

Original: English

**JOINT STATEMENT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION, CANADA, AND THE UNITED STATES ON BLUEFIN
TUNA MSE**

The European Union, Canada, and the United States wish to note for the record their understanding that SCRS work to carry out a stock assessment of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna in 2022 would be conducted in a way that does not negatively affect the other work of the SCRS, particularly the ongoing MSE process for bluefin tuna. This MSE work, including the three planned Panel 2-SCRS dialogue meetings in 2022, is essential to ensure candidate management procedures can be presented to the Commission at its 2022 Annual Meeting and that the Commission can select a management procedure for adoption and implementation at that meeting.