

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

**PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING**

**17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA (USA)

18 OCTOBER 2004

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**AGENDA**

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	
3. Approval of minutes of the 16 <sup>th</sup> meeting	
4. Review of the implementation of the <i><a href="#">Dolphin safe certification system</a></i>	<a href="#">TT-17-04</a>
5. Review of trigger for follow-up of discrepancies of weight	<a href="#">TT-17-05</a>
6. Modification of the AIDCP Dolphin Safe Certification system	<a href="#">TT-17-06</a>
7. Recommendations for the IRP	
8. Other business	<a href="#">TT-17-08</a>
9. Place and date of next meeting	
10. Adjournment	

**APPENDICES**

1. List of attendees

The 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking was held in La Jolla, California (USA), on October 18, 2004. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

### **1. Opening of the meeting**

The meeting was opened by Ms. Pat Donley of the United States, the Chair of the Working Group.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

The Working Group agreed to discuss under item 6 of the agenda the document prepared by Costa Rica ([TT-17-08](#)) entitled *Allocation of whole tuna used in the production of tuna loins and canned tuna exported and certified as AIDCP Dolphin Safe Tuna*. The provisional agenda was otherwise adopted as presented.

### **3. Approval of minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting**

The minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group, as previously circulated by the Secretariat, were approved with no changes.

### **4. Review of the implementation of the dolphin safe certification system (TT-17-04)**

Dr. Robin Allen presented a report on the implementation of the dolphin safe certification system ([TT-17-04](#)) which updated information provided at the last meeting of the Working Group, and presented information on comparisons of dolphin safe certificates and their corresponding Tuna Tracking Forms (TTFs).

The European Union and the United States questioned why it often takes so long to hear from Parties that have been notified that the amount of certified tuna exceeds the amount of tuna that can be accounted for on dolphin safe TTFs by more than 10 percent. Parties were encouraged to reply to these notifications as soon as possible.

The Chair noted that the increased number of original TTFs received by the Secretariat in a timely manner is an indicator that the program is working well.

### **5. Review of trigger for follow-up of discrepancies of weight**

Dr. Allen reviewed document TT-17-05, recalling that the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties decided that, if the amount of tuna recorded on a certificate exceeds the amount recorded on the corresponding TTF by 10 percent or more, the matter should be investigated by the government issuing the certificate.

During the discussion of this matter at the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties, the question arose of whether this 10-percent trigger level should be changed, and the Working Group decided to revisit this issue at this meeting.

Dr. Allen reminded the meeting that the point of the comparison exercise is to verify the accuracy of the dolphin safe certificates, ensuring that tuna is not claimed to be dolphin safe when it may not be. This possibility arises if there is a larger amount of dolphin safe tuna recorded on a certificate than is documented on a corresponding TTF.

The latest information analyzed showed that, in four of the 37 trips with valid dolphin safe certificates issued since June 1, 2003, the discrepancy was greater than 10 percent. With a trigger level of 5 percent, two additional certificates would have required investigation.

After consideration, the Working Group decided to continue using the 10-percent trigger for investigation of dolphin safe certificates on which the amount of dolphin-safe tuna exceeds that recorded on TTFs.

### **6. Modification of the AIDCP Dolphin Safe Certification system**

One of the matters addressed under this agenda item was a continuation of the discussion begun at the last meeting of the working group of a proposal made by El Salvador, [TT-17-06](#), to modify the Procedures for AIDCP Dolphin Safe Tuna Certification. Among other changes, the El Salvador proposal would make

the system mandatory and provide additional certification for non-dolphin safe tuna. Several delegations made it clear that they could not support the certification of non-dolphin safe tuna, and the United States made clear that the system needed to provide the possibility of the procedures being voluntary for each party, as is currently the case. Some delegations made specific suggestions regarding certain parts of the proposal, and it was decided that if El Salvador wanted to pursue modifications to the system it should bring back a revised proposal for consideration at the next meeting of the working group.

The Working Group then discussed a proposal by Costa Rica ([TT-17-08](#)), which addresses the weight relationship between whole tuna and tuna processed into loins or cans, with the idea that this relationship should be formalized in the AIDCP dolphin safe certificates.

Several delegations noted that this proposal needs to be carefully evaluated and reviewed with tuna industry representatives. After some discussion, the working group agreed that the next step is for the Parties to study the proposal in consultation with their tuna industries, and determine whether they agree with the conversion factors proposed by Costa Rica, and if not, to present conversion factors they believe are more appropriate. The Parties agreed to report their findings to the Secretariat well before the next meeting of the Working Group. The Chair volunteered to investigate what factors other international organizations might be using for similar purposes and report these findings to the Secretariat. The Secretariat would use the information gathered to prepare a report and recommendation for the next meeting of the Working Group concerning factors that might be used to convert the weight of tuna loins and canned tuna to round weight.

#### **7. Recommendations to the IRP**

The working group had no recommendations for the IRP.

#### **8. Other business**

No other business was discussed.

#### **9. Time and place of next meeting.**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Working Group would be held immediately prior to the next meeting of the IRP.

#### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on 18 October 2004.

**Appendix 1.**

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

**PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING  
GRUPO DE TRABAJO PERMANENTE SOBRE EL SEGUIMIENTO DEL ATUN**

**17<sup>th</sup> MEETING - 17<sup>a</sup> REUNION**

**18 Oct 2004**

**La Jolla, California**

**ATTENDEES - ASISTENTES**

**BOLIVIA**

**HANS BELLOTA**

Dirección General de Intereses Marítimos

**COLOMBIA**

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**LUIS R. PAREDES**

Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural

**ARTURO VEGA**

INCODER

**YESID CASTRO**

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

**ARMANDO HERNÁNDEZ**

**ALVARO BUSTAMANTE**

**ALVARO F. BUSTAMANTE JR.**

**GUILLERMO DAW**

**HUGO MARINO**

**COSTA RICA**

**ASDRÚBAL VÁSQUEZ**

**GEORGE HEIGOLD**

INCOPECA

**ECUADOR**

**HUMBERTO MOYA**

**LUIS TORRES**

Ministerio de Comercio Exterior, Industrialización,  
Pesca y Competitividad

**BRUNO LEONE**

**RAFAEL TRUJILLO**

**EL SALVADOR**

**SONIA SALAVERÍA**

Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería

**MANUEL CALVO**

**EUROPEAN UNION - UNION EUROPEA**

**ROBERTO CESARI**

European Commission

**CARLOS ALDEREGUÍA**

Secretaría General de Pesca

**JAVIER ARÍZ TELLERÍA**

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**AMOR SOLÁ**

Embajada de España en Washington

**GUATEMALA**

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Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación

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**RICARDO BELMONTES**

CONAPESCA

**MICHEL DREYFUS**

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**LUIS FUEYO**

SEMARNAT/PROFEPA

**NICARAGUA**

**MIGUEL A. MARENCO**  
ADPESCA

**EDWARD WEISSMAN**

**JORGE MAYORGA**  
Ministerio de Industria, Fomento y Comercio

**PANAMA**

**GEORGE NOVEY**  
Autoridad Marítima de Panamá

**ARNULFO FRANCO**  
**MARÍA PATRICIA DÍAZ**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA**

**DAVID HOGAN**  
**JAMES STORY**  
Department of State

**CHARLES HART**  
**SUSAN JACKSON**

**PAT DONLEY**  
**JEREMY RUSIN**  
**JESSICA KONDEL**  
**OTHA EASLEY**  
**MICHELLE ZETWO**  
**WILLIAM JACOBSON**  
National Marine Fisheries Service

**VENEZUELA**

**ALVIN DELGADO**  
Programa Nacional de Observadores de Venezuela

**FREDDY DE CORDOVA**

**VANUATU**

**HUGO ALSINA**  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs  
Vanuatu

**NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS - ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES**

**HÉCTOR LÓPEZ**  
FUNDATUN  
**CRISTOBEL BLOCK**  
The Humane Society

**NINA YOUNG**  
The Ocean Conservancy

**TUNA INDUSTRY – INDUSTRIA ATUNERA**

**PAUL KRAMPE**

**SECRETARIAT - SECRETARÍA**

**ROBIN ALLEN**, Director  
**ERNESTO ALTAMIRANO**  
**DAVID BRATTEN**  
**ALEJANDRA FERREIRA**  
**MÓNICA GALVÁN**

**JOSHUE GROSS**  
**BRIAN HALLMAN**  
**MARLON ROMÁN**  
**NICHOLAS WEBB**