RESOLUTION ON THE APPLICATION OF ARTICLE XV, PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ANTIGUA CONVENTION

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered in Phoenix, Arizona on the occasion of its 99th (Extraordinary) Meeting:

Recalling that Article XV, paragraph 4, of the Antigua Convention states:

“Notwithstanding the provisions of Article IX of this Convention, unless the Commission decides otherwise, if a member of the Commission is in arrears in the payment of its contributions by an amount equal to or greater than the total of the contributions due from it for the preceding twenty-four (24) months, that member shall not have the right to participate in decision-making in the Commission until it has fulfilled its obligations pursuant to this Article.”

Taking into consideration that, as of the date of this Resolution, certain IATTC Members, including Panama and Venezuela, are in arrears in the payment of their contributions to the Commission by an amount equal to or greater than the total of the contributions due from them for the preceding twenty-four (24) months;

Considering that the Commission has convened this 99th Meeting (Extraordinary) to appoint a Director, in accordance with Article XII, paragraph 1, of the Antigua Convention, and the extraordinary nature of this decision-making responsibility of the Commission;

Acting on the understanding that Panama and Venezuela have committed to fulfill their obligations to pay their arrears in a timely manner;

Recalling that the timely payment of Member contributions is essential to ensure that the Commission is able to fulfill its mission,

Resolves as follows:

1. Pursuant to Article XV, paragraph 4, of the Antigua Convention, the Commission has decided to allow IATTC Members Panama and Venezuela, which are in arrears, to participate in the decision-making process in the 99th Meeting (Extraordinary) of the Commission for the selection of a Director.

2. (a) This decision shall not establish a precedent for future decisions related to the applicability of Article XV, paragraph 4, of the Antigua Convention.

   (b) Any future decisions pursuant to Article XV, paragraph 4, of the Antigua Convention shall be made on a case-by-case basis, and shall be undertaken without
consideration of this decision to allow those IATTC Members who are currently in arrears to participate in the selection of a Director during the 99th Meeting (Extraordinary) of the Commission.