

**AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING**

51st MEETING

Panama City, Panama
26 August 2024

REPORT OF THE MEETING

AGENDA

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	
3. Review of the implementation of the Dolphin Safe Certification System	TT-51-01
4. Other business	
5. Recommendations for the International Review Panel	
6. Election of the Chair of the Working Group	
7. Date and place of next meeting	
8. Adjournment	

APPENDICES

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1. List of attendees
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The 51st meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking was held in Panama City, Panama, on 26 August 2024.

1. Opening of the meeting

The Director of the IATTC, Dr. Arnulfo Franco, gave the floor to the Chair of the ARAP, Mr. Eduardo Carrasquilla, to inaugurate the work of the AIDCP meetings and its working groups. Mr. Carrasquilla expressed his best wishes for the success of the meetings and thanked the delegations for their presence in Panama and wished them a pleasant stay.

Mr. Julio Guevara, of Nicaragua, in his capacity as Chair of the Group, opened the meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Review of the implementation of the Dolphin Safe Certification System

Mr. Marlon Román, from the Secretariat, presented document [TT-51-01](#) “*Matters related to the tuna tracking and dolphin safe certification programs,*” which reports the most recent developments in the implementation of the Dolphin Safe Certification System. He noted that during the period from 26 August 2023 and 15 June 2024, the Secretariat received 829 original TTFs or electronic copies from 829 trips with a completed TTF.

Between 26 August 2023 and 8 July 2024, the Secretariat received 432 copies of dolphin-safe certificates, corresponding to 381 TTFs completed during 381 fishing trips. Of the certificates received, 398 were considered valid, and 34 certificates were voided by the national authority.

The certified tonnage (226,682 t) represents 83.2% of the total of 271,901 t recorded as dolphin-safe on the TTFs of the 381 trips registered in the certificates. According to the AIDCP dolphin-safe tuna certification procedures, the national authority is notified of cases where the scale weight recorded for each TTF included in the dolphin-safe certificates exceeds by 10% the estimated weight recorded by the observer on the TTFs. Of the 381 TTFs completed, there were six cases where the certified weight exceeded the estimated weight on the corresponding TTF by 10%. In these cases, the relevant national authority provided the Secretariat with the results of the investigation carried out. The Secretariat then confirmed the validity of these certificates.

Guatemala mentioned that the document had a statistical focus and did not include a follow-up of the purposes of the system. It pointed out that there was a need to think about what additional usefulness could be given to the system. We are just taking notes and not following up on what other levels of usefulness we can give it, so the Secretariat should be tasked with developing ideas for this purpose.

The United States reported that it was working bilaterally with Colombia on tuna register tracking. Colombia stated that it was indeed working on traceability and that the results would be available soon.

4. Other business

The Chair of the Working Group expressed the wish that a different Chair could be appointed as he was also Chair of the Working Group on Capacity of the Fleet.

5. Recommendations for the International Review Panel

The Working Group did not issue recommendations for the IRP.

6. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the Working Group will be held on the dates agreed for the meetings of the AIDCP in 2024.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. on 26 August 2024.