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## INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

### **3<sup>rd</sup> WORKSHOP OF AN ELECTRONIC MONITORING SYSTEM (EMS) IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN (EPO): EMS MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

*(by videoconference)*

25-27 April 2022

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

As generally acknowledged, and in particular by the IATTC, electronic monitoring (EM) constitutes a promising tool for improving data collection both for scientific research and monitoring of longline vessels and purse-seine vessels fishing activities, especially when they do not carry on-board observers, but also with observers on board, as a means to complement the observer's data collection. A practical example of that recognition of the role of EMS is to be found in Resolution C-19-08, both in its preamble and body. In particular, paragraph 9 of that Resolution, echoing the discussion previously held during the 10th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee, requested the IATTC staff to "prepare a draft proposal for the development of minimum standards for the implementation of an EMS for the longline fleets" operating in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO), to be presented for consideration to the Commission. .

In 2020, the staff prepared document [SAC-11-10](#) which addressed the question of the longline fleets, but also that of the purse seine fleets, thus considering EMS in the context of tuna fisheries in the Antigua Convention Area as a whole. Titled "An electronic monitoring system for the tuna fisheries in the eastern Pacific Ocean: objectives and standards", this document was presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SAC in October 2020. Subsequently, a first EMS workshop was held by videoconference on 22 and 23 April 2021 to: 1) further discuss some of the elements contained in document [SAC-11-10](#) ([EMS-01-01](#)), and 2) to present the workplan for the implementation of an EM system (EMS) in the EPO ([EMS-01-02](#)). As a consequence, three immediate actions were recommended and adopted by the Commission during its 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, which was held in August 2021 and resumed in October 2021:

- 1) Adopt, at least on a provisional basis, the definitions in Annex 1 of the document [EMS-01-01](#) (Res. [C-21-03](#));
- 2) Adopt, with a slight modification on potential EMS starting time, the EMS workplan detailed in document [EMS-01-02](#), and
- 3) Adopt the Terms of Reference for the EM workshops (Res. [C-21-02](#)).

**OBJECTIVES OF THE THIRD WORKSHOP:** According to the workplan ([EMS-01-02](#)), the third IATTC EM workshop will address five EMS Management elements as referred to in document [EMS-01-01](#):

- 1) Coordination and compatibility,
- 2) Confidentiality,
- 3) Compliance,

- 4) EM equipment,
- 5) EM coverage and review rate.

These elements – or subcomponents – will be expanded and presented in Document EMS-03-01.

**PARTICIPATION:** In addition to the EM technical aspects that must be considered, and in spite of its informal character, the workshop must address several issues of a management, programmatic and organizational nature. It is therefore important **that all CPCs designate a representative** who will participate in the workshop on their behalf, in addition to the **expert(s) who would accompany him/her**.

**Designated representatives of IGOs and NGOs** would also be welcome to participate.

As usual, a **registration form** is posted on the [meeting website](#) to allow for each CPC representative and accompanying expert to register individually. This registration form can also be used for the designated representatives of IGOs and NGOs, as well as for the individuals experts in their personal capacity. It would be most appreciated if, in addition, each CPC, IGO and NGO interested in participating send the **list** with its respective representative and accompanying expert (s) to Ms Monica Galvan, Assistant to the Director, at [mgalvan@iattc.org](mailto:mgalvan@iattc.org).

**ARRANGEMENTS:** The Workshop will be held by videoconference, utilizing the Zoom platform. An invitation to join will be sent individually to each registered participant.

As indicated above, the Workshop will be held on **25, 26 and 27 April 2022**. Each session will have a duration of three hours and will start at **3 PM PDT (UTC -7)** to finalize around **6 PM PDT (UTC -7)**.

For the convenience of the participants, a **preliminary agenda** is posted in the [meeting website](#).

Languages: English and Spanish, with simultaneous interpretation.