

Original:
English/French/Spanish

**SECRETARIAT'S REPORT TO THE
ICCAT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

NOTE: This report is based on information received by the Secretariat by 1 October 2021, unless otherwise stated. Any information received after that date will be brought to the attention of the Compliance Committee (COC) Chair. Such additional information will not be translated.

This report contains only those measures for which review by the Compliance Committee is warranted. In some cases, measures may have expired, but were in force for the review period under consideration (2020).

TRO – TROPICAL - BET - BIGEYE TUNA (*Thunnus obesus*); YFT – YELLOWFIN (*Thunnus albacares*); SKJ - SKIPJACK (*Katsuwonus pelamis*)

[19-02] Recommendation by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 by ICCAT on a multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas and

[20-01] Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT to amend the Recommendation 19-02 by ICCAT to replace Recommendation 16-01 by ICCAT on a Multi-annual Conservation and Management Programme for Tropical Tunas

Tropical Tuna Fishing Management Plans and FAD Management Plans:

Please see document PA1-501 for details of the plans sent. No plan has been received from three CPCs with average catches over 1,000 t; Cabo Verde, Guinea Republic and the Philippines. The latter has indicated no ICCAT fisheries since 2014.

Quarterly/Monthly catches of tropical tuna: Table 1 shows the catches of tropical tuna in 2020 reported quarterly and monthly. The requirements are somewhat conflicting, with some CPCs obliged to make both quarterly and monthly, and in some cases, weekly reports. It is very difficult to collect and extract data in any meaningful way, due to the duplications involved. Paragraph 13 requires reporting of tropical tuna species, while paragraph 14 requires monthly reporting for purse seiners or longliners, increasing to weekly "when 80% of their catch limits have been caught", although catch limits only apply to bigeye tuna and not to all tropical tuna species.

Paragraph 13 stipulates that *CPCs shall report quarterly to the Secretariat the amount of tropical tunas (by species) caught by vessels flying their flag, within 30 days of the end of the period during which the catches were made.* The Secretariat understands that this refers to all CPCs catching tropical tuna species.

Task 1 data for 2020 indicates that the following CPCs fished for tropical tunas, but no quarterly (or monthly) catch reports were received from these for 2020; Barbados, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Grenada, Guyana, Liberia, Namibia, Panama, Russia (very minor quantities of skipjack), São Tomé and Príncipe, and Venezuela.

Catch limits: For compliance with quotas/catch limits, please see the Compliance Annex (document COC-304/21). Note, as no agreement was reached on catch limits in 2020, these may be subject to discussion in Panel 1 and Compliance Committee.

List of authorised Tropical vessels: Please see www.iccat.int/en/vesselsrecord.asp. Annex 5 contains the list of vessels having fished the previous year.

On 20 September 2021, the ICCAT Record of Vessels contains 1107 vessels (decreased from 1126 in 2020) in its Tropical Vessel Registry List, with vessels from 29 CPCs.

For information on the difference between 2018 and 2020 levels of FAD fishing effort by purse seiners, please see document PA1-506/21.

Capacity management

Capacity management plans and declarations on expansion of capacity are included in the fishing plans (see below).

FAD management plans and steps undertaken to use non-entangling FAD

FAD management plans received in 2021 are available on the intersessional meeting document site. One updated plan, from Senegal, has been received since the intersessional meeting and is contained in document PA1-509/21.

	<i>FAD Management plan (2021) sent</i>	<i>ST-08 - FAD data (2020) sent</i>
Belize	✓	✓
Cabo Verde	No	✓
Curaçao	✓	✓
EU	✓	✓ (Some data sent late)
El Salvador	✓	✓
Ghana	✓	✓
Guatemala	✓	✓
Morocco	✓	✓
Panama	✓	✓
Senegal	✓	No
UKOT	No (sent in 2020)	✓

In addition, CPCs were required to send historical FAD data; during 2021 additional information was received from Belize, EU (Spain), El-Salvador, Guatemala and Panama (see PLE-105/21, Appendix 2, Table 2 and document PA1-506/21 for more details on FAD data received).

Data and information collected from sampling programme:

Information from Port sampling as required by paragraph 43 of Rec. 16-01 has been submitted by Canada, Curaçao, EU-(France), Morocco and Mexico.

Observer Programme

In 2020, the EU informed the Secretariat of some difficulties in embarking observers which was published as https://www.iccat.int/com2020/Annex/COC-303_Annex10.zip. In 2021, EU again informed of difficulties on one EU vessel as the observer disembarked for personal reasons and the vessel used a remote electronic monitoring instead. Their report on this is attached as **Annex 10**.

SWO - SWORDFISH (*Xiphias gladius*)

[03-04] Recommendation by ICCAT relating to Mediterranean swordfish

No specific reporting to the Secretariat is required other than through section 4 of Annual Reports. The Secretariat has nothing to report.

[16-05] Recommendation by ICCAT replacing the Recommendation [13-04] and Establishing a Multi-annual Recovery Plan for Mediterranean Swordfish

Compliance with quotas/catch limits: please see document COC-304/21.

ICCAT Record of Mediterranean Swordfish vessels: Authorised lists, received from five CPCs, have been published on the ICCAT website <https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>. The list of vessels fishing in 2020 is contained in **Annex 5**.

List of authorised vessels for Mediterranean Albacore: As in 2020, two CPCs (European Union and Turkey) submitted lists of authorised vessels in accordance with this Recommendation. This list is published on <https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>.

ICCAT Record of Authorised Ports: A total of 860 ports, from a total of six CPCs are published on <https://www.iccat.int/en/Ports.asp>. Algeria, European Union, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey.

Inspection agencies, inspectors and ships: Information has been received from EU, Tunisia and Turkey. Lists of agencies, means and inspectors as reported in **Annex 4**. A list of inspection vessels has been published on the ICCAT website. A summary of the inspection reports received has been included in **Table 2** together with the responses received from the flag CPCs concerned, and any with infractions included in **Annex 3**.

SWO-MED fishing plans: Plans were received in 2021 from the following CPCs: Algeria, European Union, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey. These plans were discussed at the intersessional meeting of Panel 4 and have been made available as PA4-802/21.

Closures: Reports on the implementation of closure periods have been received from Algeria, European Union, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey and are contained in **Appendix 1** of this report.

Quarterly reports: The quarterly reports received from CPCs for 2020 are shown below, together with the totals from Task 1 and Compliance Tables. In most cases, totals are the same or differences are very minor, except in the case of the European Union, where totals differ slightly more substantially.

CPC	2020 quota (t)	Catches in 1st quarter	Catches in 2nd quarter	Catches in 3rd quarter	Catches in 4th quarter	Total 2020	Task 1 2020	Compliance Tables
Algeria	501.98	0.95	185.30	287.60	27.10	500.95	501.95	500.95
EU*	6763.35	0.00	1021.77	2736.00	929.91	4687.69	4865.5	4820.39
Morocco	952.79	110.00	724.70	46.30	70.00	951.00	951	951.00
Tunisia	919.68	0.00	214.55	545	158.37	917.92	917.92	917.92
Turkey	402.49	21.01	179.30	173.00	28.60	401.91	402.4	402.40
Other CPCs	41.70							0
Egypt							4	0
Libya							22	0
Total	9581.99	131.96	2325.62	3787.90	1213.98	7459.47	7664.77	7592.66

* 2020 quota from compliance tables.

[17-02] Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish, Rec. 16-03 and;

[19-03] Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 17-02 by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish

Compliance with quotas/catch limits: please see document COC-304/21.

In accordance with paragraph 14 of Rec. 17-02, the following CPCs have included information in their Annual Reports on the maximum on board by-catch limit of N-SWO:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Response</i>
Belize	Belize has established an onboard bycatch limit across the board for all species inclusive of northern swordfish. The bycatch limit established for vessels not authorized to fish this specie exclusively is 10 m/t. This quantity is accounted for in the overall allocation for Belize. However, we have no vessels that has reported any northern swordfish taken as bycatch.
China	China does not have vessels targeting N-SWO and S-SWO, all the SWO are caught as by-catch and every tropical longliner can by-catch SWO. In 2020, China has 103.95 t quotas of N-SWO and 350.05 t of S-SWO, we set catch limit for N-SWO and S-SWO for each longliner based on the TAC allocated to China according to Recommendations of N-SWO and S-SWO. Each vessel must strictly comply with the catch limit set for it.
Curacao	Curacao does not have Authorization vessels fishing Swordfish. But Curacao has a limit for by catch on swordfish. Complied with Rec. 16-04.
European Union	Depending on the EU-Member state, bycatch limits may differ. Additional details are included in the Annual Report.
France (SPM)	Regarding the application of paragraph 14 of Rec. 16-03, paragraph 11 of Rec. 17-02: the vessel ATLANTIC ODYSSEY does not catch swordfish and North Atlantic albacore as bycatch but as target species.
Senegal	5%
St Vincent & Grenadines	St. Vincent and the Grenadines vessels are authorised to catch N. Atl. SWO
United Kingdom	The bycatch limit for N. SWO in Bermuda is 11.6 t. The total N-SWO caught in 2020 was within the 35 t quota for UKOTs.
United States of America	The United States does not authorize vessels to fish for or retain N-SWO without a permit.
Venezuela	Only swordfish (<i>Xiphias gladius</i>) measuring a minimum size of 125 cm MILH and weighing more than 25 kg can be caught; in accordance with Art.12 of the Administrative Provision mentioned. Within the framework of the ICCAT Recommendations for billfish recovery, this national legislation has been adapted and is in the process of been signed for its publication.
Chinese Taipei	Since the domestic legal framework restricts each vessel's fishing area and prohibits any vessel from operating beyond its authorized area, no fishing vessel is allowed to fish N-SWO in the North Atlantic Ocean without such an authorization.

N-SWO fishery management/development plans: Updated versions received are contained in PA4-801/21. Re-submission is no longer required if there have been no changes to previous plans.

Specific authorisation for N. SWO vessels: Twelve CPCs currently have authorised vessels of 20m or greater with specific authorisations for N. SWO.

Three CPCs with quota currently have no vessels (of 20m or over) on the ICCAT Record of Vessels authorised to catch N. SWO: Barbados, Mexico, UK.

Compliance with quotas/catch limits: please see document COC-304/21.

[17-03] Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation for the Conservation of South Atlantic Swordfish, Rec. 16-04

Specific authorisation for S. SWO vessels: Twelve CPCs have authorised vessels of 20m or greater with specific authorisations for S. SWO.

Six CPCs with quota currently have no vessels (of 20m or over) on the ICCAT Record of Vessels authorised to catch S. SWO: Angola, Ghana, São Tomé and Príncipe, UK, Uruguay and USA.

In accordance with Rec. 17-03, paragraph 9, the following CPCs have included information in their Annual Reports as follows:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Response</i>
Belize	Belize has established an onboard bycatch limit across the board for all species inclusive of southern swordfish. The bycatch limit established for vessels not authorized to fish this specie exclusively is 10 m/t. This quantity is accounted for in the overall allocation for Belize. However, we have no vessels that has reported any southern swordfish taken as bycatch.
China	China does not have vessels targeting N-SWO and S-SWO, all the SWO are caught as by-catch and every tropical longliner can by-catch SWO. In 2020, China had 103.95 t quotas of N-SWO and 350.05 t of S-SWO. We set catch limits for N-SWO and S-SWO for each longliner based on the TAC allocated to China according to Recommendations of N-SWO and S-SWO. Each vessel must strictly comply with the catch limit set for it.
Curaçao	Curaçao came to an agreement with the vessels on 10 tons maximum bycatch.
EU	Depending on the EU-Member State, by-catch limits may differ. Additional details are included in the Annual Report.
Senegal	5%
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	St. Vincent and the Grenadines does not have a quota for S. Atl. SWO.
United Kingdom	No S-SWO caught in UKOTs in 2020. In St Helena, SWO caught in rod-and-reel fishery are released alive.
United States of America	The United States does not authorize vessels to fish for or retain S-SWO without a permit.
Chinese Taipei	Since the domestic legal framework restricts each vessel's fishing area and prohibits any vessel from operating beyond its authorized area, no fishing vessel is allowed to fish S. SWO in the South Atlantic Ocean without such an authorization.
Guyana	Guyana is working on a national plan of action for the tuna fishery.

Compliance with quotas/catch limits: please see document COC-304/21.

ALB - ALBACORE (*Thunnus alalunga*)

[16-06] Recommendation by ICCAT on a Multi-annual Conservation and Management Program for North Atlantic Albacore

No specific reporting to the Secretariat is required other than through section 4 of Annual Reports.

In accordance with Rec. 16-06, paragraph 11, the following CPCs have included information in their Annual Reports on the maximum on board by-catch limit of N-ALB:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Response</i>
Belize	Belize has established an onboard bycatch limit across the board for all species inclusive of northern albacore. The bycatch limit established for vessels not authorized to fish this specie exclusively is 10 m/t. This quantity is accounted for in the overall allocation for Belize. However, we have no vessels that has reported any northern albacore taken as bycatch.
China	China does not have vessels targeting NALB and SALB, all the ALB are caught as bycatch and every tropical longliner can by-catch ALB. In 2020, China has 265 t of NALB and 250 t of SALB, we set catch limit for NALB and SALB for each longliner based on the TAC allocated to China according to NALB and SALB Recommendations. Each vessel must strictly comply with the catch limit set for it.
Curaçao	Res. 16-06 Limit bycatch on NALB we agree with the vessels on 50 ton.
EU	Depending on the EU-Member state, bycatch limits may differ. Additional details are included in the Annual Report.

France (SPM)	Regarding the application of paragraph 14 of Rec. 16-03, paragraph 11 of Rec. 17-02: the vessel ATLANTIC ODYSSEY does not catch swordfish and North Atlantic albacore as bycatch but as target species.
Senegal	None
SVG	St. Vincent and the Grenadines vessels are authorised to catch NALB.
UK.OT	The bycatch limit for NALB in Bermuda is 71.6 t. The total NALB caught in 2020 was within the 215 t quota for UKOTs.
USA	The United States does not authorize vessels to fish for or retain NALB without a permit.
Venezuela	Venezuela does not account for a fishery that targets albacore (<i>T. alalunga</i>). However, as shown in Task 1 (nominal catches) Venezuela has applied discard measures for this species since 2014. Catches shall be discarded, and the information recorded in logbooks to show its compliance with international provisions regarding management and conservation of resources.
Chinese Taipei	Since the domestic legal framework restricts each vessel's fishing area and prohibits any vessel from operating beyond its authorized area, no fishing vessel is allowed to fish NALB in the North Atlantic Ocean without such an authorization.

[16-07] Recommendation by ICCAT on the Southern Albacore Catch Limits for the Period 2017 to 2020

List of authorised vessels: At the time of writing, thirteen CPCs and one NCP with vessels chartered to a CPC had vessels authorised to fish for southern albacore. The list is included in the ICCAT Record of Vessels at: <https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>

In accordance with paragraph 11 of Rec. 16-07, the following CPCs have included information in their Annual Reports on maximum on board bycatch limit of SALB:

CPC	Response
Belize	Belize has established an onboard bycatch limit across the board for all species inclusive of southern albacore. The bycatch limit established for vessels not authorized to fish this species exclusively is 10 m/t. This quantity is accounted for in the overall allocation for Belize. However, we have no vessels that has reported any southern albacore taken as bycatch.
China	China does not have vessels targeting NALB and SALB, all the ALB are caught as bycatch and every tropical longliner can by-catch ALB. In 2020, China has 265 t of NALB and 250 t of SALB, we set catch limit for NALB and SALB for each longliner based on the TAC allocated to China according to NALB and SALB Recommendations. Each vessel must strictly comply with the catch limit set for it.
Curaçao	Res. 16-07 Limit bycatch on NALB we agree with the vessels on 50 ton.
EU	Depending on the EU-Member state, bycatch limits may differ. Additional details are included in the Annual Report.
Senegal	None
SVG	St. Vincent and the Grenadines vessels are authorised to catch SALB.
USA	The United States does not authorize vessels to fish for or retain SALB without a permit.
Chinese Taipei	Since the domestic legal framework restricts each vessel's fishing area and prohibits any vessel from operating beyond its authorized area, no fishing vessel is allowed to fish SALB in the South Atlantic Ocean without such an authorization.

[17-05] Recommendation by ICCAT Establishing Management Measures for the Stock of Mediterranean Albacore

BFT - BLUEFIN TUNA (*Thunnus thynnus*)

[06-07] Recommendation by ICCAT on Bluefin Tuna Farming

ICCAT Record of FFBS: The ICCAT Record of farms, currently containing 63 farms, is published on the ICCAT website: <https://www.iccat.int/en/Ffb.asp> Annual lists/authorisations are not required. Many of the farms listed as authorised to operate on the ICCAT website do not participate in the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme (ROP-BFT).

[16-24] Guidelines for preparing the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Bluefin Tuna Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management Plans

Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management Plans were received within the deadline and following the adopted Guidelines, from all CPCs with a quota for E-BFT. All plans were endorsed and can be found attached to the *Report of the intersessional meeting of Panel 2* in PA2-602/21.

[17-06] Recommendation by ICCAT for an interim conservation and management plan for Western Atlantic bluefin tuna

Monthly catch reports: Please see **Table 7** for a summary of reports received during the year. The reported amounts continue to be published on the password protected area of the ICCAT website.

Compliance with quotas/catch limits: please see document COC-304/21.

[19-04] Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 18-02 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean and

[20-07] Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 19-04 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic

Compliance with quotas/catch limits: please see document COC-304/21.

Fishing Plans: Plans were received within the deadline and, following requests for clarification, were all endorsed by Panel 2 (see Ref. 16-24 above).

Joint fishing operations: 26 Joint fishing operations (JFO) were reported for 2021. The Secretariat received the necessary information five days before the JFOs. The information has been posted on the ICCAT webpage: <https://www.iccat.int/en/JFO.asp> and the same information has been registered in the eBCD system. The shortened deadline makes it difficult to get full information to the ROP observers in time for their embarkation. In addition, the current system does not allow for any JFOs to be entered without information on farming destination.

<p>Request for clarification: Are JFOs only allowed when the fish is destined for farming, or should the "destination farm" field be made optional?</p>
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VMS

This year, up to 2 October 2021, a total of 2,012,674 VMS messages have been received (in calculating this total, the messages that the systems identifies as port positions have not been taken into account). In comparison with the same period last year, 170,813 less messages have been received or approximately a decrease of 8.5%. Over the same period this year, 983 vessels have been active (as in the criterion for messages, active vessels are considered to be those that have transmitted at least one message with an out of port position), which is 24 vessels more than last year, i.e. an increase of approximately 2.4%.

This year, no messages have been received from unknown vessels, i.e. not registered on the ICCAT List of Vessels.

For more details regarding VMS messages transmitted, please see **Tables 4, 5 and 6**.

Weekly catch reports: Please see **Table 8**.

Farming reports/caging declarations/carry over of caged fish:

According to the declarations received at the Secretariat, no caging took place after 22 August 2021. Carry-over of caged fish was reported by EU, Tunisia and Turkey, as shown in **Table 9**.

ICCAT Record of BFT Catching / BFT Other vessels: Authorised lists were published on the ICCAT website <https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>. There was a retroactive registry of one Liberian EBFT Other vessels, and one retroactive extension of fishing season for one EU artisanal vessel.

Information on the list of vessels fishing in 2020 is contained in **Annex 5**.

Authorised Port lists: There are currently 671 ports on the ICCAT Record authorised for landing and/or transshipment for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, published on <https://www.iccat.int/en/Ports.asp>

Trap lists: There are currently 32 traps on the ICCAT Record authorised to catch eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna: <https://www.iccat.int/en/Traps.asp>

Fishery closure: in accordance with paragraph 75, CPCs have informed of their date of quota utilisation as follows:

CPC	Date on which entire quota of EBFT has been utilized
Albania	25/06/2021
Algeria	10/07/2021
China	30/11/2020
Egypt	24/06/2021
European Union	Not applicable, total quota not fully utilised at time of reporting
Iceland	Not applicable, total quota not fully utilised at time of reporting
Japan	24/12/2020
Korea	Not applicable, total quota not fully utilised at time of reporting
Libya	08/07/2021
Morocco	18/10/2021
Norway	Not applicable, total quota not fully utilised at time of reporting
Syria	Not applicable because Syria did not utilize its quota of bluefin tuna
Tunisia	26/06/2021
Turkey	21/06/2021
Chinese Taipei	Not applicable, no BFT fishery

Inspection reports under Joint Inspection Scheme and list of agencies and inspectors' names: Please refer to **Table 3** for the list of BFT inspection reports submitted by EU, Tunisia and Turkey. Copies of reports submitted with infractions are available as **Annex 3**. **Annex 4** contains the list of agencies, means and the inspectors' names received from EU, Tunisia and Turkey.

Request from the Secretariat: It would be helpful if any inspection reports which contain ICCAT infringements could be submitted as they are issued, as well as the date on which they sent the report to the Flag State, rather than being sent with the complete batches at the end of the season.

Implementation Reports: As the Secretariat had requested information in 2020, no request was made in 2021 as the report is required biennially.

Observer Programmes: As the requirements and procedures for the submission of information was not developed by the Commission by 2009, as required by Recommendations, information from national observer programmes is included in regular scientific submissions. Some CPCs also submit national observer reports, but these may contain confidential information and are not distributed. For information on the Regional Observer Programme for Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, please see documents PA2-601/21 (ROP implementation), COC-305/21 (PNCs) and COC-302/21 (Alternative measures).

Intra-farm transfers and random controls

Paragraph 103 of Rec. 19-04 requires that random control measures shall be undertaken by the farming CPC authorities on bluefin tuna in farm cages between the time of completion of caging operations and the first caging of the following year and that CPCs shall fix a minimum percentage of fish to be controlled, which shall be reflected in its control plan referred to under paragraph 14 of this Recommendation. The results of those checks shall be communicated to ICCAT in April of the year following the corresponding quota period.

The following information was submitted by farming CPCs in 2021:

<i>CPC</i>	<i>Data reported</i>
EU	Reports on intra farm transfers and random controls from EU-Croatia, EU-Spain and EU-Malta
Morocco	Report on random control
Tunisia	Report on intra farm transfers and random controls
Turkey	Reports on random controls + stereoscopic data

As the level of confidentiality of these reports was not clear to the Secretariat, the CPCs concerned were asked and we received the following responses:

EU: Believe the data to be confidential

Morocco: No response to the question on confidentiality

Turkey: Confirmed that the information sent is *not* confidential

Tunisia: Indicated that the information could be made available to SCRS

Request for clarification: Rec. 19-04 requires that the information be submitted to the Secretariat. Guidance on what the Secretariat is expected to do with these reports, for which there is no standard format or indication of expected content is sought.

BIL - BILLFISHES: Blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*), White marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*), Sailfish (*Istiophorus albicans*), Spearfish (*Tetrapturus pfluegeri* and *T. belone*)

[19-05] Recommendation by ICCAT to establish rebuilding programs for blue marlin and white marlin/roundscale spearfish

For compliance with quotas/catch limits, please see document COC-304/21. For other information, please refer to Rec. 18-05 below.

[16-11] Recommendation by ICCAT on Management Measures for the Conservation of Atlantic Sailfish

If the total catch of either stock of Atlantic sailfish exceeds in any year the level corresponding to 67% of the average estimate of their Maximum Sustainable Yield (i.e. 1,271 t for the eastern stock and 1,030 t for the western stock), the Commission shall review the implementation and effectiveness of this Recommendation. The total catches, are shown below:

Task 1 data (including SCRS estimates):

<i>Sailfish</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>
ATE	1648	935	2015	1182
ATW	1245	1519	1361	1152

Task 1 data (reported data only):

<i>Sailfish</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>
ATE	1648	933	2015	830
ATW	1245	1517	1361	870

Task 1 reporting obligations are reviewed under Rec. 11-15. The Recommendation requires CPCs beginning in 2017, to describe their data collection programmes and steps taken to implement this Recommendation in their Annual Reports. These reports are included in the Billfish Check Sheet (see Rec. 18-05 below).

[18-05] Recommendation by ICCAT on Improvement of Compliance Review of Conservation and Management Measures regarding Billfish Caught in the ICCAT Convention Area

Updated or new Billfish Check Sheets were received this year from 44 CPCs. the following CPCs did not provide in 2021: Angola, Bolivia, Gambia, Grenada, Guinee-Bissau, Guinea Republic, Liberia, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Panama, São Tomé e Príncipe, Sierra Leone and Venezuela.

Despite this requirement being obligatory for all CPCs, no Check Sheets have ever been received (including previous years) from Angola, Gambia, Grenada, Guinee-Bissau, Guinea Republic, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Panamá, São Tomé e Príncipe, or Venezuela

Algeria, Norway and Turkey had previously requested exemption from this requirement in accordance with the procedures established, but the SCRS considered that the guidelines for granting exemptions should be further developed and reviewed. The reporting requirement therefore will remain in force for all CPCs until further review.

BYC - BYCATCH SPECIES

[04-10] Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

[07-06] Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT concerning sharks

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

[07-07] Recommendation by ICCAT on reducing incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries

Please see Rec. 11-09 below. The Secretariat reiterates its suggestion that these two Recommendations be combined.

[09-07] Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of thresher sharks caught in association with fisheries in the ICCAT Convention area

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

[10-06] Recommendation by ICCAT on Atlantic shortfin mako sharks caught in association with ICCAT fisheries

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

[10-07] Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of oceanic whitetip sharks caught in association with fisheries in the ICCAT Convention area

For information reported, please see Rec. 16-13 / 18-06 below.

[10-08] Recommendation by ICCAT on Hammerhead Sharks (family Sphyrnidae) caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by ICCAT

For information reported, please see Rec. 16-13 / 18-06 below.

[10-09] Recommendation by ICCAT on the Bycatch of Sea Turtles in ICCAT Fisheries

Various collaborative efforts to assemble and analyse observer shark, seabird and sea turtle bycatch data are active within the SCRS (see PLE-105/21). It should be noted that the applicability of the requirements relating to the maximisation of survival of sea-turtles is not dependent on the extent of interactions; i.e. this should be implemented by all those with purse seine and/or longline fishery. In a few cases, it remains unclear from reporting whether the measures have been implemented in a legally binding way, although improvement has been noted over previous years. It is recommended that CPCs cite the relevant domestic legislation in their Annual Reports to avoid such uncertainty.

[11-08] Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of silky sharks caught in association with ICCAT fisheries

For information reported, please see Rec. 18-06 below.

[11-09] Supplemental Recommendation by ICCAT on reducing incidental by-catch of seabirds in ICCAT longline fisheries

Seabird incidental by-catch is included in PLE-105/21. Mitigation measures and other actions reported by CPCs in 2021 are shown below:

CPC	Night setting with minimum deck lighting	Bird-scaring lines (tori lines)	Line weighting	Status of NPOA on seabirds	Comments
Algeria	Longline fishing takes place at night using small longliners. Minimum illumination is used without interfering with navigation and maritime safety.	Since the majority of vessels in artisanal fishing measure less than 15m, they should be exempt from this device.	The lines are tested before being introduced in the water however there is no information on the weight deployed on the branch line.	No plan has been implemented, only a monitoring device as well as awareness campaigns.	
Costa Rica	Not applicable as there is no interaction with sea birds in fishing activities of the artisanal fleet.	Not applicable as there is no interaction with sea birds in fishing activities of the artisanal fleet.	Not applicable as there is no interaction with sea birds in fishing activities of the artisanal fleet.	Not applicable as there is no interaction with sea birds in fishing activities of the artisanal fleet.	

EU-Malta	Night setting is generally not applied for most surface longline and bottom longline operations.	Not applied	Line weighting utilised in bottom longlines but generally not in surface longlining.	No national plan of action is currently into place	
Japan	Yes	Yes	Yes	In place	
Korea	No	Yes	Yes	In place	
South Africa	Yes	Yes	Yes	Published in 2008 and is currently under review	
Turkey	Partly Implemented	No legal obligation exists, implemented on voluntary basis	No legal obligation exists, implemented on voluntary basis	<p>- There are project initiatives undertaken by various bodies aiming to create the basis for an inventory of Marine Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and to train staff and volunteers on seabird research and conservation methods.</p> <p>- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture) has initiated a far-reaching programme aiming to take out the outspread "ghost nets" and ghost fishing at the principal coastal water sites of Turkey.</p> <p>- During the implementation phase of the Project of "Cleansing of Seas from Abandoned Fishing Nets", so far 610 locations and 70.000.000 m² inland water and marine areas have been dredged and a total of 460.000 m² fishnets and 5,000 pieces of pots and similar fishing gears have been extracted from sea within the period 2014-2021.</p>	

In 2019, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of Panel 4, proposed a measure combining Rec. 11-09 and Rec. 07-07 in order to streamline compendium and facilitate compliance. Understanding the difficulties in dealing with such a wide variety of issues in an on-line setting, the Commission may wish to further discuss this draft in 2022.

[11-10] Recommendation by ICCAT on information collection and harmonization of data on by-catch and discards in ICCAT fisheries.

Please see Rec. 16-14 and PLE-105/21 for information relating to this Recommendation.

[13-11] Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 10-09 on the by-catch of sea turtles in ICCAT fisheries

See Rec. 10-09 above. To avoid possible redundancies, the Secretariat suggest the Commission consider combining these two measures into one.

[14-06] Recommendation by ICCAT on shortfin mako caught in association with ICCAT fisheries

For information reported, please see Rec. 16-13 below.

[15-06] Recommendation by ICCAT on porbeagle caught in association with ICCAT fisheries

For information reported, please see Rec. 16-13 below. Catches have not exceeded 2004 levels in any year.

[19-07] Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 16-12 on management measures for the conservation of the North Atlantic blue shark caught in association with ICCAT fisheries

In accordance with paragraph 3 b) if in any year the total catches of the North Atlantic blue shark exceed the TAC of 39,102 t, the Commission shall review the implementation of these measures. The total catch of North Atlantic blue shark in 2020 was 20,827 t, which is below the TAC.

[19-08] Recommendation by ICCAT on management measures for the conservation of South Atlantic blue shark caught in association with ICCAT fisheries

Please see Shark Check Sheets (COC-314/21) for implementation of this measure.

[17-08] Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of North Atlantic stock of shortfin mako caught in association with ICCAT fisheries and

[19-06] Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of North Atlantic stock of shortfin mako caught in association with ICCAT fisheries

Please see Shark Check Sheets (COC-314/21) for implementation of this measure.

[18-06] Recommendation by ICCAT to Replace Recommendation 16-13 on Improvement of Compliance Review of Conservation and Management Measures Regarding Sharks Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries

Forty-four CPCs submitted new or updates to the Shark Check Sheets in 2021 to include the implementation of new measures. These are contained in document COC-314/21.

Algeria, Honduras, Norway and Uruguay had requested exemption from this requirement in accordance with the procedures established, but the SCRS considered that the guidelines for granting exemptions should be further developed. The reporting requirement therefore will remain in force for all CPCs until further review.

MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE:

GEN - GENERAL ISSUES

[94-09] Resolution by ICCAT on compliance with the ICCAT conservation and management measures (including Addendum)

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

[96-14] Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance in the bluefin tuna and North Atlantic swordfish fisheries

Information on compliance with minimum size regulations is reported through COC-304/21.

[96-15] Resolution by ICCAT on large-scale pelagic driftnets

Please see Rec. 08-09 for more information.

[97-01] Recommendation by ICCAT to improve compliance with minimum size regulations

Information on compliance with minimum size regulations is reported through COC-304/21.

[97-08] Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance in the South Atlantic swordfish fishery

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

[97-11] Recommendation by ICCAT on transshipments and vessel sightings; replaced by Recommendation [19-09] by ICCAT on vessel sightings

Please see information contained in COC-312/21 and PWG-405/21 (Draft IUU list).

[98-11] Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the ban on landings and transshipments of vessels from non-Contracting Parties identified as having committed a serious infringement

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

[00-14] Recommendation by ICCAT regarding compliance with management measures which define quotas and/or catch limits

CPCs have implemented Rec. 00-14, and through the form CP13 have reported their underages/overages for the species under quota/catch limit management. These are presented in document COC-304/21.

[01-12] Recommendation by ICCAT regarding the temporary adjustment of quotas

Authorised adjustments are contained in various Recommendations and reflected in document COC-304/21.

[01-18] Resolution by ICCAT further defining the scope of IUU fishing

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

[03-12] Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the duties of Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities in relation to their vessels in the ICCAT Convention area

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

[03-13] Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the recording of catch by fishing vessels in the ICCAT Convention area

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

[03-16] Recommendation by ICCAT to adopt additional measures against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

[06-13] Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Trade Measures

Completed forms containing information on imports and landings were submitted in accordance with this measure within the deadline by China, European Union (Malta), Egypt, Japan, Korea, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey and Chinese Taipei. The information submitted by CPCs is contained in **Annex 1**.

[06-14] Recommendation by ICCAT to Promote Compliance by Nationals of Contracting Parties, Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities with ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

[07-08] Recommendation by ICCAT concerning data exchange format and protocol in relation to the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for the bluefin tuna fishery in the ICCAT Convention area

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time.

[08-09] Recommendation by ICCAT to establish a process for the review and reporting of compliance information

The information submitted by NGOs, together with the responses to date, is available in COC-312/21.

[11-11] Recommendation by ICCAT to Clarify the Application of Compliance Recommendations and for Developing the Compliance Annex

Compliance Tables are contained in COC-304/21.

[11-15] Recommendation by ICCAT on Penalties Applicable in Case of non-Fulfilment of Reporting Obligations

Following the 2020 Commission decision making process, prohibition was imposed on Costa Rica, Grenada, the Gambia, Guinea Bissau. The Secretariat is pleased to report that the prohibition has since been lifted from Grenada, as they sent their data in March 2021.

No Task 1 statistics for 2020 were received during 2021 from, Angola, Costa Rica, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, as shown in **Appendix 3**. It should be noted that of these, Angola currently has 2 vessels of 20m or greater on the ICCAT Record, although these do not have any species-specific authorisations and hence target species is unknown. In addition, some data or confirmation of zero catches (white cells in **Appendix 3**) are missing from the Côte d'Ivoire, European Union, The Gambia, Guinea Equatorial and Suriname.

A history of prohibitions applied is contained in **Annex 8**.

[18-08] Recommendation by ICCAT on establishing a list of vessels presumed to have carried out Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing activities

The information gathered by the Secretariat during 2021 is presented in document PWG-405/21. It should be noted that the current system of cross listing poses some serious challenges to ensure accuracy of information, as there is no standard presentation for the information from the RFMOs involved.

[12-07] Recommendation by ICCAT for an ICCAT Scheme for Minimum Standards for Inspection in Port (Replaced by [18-09] Recommendation by ICCAT On Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing)

Information on contact points for AREP and receipt of reports is published on the password protected area of the ICCAT website under <https://www.iccat.int/en/portinspection.html>, as well as any infringements reported, and the actions taken. In some cases, it is not clear from the reports if infringements have taken place, and if/when these infringements relate to ICCAT requirements:

Request from the Secretariat: In order to ensure correct implementation of the requirement for CPCs to submit inspection reports which contain ICCAT infringements for inclusion on the ICCAT website, it would be helpful if the CPCs submit a summary of the relevant information for publication, as well as the date on which they sent the report to the Flag State.

Rec. 18-09 provides that the submission of inspection reports in which no infraction has been found is voluntary. A summary of reports received is contained **Table 3**. Those with possible infringements, together with the responses received, are contained in **Annex 9**.

Reporting of designated ports under Rec. 18-09

The ICCAT Record of Ports into which foreign vessels may enter is published on the ICCAT website at <https://www.iccat.int/en/Ports.asp>.

[13-13] Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the Establishment of an ICCAT Record of Vessels 20 meters in Length Overall or Greater Authorized to Operate in the Convention area

See also Rec. 14-10 below for issues of retroactive reporting. At the time of writing, no IMO numbers were missing from any vessels of 20m or greater (unless exempt, e.g. wooden or non-commercial vessels).

Updates to internal action reports (presented in the form CP10) were received from Belize, Curaçao and Ghana. These are contained in **Annex 2**.

[13-14] Recommendation by ICCAT on vessel chartering

The chartering summary reports are contained in **Appendix 2** and the table summarizing the chartering arrangements reported in **Table 10**. Some difficulties remain in receiving coherent information from both parties involved in a timely manner. The new reporting form was published in 2021 and improved bilateral coordination has been noted to some extent.

[14-07] Recommendation by ICCAT on access agreements

Updates relating to ongoing Access Agreements were received from the European Union, Morocco and Suriname since the last Commission meeting. Some of the agreements reported in previous years were multi-annual and are still ongoing. Liberia has included in its Annual Report information on catches taken by foreign flagged vessels in their waters under such ongoing agreements. The full list of Access Agreements is contained in **Annex 6**.

In order to avoid any confusion with Task 1 reporting, the Secretariat published a revised reporting form for submitting information on Access Agreements; both for the Agreement itself and for the catches made under such agreement (see CP39) in 2020.

[14-09] Recommendation by ICCAT amending Recommendation 03-14 concerning minimum standards for the establishment of a vessel fishing monitoring system in the ICCAT Convention area (Replaced by [18-10] Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Minimum Standards for Vessel Monitoring Systems in the ICCAT Convention Area)

The current Recommendation does not contain any direct reporting requirements. For compliance issues with the implementation of VMS, please refer to Rec. 19-04.

[14-10] Recommendation by ICCAT to Harmonize and Guide the Implementation of ICCAT Vessel Listing Requirements

Retroactive submissions were noted above in the tropical tuna vessel list (Curaçao) and EBFT-other vessel list (Liberia). These retroactive submissions involved vessels of 20 m or greater.

[15-09] Resolution by ICCAT Establishing Guidelines for the Implementation of the Recommendation 11-15 by ICCAT on Penalties Applicable in the Case of Non-Fulfilment of Reporting Obligations

Please see Rec. 11-15 above.

[16-14] Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish Minimum Standards for Fishing Vessel Scientific Observer Program

Several CPCs have indicated difficulties in implementing scientific observer programmes. A summary of CPC's observer programmes can be found in PLE-105/21.

[16-15] Recommendation by ICCAT on Transshipment

Carrier vessels and associated LPLVs are published on the ICCAT website in the ICCAT Record of Vessels at <https://www.iccat.int/en/VesselsRecord.asp>.

PWG-402/21 contains more information. PNCs reported by observers and responses from CPCs are contained in COC-305/21. The reports of the observers have been published on the ICCAT website (<https://www.iccat.int/en/ROP.html>) as required by the Recommendation.

[18-11] Resolution by ICCAT Establishing a Pilot Program for the Voluntary Exchange of Inspection Personnel in Fisheries Managed by ICCAT

Contact points have been published on the ICCAT website at:

https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Comply/Res_18-11_InspectionPersonnelPilotProgram.xlsx

[19-10] Recommendation by ICCAT on protecting the health and safety of observers in ICCAT's regional observer programs

To date, fifteen Emergency Action Plans have been received; these are published on <https://www.iccat.int/en/EAP.html>

[19-11] Recommendation by ICCAT on abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear

No information has been submitted to date. See document PWG-404/21 on reporting format.

SANC - SANCTIONS, TRADE-RELATED MEASURES

[No measures currently active]

SDP - STATISTICAL DOCUMENT PROGRAMS

[01-21] Recommendation by ICCAT concerning the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document Program

Information can be found in documents PWG-401/21 and PLE-105/21.

[01-22] Recommendation by ICCAT establishing a Swordfish Statistical Document Program

Imports and Re-exports of both bigeye and swordfish from unknown flag and/or unknown area continue to be reported by some CPCs.

More information can be found in documents PWG-401/21 and PLE-105/21.

Recommendation by ICCAT Replacing Recommendation 11-20 on an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Program [Rec. 18-13]

Please see document PWG-401/21 for information on the implementation of Rec. 18-13 under the eBCD system. Refer also to Rec. 18-12 below.

Recommendation by ICCAT Replacing Recommendation 17-09 on the Application of the EBCD System [Rec. 18-12]

In accordance with Annex 3 of Rec. 18-12, outside the Secretariat's office hours and the technical assistance' hours contracted with the Consortium, any CPC can self-register an incident on the ICCAT web page <https://www.iccat.int/en/eBCDprog.asp> to inform all CPCs of its temporary use of the paper BCD. No such issues were reported in 2021.

More information on the eBCD systems can be found in documents PWG-401/21 and PWG-403/21.

TOR - TERMS OF REFERENCE

[16-19] Recommendation by ICCAT for the Development of an Online Reporting System

Information on progress to date can be found in document COC-316/21. The Chair of the Working Group has put forward a draft Recommendation with a view to continuing the work.

MISC - MISCELLANEOUS

[99-07] Resolution by ICCAT on improving recreational fishery statistics

Information is included in Annual Reports (COC-301/21) and in Task 1 statistics. Given that the wording of the Resolution is vague ("each CPC provide specific data to SCRS to allow the Commission to determine separately the magnitude of recreational fisheries of each species of Atlantic tuna and tuna-like fish"), the Commission may wish to better define the information required.

[03-20] Recommendation by ICCAT on criteria for attaining the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity in ICCAT

Bolivia, Chinese Taipei, and Costa Rica, Guyana, and Suriname currently enjoy Cooperating status. Review of compliance by Cooperating parties, Entities and Fishing Entities is included in document COC-308/21. No new requests for Cooperating status were received in 2021; requests for renewal are not required, although such a formal request has been made by Bolivia.

[05-09] Recommendation by ICCAT on compliance with statistical reporting obligations

Please see PLE-105/21 for more details on statistical reporting, as well as Rec. 11-15 above. Three non-Contracting Parties without Cooperating status, Dominica, St. Kitts & Nevis and St. Lucia, voluntarily submitted Task 1 in 2021 (for 2020 catches). The data for St. Lucia included 102 t of blue marlin. Dominica (currently under identification) included catch data back to 2014, but this data, which arrived in October, has not yet been processed.

[05-11] Resolution by ICCAT on pelagic Sargassum

The Secretariat has nothing to report at this time, other than to note that Barbados still has problems in this regard with "mass incursions of *Sargassum* sp. into local fishing areas continued through 2020 and resulted in substantial declines in catches of the island's traditional mainstay species flying fish, dolphinfish and wahoo."

[12-13] Revised guidelines for the preparation of the Annual Reports

Document COC-311/21, contains a summary of section 5 of Part II of the Annual Reports ("Difficulties encountered in implementation of and compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures") presenting the main difficulties of some CPCs and raising the possible need for technical assistance.

As previous years, some CPCs continue to send outdated versions of the tables, incomplete versions of the report, several updates and corrections, as well as incomplete answers, particularly in the case of 'not applicable'. These cases seriously hinder the ability of the Secretariat and Chair to carry out an analysis of the information in an orderly and timely fashion.

As this was the first year the Annual Report module was available, take-up was a little disappointing. However, the IOMs team has entered manually the section 3 from each form submitted, and it has been noted that analysis / compilation of responses can be greatly expedited by having this information available in the system. The Secretariat would strongly urge all CPCs to use the online system for the Annual Report in 2022.

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Quarterly and monthly catches of tropical tuna 2020.

Table 2. Summary of JIS inspection reports received.

Table 3. Summary of Port inspections reported to the Secretariat.

Table 4. VMS messages received by CPC and number of vessels.

Table 5. Vessels that during May-July 2021 have been registered in the ICCAT Record of Vessels and that during some of the weeks of this period have not issued any VMS messages.

Table 6. Vessels that during May-July 2021 have not been registered in the ICCAT Record of Vessels or whose authorization has expired yet have issued VMS messages during some of the weeks of this period.

Table 7. Monthly catch reports (BFT-W).

Table 8. Weekly catch reports (BFT-E).

Table 9. Summary of E-BFT caging reports

Table 10. Summary of reported chartering arrangements.