

**JOINT WORKING GROUP ON FISHING BY NON-PARTIES**

**5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

BUSAN (KOREA)  
23 JUNE 2006

**DOCUMENT JWG-5-05 (REVISED)**

**COOPERATING NON-PARTIES OR FISHING ENTITIES**

In 2004 the IATTC and the AIDCP Parties adopted parallel resolutions, [C-04-02](#) and [A-04-08](#), which establish the criteria for attaining the status of cooperating non-Party or cooperating fishing entity in the respective organizations. These criteria include requirements relating to the provision of information, compliance with conservation and management measures, and participation in meetings.

The resolutions establish that each year, the Director (Secretariat) shall contact all non-parties and fishing entities with vessels known to be fishing for covered species to urge them to become a Party to the IATTC (AIDCP) or to attain the status of a Cooperating Non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity (Cooperating Status).

The resolutions further establish that any non-party or fishing entity that seeks to be accorded Cooperating Status shall apply to the Director (Secretariat) requesting such status. Such requests must be received by the Director (Secretariat) no later than ninety (90) days in advance of an annual meeting of the Commission (Parties) in order to be considered at that meeting.

The resolutions also state that the Joint Working Group on Fishing by Non-Parties shall be responsible for reviewing requests for Cooperating Status and for recommending to the Commission (Parties) whether an applicant should receive Cooperating Status.

At its meeting in June 2005, the IATTC determined that the cooperating non-Parties to the IATTC were Canada, China, the European Union, Honduras, and Chinese Taipei was a cooperating fishing entity.

Applications requesting Cooperating Status in IATTC for this year have been sent by seven governments: Belize, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, Cook Islands, the European Union, and Honduras. No applications were sent with respect to the AIDCP. Thus, the following analysis only applies to the IATTC.

The specific requirements in Resolution C-04-02 relevant to the seven governments mentioned above are:

**1. INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- i. Communicate full data on its historical fisheries in the IATTC area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas.*

This requirement has been essentially met by Belize, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, Cook Islands, and the European Union, although the full range of the data mentioned in this provision has not been made available.

- ii. Communicate annually catch and effort data and size-frequency distribution of the catches (when possible) in due time and appropriate format for scientific evaluation of the stocks*

This requirement has essentially been met, pursuant to [Resolution C-03-05](#) on data provision, which requires that annual data be reported by June 30 of the following year, by Belize, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, Cook Islands, the European Union and Honduras, although the full range of the data

specified in this provision has not been made available. Length-frequency data from EPO longline catches have been made available by Chinese Taipei, and by the European Union for swordfish.

- iii. *Communicate details on current fishing presence in the area, number of vessels and vessel characteristics.*

This requirement has been met by all applicants.

- iv. *Communicate research programs it has conducted in the IATTC area and share the information and the results with the IATTC.*

China has provided information on data collected by an observer during an trip on a longline vessel. Chinese Taipei has advised the Commission that it is beginning a research program to evaluate the ratio of fins to carcass weights of sharks. The EU has provided scientific publications concerning activities of its swordfish vessels in the southeastern Pacific.

## **2. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

- i. *Respect all conservation measures in force in IATTC.*

The flag vessels of all of the applicant governments respected the IATTC conservation measures during 2005.

- ii. *Respect the capacity limits already in force in IATTC for tuna vessels.*

All of the applicant governments respected the IATTC capacity limits during 2005.

- iii. *Inform IATTC of the measures it takes to ensure compliance by its vessels, including inter alia and as appropriate, observer programs, inspection at sea and in port, and Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS).*

None of the applicants have provided much detail on this requirement.

Chinese Taipei provided a report of its implementation of IATTC [Resolution C-05-03](#) on the conservation of sharks.

Regarding VMS, only Chinese Taipei and the European Union, among the applicants, have advised the Director, in accordance with [Resolution C-04-06](#), of their progress in implementing the resolution on the establishment of a vessel monitoring system ([Document IATTC-73-13](#)).

- iv. *Respond to alleged violations of IATTC measures by its vessels, as determined by the appropriate bodies, and communicate to IATTC the actions taken against the vessels*

This requirement is not relevant, in that none of the applicants nor their flag vessels are alleged to have violated any of the principal IATTC conservation and management measures during 2005.

## **3. PARTICIPATION:**

*Participation at plenary and scientific meetings, as an observer.*

During 2005, China, Canada, Chinese Taipei, and the European Union participated in plenary and scientific meetings, and Belize participated in plenary meetings.