

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF
MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION

8TH MEETING

Mexico City, Mexico
20-21 July 2017

CHAIR'S REPORT

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	
3. Compliance with IATTC measures in 2016:	
a. Report by the staff on compliance	COR-08-03
b. Review of the questionnaires completed by CPCs relating to Resolution C-11-07	
4. Identification of Members whose implementation of IATTC regulations is inadequate and mechanisms to improve compliance	
5. Consideration of the provisional IUU Vessel List	COR-08-05
6. Cooperating non-Members	COR-08-06
7. Other business	
8. Recommendations for the Commission	
9. Adjournment	

The 8th meeting of the Committee for the Review of Implementation of Measures Adopted by the Commission (Compliance Committee) was held in Mexico City July 20-21, 2017.

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. David Hogan of the United States.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The Committee adopted its agenda with no changes.

3. Compliance with IATTC measures in 2016

a) Report by the staff on compliance

The Secretariat presented the document COR-08-03, which summarized compliance with IATTC resolutions in 2016. Many Members asked questions, sought clarification and identified errors to be corrected.

b) Presentations by CPCs

The Committee heard presentations by each CPC present at the meeting, including explanations of certain responses to the compliance questionnaire, explanations and clarifications of certain cases that appeared in the compliance report, and follow up to prior cases. The Committee used the compendium of compliance matters to also help guide the discussion, and, after each CPC's presentation, other CPCs were provided the opportunity to ask questions and make comments.

4. Identification of members whose implementation of IATTC regulations is inadequate and mechanisms to improve compliance

The Committee discussed institutional and systemic implementation issues, and offered suggestions on improving procedures, engagement and reporting by CPCs, and related matters. No individual CPCs were identified.

5. Consideration of the provisional IUU list

The Committee reviewed the document prepared by the Secretariat, COR-08-05, including information relating to Fiji's continuing proposal to de-list the vessel *Xin Shi Ji 16*, and heard presentations from Peru and Ecuador on Peru's proposal to add the vessel *Rossana L*. No recommendation on either proposal was agreed.

6. Cooperating non-members

The Committee reviewed document COR-08-06 concerning the renewal of Cooperating Non-Members to Bolivia, Honduras, Indonesia and Liberia, and the addition of Chile as a Cooperating Non-Member. Indonesia did not send a delegation to the Committee's meeting so the Committee will await the participation of Indonesia, possibly in the plenary.

7. Other business

No other business was raised.

8. Recommendations

The Committee decided to present the following issues or recommendations to the Commission:

Matters, which were discussed but regarding which no recommendations were formulated:

1. The Committee discussed whether the Commission should evaluate and decide, at this meeting, on the appropriate minimum sea turtle data, including condition of sea turtles upon release, to be collected by longline observers, and to address raw data provision to the Secretariat.
2. The Committee discussed the views of some Members regarding the implications for tuna conservation and management of vessels that fish in both the EPO and the WCPFC area and which may move between these areas during closures and continue fishing. Members expressed differing opinions on whether the activities of such vessels have implications for compliance, conservation and/or management. It was recognized that this matter may be raised again at the Commission level.
3. Ask the Bycatch Working Group to consider stronger or new measures to implement the sea turtle conservation objectives and develop ideas to strengthen implementation of the reporting requirements.
4. Consider asking the Scientific Advisory Committee to evaluate whether the data fields on the

longline observer forms provide the necessary data to measure implementation of the Commission's conservation measures for sea turtles, and revise as needed.

5. The Committee discussed how the Commission could work on rules of confidentiality consistent with the relevant provisions of the Antigua Convention, including for the work and information of the Committee. This was supported by many delegations but some did not concur that this should be a committee recommendation. It was recognized that this matter may be raised again at the Commission level.
6. The Committee discussed its general affirmation of its deference to the IATTC's Director for configuring staff portfolios with regard to compliance and associated responsibilities pending the outcome of the Commission's discussion of the implementation of the action plan in the area of human resource planning.

Recommendations at itself and/or the Secretariat:

1. Consider whether the timing of the compliance reporting procedure is sufficient or whether more time is needed, and the implications of any change for the Secretariat or the Committee.
2. Consider altering the reporting schedule for Resolution C-07-03 by changing the annual nature of reporting if nothing changes in a CPC's implementation (or Commission).
3. Include the relevant provisions of Resolution C-13-03 in the section containing implementation reporting of C-05-02 in the compliance report and, as appropriate, the questionnaire, and add those provisions to the annual data provision letter from the Secretariat.
4. In future questionnaires and follow-up to reported cases of non-compliance, CPCs provide a rationale or more detail for determinations of "no infraction" and a rationale or more detail when reporting "non-applicable" in the questionnaire.
5. Explore options for improving the existing compliance review process, and include assessments in future compliance reports of historical progress in implementation and of trends in compliance, including tables in the compliance report showing historical implementation by CPCs since the entry into force of the resolutions. This should include specificity in the following areas:
 - a. Include reporting on implementation of the longline observer coverage requirement in Resolution C-11-08, and correct the 2016 report to include 2015 and 2016 data on implementation; and
 - b. Include information on the number of sets with incidents with sea turtles (contained in Figure 4.1 of the 2016 report presented at this meeting) relating to Resolution C-04-05 since its entry into force in 2004.
6. In future compliance reports, report the status of implementation of Recommendation C-12-11 (IATTC-WCPFC overlap area) and indicate, when appropriate, which set of measures the relevant Members have chosen to implement for their vessel in the overlap area in compliance with said recommendation.
7. In future compliance reports and questionnaires include reporting on bluefin tuna conservation measures (currently C-16-03).

8. Ensure scheduling of at least 2 full days for the Committee.

Recommendations to the Commission:

1. Consider a definitive treatment of the provisions of the conservation and management measure for tropical tunas to address the different views on the use and transfer of the longline catch limits for bigeye tuna.
2. Update the purse seine observer IATTC compliance summary form to allow captains the opportunity to review, provide comments and sign the form, and similarly update instructions to this effect in the observer manual.
3. Clarify the status, in terms of the prohibition of discards, of catch that is not landed but instead utilized aboard the vessel, for example, as bait on FADs.
4. Explore options for revising the resolutions on sharks to be clear, facilitate a common understanding, and align with Commission conservation and utilization objectives for fisheries that catch sharks, whether as target or bycatch.
5. Revise or specify the requirements in Resolution C-03-05 for all gears and fisheries (e.g., longline, artisanal) regarding length-frequency and catch and effort data, to strengthen the implementation of reporting requirements, balanced with practicality, in particular with regard to artisanal fisheries.
6. Maintain the IATTC's IUU list with no changes.
7. Renew Cooperating Non-Member status for Bolivia, Honduras and Liberia, and confer Cooperating Non-Member status upon Chile. Consider the request for renewal from Indonesia once the Indonesian delegation arrives for the IATTC plenary

9. Adjournment

The Committee was left open to await the participation of Indonesia to the plenary. The meeting was finally adjourned on 28 July at 6 p.m.