

**INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
INTERNATIONAL REVIEW PANEL**

PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING

MINUTES OF THE 10TH MEETING

**Manzanillo (Mexico)
18 June 2002**

Chair: Ms. Pat Donley (United States)

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Modification to the System for Tuna Tracking and Verification regarding fishing outside the Agreement Area
4. National Tuna Tracking Plans
5. Review of the implementation of the *dolphin safe* certification system
6. Promotion of *dolphin safe* tuna
7. Recommendations for the IRP and the Meeting of the Parties
8. Other business
9. Date and place of next meeting
10. Adjournment

DOCUMENTS

- TT-10-03 Technical modifications to the System for Tuna Tracking and Verification
TT-10-05 Summary of dolphin-safe certification program

APPENDICES

1. List of attendees
2. Recommendation for modifying the System for Tracking and Verifying Tuna

The 10th Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking was held in Manzanillo (Mexico) on June 18, 2002. 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 that paragraph 6 of item 4 of the minutes of the 9th meeting of the Working Group should be corrected to reflect that proposals for action must be presented to the IRP for approval before being forwarded to the Meeting of the Parties. The minutes were adopted with this modification.

The provisional agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Modification to the System for Tuna Tracking and Verification regarding fishing outside the Agreement Area

The Director of the IATTC, Dr. Robin Allen presented a proposal for technical modifications to the System for Tuna Tracking and Verification regarding fishing outside the Agreement Area (Document TT-10-03). After a long discussion, the Working Group agreed to present to the Panel a modification of this proposal (Appendix 2) for approval and recommendation to the Meeting of the Parties.

4. National Tuna Tracking Plans

The Secretariat distributed a list of the countries that have sent their tuna tracking plans to the Secretariat, and reported that since the last meeting of the Working Group, Peru and Guatemala had submitted plans.

Mexico made a presentation on its national tuna tracking plan, and Ecuador offered to make a similar presentation during the next meeting of the Working Group.

5. Review of the implementation of the *dolphin safe* certification system

The Secretariat distributed a report showing that it had received only 64% of original TTFs from complete trips made between July 20, 2001, and May 31, 2002, indicating that some countries appear to be having difficulty getting the originals to the Secretariat. However, counting both copies and originals, the Secretariat is receiving the TTFs from almost all fishing trips (93%). The meeting asked that all future reports by the Secretariat include both copies and originals received. Dr. Allen presented a report on other aspects of how the Certification System is being implemented, and pointed out some technical errors and problems observed by the Secretariat when examining how the dolphin safe certificates are being completed. The Working Group agreed that the Secretariat would prepare guidelines to be used in preparing the certificates.

Dr. Allen also noted that questions could arise about the validity of a certificate if the data on the certificate do not match the data on the corresponding TTFs, and that in a few of the certificates examined by the Secretariat, the amount of yellowfin on the certificate was greater than the amount of dolphin safe yellowfin recorded on the corresponding TTFs.

After considerable discussion the Working Group agreed that, if the Secretariat noted a discrepancy between the amount of yellowfin on a certificate and the corresponding TTF, it should report this immediately to the relevant government to see if the discrepancy can be resolved. If it cannot be resolved quickly, the Secretariat should notify the Parties of the discrepancy, identifying the certificate, but not the country involved, and the matter should then be addressed at the next meeting of the Working Group.

6. Promotion of *dolphin safe* tuna

The prospects for a public relations trip to Europe in the near future were discussed. Some delegations wanted the trip to take place in September at the latest, while others thought that careful planning and consideration were advisable before setting dates. After the meeting a committee consisting of Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and the United States met to discuss the prospects for the trip. The Secretariat agreed to prepare a short document summarizing the requirements for a trip.

7. Recommendations for the IRP and the Meeting of the Parties

The Working Group agreed to present to the IRP its proposal for modifying the System for Tuna Tracking and Verification System regarding fishing outside the Agreement Area, and to request that the Panel recommend its approval to the Meeting of the Parties.

8. Other business

No other business was discussed.

9. Date and place of next meeting

The Working Group agreed that its next meeting would be held the day before the next meeting of the IRP.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on June 18, 2002.

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**

10th MEETING – 10^a REUNION

**June 18, 2002
Manzanillo, Mexico**

ATTENDEES - ASISTENTES

COLOMBIA

JAIME JIMENEZ
Ministerio de Comercio Exterior
ARMANDO HERNÁNDEZ
Cámara de la Industria Pesquera

COSTA RICA

ASDRÚBAL VÁSQUEZ
INCOPECA

ECUADOR

RAFAEL TRUJILLO BEJARANO
LUIS TORRES NAVARRETE
Ministerio de Comercio Exterior, Industrialización y Pesca

EUROPEAN UNION – UNION EUROPEA

ROBERTO CESARI
ALAN GRAY
European Union

ESTEBAN DE SALAS
Secretaría General de Pesca Marítima
JAVIER ARÍZ TELLERIA
Instituto Español de Oceanografía

MEXICO

RUBEN OCAÑA SOLER
RICARDO BELMONTES
DAMIAN HERNANDEZ
MARTHA ESTRADA
SAGARPA
MICHEL DREYFUS
HUMBERTO ROBLES
PNAAPD

MAXIMO CARVAJAL
LUIS FUEYO MACDONALD
JOSE MIGUEL DAVILA
JOSE DELGADO
MONICA CASTAÑEDA
JAVIER MARTINEZ
SEMARNAT/PROFEPA
RAUL VALDES RAMIREZ
Secretaría de Economía
CARLOS ABASCAL ANDRADE
Secretaría de Marina
ERNESTO ESCOBAR

PANAMA

ARNULFO FRANCO
Autoridad Marítima

PERU

GLADYS ROCHA
Ministerio de Pesquería

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA

DAVID HOGAN

Department of State

PATRICIA DONLEY

ALLISON ROUNT

NICOLE LEBOEUF

National Marine Fisheries Service

RANDI THOMAS

VANUATU

ANTHONY TILLET

HUGO ALSINA LAGOS

Office of Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs

ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES--NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

NINA YOUNG

The Ocean Conservancy

INDUSTRIA ATUNERA -TUNA INDUSTRY

GABRIEL SARRÓ

SECRETARIADO – SECRETARIAT

ROBIN ALLEN, Director
ERNESTO ALTAMIRANO
DAVID BRATTEN
ALEJANDRA FERREIRA
JOSHUE GROSS

MARTÍN HALL
BRIAN HALLMAN
BERTA JUÁREZ
NICHOLAS WEBB

Appendix 2.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR MODIFICATION OF THE SYSTEM FOR TRACKING
AND VERIFYING TUNA**

The Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking recommends adding the following to Section 3 of the AIDCP System for Tracking and Verifying Tuna:

“If a Party determines that tuna caught outside the Agreement Area by vessels under its jurisdiction which fish both inside and outside the Agreement Area during a trip should be recorded on a TTF by the observer on board the vessel, and so notifies the Secretariat in a timely manner, such tuna shall be recorded on the TTFs for the vessels of that Party until such time as the Secretariat is otherwise notified. If the Secretariat is not notified that all catches shall be recorded on the TTFs, observers shall not record on the TTFs any tuna caught outside the Agreement Area.

Unless all the tuna caught by a vessel which fishes both inside and outside the Agreement Area during a single trip is recorded on the TTFs, the TTFs for that trip shall not reflect that the tuna in any of the vessel’s wells is *dolphin safe*, except when wells containing tuna caught outside the Agreement Area are sealed. In such cases, the observer shall note on the TTFs which wells have been sealed, and only that tuna caught in the Agreement Area and recorded on the TTF may be classified pursuant to the AIDCP.”

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
PROGRAMA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACION DE LOS DELFINES

PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING

10TH MEETING

MANZANILLO (MEXICO)
JUNE 18, 2002

DOCUMENT TT-10-03

**TECHNICAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE SYSTEM FOR TUNA TRACKING
AND VERIFICATION**

COLLECTION OF DATA BY OBSERVERS OUTSIDE THE AGREEMENT AREA

Following is a proposal for a new paragraph 4 *bis*, to be added to Section 3 of the AIDCP System for Tracking and Verifying Tuna:

“If a Party determines that tuna caught outside the Agreement Area by all vessels under its jurisdiction which fish both inside and outside the Agreement Area during a single trip should be recorded on a TTF by the observer on board these vessels, and so notifies the Secretariat in a timely manner, such tuna shall be recorded on the TTFs for all the vessels of such Parties until such time as the Secretariat is otherwise notified. If the Secretariat is not notified that all catches shall be recorded on the TTFs, observers shall not record on the TTFs any tuna caught by vessels outside the Agreement Area.

Unless all the tuna caught by a vessel which fishes both inside and outside the Agreement Area during a single trip is recorded on the TTFs, the TTFs for that trip shall not reflect that the tuna in any of the vessel’s wells is *dolphin safe*, except when wells containing tuna caught outside the Agreement Area are sealed. In such cases, the observer shall note on the TTFs which wells have been sealed, and the tuna in such wells shall not be considered *dolphin safe*.”

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PROGRAMA INTERNACIONAL PARA LA CONSERVACION DE LOS DELFINES

PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING
10TH MEETING

MANZANILLO (MEXICO)
JUNE 18, 2002

DOCUMENT TT-10-05

SUMMARY OF DOLPHIN-SAFE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The *Resolution to establish procedures for AIDCP dolphin safe tuna certification* of June 2001 establishes the following criteria for issuing dolphin safe certificates:

1. The certificate is signed by a competent national authority whose signature is recognized by the Secretariat.
2. The certificate references a valid TTF for dolphin safe tuna.
3. Tuna caught by vessels with DMLs will only be eligible for dolphin safe certification if the fishing captain was on the List of Qualified Captains.

There are 503 TTFs listing wells containing dolphin safe tuna from all trips which departed on or after July 1, 2001, and finished before May 1, 2002. The Secretariat has received 39 Dolphin safe certificates issued by national authorities. Of these, all met the three criteria except for four that did not meet criterion 3.

The Secretariat uses the following guidelines for queries about the authenticity of any dolphin safe certificate:

1. The Secretariat will only respond to questions about specific certificates from potential importing states or companies.
2. If the certificate meets the three requirements above the response will be that the certificate is valid.
3. If the Secretariat does not have the information it needs to verify 1 or 2 above, it will first ask the competent national authority to provide the information before replying.
4. Otherwise the Secretariat will reply that the certificate is not valid.
5. No other information will be provided about the contents of the TTF.

No inquiries have been received to date regarding the validity of a Dolphin safe certificate.

Questions may arise about the validity of a certificate if the data on the certificate does not match the data on the corresponding TTFs. For 7 of the 39 dolphin safe certificates issued, the amount of yellowfin tuna on the certificate was greater than the amount of dolphin safe yellowfin recorded on the corresponding TTFs, in one case by more than 20%.

Trip	YFT (mt)		Difference	
	Certificate	TTFs	mt	%
126036	767	711	+56	7.9
5662	235	191	+44	23.0
5657	523	499	+24	4.8
5665	772	753	+19	2.5
5643	647	638	+9	1.4
126011	825	821	+4	0.5
126181	591	590	+1	0.2