

**INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
INTERNATIONAL REVIEW PANEL**

PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING

MINUTES OF THE 8TH MEETING

**Cartagena (Colombia)
27 October 2001**

Chair: Ms. Clara Gaviria (Colombia)

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of Chairman
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Review of the implementation of the dolphin-safe documentation system
5. Promotion and publicity for the *AIDCP Dolphin Safe* label
6. Technical modifications to the System for Tuna Tracking and Verification
7. National Tuna Tracking Plans
8. Recommendations for the IRP and the Meeting of the Parties
9. Other business
10. Date and place of next meeting
11. Adjournment

DOCUMENTS

TT-8-06 Technical modifications to the System for Tuna Tracking and Verification (attached)

APPENDICES

1. List of attendees
2. Tuna Tracking Forms received by the Secretariat, 2001

The 8th Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking was held in Cartagena (Colombia) on October 27, 2001. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by Dr. Robin Allen, Director of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), which serves as the Secretariat to the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP). Dr. Allen stated that he had been asked to inquire of the delegates whether they would be willing to open this meeting, which normally is restricted to IRP members and those on government delegations, to other interested individuals. The Working Group agreed to open the meeting.

2. Election of Chairman

Ms. Clara Gaviria, of Colombia, was elected to chair the meeting, and delegated the task to Lic. María Eugenia Lloreda.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda was adopted as presented.

4. Review of the implementation of the dolphin-safe documentation system

The Secretariat presented a table showing the Tuna Tracking Forms (TTFs) received in 2001 as of 15 September (Appendix 2).

After a discussion of the question of the TTFs, during which some members expressed their concern that the system was not working properly, the Working Group agreed that the Parties should make greater efforts in relation to their obligation of sending the TTFs to the Secretariat in a timely and efficient manner, and asked the Secretariat to write to governments emphasizing the importance of fully implementing the System for Tracking and Verifying Tuna and the procedures for *AIDCP Dolphin Safe* Tuna Certification. National authorities of the governments involved have significant responsibilities associated with these agreed tracking and certification processes, and the meeting recognized the importance of ensuring that the national authorities effectively discharge these responsibilities.

The Working Group also asked that the Secretariat prepare a flow chart for the next meeting, illustrating how the system is supposed to work with regard to transmitting the TTFs to the Secretariat.

5. Promotion and publicity for the *AIDCP Dolphin Safe* label

Regarding the trip to Europe to promote the *AIDCP Dolphin Safe* label, Colombia opened the discussion by referring to the document prepared by the Secretariat with suggestions on how to proceed with such a mission, and recommending that this approach be pursued.

Costa Rica pointed out that it would be necessary to have the support of the EU Council of Ministers. The EU delegate responded that the EU supports the mission, but that no decision had been taken at the level of Ministers regarding the matter.

There followed a discussion on the costs of the mission and of a publicity campaign in general. It was agreed that the costs should be borne by those Parties involved in exporting the tuna, and the Secretariat was asked to prepare for the next meeting of the Working Group a budget for the costs of two trips to Europe, plus the corresponding publicity and all the events that would be held as part of the same, and the cost of hiring a public relations firm for one year.

The United States emphasized that any costs incurred as a result of the trip to Europe should not be covered by the IATTC budget.

6. Technical modifications to the System for Tuna Tracking and Verification

As requested by the 7th meeting of the of the Working Group, the Secretariat presented document TT-8-06 (attached) containing a proposal for amending the System for Tuna Tracking and Verification to address the matter of the collection of TTF data during trips which occurred both inside and outside the Agreement Area. The document also contains data on catches outside the Agreement Area.

During an extensive discussion of the matter, many delegations expressed their support for the proposal drafted by the Secretariat, but some noted the possibility of legal problems stemming from the proposals. It was pointed out that the proposal was drafted in a manner that did not require recording on the TTFs any information relating to catches outside the Agreement Area, specifically to address any possible legal problems. Some delegations expressed concern that if a vessel chose not to record information on such catches, none of its catch, including that inside the Agreement Area, could be considered dolphin safe. The suggestion was made that perhaps the vessel's wells could be sealed to address this concern. In the end, no agreement on a modification could be agreed, and the Working Group asked the Secretariat to prepare a new proposal for its next meeting.

7. National Tuna Tracking Plans

The Secretariat introduced this item by noting which countries had completed national tuna tracking plans and transmitted them to the Secretariat. No delegations had any comments or observations on the plans that had been transmitted and circulated.

The European Union noted that its draft plan was awaiting approval by the Council of Ministers. Guatemala explained that its draft plan was awaiting final approval by the appropriate government Ministers. The Working Group instructed the Secretariat to send letters to those countries that had not yet submitted their national plans, reminding them once again of the importance of completing these plans, and asking them to send them to the Secretariat before the next meeting of the Working Group.

8. Recommendations for the IRP and the Meeting of the Parties

The Working Group recommended that the IRP and the Meeting of the Parties endorse its proposals to ask the Secretariat to prepare a budget for promoting the *AIDCP dolphin safe* label and to prepare letters to the appropriate Parties regarding the tuna tracking and dolphin-safe certification systems, and national tuna tracking plans.

9. Other business

Ms. Pat Donley, of the United States, was confirmed as Chair of the Working Group.

10. Date and place of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Working Group would be held in La Jolla on 31 January 2002.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on 27 October 2001.

Appendix 1.

**PROGRAMA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DE LOS DELFINES
INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
GRUPO DE TRABAJO PERMANENTE SOBRE EL SEGUIMIENTO DEL ATUN
PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING**

8ª REUNION-8TH MEETING

**27 de octubre de 2001- October 27, 2001
Cartagena (Colombia)**

ASISTENTES - ATTENDEES

BOLIVIA

YERKO GARAFULIC

Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Desarrollo Rural

COLOMBIA

FABIO AVILA ARAUJO

IVAN DARIO ESCOBAR

Instituto Nacional de Pesca y Acuicultura

CLARA GAVIRIA

MARIA EUGENIA LLOREDA

Ministerio de Comercio Exterior

GONZALO JIMENEZ

ANYURIVET DAZA

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

MARY LUZ CAÑON

HECTOR LEAL

ROSALBA VARGAS

Dirección General Marítima

ESTHER JULIA

PROEXPORT

ARMANDO HERNANDEZ

ALVARO BUSTAMANTE S.

COSTA RICA

HERBERT NANNE ECHANDI

ASDRÚBAL VASQUEZ

JOSE LUIS ARAYA

INCOPECA

ECUADOR

RAFAEL TRUJILLO BEJARANO

LUIS TORRES NAVARRETE

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BERNARDO BUEHS

DANILO COTRINO

IVO CUKA

EL SALVADOR

SONIA SALAVERRIA

CORALIA MOREIRA

Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería

EUROPEAN UNION – UNION EUROPEA

ROBERTO CESARI

European Commission

JUAN IGNACIO ARRIBAS

Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación

JAVIER ARIZ TELLERIA

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ODILO ROMERO

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MAXIMO CARVAJAL

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ERNESTO ESCOBAR

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PERU

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Instituto del Mar del Perú

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA

DAVID HOGAN

Department of State

VANUATU

HUGO ALSINA LAGOS

Office of Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs

VENEZUELA

ALVIN DELGADO

Programa Nacional de Observadores

JON CELAYA

JUAN MORA CERDAS

FRANCISCO ORTISI

ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES--NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

NINA YOUNG

The Ocean Conservancy

INDUSTRIA ATUNERA -TUNA INDUSTRY

ROBERTO AGUIRRE

CARLOS CALERO

GABRIEL SARRO

SECRETARIADO – SECRETARIAT

ROBIN ALLEN, Director

DAVID BRATTEN

MARTHA GOMEZ

JOSHUE GROSS

BRIAN HALLMAN

BERTA JUAREZ

NICHOLAS WEBB

Appendix 2.

PROGRAMA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DE LOS DELFINES INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

RSA recibidos por el Secretariado para viajes del PICD con zarpe en 2001¹
TTFs received by the Secretariat for IDCP trip departures in 2001¹

Parte – Party	Viajes – Trips	Recibidos - Received		
		Autoridad nac. ² Nat. Authority ²	Totales – Totals	Porcentaje Percentage
COL	12	0	11	92%
ECU	131	50	131	100%
EUR	20	0	20	100%
GTM	3 ³	0	3	100%
HON	6	0	6	100%
MEX	112	18	66	59%
NIC	4	2	4	100%
PAN	14	4	13	93%
SLV	5	1	5	100%
USA	13	5	13	100%
VEN	92	53	91	99%
VUT	18	5	18	100%
Total	430	138	381⁴	95%

¹ Viajes completos al 15 de septiembre de 2001 – Completed trips as of September 15, 2001

² Por parte de la autoridad nacional de cuya jurisdicción es el buque o de la nación de procesamiento - From national authority of flag of jurisdiction or tuna processing state.

³ Incluye solamente viajes desde el 17 de mayo (fecha de acceso al APICD) – Includes only trips that started since May 17 (date of accession to the AIDCP).

⁴ De los 98 viajes que comenzaron el 21 de julio o posteriormente y que arribaron al 15 de septiembre, la Secretaría ha recibido solamente un original – Of the 98 trips that started on or after July 21 and were completed by Sept. 15, only one original has been received by the Secretariat.

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
PROGRAMA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACION DE LOS DELFINES

PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING

8TH MEETING

CARTAGENA (COLOMBIA)
OCTOBER 27, 2001

DOCUMENT TT-8-06

**TECHNICAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE SYSTEM FOR TUNA TRACKING
AND VERIFICATION**

1. COLLECTION OF DATA BY OBSERVERS OUTSIDE THE AGREEMENT AREA

During the 7th meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking, the matter of covering the collection of TTF data on trips by vessels that fish both inside and outside the Agreement Area was discussed but not resolved. The Working Group decided to discuss the issue further at its next meeting, and the Secretariat was asked to draft an additional proposal for consideration by the members. Following is a proposal for a new paragraph 4 *bis*, to be added to Section 3 of the AIDCP System for Tracking and Verifying Tuna:

“If a Party determines that tuna caught outside the Agreement Area by a vessel under its jurisdiction which fishes both inside and outside the Agreement Area during a single trip should not be recorded on a TTF by the observer on board the vessel, and so notifies the Secretariat in a timely manner, such tuna will not be recorded on the TTF. Otherwise, observers shall record on the TTF all tuna caught by vessels both inside and outside the Agreement Area. Unless all the tuna caught by a vessel which fishes both inside and outside the Agreement Area during a single trip is recorded on the TTF, the TTF for that trip shall not reflect that the tuna in any of the vessel’s wells is dolphin safe.”

2. DATA ON CATCHES OUTSIDE THE AGREEMENT AREA

Number of trips, retained catches (YFT, SKJ, BET), and effort (days at sea) in the Agreement Area (AA) and in the Pacific west of 150°W by purse-seine vessels covered by the IATTC observer program. Data from IATTC database; excludes trips covered by national programs. All trips with effort west of 150°W also fished in the Agreement Area, and are included in both categories. Days in which a vessel was in both areas are also included in both categories.

	Number of trips		Retained catch (mt)		Days at sea	
	AA	West of 150°W	AA	West of 150°W	AA	West of 150°W
1999	640	21	456,562	10,400	22,448	306
2000	594	25	411,798	12,295	23,029	418
2001 ¹	326	3	242,803	976	12,452	48

¹To: 15 OCT 2001