

**AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN
CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

43TH MEETING

(by videoconference)

14 October 2021

PROPOSAL AIDCP-43 A-1

SUBMITTED BY VENEZUELA

**ON EMBARKATION AND DISEMBARKATION OF OBSERVERS IN
AIDCP MEMBER COUNTRIES**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Some AIDCP Member countries have adopted internal regulations for entering their territory, including requiring visas for nationals of some countries. We are aware that it is within the power of the countries to establish the relevant regulations regarding their immigration rules, for which reason the following proposal is not intended in any way to question such decisions. This proposal is aimed at requesting cooperation in order to facilitate a mechanism for embarking and disembarking observers placed on tuna vessels operating in the IATTC Convention Area and within the framework of the AIDCP. In recent years, and now more so with the COVID-19 pandemic, trips have had to be repeated due to the impossibility of disembarking or embarking observers in some countries of the region, when the provisions of the AIDCP should be an alternative sampling between observers of the IATTC Program and the National Programs.

The Parties to the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP):

Taking into account that the Observer Programs are a fundamental and important foundation of this Agreement;

Taking into account that the good functioning of the Observer Programs depends on the rotation of observers to be placed on Class-6 purse-seine vessels operating in the Convention Area;

Aware that the Parties must collaborate for the proper functioning of the AIDCP.

Resolve as follows:

1.- Urge AIDCP Member Parties and Cooperating non-Parties to facilitate the embarkation and disembarkation of observers deployed by the various Observer Programs within the framework of the AIDCP.