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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

ICCAT CICTA CICAA

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Madrid, 5 August 2021

Ms. Leslie Joyce
Chief Fisheries Officer
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy
Fisheries Division Barbados
Princess Alice Highway BB11144
Bridgetown, St. Michael
BARBADOS

SUBJECT: LETTER ON COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Dear Ms. Joyce,

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 that certain information had not been received, and that some reporting deficiencies remain unresolved. The reporting and implementation deficiencies 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 Barbados.

- Rec. 16-14: No national scientific observer programme yet in place, no data received (see Ref. 12-13 and via form ST09-DomObPrg.xlsx);
- Overharvest of blue marling and white marlin;
- Some differences between Task 1 and Compliance tables for historical data.

The Committee took note of the response from Barbados sent to the Commission to the Compliance Committee Chair's letter of 2019 and acknowledges the steps taken but noted that some of these issues are recurring year to year and would appreciate information on further steps taken to rectify the above-mentioned issues.

Additionally, the Committee received comments regarding its recommendations for certain CPCs (COC_328_APP_1/ 2020). As this input was received at the end of the 2020 correspondence process and therefore CPCs may not have had an opportunity to further respond during the correspondence process, I recommended in my meeting report that such comments be appended to compliance letters to provide such CPCs with additional context on matters raised and a further opportunity to respond intersessionally, such as through the attached response template.

The Commission requests Barbados 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 Barbados to rectify the deficiencies indicated, and any other information Barbados may wish to provide regarding compliance issues raised in 2020. The response should include details of the management measures Barbados has put in place to rectify the overharvests of blue marlin and white marlin.

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 through the Secretariat at info@iccat.int.

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

Derek Campbell
Compliance Committee Chair

cc: R. Delgado, *Commission Chair*

Appendix 1

Comments received on COC recommended action (COC_328_APP_1/ 2020)

The United States commends Barbados for its submission of a shark check sheet but was disappointed to see the lack of information on robust implementation of ICCAT's shark measures. For example, ICCAT has prohibited oceanic whitetip retention since 2011, but it appears Barbados has not yet implemented the required measures for this threatened species.

Appendix 2

Compliance Letter Response Template

Compliance Matters Identified in 2020 Correspondence Process			
CPC: BARBADOS			
CATEGORY	**COMPLIANCE MATTER**	**REMEDIAL ACTIONS TAKEN OR PLANNED**	**DATE MISSING DATA/INFORMATION SENT (if applicable)**
Response to COC Chair letter from previous year:			
Annual Report	Rec. 16-14: No observer programme yet in place so no data / information submitted (see Ref. 12-13).		
Statistical data reporting	Rec. 16-14: No domestic scientific observer program in place and no observer data submitted (via form ST09-DomObPrg.xlsx).		
Catch limits/quotas	Continued overharvest of BUM. Overharvest of WHM in 2019. Some differences between Task 1 and Compliance tables for historical data.		
Other issues			