

Original language: English/French/Spanish

DEVELOPMENT OR FISHING/MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH

ICCAT Secretariat

Information required by paragraph 5 of Rec. 17-02. Deadline: 15 September 2022

Rec. 17-02 indicates that: *“In the event of the modification its fishing/management plan, each CPC shall submit the updated version of its fishing/management plan to the Commission”*. It was agreed by the Commission that the resubmission of such reports would only be required in the event of changes. Plans received in previous years can be found on the meeting document websites. In 2022, the Secretariat has received updated plans within the deadline from: Canada, EU (Spain), Japan, Korea Mexico, Morocco, United States of America, Venezuela, Chinese Taipei and Costa Rica.

These revised Management Plans are attached as **Appendix 1** and the longer full plans submitted by Canada and USA available in original language in **Annex 1**.

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Canada	Yes	1348	77	LL		77	LL		<p>Since 1992, entry to the swordfish fishery, regardless of fleet sector, is limited to current licenses. Licenses have been fixed at this number, but may be reissued, within certain policy restrictions, from one harvester to another. Canada takes a comprehensive approach to enforcement that includes sophisticated vessel monitoring systems on all longline vessels, aerial surveillance, dockside monitoring, and at-sea observers. In addition to the requirement for fleets to annually submit a Conservation Harvesting Plans specific to Swordfish and other tuna fleets and the fully Integrated Fisheries Management Plan, the Canadian swordfish fishery is governed by a suite of legislation, policy and regulations (See full plan in Annex 1, page 5)</p>	<p>Despite uncondusive ocean conditions and the task of avoiding excessive Bluefin Tuna by-catch causing the Canadian Swordfish fleet land below its' base quota in the last three years, Canada continues to seek increased access to this resource. Canada has a demonstrated historical participation in the fishery, dating back to the late 1800s, and has a consistent record of compliance with ICCAT measures. Canada has also, on an ongoing basis, contributed significantly to the collection and provision of accurate data, and scientific research in order to enhance the work of the Commission.</p> <p>Canada played an instrumental role in the development and implementation of the successful ICCAT rebuilding plan and has a need for an increased quota to ensure the viability of the Canadian swordfish fishery for the coastal communities across Atlantic Canada which depend on fishing opportunities for North Atlantic swordfish. While Canada, like other ICCAT members, accepted</p>

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										<p>significantly lower quotas during the rebuilding period of the fishery; Canada has consistently demonstrated its ability to fully utilize its quota.</p> <p>From 2011 to 2016, Canada consistently demonstrated its ability to fully utilize its ICCAT quota with average annual landings of 115 per cent of its annual allocations during that six-year period. Since 2004, Canada has been allocated 1,348 t of the ICCAT quota allocations (or 10.5 per cent of the catch limits). Nevertheless, Canada has landed approximately 12 per cent of the overall catch for North Atlantic swordfish annually over the past nine years due to receiving quota transfers.</p> <p>ICCAT members should recognize the aspirations of coastal and developing nations, while remedying the current situation of over-allocation.</p>

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			1200	Harp		1200	Harp			
EU-Spain	Yes	6535,59	102	LL	6598,43 (t)	103	LL	6212,95 (t)	Unified census of surface longline (only fleet authorized to catch SWO); Individual quota per vessel and conditions for the transfer of quota per vessel; Annual fishing plans. Issuance of Temporary Fishing Permits by area and vessel; Technical measures of the surface longline gear (limitation of number and size of hooks); Control measures: ERS, advance notice of departure and arrival at port	It is intended to maintain the current measures, which have proven to be very effective

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Japan	Yes	19849	43	LL		173	LL		<p>1) Fishery Act prohibits Japanese fishing vessels from fishing tuna on the high seas without a fishing license issued by Japanese government. The law also requires the Government to decide the maximum number of licenses to be issued and other fishing conditions. Japanese government ensures that fishing capacities have to be commensurate with its fishing opportunities as determined by tuna RFMOs such as ICCAT; 2) Japanese swordfish catch is by-catch, which has been fluctuating year by year mainly due to the shift of the fishing ground for bigeye tuna. Japan, having no intention to increase North Atlantic swordfish catch as target species, needs flexibility to address this nature. For this purpose, special arrangements for Japan including a multi-year block quota, as provided in paragraph 4 of Rec. 21-02, should be continued. 3) Japan has been properly reporting data on swordfish, which has been utilized in the stock assessment of North Atlantic swordfish. 4) Japan has been</p>	<p>According to 1) of current measures, Japan will continue to restrict the number of longliners; The measures will be continued according to para. 4 of Rec. 21-02.</p>

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									monitoring, controlling and enforcing its all tuna vessels operating on the high seas with VMS, port inspection and so on.	
<p>*Since it could be possible that all of those vessels would operate in ICCAT area and catch swordfish as by-catch within TAC limit, the number of 173 and their total capacity were entered as the possible maximum figures.</p>										

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Korea	No	70	11	LL		11	LL		Eleven Korean longline fishing vessels are authorized to target bigeye tuna, and these longliners occasionally take northern swordfish as bycatch. In accordance with paragraph 1, Article 13 of the Distant Water Fisheries Development Act of Korea, Korean distant water fishing vessels and operators shall comply with any relevant obligations arising from conservation and management measures of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations. If any provision of the conservation and	Korea does not have any plan for N-SWO fishery development.

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									<p>management measure is breached, it is deemed as “a serious violation” and subject to imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine of at least KRW 500 million. In accordance with Rec. 17-02, Korea takes measures to ensure its 50tons of allocated catch limit or adjusted annual catch limit, as appropriate, is fully respected. If overharvest of the annual catch limit occurs, the amount of the overharvest shall be deducted from the catch limit in the following year. According to paragraph 5 of the Rec. 01-22, catch data from Korean flagged vessels are reported to the Secretariat twice a year (April 1 and September 15). In order to protect small swordfish, Korean vessels are required to release any swordfish weighing less than 25kg live weight or 125cm LJF and Korea provides scientific data related to north Atlantic swordfish to the SCRS in accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Rec. 17-02, respectively.</p>	

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Mexico	SI	200	4	25,03					Agreement establishing the minimum commercial catch size for swordfish (<i>Xiphias gladius</i>) in marine waters under federal jurisdiction of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. The Official Mexican Regulation NOM-023-SAG/PESC-2014, which regulates the use of tuna species by longline vessels in waters of federal jurisdiction of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea was published in the Official Gazette of the Federation (DOF) on 23 May 2019. Published in the Official Gazette of the Federation (DOF) on 16 April 2014.	It is not considered to be developed for the time being.

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Morocco	Yes	850 (1104,18 adjusted)	850	LL	885t	870	LL	1100 (t)	1. Ministerial Decree No. 1176 - 13 dated 8 April 2013 as amended and supplemented, regulating Moroccan North Atlantic and Mediterranean swordfish fishing; 2. Enacting Ministerial Decree N°2406-18 dated 27 July 2018, amending and supplementing Ministerial Decree N°1176-13 dated 8 April 2013 regulating Moroccan North Atlantic and Mediterranean swordfish 3. Promulgation of a Ministerial Decree N°3315-17 dated 18 December 2017 amending and supplementing Ministerial Decree N°1176-13 dated 8 April 2013 regulating Moroccan North Atlantic and Mediterranean swordfish fishing; 4. Follow-up and management of quota allocated to Morocco by ICCAT at central level through the Maritime Fishery Delegations responsible for monitoring and certifying catches and the National Fisheries Office responsible for trade; 5- Monitoring the compliance of ICCAT provisions included in Ministerial Decrees N°2406-	[No Information submitted]

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	Yes		329	HL	219t	290	HL	200	18 dated 27 July 2018 and N°1176-13 dated 8 April 2013 regulating Moroccan North Atlantic and Mediterranean swordfish fishing; 6- Including in the ICCAT record, vessels over 20m likely to catch North Atlantic swordfish; 7- Dahir on Law No. 1-73-255 of 23 November 1973 establishing the maritime fisheries regulation, as amended and supplemented. 8- Dahir No. 1-14-95 of 12 May 2014 enacting Law No. 15-12 to prevent and combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and amending and supplementing Dahir No. 1-73-255 of 23 November 1973 on maritime fishing regulation; 9- Decree n° 2.18.104 of 10 December 2018 amending and supplementing decree n° 2-09-674 of 17 March 2010 establishing the terms and conditions and implementation and utilization modalities onboard fishing vessels of a system of positioning and continuous location using communications by satellite for data transmission; 10- Decree n° 2-17-455 of 26	

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									<p>April 2018 taken for the application of certain provisions of Title 1 of law No. 15-12 to prevent and combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and amending and supplementing Dahir No. 1-73-255 of 23 November 1973 on maritime fishing regulation; 11- Decree n° 2-17-456 of 15 March 2018 for the application of some provisions of Dahir n° 1-73-255 of 23 November 1973 on maritime fishing; 12- Decree n°574-19 of 7 March 2019 regarding a continuous positioning and location device for fishing vessels.</p>	

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Venezuela	Yes	85	no info	no info	no info	30	LL	45t	Domestic management measures currently in place: there is a protected fishing area where it is prohibited for commercial and artisanal vessels to catch species from the family Xiphidae and the family Istiophoridae, except for a small fleet of 35 vessels belonging to the sector of Playa Verde, Vargas State. In addition, it is only permitted to take bycatch of individuals of this species with a minimum size of: 125 cm in length, from the lower jaw to the fork or weighing more than 25 kg, according to Art. 12 of the Administrative Order No. 69 of 2003.	Plans to develop the fishery and domestic management measures envisaged. A draft resolution is being developed to update the regulation on catching fish from the families Xiphidae and Istiophoridae in Venezuela. It includes articles establishing the quota of 45 t that can be fished over the course of a year by the fledgling artisanal fishery located in the community of La Zorra, Vargas State.

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CHINESE TAIPEI	Yes	270	58	LL	270t	64	LL	270t	<p>1) Prior authorization by fleets and fishing areas In accordance with the catch species, we categorize our fishing fleet operating in the Atlantic Ocean into three groups. Each group is designated with specific fishing zones and managed by the Fisheries Agency. All fishing vessels in each group are required to fish only within their permitted fishing zones. Also, there is a domestic regulation on the prohibition against any fishing activities in the Mediterranean Sea. 2) Catch limitation and individual vessel quota. Depending on the quota/catch limit allocated to Chinese Taipei, internally the Fisheries Agency allocates species-based quota to individual fishing vessel under our flag, including by-catch species like northern swordfish. Once the accumulated catch for a species reaches the individual quota of a fishing vessel, it is required to discard any subsequent catch of that species concerned and record the discard amount on the catch logbook and E-logbook</p>	No

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									<p>system. 3) Vessel tracking and monitoring All fishing vessels under our flag are required to install satellite-based automatic location communicator (ALC). The ALC on board shall be maintained functional at all times, and transmit at least one vessel position to our Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) every hour. 4) Management of catch reports We require the captain of any fishing vessel to daily report catch data through the E-logbook system and fill in the catch logbook. The data reported and filled in shall be accurate and complete. In particular, the carbon-copied sheet of the complete catch logbook is required to be maintained on board any vessel for at least one year. 5) Management of transshipments Any vessel which intends to conduct transshipment is required to submit its application to the Fisheries Agency for prior approval. The application shall be made at least 3 working days before the estimated date for at-sea transshipment, while at least 3 days before the estimated</p>	

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									<p>date for in-port transshipment. No transshipment is allowed without receiving approval from the Fisheries Agency. We also require fisheries operators or captains of our fishing vessels to submit the ICCAT Transshipment Declaration to the Fisheries Agency within 7 working days after the completion of transshipment. The carrier vessel concerned is also required to submit the Transshipment Declaration to the ICCAT Secretariat within 24 hours, with a copy to the Fisheries Agency. 6) Management on statistical documents Any fisheries operator intending to sell north Atlantic swordfish abroad is required to apply the statistical document from the Fisheries Agency. The information specified in the statistical document will be further verified by the Fisheries Agency through cross-checking the catch logbook or E-logbook. Besides, a fishing vessel using a statistical document issued to other vessels or providing its statistical document for</p>	

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									<p>other vessel is strictly prohibited. Falsifying or altering statistical document, or intentionally using falsified or altered statistical document is strictly prohibited as well. 7) Domestic Observer Program. The Fisheries Agency may require any Chinese Taipei-flagged tuna longline fishing vessel to carry a domestic scientific observer on board. The observer on board will record catch-related data observed in the observatory report and submit it to the Fisheries Agency within the required timeframe when the observer is onshore. 8) Protection of small swordfish in compliance with paragraph 10 of Recommendation 17-02, which sets the minimum size limits for north Atlantic swordfish, we require our fishermen to discard any swordfish less than 15 kilograms, or less than 119 centimeters lower jaw fork length (LJFL) caught in the Atlantic Ocean, and record the discard amount on the catch logbook and E-logbook system</p>	

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Costa Rica	Yes	0	14	LL	307,69 t	14	LL	307,69 t	<p>Species: It is permitted to catch large pelagics and demersals. Fishing gear: It is authorised to use a line of up to a maximum length of 15,000 metres, with a maximum of 600 circle hooks for every 1000 metres. Navigation: It is permitted for small-scale commercial vessels to carry out fishing activities within three nautical miles of the coast and it is permitted for medium-scale vessels to carry out fishing activity within a maximum of forty nautical miles. It is not authorised to fish in the areas of parks and closed areas, and the management plans of the responsible fishing marine areas must be respected.</p>	<p>Collection of catch data on all fishing trips; Collection of fishing effort; In-port monitoring programme for verification of logbooks; Incoptesca staff inspect 100% of offloads of the medium-scale commercial fleet and recording of the information in the Hydrobiological Resources Landings Inspection Form (FID); Satellite based vessel monitoring system (VMS); Monitoring of fishing activity: aerial surveillance, at-sea and in-port inspections (inspections are carried out in places where fishing products are processed and purchased); Minimum catch size for North Atlantic swordfish: live weight of 25 kg or alternatively 125 cm in length from the lower jaw to the fork. Tolerance for vessels that have taken small individuals as bycatch, provided that these bycatches do not exceed 15% of the number of total catch of swordfish of these vessels; Recording of fishery biological information on landing.</p>