

**INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION**

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

**Veracruz, Veracruz (Mexico)  
10-14 June 2013**

**PROPOSAL IATTC-85 K-2**

**SUBMITTED BY MEXICO**

**MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF  
BLUEFIN TUNA IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Veracruz, Veracruz, Mexico, on the occasion of its 85th Meeting:

*Taking into account* that the stock of Pacific bluefin tuna is caught in both the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) and in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

*Affirming* that it is necessary to take preventive management measures throughout the range of the resource to contribute to the stability of the stock of Pacific bluefin tuna;

*Recognizing* that the impact of the fishery for bluefin tuna in the Western and Central Pacific is much greater than in the EPO fisheries, and its rate of increase in recent years is greater (Document IATTC 83-05, page 76);

*Putting on record again* that the conservation measures adopted in the Western and Central Pacific are more important, due to their magnitude and composition, for the conservation of these stocks, and those that are currently in force may not be sufficient to reduce the total fishing mortality of this stock;

*Encouraging* both Commissions to take complementary and effective measures to reduce the mortality of bluefin tuna throughout the entire spectrum of ages, especially juveniles;

*Urging* all IATTC Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs) involved in this fishery to participate in a fair and equitable manner, and without exceptions, in the discussions and adoption of conservation measures applicable to the stock throughout its entire range;

*Mindful* that these measures are intended as an interim means for exercising caution towards assuring sustainability of the Pacific bluefin tuna resource and urging comparable action by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), and that future conservation measures should be based not only on these interim measures, but also on development of future scientific information and advice of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) and the IATTC scientific staff;

*Taking into account* the IATTC scientific staff's conservation recommendation for the Convention Area (Document IATTC 83-05c) as well as those adopted by the WCPFC, and committed to maintaining fishing activity at sustainable levels;

*Recognizing* that, although they are not comparable in their effectiveness, the WCPFC adopted conservation and management measures for bluefin tuna in 2012 (CMM 2012-06) and that in turn, the IATTC approved at its 83rd annual meeting in 2012 measures that include all the commercial fleets that catch that resource in the EPO for the 2012-2013 period; and therefore urges its counterparts to establish

management and regulatory measures in all the WCPFC commercial fleets.

*Noting* that the ISC recently carried out an assessment of this resource in the North Pacific, which advises that the current 2010 biomass is at the lowest historical levels;

*Resolves as follows;*

1. In the IATTC Convention Area, the commercial catches of bluefin tuna by all the CPCs during the of 2014-201XX period shall not exceed [XX] metric tons.
2. Notwithstanding the above, for the [first] [second] year that this resolution is in force, the Commission shall ratify the quotas established in paragraph 1 are based on the equivalency of the measures adopted in the WCPFC in 2013.
3. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, any CPC with a historical record of Eastern Pacific bluefin catches may take a commercial catch in addition to the quota established in paragraph 1 of up to [500 metric tons] of eastern Pacific bluefin tuna annually.
4. CPCs shall take the measures necessary to ensure that the total catch of Pacific bluefin, in the Convention Area, for each year does not exceed the catch limit for that year. For this purpose, each CPC shall report its catches to the Director in a timely fashion, weekly. The Director will send a first notice to the CPCs when 50% of the quota is reached. He will likewise send similar notices when 60%, 70% 80% of the quota is reached. When 90% is reached, the Director will send the corresponding notice with the projection of when the quota established in this resolution will be reached and the CPCs will take the necessary internal measures to avoid exceeding the limit.
5. Taking into account the recommendations of the IATTC scientific staff and the new ISC stock assessment for Pacific bluefin tuna, planned for 2015, as well as the new measures taken by the WCPFC, reviewed at the 2015 SAC, the Commission shall review this resolution at its meeting in that year.
6. The Commission shall again ask the WCPFC to take measures comparable in effectiveness to the measures in this resolution, for all the fleets that guarantee the reduction of fishing mortality of Pacific bluefin tuna.