

**REPORT FROM THE CCSBT OBSERVER (TAIWAN)
ON THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION**

1. The 2018 annual meeting (the 93rd meeting) of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) was held in San Diego, California (USA) from 20 to 30 August 2018.
2. The Meeting was attended by representatives of 20 Members of the Commission (Kiribati was absent). Bolivia, Chile, Honduras, Indonesia and Liberia attended as observers. Several international governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations were also represented.

Cooperation between IATTC and CCSBT

3. No matter related to cooperation between IATTC and CCSBT was discussed in the meeting.

Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

4. The Commission decided to remove the Fijian-flag vessel Xin Shi Ji 16 from the IUU list. The updated IUU list has been posted on the website of IATTC.

Adopted Resolutions

5. Seven resolutions were approved
 - (a) *Resolution (Amended) on a regional vessel register*: The Commission agreed that since 1 January 2020, CPCs shall ensure their fishing vessels of less than 100 GT, authorized to fish in the high seas of the Convention Area have an IMO or LR number issued. In addition, the Commission agreed that CPCs shall notify the Director annually of their list of vessels which were active in previous year.
 - (b) *Amendment to Resolution C-13-03 supplementing Resolution C-05-02 on North Pacific albacore*: The Commission agreed that all CPCs shall use the designated template to report the following information: a list of all their specific fisheries or fleets that had any of North Pacific albacore in the Convention Area from 2013 through 2017 with whether they were targeting North Pacific albacore and the annual catch indicated, annual fishing effort for fisheries targeting North Pacific albacore from 2013 through 2017, as well as the average effort for the period 2002-2004. In addition, the Commission agreed to amend the existing Resolution C-05-02 by removing the requirement of reporting catches of North Pacific albacore tuna by gear type every six months.
 - (c) *Amendment of Resolution C-16-01 on the collection and analyses of data on fish-aggregating devices*: The Commission agreed that the FAD Working Group should evaluate materials and designs to further reduce entanglements in FADs and for biodegradable FADs and make recommendations to revise the Principles for design and deployment of FADs.

- (d) *Amendment to Resolution C-16-08 on a long-term management framework for the conservation and management of Pacific Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean*: The Commission agreed the IATTC shall implement a provisional rebuilding plan by adopting an initial rebuilding target and a second rebuilding target. In addition, an under-harvest of catch limits may be added to the applicable catch limits in the following year and shall not exceed 5% of the initial catch limits.
- (e) *Measure for the conservation and management of Pacific Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, 2019 and 2020*: The Commission agreed the catches of Pacific Bluefin tuna by all CPCs shall not exceed the catch limit of 6200 metric tons, during 2019 and 2020.
- (f) *Resolution on improving observer safety at sea: Emergency action plan*: The Commission agreed to establish the scheme of observer safety at sea to require the CPCs to take actions in the event that an observer dies, is missing or presumed fallen overboard, suffers from a serious illness or injury, has been assaulted, intimidated, threatened or harassed.
- (g) *Financing for fiscal year 2019*: The Commission agreed its budget of US\$8,133,836 for fiscal year 2019.

Other Issues Discussed

6. Several other proposals were also discussed, including port state measures, sea turtle conservation measures, shark fins attached measure, observer coverage of longline fishery and marine pollution, etc. However, no consensus was reached on these issues.

Place and date of next meeting

7. It was agreed that the next meeting of the IATTC will be held in Bilbao, Spain in 2019.