

**INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION**

**85<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

Veracruz Veracruz, (Mexico)  
10-14 June 2013

**PROPOSAL IATTC-85 H-1**

**SUBMITTED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**RESOLUTION ON CAPACITY MANAGEMENT APPLICABLE TO  
ALL FLEET SEGMENTS**

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

**Goal and rationale:** see the working paper “A road map towards a capacity management plan in the Eastern Pacific Ocean” submitted by the EU to the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Fleet Capacity

## IATTC RESOLUTION ON CAPACITY MANAGEMENT APPLICABLE TO ALL FLEET SEGMENTS OPERATING IN THE EPO

*The Inter American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC),*

*TAKING NOTE* in particular of the Conservation recommendations by the IATTC staff to introduce precautionary measures for the main targeted stocks in the IATTC area of competence;

*CONSCIOUS* of the need to avoid an overexploitation of the stocks targeted by this fleet in its entire area of distribution;

*AWARE* that the issue of excess fishing capacity is of worldwide concern and is the subject of an International Plan of Action developed by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization;

*NOTING* that FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of the Fishing Capacity (IPOA) stipulates in its Objectives and Principles that States and Regional Fisheries Management Organisations confronted with an overcapacity problem which is undermining the achievement of long-term sustainability outcomes, should endeavour initially to limit at the present level and progressively reduce the fishing capacity applied to affected fisheries;

*MINDFUL* of the IATTC 2005 Plan for Regional Management of Fishing Capacity which states in its Objectives and Principles the need for an efficient, equitable and transparent management of fishing capacity in the EPO in order to assist in achieving long-term sustainability of the fishery targeting species covered by the Convention and that this plan clearly states that capacity limitation should apply to all segments of the fleet active in the EPO, through an holistic approach to capacity management;

*AWARE* that the above Plan considers management of fleet capacity as complement of other measures taken to conserve the stocks of species covered by the Convention and that CPCs and all participants in these fisheries should limit the total fleet capacity to the present level and to reduce it, as appropriate;

*BELIEVING* that it is important to limit fishing capacity in the IATTC Area of Competence in order to ensure that the fisheries in the region are conducted at a sustainable level;

*TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION* the provisions of Resolution C-02-03 as the regulatory framework that currently regulates fleet capacity in the EPO;

*ADOPTS, in accordance with the IATTC Convention, the following Resolution:*

### **Capacity freeze**

1. Members and Cooperating Non-Members (CPCs) shall limit in 2014 and following years, the number of their fishing vessels of 24 meters length overall and larger to the number of its active fishing vessels registered on 31 December 2012 at the IATTC Record of Vessels. In the case of capacity transfers, the capacity will be considered as attributed to the transferring CPCs and recorded as such in the IATTC Record of Vessels.
2. This limitation of number of vessels shall be commensurate with the corresponding overall well volume and, where vessels are replaced, the overall well volume shall not be exceeded.
3. This Resolution shall not prejudice the legitimate rights and obligations under international law of coastal developing States and Territories in the Convention Area who may wish to pursue a responsible level of development of their own fisheries in the Convention Area.
4. CPCs which have capacity claims or unused available capacity, will draw up, a fleet development plan. This Plan shall be submitted to the Commission for information and record on month before the 2015 Annual Meeting and should define, *inter alia*, the type, size and origin of the vessels and the

programming (precise calendar for the forthcoming 10 years) of their introduction into the fisheries.

#### **Active fishing capacity**

5. CPCs shall notify to the IATTC Secretariat, by 31 December 2013, the lists of vessels, by gear type, of 24 meters overall length and over, and corresponding overall well volume, which have actively fished for tropical tunas during the years 2010, 2011 and 2012.
6. In notifying their vessels actively fishing in 2010, 2011 and 2012 the CPCs shall confirm that they have verified the effective presence and fishing activities of their vessels in the IATTC area in those years, through their VMS records, catch reports, port calls, or other means. The IATTC Secretariat shall have access to such information upon request.
7. CPCs shall limit in 2015 and following years, the number of their fishing vessels of 24 meters length overall and larger, and the corresponding overall well volume, to the number of its vessels, and the corresponding well volume, which have actively fished for tropical tunas during the year 2010, 2011 and 2012. The overall well volume of a CPC cannot be in any case higher than the “active” capacity. In the case of capacity transfers, the capacity will be considered as attributed to the transferring CPCs and recorded as such in the IATTC Record of Vessels.
8. CPCs will provide by the 1st June of each year a list of the vessels which have actively fished in the Convention Area during the previous year.
9. The IATTC Secretariat will establish a list of active vessels and will keep it regularly updated.

#### **Availability of data from longliners**

10. CPCs will submit to the IATTC Secretariat by 1 March of each year data related to catches by longliners of less than 24 meters overall length concerning the previous calendar year.

#### **Updated data on target capacity**

11. The Scientific Advisory Committee will provide before each Annual Meeting an updated figure of the target capacity based on the situation of the relevant stocks and the MSY.

#### **Implementing the 2005 Plan of Action**

12. In 2015 the Commission will take a decision as to the steps necessary to implement the third phase of the 2005 Plan of Action.