

**AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ON-BOARD OBSERVER PROGRAM AND
ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP CAPTAIN INCENTIVES**

11 October 1999

The Parties to the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program:

Recognizing the importance of observers to the success of the International Dolphin Conservation Program;

Recognizing the excellent work by observers in both the IATTC and national observer programs;

Concerned about the number of cases reviewed by the International Review Panel pertaining to observer interference and harassment;

Commending the tuna industry, vessel captains and crew for their successful efforts to reduce the incidental mortality of dolphins in the purse-seine tuna fishery of the eastern Pacific Ocean.

Commit to:

- Take additional measures to inform vessel owners and captains that it is a violation of Annex II (6)(f) of the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program for any vessel owner, captain, or crew member to obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe, or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his or her duties;
- Expeditiously review all possible infractions pertaining to observer harassment and interference, take swift action, in accordance with national legislation, on such possible infractions in a manner effective in securing compliance with the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program and discouraging such violations from occurring, and promptly inform the International Review Panel of the actions taken;
- Establish a working group to develop a system of incentives for captains and crews of vessels with a record of outstanding performance and with no record of infractions, with a view to enhancing compliance with the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program; and
- In accordance with Annex II.4(d) of the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program, ensure that vessel captains are provided the opportunity to include in the observer's reports any information that they might deem to be relevant.