

**INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING  
31<sup>ST</sup> MEETING**

**La Jolla, California (USA)  
22 October 2012**

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

### AGENDA

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	
3. Approval of the minutes of the 30 <sup>th</sup> meeting	
4. Review of the implementation of the <a href="#">dolphin safe certification system</a>	TT-31-04
5. Other business	
6. Recommendations for the International Review Panel	
7. Place and date of next meeting	
8. Adjournment	

### APPENDIX

#### 1. List of attendees

The 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking was held in La Jolla, California (USA) on 22 October 2012. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

#### **1. Opening of the meeting**

The meeting was opened by Dr. Guillermo Compeán, Director of the IATTC, who requested nominations for chairing the meeting. Ing. Luis Torres, of Ecuador, was elected.

#### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

The provisional agenda was adopted without any changes.

#### **3. Approval of the minutes of the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting**

The minutes of the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting, previously circulated by the Secretariat, were approved without modifications.

#### **4. Review of the implementation of the *dolphin safe* certification system**

The Secretariat presented Document TT-31-04, “Matters related to the tuna tracking and Dolphin-safe certification programs”. The Secretariat received 118 signed dolphin-safe certificates from 1 January 2011 through 25 September 2012; of these, 95 were considered valid. The reasons for not considering the other 23 certificates valid are: a) the respective competent national authority invalidated ten certificates due to clerical errors; b) the Secretariat considered invalid eight other certificates issued for fish caught during the closure of the high-seas area in September-October of 2010 and 2011; and c) four certificates

were cancelled by the Secretariat because they refer to Tuna Tracking Forms (TTFs) that are not in the Secretariat's records.

The system requires that the Secretariat receive the TTFs at the latest 10 days after the trip finishes. The Secretariat reported that, from January through September 2012, it had received 1,134 TTFs from a total of 1,224 trips (93%).

During that same period there were three cases of TTFs that were presumably falsified. The case that had occurred prior to the previous meeting of the working group in June had been dealt with at that meeting; since then, two further cases had arisen. Regarding these latter two, the Secretariat obtained copies of the observers' records, and afterwards received the supposed original from the competent national authority of the Party in whose port the fish was unloaded, which differed from the observer's copy. On 26 July, the Secretariat wrote to the two Parties involved regarding these cases. One Party responded that, after investigating the case, it did not have the elements necessary for applying an administrative action. In the other case, the Party involved, Ecuador, stated that it was being investigated.

The Working Group decided to recommend to the International Review Panel (IRP) that it monitor the actions taken by Parties with regard cases of presumably falsified TTFs.

#### **5. Other business**

No other business was presented.

#### **6. Recommendations for the International Review Panel**

The Working Group agreed to recommend that the IRP monitor the actions taken by Parties with regard to presumably falsified TTFs.

#### **7. Place and date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the working group will be held on the dates agreed for the AIDCP meetings in June 2013.

#### **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. on 22 October 2012.

## Appendix 1.

### ASISTENTES – ATENDEES

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