

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

**82<sup>ND</sup> MEETING**

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA (USA)  
4-8 JULY 2011

**PROPOSAL IATTC-82-F-1**

**SUBMITTED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION AND JAPAN**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION ON SCIENTIFIC OBSERVERS FOR LONGLINE  
VESSELS**

*The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):*

*Recognising* the need to collect scientific information on target species as well as comprehensive data on interactions with non-target species, in particular, sea turtles, sharks and seabirds;

*Noting* the need to ensure uniform and equitable treatment of all tuna-fishing vessels operating in the Convention Area;

*Noting* that large purse-seine vessels operating in the Convention Area are required to carry scientific observers aboard, in accordance with the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program;

*Taking* into account that 5% observer coverage of high-seas fishing operations was noted as the initial level at the Kobe II workshop on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance, held in Barcelona, Spain, in June 2010;

*Resolves as follows:*

1. Each member and cooperating non-member (hereinafter referred to as “CPC”) shall ensure that, from 1 January 2013, at least 5% of the fishing effort made by its longline fishing vessels greater than 20 metres length overall carry an scientific observer. The Scientific Advisory Committee shall indicate, at its 2012 session, how fishing effort should be determined (sets, fishing days, number of vessels or other alternative options)
2. Each CPC shall endeavor to ensure that observer coverage will be representative of the activities of its fleet.
3. The main task of the scientific observers shall be to record any available biological information, the catch levels of targeted fish species, species composition and any available biological information as well as any interactions with non-target species such as sea turtles, seabirds and sharks.
4. The Scientific Advisory Committee shall draw up a common reporting format detailing the required data to be collected by scientific observers.
5. Scientific observers shall submit to their flag CPC authorities a report on these observations at the latest 30 days after the end of each fishing trip.
6. Every year, CPCs shall submit to the Scientific Advisory Committee, by 31 March, the scientific observer's information on the previous year's fishery in a format established by the Scientific Advisory Committee.
7. In 2014 the Scientific Advisory Committee shall conduct a scientific review of the effectiveness of the level of coverage established in paragraph 1 above, with a view to making recommendations to the Commission on any change that may be necessary to accomplish the objectives of this Resolution, including the increase of the coverage rate.