 0 nudos
- Registros de boyas activas operativas a bordo del buque antes del despliegue: velocidad > 4 nudos
- Registros de boyas desactivadas: se excluyen los registros con valores NA

AZTI ha establecido mecanismos de control adicionales, si es necesario, que incluyen: examen aleatorio a bordo de los cerqueros y buques de apoyo en el puerto para comprobar las boyas que han sido previamente desactivadas y subidas a cubierta (y que, por tanto, se podrían reactivar y volver a utilizar), una verificación cruzada de la primera activación de la boya con la posición del buque VMS, una comparación con la información consignada en el cuaderno de pesca DCP y con la información recopilada por los observadores a bordo, entre otros.

Santiago J., H. Murua, J. López and I. Krug, 2017. Monitoring the number of active FADs used by the Spanish and associated purse seine fleet in the IOTC and ICCAT convention areas. *Joint t-RFMO FAD Working Group meeting, Doc. No. j-FAD_13/2017*

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (INCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN)

Name of CPC: Ghana

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

1. Introduction

Ghana as a member of ICCAT is bound by rules and regulations governing the harvest of tunas and tuna-like species in the Atlantic Ocean. Currently Ghana has 37 tuna surface vessels comprising 17 Purse seiners and 20 baitboats all over 20 m LOA. Under ICCAT rules, her quota for bigeye has been calculated to be 3716 mt due to a payback policy intended to reduce her overharvest till 2021. Ghana's National laws enshrined in her Fisheries Act 625 of 2002 and regulations 2015 (LI 2217) corroborates international laws which among other seeks to eliminate IUU fishing whilst fishing sustainably.

2. Details of fishing plan – For those with >1,000 t *average catch*

There are currently in the 17 purse seine vessels and 20 bait-boats operating in Ghana of which over 80% are fully working throughout the year. Ghana has a bigeye quota of 3716 mt and this monitored by officials on quarterly basis for all vessels. Larger vessels with bigger tonnages are allocated more quota depending on their GRT and presumed to catch more fish and hence more bigeye fish. At the end of each quarter, catch returns from all vessels are estimated also from logbooks to ascertain the total catch of bigeye by each vessel. If three quarters of the quota are almost caught or exceeded, captains of vessels are required to reduce the numbers of FADs used and for those who have caught large quantities they are advised to stop fishing and observers onboard are to monitor areas where large sizes of bigeye are caught. For those who have almost caught nothing, we advise that they keep to their fishing pattern or reduce effort. Where the quota is almost up, we do advice captains to stop fishing in areas prone to harvesting bigeye which are seasonal. Ghana has no ITQ's as at now and we would explore this method of allocation and transfer from vessel to vessel or companies after *2021 if our quotas* are reviewed and overall stocks improve.

In summary:

- allocate quotas to all her surface fleets and improve monitoring of catches periodically through at sea observers and with the VMS & EMS to inform closures where quotas/catches are nearing their limits;
- reduce absolutely fishing in the moratorium period; January-February (i.e. free swimming schools inclusive) to reduce effort;
- limit the number of FADS deployed within highly productive areas to reduce effort;
- Withdraw licenses of vessels found to be inconsistent with ICCAT rules.

	ICCAT Requirement (per 19-02)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch limits* and Catch reductions (Part II)**	Improve collection of data and control measures to ensure full implementation of management measures. Monitor overall quotas by: i. Allocate and monitor quotas to individual fleet. ii. Monitor quota on quarterly bases. iii. Stop fishing if 80% of catch is reached.	Domestic laws recommends best practices in line with international laws	

2.	**Capacity Limits (Part III)**	Maintain capacity limits of 17 purse seine and to reduce baitboat to 18 by 2020.		
3.	**Management of FADs **and FAD Closure(s) (Part IV)**	Adhere to area/time closure of the fishery to FADs prescribed by ICCAT from 2020. Maintain our FAD numbers to 250 per vessel. Reduce the number of FADs deployed in highly productive areas (spawning grounds) Monitor FAD deployment by radio buoys and adhere to the FAD management plan with logbook from 2020. Start using biodegradable FADs from 2020 initiated by ISSF.		
4.	**Control Measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)**	Continue to use electronic monitoring system (EMS) under ABNJ project which started in 2015 to improve compliance. A 100% coverage of tuna fleet with human observers currently ongoing.	Fisheries Act 625 section 100-102 and Regulation 35 empowers the observer to carry out designated duties	
5.	**Other information / measures to be taken**	Hold regular meetings with Ghana Tuna Association to consolidate more responsible fishing practices. Adhere to ISSF practices in the release of endangered species. Improve management of tuna fishery by further training in fish identification and port state measures. Withdraw licenses of fleet found not to adhere to.		

* Note this should include, where options exist, which option the CPC is choosing.
** The FAD management plan is required through para 34 and in accordance with Annex 1 of Rec. 19-02, see below.

3. Planned an expansion of capacity in 2020- for those with <1,000 t average catch

No planned expansion of capacity.

4. FAD Management Plans

Floating objects have been used for the past decades to enhance the capacity of fishermen to catch more fish. Fishermen place these natural or artificial objects at the surface or at particular depths within the ocean to attract fish with ease. Increasingly more and more FADs of different shapes and sizes are now being used and synchronised to electronic beacons to locate their geographic positions.

Since the 1990s purse seine FAD fishing for tropical tunas has rapidly expanded and fleets in Ghana also fish extensively on FADs. Purse seine fishing in general, and especially in FAD fishing, has experienced a large number of innovations that have made fishing more effective over time.

While FADs attract species of interest to the tuna fleets, they also attract non-targeted endangered marine species, such as seabirds, sharks and turtles.

Developing methods to mitigate the impact of FAD fishing on non-targeted, by-catch, is an active area of research to which most Regional fisheries Management Organisational (RFMO's) have taken the initiative.

4.1 Description

In Ghana over 80% of FAD are constructed from natural objects such as bamboo strips and palm fronds entangled with old netting and attached to a radio beacon. These drifting devices are left at sea for between 3-4 months and usually retrieved after and reset with fresh palm fronds. Over 40% of drifting FAD in Ghana either get lost or decay beyond repair. From computations as per company it was realized that each company constructs and deploys different numbers of FADS each month at sea. Types of Fad are typically the same and each Bamboo Fad generally has the same dimensions of 5m x 2m on average costing between USD200-300. Each radio beacon cost around USD500 hence a complete typical FAD in Ghana cost USD700-800.

Statistics gathered from the companies indicate that typically each vessel deploys a minimum of 200 and a maximum of 350 FADS year of which most of them are replaced within 3-4months. Modern technology indicate that FADS/ buoys can be monitored via a specialized electronic monitoring system.

Data from FAD fishing activities are monitored via satellite communication such as Zunibal, fishing log sheet showing typically the mode of fishing and FAD logbooks as enshrined in Rec.19-02. All incidental catches and mitigation measures are being put in place with observer programmes and instructions from reputable organizations such as ISSF who yearly from 2012 have been training Captains and officers onboard on measures to minimize bycatch and incidental catches of endangered species. Consideration of the use of devices to minimize entanglement or exclude other species from being caught are in the process with assistance and training by experts from ISSF (biodegradable FADs). Some of these conditionalities are prerequisite for companies to enable them export their products safely to third party countries.

Currently in Ghana, ownership of FAD is known as each company / vessel has unique identifiers and serial codes to distinguish between each of them.

4.2 Institutional arrangements

This management plan has been developed in an inclusive, interactive and participatory manner. The process included consultations with representatives of the key stakeholders of the sector. The primary groups from which representatives will be drawn are from the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development/Fisheries Commission and Ghana Tuna Association (GTA). At the international level a representative from the industry (GTA) and the Fisheries Ministry/ Commission may constitute a team to interact at any international forum on FADs.

Based on the review at the international level i.e. ICCAT and the outcomes, the GTA will agreed on the objectives, scope and other elements to be included in the plan for its effective implementation and monitoring.

The implementation of the FAD management plan is a joint responsibility of the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, and the Ghana Tuna Association, the resource users and other stakeholders of the fisheries sector. However, in keeping with its mandate, the Secretariat of the Fisheries Commission will regulate, promote, support and guide the implementation of the plan, through broad consultative processes with other stakeholders.

The Minister in-charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development will charge the Head delegate of Ghana/ICCAT to ensure the effective and harmonious implementation of the plan in line with international/government directives. Each year, an Action Plan of priority actions to be undertaken will be developed based on outcomes from FAD workshops held under the auspices of ICCAT. The annual action plan would also contain a "Communication Strategy" to ensure that all those implementing the plan possess the same information base, interpret it in the same way, and that the results of the management plan are widely disseminated.

4.3 FAD construction specifications and requirements

FADs constructed in Ghana are each made from natural objects such as bamboo (raft) and palm fronds and a submerged appendage made of green plastic net with a general dimension of 5m x 2m. A radio beacon is then attached before deployed. Each vessel has unique identifiers for all deployed radio beacons to distinguish between each of them.

Ghana collaborating with FAO-ISSF to undertake a biodegradable FAD pilot project with the aim of implementing best practices to reduce both ghost-fishing due to entanglement in FAD structure and the amount of plastic used to construct FADs structures thereby contributing to achieving responsible, efficient and sustainable fisheries and biodiversity conservation.

4.4 Applicable period for the FAD Management Plan

The applicable period for the FAD Management Plan is 2020 to 2022.

4.5 Means for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the FAD Management Plan

The overall achievement of the plan will be measured through a combination of measures/indicators which will lead to the sustainable exploitation of the fishery through: limited FAD use per type and size, per vessel; closed seasons (moratorium), and to a lesser extent awareness campaigns, education and training in more responsible fishing practices.

This FAD management plan reflects current understanding of the fishery and the resources exploited. It will be improved with advancements in knowledge and management of the fishery through obtaining and analyzing sound data on the fishery. Reviews of the Management Plan are the responsibility of the SCRS and to be implemented by the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and passed through the GTA and other stakeholders for their consideration and endorsement. However, no major departure from the stated management arrangements for a given period will occur unless directed by SCRS and the ICCAT Commission at their regular meetings.

Reports from data collection mechanisms will be channeled to the SCRS through the Executive Secretary of ICCAT by the Head delegate (Ghana) at stipulated times as the SCRS/ Commission may determine.

Capacity Table

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			***Total Estimated Capacity***	
Type	2019	2020	Estimated best catch rate per unit	2019	2020
Purse seiner over 40m	17	17	4,059.64 t per annum	22476	22396
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m	Not applicable	Not applicable			
Purse seiners less than 20m	Not applicable	Not applicable			
Longliner over 40m	Not applicable	Not applicable			
Longliner between 20 and 40m	Not applicable	Not applicable			
Longliner less than 20m	Not applicable	Not applicable			
For Capacity Expansion					
Baitboat	No	No			
Other gears (specify)					
Total fishing capacity	22476	22396			
Quota					
Initial quota	4250	4250			
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)	Not applicable	Not applicable			
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)	Not applicable	Not applicable			
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	3716	3716			

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (INCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN)

Name of CPC: Guatemala

Year of Fishing Plan: 2020

1. Introduction

This plan is based on the recommendation by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and seeks to contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of the tropical tunas fisheries, recognising the need to adopt monitoring and control measures to improve scientific assessment of the populations of bigeye, (*Thunnus obsesus*), yellowfin (*Thunnus albacares*) and skipjack (*Katsuwonus pelamis*).

The *Thunnus* group is a genus of marine bony fish with less than ten species. These include bigeye (*Thunnus obesus*), yellowfin (*Thunnus albacares*), and skipjack is a species that belongs to the Scombridae family.

These fish are often caught together with surface gear such as nets and hooks, and the individuals are easily confused. Both the internal and external characteristics of the species vary with size and catch area.

The plan also seeks to implement effective conservation mechanisms with a view to improving conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity present in the ICCAT Convention area, by building capacity in terms of planning, management, monitoring and strengthening activities that are compatible with the conservation of environmental goods and services, including participation by interested parties (competent fisheries authority and fisheries companies).

2. Details of fishing plan

In Guatemala, the Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture Regulation is the authority responsible for administration of hydro-biological resources and compliance with the fisheries regulation. It is in charge of carrying out the necessary actions for compliance with national and international regulations as well as legal provisions, as established by the regional fisheries management organizations of which Guatemala is a member. In this case, the State of Guatemala has been a member since 2005, and has registered the tuna vessels that operate in the Atlantic targeting tuna.

As an ICCAT Contracting Party, the State of Guatemala proposes to:

a) Maintain a register of vessels authorised to catch bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack.
b) Notify the list of authorised vessels, by the established deadlines, using electronic means and in accordance with the prescribed format.
c) Notify immediately any inclusion, deletion and/or modification of the initial list at the time when the change arises.
d) Report the vessels that actively fish for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack in a given year.

	ICCAT requirement (per 19-02)	*Explication of the actions taken by the CPC for the purposes of implementation*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note:*
1.	**Catch limits* and catch reductions (Part II)**	- Guatemala will apply a catch limit for bigeye (*Thunnus obesus*) that is 10% below its recent average catch. - At the end of each quarter, the catch taken by the vessels will be reported.		
2.	**Capacity limits (Part III)**	- Guatemala will maintain efforts in accordance with the proportion of its quota and its current fleet.		
3.	**Management of FADs **and FAD closure(s) (Part IV)**	- The results of the use of FADs will be reviewed so as to minimize possible impacts on other fish populations and juvenile tuna catches. - Guatemala will maintain the limit on FADs established by the Commission. - Implementation of the closure as recommended by the Commission.		
4.	**Control measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)**	- Guatemala will make efforts to responsibly maintain the catch to meet its responsibility to the Commission, by assuming the commitments of the recommendations and established measures.	- General Law on Fisheries and Aquaculture Decree 80-2002 and its regulation Government Agreement 223-2005.	
5.	**Other information / measures to be taken**	- Guatemala will maintain the necessary communication with its vessel owners and the Commission to meet its requirements.		

* When there are options, the option chosen by the CPC should be indicated.
** The FAD management plan is necessary under paragraph 34 and in accordance with Annex 1 of Rec. 19-02, see below.

3. FAD Management Plan

This plan is applicable to all those Guatemalan tuna purse seine vessels that operate in the ICCAT Convention area, targeting tropical tunas.

The plan will be revised when appropriate and will be updated to incorporate amendments to applicable national and international regulations in force.

With the aim of improving comprehension of this document, the following terms have been defined:

- Fishing activities: activities that are carried out to catch fish. These not only relate to the catches themselves, but also to the search, deployment or collection of FADs.
- Vessel owner: An individual or legal entity that owns or holds any other legal title to one or more fishing vessels.

- Master: The most senior person onboard the vessel that is responsible for fishing activity. This person must make decisions regarding fishing grounds and type of fishing (set on free schools or on an object).
- Pelagic: A species that lives in the mid-water or close to the water surface. Tuna and tuna-like species are often referred to as "large pelagics".
- Captain: Highest authority onboard the fishing vessel in legal terms. The person has undergone the formal training necessary to dispatch / run the vessel.
- Competent authority: The institution in charge of administering hydro-biological resources and implementing the fishing regulation in force. In this particular case, DIPESCA.
- Beacon: A beacon is any device that is intended to locate or monitor a FAD.
- GPS beacon: A beacon fitted with a global geo-location system.
- Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs): Any object deployed at sea to serve as a device to aggregate fish.
- Moored FADs: Those that are artificially fixed to the seabed to prevent drifting, which include support vessels moored to a seamount.
- Natural FADs: Any FAD found at sea, e.g. plant debris, dead animals, human waste etc., that is used as a FAD.
- Deployment: Fishing activity that involves deployment at sea of a FAD.
- Echosounder: Electronic apparatus generally used in naval navigation that enables measurement of distance between the water surface and the seabed.
- Fishing vessel: A vessel whose main activity is fishing and to which catches taken are attributed.
- Set under FAD/object: Catch from schools of fish associated with a FAD or aggregated around a FAD.
- Set on free school: Catch from free-swimming schools, detected through sound or sightings (viewpoints).
- Collection: Fishing activity that involves collection at sea of a FAD.

Characteristics of FADs and beacons assigned to each vessel

FADs currently used by the Guatemala-flagged tuna fleet are composed of a floating structure (usually known as a grill) and a submerged structure (also known as a tail).

Currently, the floating part has been replaced by a single PVC part that is more impermeable and watertight. The walls of the part are 1 cm thick and are lined with polyurethane foam. Due to these characteristics, the grill is completely airtight, which significantly reduces object loss through sinking.

The submerged part or tail is composed of a length of sardine net and a weight is attached at the lower end. The mesh diameter of the net used to construct the FAD is consistent with the parameters established by ICCAT, which provide that it must be less than 7 cm.

All the beacons used by the fleet are fitted with an integrated GPS system that enables location of the object in real time via a monitor installed onboard to follow the vessel's course. These beacons are fitted with an integrated echosounder that also enables fish under the deployed object to be viewed.

Guatemala will maintain the limit on FADs deployed for each of its vessels, in accordance with what has been established by the Commission.

Institutional agreements

Monitoring of FADs: Vessels must retain information on monitoring for each FAD with a satellite beacon, making reference to their assigned number.

Information obtained via other types of beacon through observation, radio, etc. must also be retained.

Recording and transmittal of information on FAD activity: In addition to annual communication, vessel owners must communicate quarterly, to the competent authority, for each FAD, stating its identification number, the operations involving fish aggregating devices of its fleet (deployment, collection and fishing) specifying how these were recorded in their logbooks.

To cover FAD logbooks, the current ICCAT format will be used. See Annex 2 of Recommendation 19-02.

Actions to prevent loss of FADs: In order to prevent loss of FADs and the consequent potential drifting of schools of tuna and accompanying fauna, each vessel must carry out close monitoring to establish the situation of FADs.

Vessel operators must adopt the necessary measures to avoid as far as possible the loss of FADs at sea.

If a FAD is lost or is impossible to collect (prohibited area or time for fishing) operators must communicate this immediately to the competent authority and provide justification for this loss or not collecting the device, stating in the communication the last known position and date.

The competent authority will assess the information provided and will communicate to the vessel owner the actions to take.

Measures to mitigate the capture of juvenile and non-target species: The parties involved in this plan may propose carrying out pilot actions for the purpose of promoting the use of more selective methods to avoid the capture of juveniles and associated species, such as sorting grids incorporated into the purse seine net to reduce the catch of juvenile tunas and pelagic fish associated with the fishery.

See Annex 5 to Recommendation 19-02.

Other measures: Develop a Good Fisheries Practices Protocol, which incorporates the regulations governing Guatemala's national and international fishery administration and all the related actions to be taken by the tuna purse seine vessels, so as to achieve and maintain the sustainability of pelagic fishery resources and associated fauna, and to ensure the safety of crew members.

Implementation of a responsible fisheries protocol that sets out the actions to be taken in the event of entanglement of juvenile tunas, species of marine mammal, sea turtles, sharks and other species classed as threatened or in danger of extinction.

Research will be promoted on alternatives to improve nets hanging from FADs to prevent capture of juvenile tunas, marine species, especially marine mammals, sea turtles, sharks and other susceptible species, using other materials and smaller mesh to minimise adverse effects. See the document Measures to prevent FAD loss (preventative measures: mesh size[1]).

Prevent abandonment, loss or discard of fishing gear, devices and equipment, whose parts are made of plastic or polystyrene materials that may cause damage to juvenile tunas, species of marine mammals, sea turtles, sharks and other species classed as threatened or in danger of extinction, in accordance with the provisions of national and international fisheries regulations in force in Guatemala.

Requirements and specifications for FAD construction

Description of fishing off a Fish Aggregating Device (FAD): The concentration and use of the different types of FADs can vary according to the geographical area. Fishers also use a variety of fishing gears such as purse seine nets, trawl nets and passive gears such as longline to catch fish from around a FAD.

Elements of a Fish Aggregating Device (FAD): Anchored FADs consist of a float, an anchorage rope and some type of underwater or alluring structure. They can be constructed from trunks and bamboo bound with rope, or they can be commercially produced and made of steel, aluminium or fibreglass and equipped with a geolocation device.

Design: The design should prevent the capture or fishing of marine mammals, sea turtles, sharks and other species that are classed as threatened or in danger of extinction, in accordance with the provisions of the national and international fisheries regulations in force in Guatemala.

Types of material: Guatemala will make efforts to reduce the use of environmentally unfriendly materials.

[1] Measures to prevent FAD loss (preventative measures: mesh size).

FAD marking and identification: Each FAD and beacon must be identified in accordance with internationally recognised standard systems, such as the Standard Specifications for the Marking and Identification of Fishing Vessels, established by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

This implies that each FAD must have a unique number that will serve as the identifier of this FAD over the course of its useful life. The mark must be visible and indelible and be capable of withstanding the maritime conditions to which it will be exposed.

Control and monitoring measures of this plan: The competent authority may carry out documentary checks on the provisions of this plan, and additional data may be requested if necessary. In addition, it may determine in coordination with vessel owners, the participation of other scientific bodies for achievement of the objectives established in this plan.

Measures regarding confidentiality of the information provided by operators: The information provided by operators will be treated at all times according to the confidentiality of the case, and it will be used strictly for purely scientific or control purposes, if necessary. The competent authority will not disseminate this sensitive information outside the scope described above, without the express consent of the vessel owner.

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

Name of CPC: Japan

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

1. Introduction

Japan's bigeye tuna annual catch limit for the 2020 fishing season (from 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021) is 13,079.84t (after transferring 600t to China and 300t to EU). All Japanese fishing vessels catching Tropical Tuna (TRO) in the Atlantic are large scale tuna longline fishing vessels (LSTLVs). The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, having been entrusted competence by the Fisheries Law, has introduced the Ministerial Ordinance to introduce a legally binding management system. The Fisheries Agency of Japan (FAJ), which is an extra-ministerial bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, enforces the Ministerial Ordinance on Japanese fishermen.

2. Details of fishing plan – For those with >1,000 t average catch

As of 27 January 2020, the Minister licenses 183 LSTLVs to operate globally, and all of them are registered to ICCAT as tropical tuna vessels for the 2020 fishing year.

	ICCAT Requirement (per 19-02)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch limits* and Catch reductions (Part II)**	Japan's bigeye tuna annual catch limit for the 2020 fishing season (from 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021) is 13,079.84t. 13,079.84t (catch limit for 2020) = 17,696t (catch limit in Rec. 16-01) * (1-0.21)-600t (transfer to China)-300t (transfer to EU) When the total catch of bigeye tuna by Japanese vessels is close to the catch limit, the Minister will prohibit the fishermen from catching bigeye tuna.	Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 17	
2.	**Capacity Limits (Part III)**	As of 27 January 2020, the Minister licenses 183 LSTLVs to operate globally, and all of them are registered to ICCAT as tropical tuna vessels for the 2020 fishing year.	N/A	
3.	**Management of FADs **and FAD Closure(s) (Part IV)**	N/A (LSTLVs only)	N/A	

4.	**Control Measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)**	FAJ issues a specific authorization to its longline fleet for fishing tropical tuna species, and those vessels are registered to the ICCAT vessel record. The Minister requires fishing operators to report a daily catch of tropical tuna (including zero catch) every 10 days. In addition, the fishermen are requested to make more frequent report (five or every day) for bigeye tuna for a timely management of catch limit by FAJ. FAJ will ensure a minimum of 5% observer coverage of fishing effort of its LSTLVs which are allowed to fish tropical tunas, through the presence of a human observer on board. A trial of Electronic Monitoring is under consideration.	Fisheries Law, Article 52 Ministerial ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 28 N/A	
5.	**Other information / measures to be taken**	N/A	N/A	

* Note this should include, where options exist, which option the CPC is choosing.
** The FAD management plan is required through para 34 and in accordance with Annex 1 of Rec. 19-02, see below.

3. Planned an expansion of capacity in 2020- for those with <1,000 t average catch

N/A.

Capacity Table

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			Total Estimated Capacity	
Type	2019 *1	2020 *2	Estimated best catch rate per unit	2019	2020
Purse seiner over 40m					
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m					
Purse seiners less than 20m					
Longliner over 40m	169	164		72,668 GRT	70,766 GRT
Longliner between 20 and 40m	18	19		3,310 GRT	3,640 GRT
Longliner less than 20m					
For Capacity Expansion					
Baitboat					
Other gears (specify)					
Total fishing capacity	187	183		75,978 GRT	74,406 GRT
Quota					
Initial quota	17,696.00t	13,979.84t= 17,696.00t* (1-0.21)			
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)	To China: 1,000t To Ghana: 70t	To China: 600t To EU: 300t			
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)	-	-			
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	19,280.40t	13,079.84t			

*1 The capacity for 2019 is as of 31 July 2019.
*2 The capacity for 2020 is as of 27 January 2020.

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

Name of CPC: Republic of Korea

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

3. Planned an expansion of capacity in 2020- for those with <1,000 t average catch

Korea's longline vessels targeting southern bluefin tuna also catch tropical tunas. Distribution of SBT ranges across Indian ocean and Atlantic Ocean. The number of Korea's longline vessels catching tropical tunas in Atlantic Ocean in a particular year very much depends on where the main fishing ground of SBT is formed. As such, Korea's fishing capacity in tropical tuna fisheries in Atlantic Ocean for 2020 includes all Korean longline vessels authorized to fish SBT in Indian/Atlantic Ocean and any existing vessels not authorized to fish SBT. So, Korea's fishing capacity in tropical tuna fisheries in Atlantic Ocean for 2020 may increase from the recent levels (2014-2017).

Capacity Table

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			Total Estimated Capacity	
Type	2019	2020	Estimated best catch rate per unit	2019	2020
Purse seiner over 40m					
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m					
Purse seiners less than 20m					
Longlinerover 40m	11	10	245.5 t per vessel	6,939 (GT)	6,342 (GT)
Longlinerbetween 20 and 40m					
Longlinerlessthan 20m					
ForCapacityExpansion					
Baitboat					
Othergears (specify)					
Total fishing capacity	11	10	245.5 t per vessel	6,939 (GT)	6,342 (GT)
Quota (2020)					
Initial quota	1,000				
Quota transfer made to Chinese Taipei	223				
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)					
Unused Quota carried forward from the previous year	222.9				
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	999.9				

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

Name of CPC: Russian Federation

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

3. Planned an expansion of capacity in 2020- for those with <1,000 t average catch

In accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, States may enjoy the privilege of a sovereign right to access fish resources. Based on this right, the Russian Federation as a member of ICAAT promotes the development of its fish resources to improve the economic conditions of its population.

Accordingly, Russia initiated the process of flagging three tuna vessels on the national registry and attracted investments to start work before the end of the second quarter of this year. As soon as this process is completed, Russia will submit its documents and ship characteristics to the ICCAT Secretariat.

Longline vessels of the Russian Federation equipped for bluefin tuna (SBT) fishing can also catch tropical tunas such as big-eyed, yellowfin, striped, in the catching areas of FAO 27, 31, 34, 41, 47. The number of Russian vessels catching tropical tuna into the Atlantic Ocean in one or a different period of time will depend on where the main fishing ground of the SBT is formed but will not exceed 3 units.

The capacities of the Russian Federation for the tropical tuna fishing in the Atlantic Ocean for 2020 include 3 vessels (2 long liners, 1 purse seiner), which have the right to catch blue and tropical tuna. Thus, the fishing capacities of Russia for the tuna catching in the Atlantic Ocean in 2020 will be increased by 3 units.

4. FAD Management Plans (if applicable)

Guidelines for Preparation of FAD Management Plans

When fishing for tuna, FAD is not planned.

Capacity Table

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			*Total Estimated Capacity*	
Type	*2019*	*2020*	*Estimated best catch rate per unit*	*2019*	*2020*
Purse seiner over 40m		1	525 tons per vessel		525 t
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m					
Purse seiners less than 20m					
Longliner over 40m		2	525 tons per vessel		1050 t
Longliner between 20 and 40m					
Longliner less than 20m					
For Capacity Expansion					
Baitboat					
Other gears (specify)					
Total fishing capacity					
Quota					
Initial quota		3	525 tons per vessel		1575 t
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)					
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)					
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)					

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (INCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN)

Name of CPC: Senegal

Year of Fishing Plan: 2020

1. Introduction

Senegal does not have a tropical tuna quota and has currently authorised fourteen (14) vessels greater than 20 m to fish for tropical tunas which comprise one (1) large longliner, six (6) baitboats and seven (7) purse seiners within the framework of its 2020 fishing plan. In addition, one (1) support vessel has been authorised.

Senegal is among the CPCs whose recent average bigeye tuna catch exceeds 3,500 t, and must apply a catch limit that is 17% below its recent average catch for the years of reference indicated in Rec. 19-02.

It is prohibited to fish off FADs with instrumented buoys from 1 January to 28 February 2020 throughout the Convention area.

In addition to the quarterly tropical tuna catch declaration for national vessels, bigeye tuna catches will be reported monthly.

2. Details of fishing plan – For those with >1,000 t average catch

The Ministry of Fisheries has introduced in the new Maritime Fisheries Code, Law 2015-18 of 13 July 2017 and its Implementing Decree No. 2016-1804, the obligation to maintain a logbook containing information on vessel identity, date and times of fishing operations, areas, catches etc. A Ministerial Decision of 02/03/2017 establishes the conditions of use of the logbook and the tuna fishery. The model is that of ICCAT.

A Decision on transposition of the management measures provided for in Recommendation 19-02 will be prepared to facilitate their implementation.

	ICCAT Requirement: (per 19-02)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch limits* and catch reductions (Part II)**	Reduction in effort of purse seiners. Closure of the bigeye tuna fishery when the established catch limit is reached. Voluntary limitation of the number of FADS with instrumented buoys to 200.	Maritime Fisheries Code and its implementing decree. Decision No. 03543 of 02/03/2017 establishing the logbook. Decision on transposition of Rec. 19-02.	
2.	**Capacity limits (Part III)**	Temporary freeze on the number of purse seiners.	Maritime Fisheries Code and its	

		Voluntary limitation of the number of FADS with instrumented buoys to 200.	implementing decree and the decisions on transposition of the ICCAT recommendations and soon Rec. 19-02.	
3.	**Management of FADs **and FAD closure(s) (Part IV)**	A circular has been sent to vessel owners to remind them about the relevant provisions of Recommendation 19-02. A team inspects all vessels on landing in the Port of Dakar, which is the only authorised port. A meeting has been held with vessel owners in relation to Recommendation 19-02. The VMS with which all vessels are fitted enables monitoring at all time of the areas frequented by the vessels. The FAD management plan has been updated. Implementation of the closure throughout the Atlantic of the purse seine FAD fishery from 1 January to 28 February 2020. Voluntary limitation of the number of FADS with instrumented buoys to 200. Embarking on purse seiners of onboard observers. Other provisions of Rec. 19-02.		

4.	**Control Measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)**	At the authorised Port of Dakar there is a surveillance brigade that carries out inspections on all vessels on landing. Observers are systematically embarked on all flagged purse seiners.		
5.	**Other information / measures to be taken**			

* Note this should include, where options exist, which option the CPC is choosing.

** The FAD management plan is required through para 34 and in accordance with Annex 1 of Rec. 19-02, see below.

3. Planned an expansion of capacity in 2020 - for those with <1,000 t average catch

4. FAD Management Plans (if applicable)

CAPACITY TABLE

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			*Total Estimated Capacity*	
Type	2019	2020	Estimated best catch rate per unit	2019	2020
Purse seiner over 40m	07	07			
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m	00	00			
Purse seiners less than 20m	00	00			
Longliner over 40m	00	00			
Longliner between 20 and 40m	05	05			
Longliner less than 20m					
For capacity expansion					
Baitboat	05	06			
Other gears (specify)					
Total fishing capacity					
Quota					
Initial quota	NA				
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)	NA				
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)	NA				
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	NA				

FISH AGGREGRATING DEVICE MANAGEMENT PLAN (FADs) FOR 2020-2021 (PROVISIONAL)

Introduction

This FAD management plan has been prepared within the context of implementation of ICCAT Rec. 19-02 establishing a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas.

This plan applies to Senegal-flagged purse seiners and baitboats using FADs and associated electronic devices in the course of their fishing activities.

1. Objectives

The objectives of the management plan are as follow:

- Improve scientific knowledge on FAD fishing;
- Regulate the use of FADs and associated electronic devices to minimise the potential impacts of high FAD density on the efficiency of purse seine fishing and interactions with other gears;
- Minimise the impact of FAD fishing on the productivity of bigeye and yellowfin tuna stocks under FADs;
- Minimise the impact of FAD fishing on non-target species, if applicable, including entanglement of marine species;
- Minimise the impact of FADs and FAD fishing on pelagic and coastal ecosystems, including by preventing the grounding of FADs in sensitive habitats or altering the pelagic habitat.

2. Definitions, description of FADs and associated devices

The following definitions apply to the management plan:

Fish aggregating devices: A permanent, semi-permanent or temporary object, structure or device, made of any material, either man-made or natural, that is deployed and/or monitored and used to aggregate fish for subsequent catching. FADs can be anchored (aFAD) or drifting (dFAD).

Operational buoy: Any instrumented buoy, previously activated, powered on and deployed at sea, transmitting positions and any other available information such as echosounder estimates.

FADs carry legible identification marks and/or an electronic device (GPS, echosounder, satellite transmitter…) that enables location of the FAD's position.

FAD associated beacons and buoys must carry legible serial numbers for identification purposes.

3. Management measures

Recording of FAD information

FAD data

FAD deployment is submitted to the Ministry of Fisheries in accordance with the procedures established in Annex 1 of this management plan.

Vessel masters keep onboard a FAD logbook with information on fishing activities, deployment operations and FAD use, based on the template contained in Annex 1.
This concerns the following information:

- FAD marking
- Beacon No.
- FAD type
- Type of visit
- Date and time
- Position
- Estimated catches
- Bycatch

Information on beacons acquired

Vessel owners must keep an up-to-date record of beacons acquired and report quarterly to the relevant fisheries administration the list of FADs deployed, except for those found incidentally, and the beacons acquired during the year.

Measures to reduce bycatch

FAD design

There are no restrictions on the design of FAD structures but they must meet minimum requirements in terms of lighting and presence of devices to enable FAD viewing, such as radar reflectors, and carry markings and identifiers. Electronic devices, radio beacons, echosounder beacons and satellite transmitters must carry markings and identifiers.

The surface structure of the FAD must not present an entanglement risk for bycatch. For this reason, it should not be covered or if so, it should only be covered in a material with a minimum risk of bycatch entanglement.

The below surface elements should be exclusively be made from non-entangling material (e.g. rope or canvas).

Biodegradable material should be used as far as possible.

Mitigation measures

The use of buoys should limit to the extent possible bycatch of authorised and unauthorised species.

To manage interactions with other gears such as longlines, FAD deployment takes into account the presence of longlines in the deployment area.

Loss of FADs

Vessel owners must take all measures to prevent the loss of FADs and must as far as possible endeavour to recover them, if necessary.

Closure area and period

Regarding ICCAT Rec. 19-02, FAD fishing for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna by purse seiners and baitboats and FAD deployment, are formally prohibited throughout the Atlantic from 1 January to 28 February 2020 and from 1 January to 31 March 2021 throughout the Convention area.

Limits on number of FADs

The limit on the number of FADs with operational buoys are at all times fixed at 350 for 2020 and 300 for 2021, per vessel.

4. Implementation of management plan

Institutional responsibilities

The Directorate of Maritime Fisheries ensures coordination of implementation and monitoring of the FAD management plan. The operational aspects related to FAD management, in particular at-sea and in-port control, are ensured by the Directorate of Fisheries Protection and Surveillance. The Centre of Ocean Science Research in Dakar - Thiaroye provides scientific advice for implementation and monitoring of the management plan.

5. Confidentiality of information

Information provided by vessel owners under this management plan is protected and can only be used for scientific purposes and for management of the tuna fishery.

6. Applicable period, monitoring and revision of the management plan

This management plan is applicable for two (02) years and will be revised if necessary.

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (INCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN) [1]

Name of CPC: St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

1. Introduction

St. Vincent and the Grenadines has a High Seas fishing fleet which are foreign owned vessels registered in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The High Seas fishing fleet is of an industrial nature, harvesting tuna and tuna like species. There are currently four (4) such vessels of between forty (40) to fifty (50) meters in length fishing in the Atlantic.

The current high seas fishery is a Long line tuna fishery utilizing long line gear and licensed to target albacore, big eye tuna, yellowfin tuna and swordfish. This fishery is governed by two essential legislative documents, the High Seas Fishing Act (2001) and the High Seas Fishing Regulations (2003), and where applicable the Fisheries (Prevention of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing) Regulations (2017).

2. Details of fishing plan

There are currently four (4) vessels flagged to St. Vincent and the Grenadines that are involved in the Long line fishery. The Long line fishery is the only High Seas fishery that St. Vincent and the Grenadines conducts and as such the Quotas allocated to the country, if any, are assigned to these four (4) vessels. Catch data is compiled and reviewed monthly to ascertain compliance of these vessels to the recommendations set forth by the ICCAT Commission.

	ICCAT Requirement (per 16-01)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch reporting (para. 5)**	Fisheries Division reports SVG's quarterly catch of BET to ICCAT	High Seas Fishing Act 2001; High Seas Fishing Regulations 2003	
2.	**Implementation of the area/time closure (para. 38), including inspection and control measures**	N/A	N/A	SVG High Seas vessels do not fish around FADs
3.	**Use of and limitation of FADs (para 16)**	N/A	N/A	SVG High Seas vessels do not fish around FADs
4.	**CPC Scientific Observer (para 39 and Annex 5)**	N/A	N/A	SVG High Seas vessels do not operate within any CPC's EEZ
5.	**Quota transfers para 8)**	N/A	N/A	SVG does not have a quota allocation for Bigeye tuna
6.	**Capacity management (para 12)**	N/A	N/A	Capacity limitation does not apply to SVG as per para 12 (d)
7.	**Maximum by-catch limit established for non-authorized vessels (para 27)**	N/A	N/A	All SVG High Seas vessels are licensed to catch TRO tunas

[1] Original language only due to length of document.

Capacity Management Plan

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET	**Fleet (number of vessels)**				**Estimated capacity**				
Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	Unit (type of capacity)	2017	2018	2019	2020
Purse seiner over 40m									
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m									
Purse seiners less than 20m									
Longliner over 40m	7	7	4	4	Metric tonnes	2100	2100	1550	1550
Longliner between 20 and 40m	26	26	0	0	Metric tonnes	3595	3595	0	0
Longliner less than 20m									
Baitboat 20m or greater									
Baitboat less than 20m									
Handline 20m or greater									
Handline less than 20m									
Harpoon 20m or greater									
Harpoon less than 20m									
Sport/Recreational									
Other (please specify)									
Total fishing capacity									
Support vessels (not authorised to catch tuna, but assist in fishing operations)									
Quota									
Initial quota									
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)									
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)									
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)									

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (INCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN)

Name of CPC: United States of America

Fishing Plan Year: 2019 [*Note from Secretariat: Submitted in 2019; see USA Statement of Intent (PA1-17/i2020)*]

In response to Circular 244/2020 concerning the submission of a fishing/capacity plan for tropical tunas, we note that Paragraph 22a of Rec. 19-02 only applies to CPCs with recent average catches of tropical tunas greater than 1000 t that have been assigned a catch limit per paragraph 4 of that recommendation. Specifically, fishing/capacity plans are required to outline how a CPC will ensure management of its longline and purse seine fleet capacity so that it can meet its catch limit obligations per paragraph 4. While recent average U.S. catches of tropical tunas have been more than 1,000 t, the United States does not have an obligation to limit its catches of these species. The United States falls under subparagraph 4d of Rec. 19-02, which states: "Those CPCs with recent average catch of less than 1,000 t are encouraged to maintain catch and effort at recent levels." Nevertheless, for detailed information about U.S. management of tropical tunas, we draw CPCs' attention to the 2019 U.S. tropical tuna management plan that was circulated in Palma de Mallorca (see document PA1_501/2019). Finally, although paragraph 22b only applies to CPCs with recent average catches of tropical tunas less than 1,000 t, for the record, we can confirm that the United States has no plans to expand commercial capacity in 2020 beyond our current number of longline vessel permits.

1. Introduction

Atlantic tropical tuna conservation and management actions in the United States are developed, coordinated, and implemented through the 2006 Consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fishery Management Plan, and issued under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service (see http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/documents/fmp/consolidated/index.html). The United States implements recommendations adopted by ICCAT by regulation under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA). Atlantic HMS fisheries are also subject to regulation in accordance with other applicable U.S. statutes, including the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

The conservation and management of U.S. tropical tuna fisheries has been defined by a comprehensive suite of ecosystem-based measures that have been taken in line with domestic requirements and that go beyond the requirements of ICCAT recommendations. These measures reflect the results and advice from scientific studies and have the goal of developing and maintaining a sustainable fishery and a healthy ecosystem. The United States uses a range of tools and approaches to manage its tropical tuna fishery effectively, including licensing and reporting requirements, size limits, bag limits, and gear restrictions. Yellowfin tuna is the principal species of tropical tuna landed by U.S. fisheries and is harvested from the western North Atlantic. Bigeye tuna is also an important component of catch for the U.S. fleet. Skipjack tuna is caught by U.S. vessels in the western North Atlantic, but this stock is a minor component of total U.S. tuna landings.

The United States employs effective means to ensure the collection of reliable fishery data for management and stock assessment purposes, including the use of logbooks and observers. In addition, U.S. scientists actively engage in the stock assessment process and conduct innovative research on yellowfin and bigeye tuna biology, life history, and fishing techniques as well as technology to reduce bycatch. Research and management activities undertaken by the United States ensure effective implementation of and compliance with ICCAT measures. They also support ICCAT and U.S. efforts to prevent overfishing and maintain or return the stock biomass of bigeye, yellowfin, and skipjack tunas to levels that can support MSY, consistent with the Convention objective.

As the largest component of the U.S. catch of ICCAT species, yellowfin tuna is a critical resource for the United States. The U.S. yellowfin tuna fishery provides significant social and economic benefits to coastal communities, supporting both commercial and recreational fishermen, dealers, and shore-based businesses (e.g., mechanics, marinas, boat builders, gear manufacturers, electricians, bait and tackle shops, fuel suppliers, hotels, and restaurants). In 2016, there were approximately 9.8 million recreational saltwater

anglers across the United States who took 63.3 million saltwater fishing trips around the country. These anglers spent $4.3 billion on fishing trips and $26.6 billion on durable fishing-related equipment. These expenditures contributed $67 billion in sales impacts to the U.S. economy, generated $24 billion in income impacts and $38 billion in value-added impacts, and supported over 472,000 jobs (NMFS 2018a).[1] Tropical tunas are particularly important for the U.S. recreational fishery, where yellowfin comprise over 75% of U.S. recreational catches of ICCAT species and more than 60% of pelagic tournaments target yellowfin (NMFS 2018b).

Yellowfin tuna total commercial ex-vessel value comprises approximately 30% of all highly migratory commercial fisheries ex-vessel value, and the species is important throughout the Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean. Pelagic longline is the dominant gear type for harvesting yellowfin tuna commercially, but yellowfin also comprises 25% of commercial handgear landings.

2. Details of fishing plan

Under Recommendations 16-01 and 18-01, the United States is not subject to bigeye tuna catch limits or capacity limitations, although under sub-paragraph 4(a) of Recommendation 16-01, the United States must endeavor to maintain its annual bigeye catch less than 1,575 mt. U.S. catches, while variable and dependent on availability, have consistently been within this level.

The recreational fishery for tropical tunas is an open access fishery that requires fishing vessels to be permitted. Two types of recreational permits are available to fishermen-- namely, HMS Angling and HMS Charter/Headboat. NMFS implemented a 27 inch (69 cm) curved fork length (CFL) minimum size limit for yellowfin and bigeye tunas in 1996 to correspond to the bluefin tuna minimum size for identification and enforcement purposes, and to contribute to conservation as the yellowfin tuna stock was considered fully fished at that time. This size limit applied to both the commercial and recreational fisheries and was significantly higher than the minimum size required by ICCAT (3.2 kg minimum) at that time. While ICCAT abolished its 3.2 kg minimum size limits in 2004 for bigeye and yellowfin tunas, the United States maintained its 27 inch CFL minimum size requirement to continue to conserve juvenile fish. Other regulations in effect for the recreational vessels include a retention limit of three yellowfin tuna per person per trip and a prohibition on sale. Restrictions on dressing fish at sea to ensure species can be correctly identified during at sea and dockside enforcement also apply recreationally and commercially.

The U.S. pelagic longline fishery is operated under a limited access permit program as well as a type of catch share program for bluefin tuna called the Individual Bluefin Quota program. No new permits are issued for pelagic longline vessels. Limited access permits can be transferred between vessels. Five types of commercial tuna permits are available to fishermen: Atlantic Tunas Longline, Atlantic Tunas General, Atlantic Tunas Harpoon, HMS Charter/Headboat, and HMS Commercial Caribbean Small Boat. Tunas may be harvested only with gears authorized under each permit type. Commercial HMS permit holders may only sell to permitted dealers. Atlantic tuna dealers must obtain an Atlantic tuna dealer permit to receive, purchase, trade or barter for Atlantic tunas from a vessel.

In accordance with ICCAT recommendations, randomized observer sampling of the U.S. pelagic longline fleet is implemented through the U.S. Pelagic Observer Program. Representative scientific observer sampling of this fleet has been underway since 1992. The data collected through this program have been used to quantify the composition, disposition, and quantity of the total catch (both retained and discarded at sea) by this fleet, which fishes in waters of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean Sea. The minimum U.S. observer coverage goal is eight percent of all sets in each area/quarter stratum. The achieved observer coverage of the U.S. longline fleet from 2013 through 2017 ranged from 12.2 to 17.9 percent of the fishing sets deployed and in 2018, it was 13.1 percent (NMFS 2018b and preliminary NMFS data). If notified that they have been selected to carry an observer aboard their vessel, the fishermen must inform NMFS when they will be taking a trip, and a NMFS observer must be onboard in order for that vessel to go fishing. For additional information, please refer to the report on domestic observer programs submitted by the United States pursuant to ICCAT Recommendation 10-10 (as revised by Rec. 16-14). U.S. Atlantic pelagic longline vessels are required to have type-approved VMS units installed and operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition, as of June 1, 2015, an owner or operator of a

[1] These figures are national estimates.

commercial vessel permitted or required to be permitted in the Atlantic Tunas Longline category and whose vessel has pelagic longline gear on board, must have installed, operate, and maintain an electronic monitoring system on the vessel to audit reports of bluefin tuna interactions.

The United States has taken numerous actions since 1999 designed to reduce interactions with non-target species, undersized fish, and protected species such as sea turtles and marine mammals. Some of these actions include time/area closures, gear restrictions (including hooks, baits, gangion length, and a maximum length for longlines in certain areas), and requiring that all pelagic longline vessel owners and captains attend Protected Species Safe Handling, Release and Identification Workshops. At least one operator onboard these vessels, if different from the permit holder, must also attend the workshop.

The United States fulfils its reporting requirements to ICCAT for tropical tunas, including related to the authorized vessel list (Rec 16-01, paras 25-33) and catch reporting (paras 5, 34). As there are no U.S. purse seine or baitboat vessels targeting tropical tunas in the Atlantic, the United States does not actively implement provisions related to the time/area closure (paras 13-14, 38), limitation on FADs (para 16), FAD management plans (paras 18-19), or FAD logbooks (paras 21-22).

	ICCAT Requirement (per 16-01)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch reporting (para 5)**	The United States reports its estimated bigeye catches quarterly in accordance with para 5.	50 Code of Federal Regulations §635.31 and §635.5 (b) – Atlantic tunas may be sold only by fishermen permitted in commercial Atlantic tunas categories and only to federally-permitted dealers. Dealers must submit reports to NMFS.	The dates the United States submitted its quarterly reports are included in our Annual Reports to the Commission.
2.	**Implementation of the area/time closure (para. 38), including inspection and control measures**	n/a	n/a	The United States does not have fishing vessels operating in the vicinity of the time/area closure.
3.	**Use of and limitation of FADs (para 16)**	n/a	n/a	The United States does not have purse seine vessels fishing for tropical tunas in the Atlantic.
4.	**CPC Scientific Observer (para 39 and Annex 5)**	n/a	n/a	The United States does not have vessels operating in the area specified in para. 39.
5.	**Quota transfers para 8)**	n/a	n/a	Catch limits do not apply to the United States per

				para 4 of Rec. 16-01, as its catches were less than 2100 mt in the 1999 (as reported to SCRS in 2000).
6.	**Capacity management (para 12)**	While the capacity limits do not apply to the United States, the U.S. pelagic longline fishery, the primary U.S. fishery catching tropical tunas, has operated under a limited access permit program since 1999; thus, the number of active vessels has not been able to increase since that time. New vessels cannot enter the fishery without acquiring a permit from an existing vessel. Other U.S. fleets catching tropical tunas are open access fisheries and are strictly monitored and controlled through other means as described above.	50 Code of Federal Regulations §635.4 – Provides regulations on issuance, transfer, and renewal of tuna permits.	Capacity limits do not apply to the United States per para 4 of Rec 16-01.
7.	**Maximum by-catch limit established for non-authorized vessels (para 27)**	n/a	n/a	The United States is not subject to catch limits per paragraph 4 of Rec. 16-01. We report all vessels authorized to catch tropical tunas in accordance with the requirements of Rec 13-13 and Rec 16-01.

Capacity Management Plan

See following page. As the provisions of Part III (Capacity Management Measures) of Rec. 16-01 do not apply to the United States, we have left the part of the table for reporting estimated capacity blank.

In the following table, there is an increase in handline vessels greater and less than 20 meters beginning in 2018. This is due to the inclusion of Charter/Headboat (CHB) permitted vessels that possess a commercial endorsement. The commercial endorsement for the CHB permit was implemented in 2018. Previously all CHB vessels were included in the "Sport/Recreational" row. CHB vessels that do not have the commercial endorsement continue to be included "Sport/Recreational" row. Please note that the total fleet size has remained very consistent as the changes mentioned above represent administrative re-categorization that resulted in vessels moving between categories. It does not represent an addition of fishing capacity.

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET	**Fleet (number of vessels)**				**Estimated capacity**				
Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	Unit (type of capacity)	2017	2018	2019	2020
Purse seiner over 40m	0	0	0	TBD					
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m	0	0	0	TBD					
Purse seiners less than 20m	0	0	0	TBD					
Longliner over 40m	1	1	1	TBD					
Longliner between 20 and 40m	48	44	31	TBD					
Longliner less than 20m	147	149	109	TBD					
Baitboat 20m or greater	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					
Baitboat less than 20m	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					
Handline 20m or greater	61	86	84	TBD					
Handline less than 20m	2,817	4,253	4,045	TBD					
Harpoon 20m or greater	0	0	0	TBD					
Harpoon less than 20m	11	21	20	TBD					
Sport/Recreational	23,624	22,325	22,830	TBD					
Other (please specify) Trap	1	2	2	TBD					
Total Fleet Size	26,682	26,881	27,122	TBD					
Support vessels (not authorised to catch tuna, but assist in fishing operations)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					
Quota									
Initial quota	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					

References

National Marine Fisheries Service. 2018a. Fisheries Economics of the United States, 2016. U.S. Dept. Commerce, NOAA Tech. Memo. NMFS-F/SPO-187a, 243 p.

NMFS. 2018b. Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Report for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species. Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Division. Silver Spring, MD.

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS (INCLUDING FAD MANAGEMENT PLAN)

Name of CPC: United Kingdom Overseas Territories (UKOTs)

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

1. Introduction

This annual fishing / capacity management plan provides a description of the plans for the United Kingdom Overseas Territories (UKOTs) of Bermuda, St Helena (including Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha), Turks and Caicos Islands and the British Virgin Islands.

This information has been compiled according to the sections of the Rec. 19-02 and in accordance with the template provided by the ICCAT Secretariat.

2. Details of fishing plan – for those with >1,000 t average catch

Average tropical tuna catches in the UKOTs is consistently less than 1,000 t in recent years. In 2018 total catches across the UKOTs included 386 t landed (St Helena; 260 t and Bermuda; 126 t). In 2019 a single longline vessel commenced fishing in Bermuda, but insufficient information is available to estimate annual capacity at this time. Total catches in the UKOTs in 2020 remain unlikely to exceed 1,000 t.

3. Planned an expansion of capacity in 2020 – for those with <1,000 t average catch

The potential expansion of capacity in tropical tuna fisheries in the UKOTs for 2020 is explained below, and information included in the following table.

***Bermuda*:** There are no expansion plans for the small-scale fishing fleet operating in Bermuda, which consists of 195 vessels < 18 m of which up to 2/3 target tuna or tuna-like species utilising a variety of fishing methods, predominantly trolling, rod-and-reel and handlines.

The development of the offshore longline fishery is an important component of Bermuda's plans to diversify the local fishery. In 2019 a longline vessel began fishing operations and represents an increase in capacity compared to recent years.

The longline vessel has a total length of 18.3 m and has an annual bigeye tuna catch limit of 315 t associated with this license, but no limit set on yellowfin tuna or skipjack tuna. An effort limit of 1,000 hooks / day is in force.

St Helena: The St Helena fleet of 16 pole and line vessels fish within 6 miles of the island plus at Cardno and Bonaparte seamounts. A single vessel is over 20 m. A total of 260 t of tunas or tuna-like species were caught and landed at St Helena in 2018.

A review of the tuna fishery in the EEZ is ongoing. Within the review of the fishery, there is potential to expand the capacity of the pole-and-line fleet. While there are no fixed plans for 2020, additional pole and line capacity will be considered as part of the review.

***Turks and Caicos Islands*:** There are currently no commercial fisheries for tuna or tuna-like species in the Turks and Caicos Islands. In previous years annual catches were around 5 t. The diversification of offshore fisheries to support economic development remains an objective for the Turks and Caicos Islands.

British Virgin Islands: There are currently no commercial fisheries for tuna or tuna like species in the British Virgin Islands. In previous years annual catches of tuna or tuna like species were consistently lower than 20 t. The diversification of offshore fisheries to support economic development remains an objective for the British Virgin Islands. In 2020 the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries are reviewing fisheries management which may include expanding fishing capacity in 2020.

Capacity Table

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			*Total Estimated Capacity*	
Type	*2019*	*2020*	*Estimated best catch rate per unit*	*2019*	*2020*
Purse seiner over 40m	0	0		0	0
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m	0	0		0	0
Purse seiners less than 20m	0	0		0	0
Longliner over 40m	0	0		0	0
Longliner between 20 and 40m	0	0		0	0
Longliner less than 20m (Bermuda)	1	1		See notes	See notes
For Capacity Expansion					
Baitboat (St Helena)	16	16		300 t	300 t
Other gears (specify)					
Multi-purpose (<20m) (Bermuda)	195	195		200 t	200 t
Total fishing capacity					
Quota					
Initial quota (BET)	1,575 t	1,575 t		<1,000 t	<1,000 t
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE USE AND REGULATION OF FISH AGREGGATING DEVICES IN ST HELENA'S FISHERIES

Fish Aggregating Devices and Issues on FADs

The behavior of aggregating under floating objects shown by schools of fish, has long being observed by fishermen in St Helena who over the years have constructed various forms of floating objects to aggregate fish in attempts to improve bait and their fish catches. These devices are termed as "Fish Aggregating Devices" (FADs) and have been deployed in the inshore fishing grounds. The FADs have mostly been of a constant design, using a variety of materials but were always anchored FADs.

Little data is available on bait and fishing activity in and around FADs used in St Helena.

FADs are seen as an essential part of St Helena fishing. But there are also concerns from fisheries stakeholders that relate mainly to issues of resource sustainability, gear interaction, policing of intended use of FADs, concerns on the number of FADs used and their maintenance.

Scope

The Management Plan is binding for all fishermen issued with a licence to fish in St Helena's 200 nm EEZ.

The Plan sets out management arrangements by which the Environment and Natural Resources Directorate will monitor and control the use of FADs in St Helena's fisheries.

Legal status

At present this FAD Management Plan represents the policy of the St Helena Government. The proposed new St Helena Fisheries Ordinance and Regulations to be established in 2019 include requirements for the management of FADs in St Helena's EEZ, and this will therefore eventually give legal effect to the implementation of a FAD Management Plan.

Specific provisions for FAD management will be included in a revised Marine Management Plan as well as in fishing licence conditions.

FAD type

For the purposes of this Management Plan, St Helena uses the following definition of a FAD:

"*an anchored, floating or submerged object deployed by fishing vessels for the purpose of aggregating tuna or large pelagic fish species to support fishing operations*".

Plan Objectives

The Plan's specific objectives are as follows:

- To produce a register of all FADs deployed and their characteristics.
- To enable FADs to be deployed to aggregate bait for catching for fishing operations.
- To further knowledge of FADs and their impact on our marine ecosystem.
- To manage the deployment and recovery of FADs and beacons and their potential loss.
- To improve information collection and knowledge of bait catch composition within FAD areas.
- To establish mechanisms for information exchange between scientists and our fisheries stakeholders.

The application of such a Plan by ENRD and adherence by all fishermen that practice bait catching and fishing within agreed limits of FADs will provide important information about managing our fisheries resources with regards to the following:

- Number and characteristics of deployed FADs that are used in our fisheries.
- Bait and fish catches made within agreed limits of FADs and their characteristics (per area, composition by species),
- Possibility of the follow-up of each FAD: lifetime, catches made (bait and target species, sizes, etc.) throughout the lifetime of the FAD.

FAD management provisions

Implementation, monitoring and review of the Plan will be the responsibility of the Senior Fisheries Officer through liaison and collaboration with fishermen and the ENRD marine team.

Limits on the number and type of FADs deployed

Only ENRD in consultation with fisheries stakeholders can approve the deployment of FADs in St Helena's fisheries. All fisheries stakeholders and fishermen with St Helena fishing licences wishing to deploy FADs require a licence from the Senior Fisheries Officer. Where approval to deploy FADs is given, a licence will be conditional on a number of factors to include:

1. Deployment location.
2. FAD numbers.
3. FAD type.
4. Materials used.
5. FAD use and maintenance activities.
6. No tying up of vessels to FADs for bait catching or fishing.
7. Fishing limits from FADs.
8. Reporting requirements for bait and other fish caught within agreed area of FADs.

The Senior Fisheries Officer reserves the right to refuse a licence for FAD deployment in any area of St Helena's EEZ.

Table 1 shows the information collection format for FAD inventory. All information pertaining to the type, shape and material of the object and type of buoy/light/reflector is included in this format. Each object is marked so that it can be followed up throughout its lifetime. This inventory is maintained by the Senior Fisheries Officer.

FAD ownership and access to FADs

This Plan does not generate any property rights over FADs or fish that may aggregate to them. No monopoly of access is considered when a particular vessel deploys a FAD in accordance with this Plan.

Application process for deployment of FADs

Applicants wishing to deploy FADs will do so on the prescribed FAD Application Form and should include the following information:

1. The type of FAD - a sub-surface or surface FAD.
2. Location and GPS co-ordinates proposed.
3. Number of FADs.
4. Proposed date of deployment.
5. New or replacement FAD.
6. Proposed materials and flotation object(s) to be used.

All FAD deployment exercises, be they for new or replacement FADs, will be witnessed by a Fisheries Officer or an observer from ENRD.

Persons licensed to deploy a FAD will take ownership for the FAD, its maintenance, and where necessary its replacement and eventual removal and recovery from the fishery, in line with requirements below, when no longer needed.

Design, operation and maintenance of FADs

ENRD will apply minimum design, operation and maintenance standards for FADs broadly against the 3 standard areas below. All standard details will be attached to a FAD licence.

Design, Marking and Specification Requirements

FADs deployed in the St Helena fishery limits shall at all times be:

1. Clearly marked with the number of the vessel from which it is placed and the FAD number.
2. This information shall be marked on the FAD in such a way that it will remain fixed for the life of the FAD.
3. The information above must be in lettering at least 30cm high and of a colour that contrasts with the colour of the floating device.
4. Clearly visible from a distance of 0.5 kilometres and equipped with reflector and lights.
5. Equipped with such equipment and marked in such manner as may be prescribed by the Senior Fisheries Officer.
6. Constructed in such a manner that they can be readily located at their place of deployment.
7. Constructed of biodegradable materials.
8. The design should include an appropriate number of counter weights along the rope to ensure that the rope sinks to the bottom in the event that the floater/buoy has come detached and drifted away.

Operation and maintenance requirements

The operation and maintenance of FADs will be the responsibility of the owners of the FADs - those with a licence to deploy FADs. However, maintenance activities will be encouraged where possible through partnership working between owners and fishermen who use the FADs.

Where it is known by the Senior Fisheries Officer that a FAD is inactive or has been abandoned, ENRD will ensure the owner retrieves the FAD from the fishery at cost to the owner, or where this does not happen within a specific time period, ENRD will retrieve the FAD at cost to the owner.

Location in relation to key navigational and shipping routes

FADs shall not be set at locations of key navigational routes for fishing and shipping traffic.

Co-ordinates where FADs are deployed shall be published by the Senior Fisheries Officer as 'Notice to Fishermen and Mariners' information as it relates to navigational safety requirements.

The Senior Fisheries Officer reserves the right to refuse FAD deployment in areas of known navigational importance for fishing and shipping.

Closed areas for FADs

FADs shall be prohibited from all waters inside 50metres from the Island's coastline and any other area that may from time to time be declared to be a closed area for FADs under Fisheries Regulations.

Replacement of FADs

The owner of a FAD should notify the Senior Fisheries Officer immediately after learning that a FAD owned by them has been lost or it is necessary for a FAD to be replaced. Before lost/existing FADs are replaced an application should be made to the Senior Fisheries Officer, providing information on:

1. The proposed date of FAD retrieval (where this is the case),
2. The FADs location coordinates
3. FAD number.

If approved, an observer will be required to witness the replacement of the FAD. Replacement FADs shall be deployed in the same position, with the same number as the previous one, and the owner shall bearallhe costs involved in its replacement.

FAD register

The Senior Fisheries Officer shall keep a register of deployed FADs in order to manage the number of deployed FADs. The information on the register will be used when reviewing applications to deploy FADs or for research and reporting purposes. Additionally, the information held on the register may be used as part of any investigation into alleged breach of the provisions of this Plan or any other fishery management provision.

Reporting requirements

Fishermen who use FADs will be expected to comply with a reporting requirement under the Fisheries Regulations and submit information to the Senior Fisheries Officer on a monthly basis regarding their visits to FAD areas for bait caching and fishing activities. This will be reported through the FAD Log Sheet.

There are provisions in the fisheries data collection system to tabulate collected FAD fishing data and the Log Sheet Form used in collecting this data will be discussed with each fisherman licensed to fish in St Helena.

Table 2 shows the format for gathering information through the Log Sheet about bait-catching and fishing activity within agreed limits of FADs. The form contains an identification field for the FAD in order to connect it to the inventory form, fields for dates and times of visits, bait and fish species and their quantities caught, any accidental by-catch information and other general observations made during the visits to the FAD area.

Conflict resolution in relation to FADs

Any conflict arising between fishermen carrying out bait collection and fishing activities within agreed limits from a FAD shall be referred to the Senior Fisheries Officer for resolution and his decision shall be final

Monitoring and review of plan

The Policy will be monitored by the Senior Fisheries Officer, delivering an annual reporting system on its implementation to fisheries stakeholders and the Council Committee with oversight for fisheries. A report on the use of FADs and FAD management will be submitted to ICCAT on an annual basis.

A review of its provisions will be undertaken by the Senior Fisheries Officer annually to account for new learning, fisheries stakeholder needs and any legislative or ICCAT requirements.

Table 1. FAD inventory form.

FAD NUMBER		
FAD OWNER		
DATE DEPLOYED		
LOCATION/GPS CO-ORDINATE		
DESCRIPTION OF FAD	**Width**	
	Length	
	Depth set	
MATERIALS USED		
NUMBER OF ASSOCIATED BUOYS/LIGHTS/REFLECTORS		
WITHDRAWAL DATE OF FAD/DATE WHEN NOTIFIED OF LOSS OF FAD		
MAINTENANCE DATES OF FAD		
FAD RENEWAL DATE		
OTHER		

Table 2. FAD activity data collection log sheet.

VESSEL NO: _____ FISHING LICENCE NO: _____

FAD LOCATION / POSITION	DATE D/M/Y	TIME HR/MIN	PURPOSE OF VISIT	BAIT SPECIES CAUGHT	APPROX. QUANTITY CAUGHT	FISH SPECIES CAUGHT	NUMBERS CAUGHT	ACCIDENTAL BY-CATCH DETAILS (species/quantity)	OBSERVATIONS
i.e. Egg Island / Co-ordinates			Bait catching or fishing						Whale sharks in area etc

ANNUAL FISHING / CAPACITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

Name of CPC: Chinese Taipei

Fishing Plan Year: 2020

	ICCAT Requirement (per 19-02)	*Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement*	*Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)*	*Note*
1.	**Catch limits and Catch reductions (Part II)**	(1) Pursuant to para 4 a) of Rec. 19-02, Chinese Taipei's initial catch limit for bigeye tuna in 2020 is 9,226.41 t, a 21% reduction from its catch limit 11,679 t as set out in Rec. 16-01. (2) The maximum adjusted quota for 2020 is 11,201.26 t, composed of the initial annual catch limit, underage carryover of 1,751.85 t in accordance with Rec. 16-01, and transfer of up to 223 t of bigeye tuna fishing possibilities from Korea.	Article 22 of the Regulations for Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels Proceeding to Atlantic Ocean for Fishing Operation.	
2.	**Capacity Limits (Part III)**	(1) Chinese Taipei has limited the number of tuna longline fishing vessels operating in the ICCAT Convention Area. (2) In 2020, the cap for longliners targeting bigeye tuna (also called as "the bigeye tuna group") is 56, and that for longliners targeting Atlantic albacore tuna (also called as "the albacore tuna group") is 38, while those vessels of albacore tuna group are also allowed to bycatch small amount of bigeye	Article 5, 9, and 32 of the Regulations for Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels Proceeding to Atlantic Ocean for Fishing Operation.	

		tuna in the water other than tropical area. (3) The number of authorized fishing vessels in 2020 was below the abovementioned limits, with 55 longliners of the bigeye tuna group and 30 vessels of albacore tuna group that were allowed to bycatch bigeye tuna. (4) On account of reduction in catch limit in 2020, Chinese Taipei has required 7 fishing vessels of bigeye tuna group to become albacore tuna group during April to September 2020, whereby the bigeye tuna quota originally allocated to such vessels will be deducted on a pro rata basis and granted to other vessels of bigeye tuna group that operate throughout the year.		
3.	**Management of FADs and FAD Closure(s)(Part IV)**	Not applicable. All Chinese Taipei's fishing vessels operating in the ICCAT Convention Area are tuna longline fishing vessels.	Not applicable.	
4.	**Control Measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)**	(1) Setting and control over individual vessel quota;	Article 22, 24, 33, 38, 63, 65, 67, and 68 of the Regulations for	Please refer to the

		(2) Control over national catch limit; (3) Monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) measures such as vessel monitoring system (VMS), electronic logbook system, dispatching scientific observers, etc.	Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels Proceeding to Atlantic Ocean for Fishing Operation.	additional sheet for details.
5.	**Other information / measures to be taken**			

CAPACITY TABLE

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of Vessels			*Total Estimated Capacity*	
Type	*2019*	*2020*	*Estimated best catch rate per unit*	*2019*	*2020*
Purse seiner over 40m	0	0		0	0
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m	0	0		0	0
Purse seiners less than 20m	0	0		0	0
Longliner over 40m	48	48		25,597 t	25,597 t
Longliner between 20 and 40m	7	7		2,122 t	2,122 t
Longliner less than 20m	0	0		0	0
For Capacity Expansion					
Baitboat	0	0		0	0
Other gears (specify)	0	0		0	0
Total fishing capacity	55	55		27,719 t	27,719 t
Quota					
Initial quota	11,679 t	9226.41 t			
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)					
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)	Korea	Korea			
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)	13,653.85 t	11,201.26 t			

Note:

1. There are 55 Chinese Taipei longliners targeting bigeye tuna. In addition, there are also 30 longliners targeting Atlantic albacore tuna which are allowed to bycatch small amount of bigeye tuna in waters other than the tropical area.
2. Chinese Taipei has required 7 fishing vessels of bigeye tuna group to become albacore tuna group during April to September 2020, whereby the bigeye tuna quota originally allocated to such vessels will be deducted on a pro rata basis and granted to other vessels of bigeye tuna group that operate throughout the year.

Details of control measures

1. Setting and control individual vessel quota

The Fisheries Agency (FA) of Chinese Taipei has set individual vessel quota for fishing vessels operating in the Convention Area so as not to exceed the adjusted quota allocated to Chinese Taipei. In 2019, the bigeye tuna quota granted to each vessel in the bigeye tuna group was 210 t, had it operated for the whole year. Likewise, the year-round individual vessel quota of bigeye tuna was set for longliners in the albacore group as 20 t.

Requiring some vessels of bigeye tuna group to seasonally target albacore tuna during April to September 2020 may allow the individual vessel quota of bigeye tuna, whether for vessels of bigeye or albacore tuna group, to be set in 2020 at the levels similar to 2019.

Besides, under the supervision and permission of the FA, a fishing vessel may transfer its individual quota to other vessels so that the quota can be utilized in a flexible and legitimate manner. However, in the event that the bigeye tuna catch amount of a tuna longliner reaches 90% of its individual vessel quota, the FA may order such vessel to stop catching bigeye tuna within a deadline.

2. Control over national catch limit

Should the total bigeye tuna catch amount of the whole fleet operating in the Convention Area reaches 95% of the adjusted quota for Chinese Taipei, the FA can order the whole fleet to stop catching bigeye tuna by a deadline.

3. Monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) measures

In accordance with domestic law and regulations, the FA has required fishing vessels engaged in distant water fisheries to be installed with the vessel monitoring system (VMS) and electronic logbook (E-logbook) system. Raising the transmission frequency of the VMS to every hour since 2018 has allowed for more effective monitor. Furthermore, fishermen shall daily report catch data through the E-logbook system and shall also fill in the paper logbooks, in spite of zero catch. Reporting catch data on a daily basis allows the FA to monitor the catch amount in almost real-time and ensures that Chinese Taipei meet the requirements set forth in Rec. 19-02.

For the purpose of verifying catch reports, Chinese Taipei will continue dispatching scientific observers on board tuna longliners operating in the Convention Area to collect fishing-related data. The FA will ensure the observer coverage at 10% for fishing vessels of the bigeye tuna group, and at least 5% for fishing vessels of the albacore tuna group. Other MCS measures include requiring the submission of landing declarations, random port inspections, reviewing statistical documents and sales data, as well as crosschecking data and information from the ICCAT Regional Observer Program for at-sea transshipment.

STATEMENTS OF DEVELOPMENT INTENTIONS FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

1. Statement by Algeria regarding implementation of Recommendation 19-02

Algeria does not have a fleet targeting tropical tunas. Only the fleet targeting bluefin tuna is operational in international waters in the Mediterranean. It is also important to inform you that fishers do not use FADs in any of Algeria's fisheries. Therefore, Circulars 196/20 and 244/2020 do not apply to Algeria since no fishery has operated in recent years in either territorial or international waters.

2. Fishing Work Plan of the Columbian Fleet for the period 2020-2021

Taking into account, the commitment undertaken by Columbia during the 26th Regular Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), we have presented below the fishing work plan of the Columbian fleet for the period 2020-2021:

The company Seatech International plans to carry out fishing operations with eight purse seine vessels from 1 August 2020 to 31 January 2021. However, not all these vessels will operate in the ICCAT area simultaneously. It is intended to incorporate four vessels operating simultaneously for an estimated period of three months and then another four that will operate for a similar period. At no time will there be more than four tuna vessels flying the Columbian flag carrying out fishing activities in the Atlantic.

The average capacity (hold volume) of Columbia-flagged vessels operating in the Atlantic will be 1400 m3 and the average length will be 68 m (ranging from 59 to 78 m). Vessels fishing in the Atlantic are Columbia-flagged purse seine vessels that usually operate in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

All the vessels will launch sets on free schools (schoolfish) and floating objects (FADs). For this reason, 100% observer coverage will be guaranteed during the fishing trips in the Atlantic as well as compliance with the conservation and management measures implemented by ICCAT, particularly those established in Recommendation 19-02, including the time closure on FADs in the first quarter of 2021. All the catch and effort data will be provided to the National Aquaculture and Fisheries Authority (AUNAP) through the Observers Programme.

3. Gabon

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
HUSBANDRY FISHERIES AND FOOD

MINISTER'S OFFICE

No. 0089 MAEPA/CABM/CT-GMA

Gabonese Republic
Libreville, 30 JAN 2020

The Minister
To Mr. Raúl Delgado
ICCAT Chair

Madrid, Spain

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF INTENT

Chair,

At the start of this new year, allow me to wish you all the best for 2020.

I would also like to congratulate you on your renewal for a further two years at the helm of our organisation and on the conclusion of the work of the 26th session of ICCAT held in Palma de Mallorca, which thanks to you, has led to robust recommendations on conservation and sustainable management of the Atlantic stocks.

However, in the context of industrialisation of the fisheries sector, the Government of the Republic is finalising the procedure to grant the Gabonese flag to the first tuna purse seine vessel, the objective being to deploy Gabon's capacities in the tuna fisheries.

In accordance with the ICCAT Recommendation to replace *Recommendation by ICCAT on a Multi-Annual Conservation and Management Programme for Tropical Tunas* (Rec. 16-01), I have the honour to inform you that Gabon intends to join these fisheries as from the 2020 fishing season. Detailed information on the fleet that will be deployed will be communicated to you as soon as possible.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed and stamped)

Biendi MAGANGA MOUSSAVOU

4. Morocco

Kingdom of Morocco

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, MARITIME FISHERIES, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, WATER AND FORESTS

DPM/DDARH/SEMMEP Rabat,

TO
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

Subject: Kingdom of Morocco/Declaration of intent to develop the tropical tuna fishery
Attachment: Capacity table/ICCAT Circular No. 0244/2020 of 14 January 2020

In accordance with the provisions of the *Recommendation by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 by ICCAT on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas* (Rec. 19-02), in particular, articles 21 and 22b, and taking into account the rights of developing coastal countries to develop their fisheries (article 119 of UNCLOS and article 25 of Part VII of UNFSA), the Kingdom of Morocco hereby notifies its intention to increase its participation in ICCAT fisheries targeting tropical tunas (bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna).

Indeed, within the context of development of the fishing activity for bigeye tuna and other tropical tunas, the Kingdom of Morocco launched in February 2018 a Call for Expression of Interest (CEI) to select exploitation and value-adding projects for bigeye tuna and other tropical tuna (yellowfin and skipjack) to be carried out within Morocco's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), as well as off the coasts of the ICCAT Convention area (between parallels 50°N and 45°S).

As a result of this CEI, 13 projects have been selected and their Moroccan operators have committed to investments to mobilise the vessels necessary for this activity and, through onshore investments, to add value to bigeye tuna.

The vessels that will be deployed are tuna purse seiners, longliners and purse seiners. The gears that will be used are purse seine and surface drifting longline (see attached **Table**).

In addition, exploitation of bigeye tuna and other tropical tunas (yellowfin, skipjack) comes within the guideline framework on the national strategy to develop the maritime fisheries sector (Halieutis). The need for this exploitation is explained by several reasons, in particular, the reduction of pressure on other national fisheries and switching to other tuna fisheries.

This exploitation therefore pursues the following objectives:

- Develop the tropical tunas fishery;
- Add value to the tropical tuna species caught;
- Create stable and sustainable employment.

Regarding the activity to be carried out by the purse seiners that our country intends to deploy in this fishery, we inform that the support vessels that will be allocated to these purse seiners (para 23 of Rec. 19-02) as well as the FAD management plan (para 34 of the same Recommendation) will be communicated to you shortly.

It should also be noted that the Kingdom of Morocco could alter its declaration depending on progression of the situation and the opportunities afforded by this fishery.

In light of the elements described above, Morocco requests that this declaration be circulated to all CPCs concerned of the Commission, as well as the Chair of Panel 1.

Please accept, Executive Secretary, the assurances of my highest consideration.

TROPICAL TUNA VESSEL FLEET					
	Number of vessels			Estimated total capacity	
Type	2019	2020	Estimated best catch rate by vessel	2019	2020
Purse seiner over 40m	0	5		0	2300
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m	0	0/TBD		0	0
Purse seiner less than 20m	0	0/TBD		0	0
Longliner over 40m	0	2		0	500
Longliner between 20 and 40m	13	16		0	1200
Longliner less than 20m	1	11		100	300
To increase capacity					
Baitboat	10	10		250	350
Other gears (please specify)	*	*		500	500
Total fishing capacity	40	**50**		**850**	**5150**
Quota					
Initial quota					
Quota transfer made to xxx (if applicable)					
Quota transfer received from xxx (if applicable)					
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)					

*/ For report (some 500 to 700 artisanal vessels)

CONTROL MEASURES THAT MOROCCO IMPLEMENTS AND INTENDS TO IMPLEMENT TO MONITOR AND CONTROL TROPICAL TUNA FISHING ACTIVITIES

Control measures, including intended testing of electronic observers (Part V of Rec. 19-02)	Control measures are implemented for the tropical tuna fisheries, in particular: – Controls at landing ports, fishing sites and fish markets; – Satellite vessel monitoring (positioning and location device "VMS") ; – At-sea vessel monitoring carried out by the control authorities; – A catch reporting system on landing and monitoring of trade flow through a catch certification procedure. ……	Decree regarding Law No. 1-73-255 of 27 chaoual 1393 (23 November 1973) establishing the maritime fisheries regulations, as amended and supplemented. Decree No. 1-14-95 of 12 May 2014 enacting Law No. 15-12 on prevention and the fight against illicit, unreported and unregulated fishing and amending and supplementing the Decree regarding Law No. 1-73-255 of 27 chaoual 1393 (23 November 1973) establishing the maritime fisheries regulations.	

5. Nicaragua

Managua, 10 January 2020
PE/EJA/009/01/2020

Raúl Delgado
Chair of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

Dear Mr. Delgado,

We extend to you our cordial greetings.

In accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, coastal States enjoy the privilege of sovereign rights to access their fisheries resources; based on that right, Nicaragua, as a coastal State, fosters development of its fisheries resources to improve the economic conditions of its population.

In order to protect the equity of the State of Nicaragua and capitalise on its potential for the benefit of the Republic of Nicaragua, our Government has decided to unlock its fisheries potential.

Accordingly, Nicaragua has initiated the process to flag four (4) tuna purse seine vessels on the national register of vessels and has attracted investment to start operations before the end of the first quarter of the current year. Once the flagging process has been completed, Nicaragua will submit to the ICCAT Secretariat, the details of these vessels in accordance with Rec. 13-13.

From a legal viewpoint, Nicaragua has modernized its legal system through a process to reform the Law on Fisheries and Aquaculture (Law 489), and the Provisions on Fishing for Tuna and Tuna-like and Associated Species (Decree 09-2019) were updated; we are in the process of adopting the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures, although in practice it has been complied with since its entry into force; we are also signatories to the Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and Central America; and furthermore, we are signatories to the Central American Agreement for the Fight Against Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing, among others.

We consider that it is important, Chair, that developing coastal States have the same opportunities as the other States and that we are given the opportunity to be able to develop our fisheries in accordance with the provisions established by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

We have submitted this communication in accordance with the provisions agreed at the conclusion of the 26th ICCAT Annual Meeting, for the purpose of enabling developing coastal States to commission vessels to start our fishing operations in the Commission's fishing area.

I take this opportunity to extend my greetings to you, wish you a successful 2020 and express my sincerest consideration and personal esteem.

Your sincerely,

Edward Jackson Abella
Executive Chair