

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

80TH MEETING

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA (USA)
8-12 JUNE 2009

RESOLUTION C-09-04

**RESOLUTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION
PROGRAM**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Recalling the agreement of governments expressed in resolutions of the intergovernmental meetings held in San José, Costa Rica, in September 1990, and La Jolla, California, in January 1991, to establish an international program for the reduction of incidental mortality of dolphins caught in association with tuna in the purse-seine fishery in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Further recalling that, in 1999, the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP) entered into force, and that, in its 1998 Resolution on the AIDCP, the IATTC requested the Director to perform the functions relating to the implementation of the Agreement set forth in the Agreement;

Noting with satisfaction that, in accordance with the objectives of the AIDCP, a significant reduction in dolphin mortality has been achieved;

Noting that the AIDCP observer program has achieved international acclaim;

Appreciating that, through the international observer program established by the AIDCP, the IATTC acquires valuable data on the purse-seine fishery relating to tunas and associated or dependent species, which greatly assist the Commission in discharging its obligation to conserve the fish stocks under its purview; and

Believing that there is value in strengthening and clarifying the linkage between the IATTC and the AIDCP observer program;

Agrees:

To continue the current international observer program, including the requirement of placing an observer on each trip made in the EPO by purse-seine vessels of capacity greater than 363 metric tons and ensure that at least one-half of the observers assigned each year to each national fleet are IATTC observers;

This Resolution replaces the 1992 Resolution on the La Jolla Agreement.