ICCAT-SALIDA
2021-07-26
S21-05603

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

ICCAT CICTA CICAA

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

26 July 2020

Honourable Eugene Alastair Hamilton
Minister for Agriculture
La Guerite, P.O. Box 39
Basseterre
The Federation of Saint Christopher (St. Kitts) and Nevis
sknis.gov@gmail.com

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR FURTHER COOPERATION WITH ICCAT

Honourable Minister,

On behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), I am writing to inform you that, during the 2020 Decision Making Process, the Commission reviewed the information received from St. Kitts & Nevis and regretted to note that statistical data had not been received for the previous year, nor had any response to my letter following the 2019 Commission meeting reiterating previous requests for information on St. Kitts & Nevis management of fisheries for ICCAT species.

Although ICCAT would like to thank you for your cooperation in previous years, I would request that St. Kitts and Nevis provide, in a timely manner, complete statistical data for tuna and tuna-like species, as well as for billfish and pelagic shark species, which are of the utmost importance to ICCAT to ensure that accurate information is taken into account in stock assessments. I should therefore be grateful if data for species of relevance to ICCAT could be submitted to the Commission in the future, in the forms available at https://www.iccat.int/en/submitSTAT.html.

Additionally, I should like to reiterate once again our request for information from St. Kitts & Nevis regarding the conservation and management regime for tuna and tuna-like species and other species subject to ICCAT conservation and management measures, including billfish and pelagic shark species.

I should be grateful if this information could be made available through response to this letter before **1 October 2021**. This information will be subject to review during the 2021, and a lack of response may be construed as undermining ICCAT conservation and management measures.

On behalf of the Commission, I would also like to encourage St. Kitts and Nevis to consider becoming a Contracting Party to ICCAT or, at a minimum, to seek the status of Cooperating Party, Entity, or Fishing Entity in line with *Recommendation by ICCAT on Criteria for Attaining the Status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity in ICCAT* (Rec. 03-20])

A complete list of ICCAT conservation and management measures can be found at https://www.iccat.int/en/RecRes.asp

Should you require any further information in this regard, or assistance with completing any forms for submission of statistical data, please do not hesitate to contact the ICCAT Secretariat (at info@iccat.int).

Please accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

Derek Campbell
Compliance Committee Chair

cc: Mr. R. Delgado, Commission Chair
Dr Maren Headley, CRFM
CRFM [secretariat@crfm.int]
Mr. Derek Campbell, Compliance Committee Chair