

(Informal translation)

**INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

10TH MEETING

**Victoria, Canada
02 August 2023**

DOCUMENT CAF-10 INF-A

**STATEMENT BY PANAMA ON THE CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS
IN THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION (IATTC).
ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE IATTC AND THE AIDCP FROM JULY 31
TO AUGUST 11, 2023, IN VICTORIA, CANADA**

Panamá, 31 July 2023.

Panama, as a member of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), hereby reiterates its commitment to the Organization and at the same time, emphasizes the efforts made, in particular upon receipt of IATTC Memo Ref: 0124-539 of March 12, 2020, reporting an accumulated debt totaling USD\$3,466,962.00.

The aforementioned figure served as the basis for adopting the necessary legal regulations with a view to modifying the payment structure for annual contributions to the Commission and complying with the payment of the same on an annual basis. Since 2020 to date, we have paid a total amount of USD\$3,182,488.29, as can be seen in the breakdown below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Panama payments from 2020 to 2023 Amount (USD\$)</i>
2020	393,117.96
2021	607,944.30
2022	1,196,820.56
2023	984,605.47

With these payments, the debt has been amortized to US\$2,627,988.71 and the outstanding balance will be cancelled as adopted in the National Budget of the Republic of Panama. To this end, we have asked the Commission for an official statement regarding the current balance of the debt, with the purpose of obtaining the allotment of the funds, which we hope to obtain at the end of these Meetings. For our country, it is indispensable that in accordance with the relevant regulations and without altering the structure of the debt, the payments to be made be used to cancel the most recent period and the payment excess be assigned to the oldest outstanding payments, since we foresee not having any outstanding payments in the year 2027.

(Informal translation)

We are pleased with the results obtained so far, thus honoring the support received from the Commission and its Members to maintain the conditions of participation and collaboration in the processes of discussion of the proposals that concern us all and the adoption of resolutions and recommendations based on consensus, taking into consideration that in this way we guarantee both the development of the tuna fishing industry and the conservation of marine resources pursuant to the mandate of the Commission..

With this statement, we expect that the Commission will recognize and welcome the effort made, by authorizing this acknowledgement, for which we thank you in advance..

Thank you very much.