

# AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

## 15<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE PARTIES

BUSAN, KOREA  
21 JUNE 2006

### DOCUMENT MOP 15-07

#### AMENDMENT TO ANNEX IV OF THE AIDCP: PURPOSES FOR THE USE OF DMLs FROM THE RDA

During the 40<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IRP, in the discussion on Document [IRP-40-11a](#), to amend Annex IV of the AIDCP regarding the Reserve DML Allocation (RDA) and second-semester DMLs, the Panel asked the Secretariat to prepare a draft amendment to the Agreement to reflect an additional purpose for the RDA, as discussed in Document IRP-40-11a<sup>1</sup>.

As noted in that paper, the purpose of the RDA, as elaborated in the Agreement, is for vessels “which do not normally fish for tuna in the Agreement Area but which may, from time to time, desire to participate in the fishery in the Agreement Area on a limited basis . . .”

In practice, the RDA has never been actually used for the purpose spelled out in the Agreement, but rather for assigning DMLs to vessels that legitimately enter the fishery during the course of the year, but too late to be assigned a DML in accordance with the usual procedures. This has occurred on several occasions since the inception of the Agreement, to the benefit of vessels of several different Parties. These assignments have been made in a very transparent manner and there have there been no objections to them. It would thus appear that there is another purpose of the RDA which reflects the current needs of the fishery. This purpose could be reflected by amending Annex IV.I.8 as follows:

“8. The remaining two percent, or such other portion as the Parties might determine, of the overall DML for the fishery shall be maintained as a separate Reserve DML Allocation (RDA<sup>2</sup>), to be managed at the discretion of the Director. Any Party may request that the Director assign DMLs from such RDA to vessels fishing under its jurisdiction which do not normally fish for tuna in the Agreement Area but which may, from time to time, desire to participate in the fishery in the Agreement Area on a limited basis **or to vessels which are not eligible to receive a DML at the time of the deadline for requests for full-year DMLs, but become eligible subsequently and desire to participate in the fishery during the year for which the DML from the RDA is requested. DMLs from the RDA may be assigned only if** the operational and training requirements set forth in Annex VIII of this Agreement, and the requirements set forth in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Section, are met. Any accidental mortalities caused by vessels operating in the Agreement Area under the jurisdiction of any of the Parties that have not requested DMLs for their fleet shall also be deducted from this RDA. No vessel which has been assigned a DML for any given year from the RDA may also receive a full-year or second-semester DML for that same year, and no vessel which has received a full-year or second-semester DML for any given year may also receive a DML from the RDA for that same year.”

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<sup>1</sup> Note: Due to the addition of a new paragraph 5 to Annex IV.I in October 2005, the former paragraph 7 referred to in IRP-40-11a is now paragraph 8

<sup>2</sup> In the Spanish text of the AIDCP, this abbreviation is incorrectly given as “RAD” instead of “RAL”; it is proposed that the opportunity be taken to correct this, in this paragraph and in paragraph 1 of section II of this same Annex