ICCAT-SALIDA
2021-08-05
S21-05905

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Madrid, 5 August 2021

Ms. Nerissa Lucky
Acting Director of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture, Land & Fisheries
Fisheries Division
35 Cipriani Boulevard
Port of Spain
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

SUBJECT: LETTER ON COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Dear Ms. Lucky,

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that during the Decision-Making Process which took place in lieu of the Commission meeting in 2020, the Commission noted certain reporting and implementation deficiencies, which are listed below and in the attached response template.

During the 2020 decision making process, Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities (CPCs) were assessed for compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures and reporting requirements. Based on the review of the Secretariat Report on Statistics and Coordination of Research and the 2020 Secretariat's Report to the Compliance Committee and other available information, the Committee noted the deficiencies listed below for Trinidad & Tobago:

- *Annual report received late.*
- *Task II data received late.*
- *Rec. 16-14: No national scientific observer programme data received or any alternative measures presented for approval. Domestic observer program not yet implemented in Trinidad and Tobago.*
- *Rec. 01-21/01-22 [18-07]: Bigeye and Swordfish Statistical Document bi-annual report received late.*
- *Rec. 18-05 and 18-06: No billfish or updated shark check sheet received*

The Commission is pleased to note the progress made by Trinidad & Tobago and the updates provided in response to my previous letter, and thanks you for your work to date to improve compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures. The Compliance Committee (COC), in particular, has taken note of the improvement, and encourages Trinidad & Tobago to continue its efforts in this regard.

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

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

The Commission requests Trinidad & Tobago to reply to this letter before **1 October 2021** and complete the attached template (preferably submitted as an MS Word document) to indicate the actions taken by Trinidad & Tobago to rectify the deficiencies indicated.

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

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

Derek Campbell

Derek Campbell
Compliance Committee Chair

cc: R. Delgado, *Commission Chair*