INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

WORKING GROUP TO PROMOTE AND PUBLICIZE THE AIDCP DOLPHIN SAFE TUNA CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

MINUTES OF THE 5TH MEETING (REVISED)

Lanzarote (Spain) 13 June 2005

AGENDA

- 1. Opening of the meeting
- 2. Adoption of the agenda
- 3. Approval of the minutes of the 4th meeting
- 4. Actions to promote AIDCP dolphin safe tuna
- 5. Other business
- 6. Date and place of next meeting
- 7. Adjournment

1. Opening of the meeting

Dr. Robin Allen, Director of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, opened the meeting in the afternoon of 13 June 2005. Dr. Guillermo Compeán, of the Mexican delegation, served as chair of the meeting. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda was approved as presented. However, Mexico noted that it would like to have an update from the United States on the dolphin safe label litigation. Also, the Chair noted that the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking had suggested that the matter of obtaining ISO 9000 certification be discussed further in this working group.

3. Approval of the minutes of the 4th meeting

The minutes of the 4th meeting of the Working Group were approved as presented.

4. Actions to promote AIDCP dolphin safe tuna

Regarding the updating of information for promoting the label, the Secretariat reported that the <u>2004</u> Executive Report on the International Dolphin Conservation Program, which summarizes developments that occurred during 2004 with respect to the program, had been prepared and distributed.

Mexico noted that more of the promotional posters for the AIDCP would be printed to cover future events.

Regarding future actions for promoting the AIDCP dolphin safe label, it was reported that the promotional event in Mexico planned for last May did not take place because it was decided to postpone it until the AQUAMAR Fisheries and Aquaculture Fair, scheduled for 12-14 September in Mérida, Yucatán, where many producers and marketers of fisheries products are expected to attend. Also, it was noted that on those same dates the Conference of Ministers of OLDEPESCA will be held, which will allow the Ministers of Latin American countries to be present at the forum.

Mexico undertook to send more information regarding this event to the delegates of the participating countries.

The European Union delegation reported that on 9 June the European Parliament approved the ratification of the AIDCP by a great majority and also that an exchange of views on the eventual introduction into Community Law of the AIDCP Dolphin Safe Certification Scheme and Label took place during the meeting of the Council Working Group on EU External Fisheries Policy on 26 May. At this stage no reaction from EU Member States has been received by the EU Commission. Several delegations expressed their thanks for this information and their pleasure regarding the approval of the AIDCP by the European Parliament.

Regarding the information on the litigation in the United States about the dolphin safe tuna label, the U.S. delegate reported that recently the appeals court agreed with the lower court decision that the Mexican and Venezuelan industries could not intervene in the litigation. Also, he noted that the U.S. government has not yet decided whether to appeal the lower court ruling on the main case itself, and that this decision must be taken before 25 July.

The Mexican delegation, in addition to expressing its gratitude for the information, requested that a meeting be held in Washington with the Departments of Justice and State and the countries interested in the case.

Regarding the matter of the ISO 9000 certification, which had recently been granted to Earth Island Institute, the Working Group noted that this matter had been discussed to some degree in the Working Group on Tuna Tracking. The EU Delegation explained that the ISO 9000 certification means only that the requirements established by the institution itself are complied with, and is thus of minimal value. In this regard, it was noted that it was important that each of the Parties, when the opportunity arose, explain to the general public what this certification implies and its limited scope.

The European Union noted that the best approach for the AIDCP Parties is to continue to strengthen the Agreement, particularly with regard to third party verification. In this connection, Dr. Allen pointed out that the System for Tracking and Verifying Tuna contains a provision committing the Parties to work cooperatively towards the development of an interntional program to facilitate general reviews and spot checks of national tracking and verification programs. The Working Group asked that a paper on this subject be prepared for a future meeting of the Working Group on Tuna Tracking .

5. Other business

No other business was discussed

6. Date and place of next meeting

It was decided that the next meeting of the Working Group would be held in October 2005 in La Jolla prior to the meeting of the IRP.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on 13 June.

Appendix 1.

WORKING GROUP TO PROMOTE AND PUBLICIZE THE AIDCP DOLPHIN SAFE TUNA CERTIFICATION SYSTEM GRUPO DE TRABAJO PARA LA PROMOCION Y DIVULGACION DEL SISTEMA DE CERTIFICACIÓN APICD DOLPHIN SAFE

5TH MEETING – 5^a REUNIÓN

June 13, 2005 – 13 de junio de 2005 Lanzarote, Spain

ATTENDEES - ASISTENTES

COLOMBIA

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Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

ARMANDO HERNÁNDEZPrograma Nacional de Observadores

COSTA RICA

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JULIO MORÓN

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