

**PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING
7TH MEETING**

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**TECHNICAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE SYSTEM FOR TUNA TRACKING
AND VERIFICATION**

At its 5th and 6th meetings, the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking decided to propose several technical modifications to the AIDCP System for Tracking and Verifying Tuna. Following are the proposals prepared by the Secretariat for these technical modifications:

5th Meeting (October 2000)

1. COLLECTION OF DATA BY OBSERVERS OUTSIDE THE AGREEMENT AREA

The Secretariat was asked to draft a modification to the Tuna Tracking System to cover the collection of TTF data on trips by vessels that fish both inside and outside the Agreement Area. The Secretariat proposes that a new paragraph 4 *bis* be added to Section 3 (“Tuna Tracking Form (TTF)”), *viz*:

“All tuna caught during trips by vessels fishing under the AIDCP, both inside and outside the Agreement Area, should be recorded on a TTF. However, if a Party determines that tuna caught outside the Agreement Area by any of its flag vessels should not be recorded on a TTF and so notifies the Secretariat in a timely manner, such tuna will not be recorded on the TTF.”

2. COPIES OF TTFS IN THE EVENT OF SEVERAL PARTIAL UNLOADINGS

The Secretariat was also asked to prepare a modification to the Tuna Tracking System to delineate how copies of the TTFS may be made and provided to Parties in the event of several partial unloadings.

The Secretariat, after reviewing the Tuna Tracking System, believes that the matter of unloadings, partial or otherwise, in the territory of Parties is already covered by Section 5 of the system, which addresses partial and multiple unloadings. However, in the case of tuna unloaded in the territory of non-Parties, which is not addressed by the current system, one possible solution would be to add an additional sentence to Section 5 of the System along the following lines:

“For tuna unloaded in the territory of a non-Party by a vessel fishing under the AIDCP, the national authority of the government under whose jurisdiction the vessel operates shall be responsible for obtaining the TTFS.”

6th Meeting (April 2001)

3. DEFINITION OF A FISHING TRIP

The Working Group called for the Tuna Tracking System to be modified to include a definition of when a fishing trip is terminated. The Secretariat proposes adding the following to Section 1 (“Definitions”) of the System:

“(q) A fishing trip *terminates* when a vessel unloads two-thirds or more of its catch, during a single unloading or during a series of partial unloadings.”

4. DISTRIBUTION OF TTFs

The Working Group also called for the System to be modified to make the Secretariat responsible for the distribution of TTFs to all observers except those of the national observer programs. The Secretariat proposes the following modifications to Section 3 (“Tuna Tracking Form (TTF)”):

Introductory paragraph: delete last sentence.

Paragraph 3: modify to read as follows: “The Secretariat shall issue the TTFs to observers, except that the pertinent national authority shall issue the TTFs to observers of national observer programs. The cruise number shall be recorded on the TTF at the beginning of each trip, and all tuna caught during that trip shall be recorded on the relevant TTF.”