

COMISION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATUN TROPICAL
INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

68TH MEETING

SAN SALVADOR (EL SALVADOR)
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**FEES CHARGED TO OBSERVERS BY OTHER REGIONAL FISHERIES
ORGANIZATIONS**

During the 66th Meeting of the IATTC, held in La Jolla in June 2000, the staff was asked to collect information on the fees charged to observers attending meetings of other regional fisheries management organizations, including representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), governments, and international organizations.

The staff has obtained the following information on the matter.

I. International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

The ICCAT rules on fees require that observers pay a fee which will contribute to the additional expenses generated by their participation, as determined annually by the Executive Secretary. The Secretariat began implementing this policy in 1999, and has charged, depending on the meeting, fees ranging from US\$100 per person to US\$500 for a maximum of two observers per delegation, plus US\$350 for each additional participant. ICCAT used this latter scale for both its 1999 and 2000 annual meetings. The observer fees for ICCAT's most recent Working Group meetings were US\$200 for delegations composed of a maximum of two persons and US\$150 for each additional person. NGO and government delegations pay the same fees, but ICCAT waived the application of its rules for international organizations.

II. Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO).

To date NAFO has not had any experience in applying its new rules on the subject of charging fees to observers at meetings, which read:

“9.6 Observers will be required to pay a fee, which will cover the additional expenses generated by their participation, as determined annually by the Executive Secretary.

9.7 The Executive Secretary will determine whether, due to conference room capacity, seating limitations require that a limited number of observers per NGO may be present at any meetings. The Executive Secretary will transmit any such determination in the conditions of participation.”

NAFO's preliminary estimate of the fees to be eventually charged is in the range of CAN\$250-500 per observer, and they would be applied to NGOs only.

III. Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC).

These organizations do not charge any fees for observers attending their meetings.