

Original: English

**EXPLANATORY NOTE TO DRAFT RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO AMEND RECOMMENDATION 17-04 ON A HARVEST CONTROL RULE FOR NORTH ATLANTIC ALBACORE SUPPLEMENTING THE MULTIANNUAL CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME, REC. 16-06, AS AMENDED BY RECOMMENDATION 20-04**

*Submitted by the European Union and the United Kingdom*

The purpose of this note is to provide a brief explanation of a joint proposal by the EU and the UK to amend ICCAT Recommendation 17-04 (as amended by Rec. 20-04) to reflect the provisions of The Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the UK and the EU (hereafter “the TCA”) that established those two parties’ respective shares of North Atlantic albacore tuna.

The relevant provisions of the TCA were first notified to ICCAT CPCs via Circulars #1357/21 and #1400/21. To give effect to those provisions for 2022 (until such time as changes to the formal allocation key are possible), the EU and UK jointly propose to amend ICCAT Recommendation 17-04.

The proposal authorises the European Union to transfer [442.25 t<sup>1</sup>] from its quota in 2022 to the United Kingdom. This equates to 1.52% of its quota prior to any adjustments made (for example under paragraph 7 of Rec. 16-06).

We emphasise that the proposed changes will not impact other CPCs’ shares and will not lead to the total allocation of the EU and UK combined exceeding the EU’s previous allocation. In other words, the share of quota the UK has agreed with the EU comes solely from the EU.

This is not a re-opening of the allocation process; it is merely updating ICCAT measures to reflect a bilateral agreement between two sovereign parties.

Any change to the Total Allowable Catch for North Atlantic albacore tuna for 2022 will be reflected in proportionate adjustments to the figures in the table in the proposal. As such all figures remain in square brackets at this point. Any changes to TACs and quotas for subsequent years would also lead to similar adjustments via further amendments to the relevant ICCAT Recommendations, but these would not change the UK – EU sharing agreement.

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<sup>1</sup> Subject to change pending TAC decision for 2022.

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*CONSIDERING* the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union which transfers a portion of the allocation of certain ICCAT species from the European Union to the United Kingdom following withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union;

*NOTING* that the total allocation of these two CPCs combined remains unchanged;

*DESIROUS* of correctly reflecting the allocations in the ICCAT Conservation and Management measures;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION  
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT

The following amendments shall be made to Rec. 17-04 (as amended by Rec. 20-04):

1. Paragraph 8 shall be replaced with:

“8. Taking into account paragraphs 4, 5 and 7, a TAC of [37,801 t] t is established for 2022. This TAC is allocated among the CPCs as follows:

<i>CPC</i>	[...]	<i>Quota (t) for <u>2022</u></i>
European Union*	[...]	[29,095.1]
Chinese Taipei	[...]	[4,416.9]
United States	[...]	[711.5]
Venezuela	[...]	[337.5]

\*The European Union is authorised to transfer [442.25 t] from its quota in 2022 to the United Kingdom.

The allocation scheme shall be reviewed and amended, as appropriate, at the 2021 Commission meeting.

Chinese Taipei is authorized to transfer 200 t of North Atlantic albacore to Belize for 2021.”