

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING

22ND MEETING

Del Mar, California (USA)
24 October 2006

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Approval of minutes of the 21st meeting
4. Review of the implementation of the [dolphin safe certification system](#)
5. Recommendations for the IRP
6. Other business
7. Place and date of next meeting
8. Adjournment

Documents
TT-22-04

The 22nd meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking was held in Del Mar, California (USA), on 24 October 2006. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair of the Working Group, Ms. Sonia Salaverría of El Salvador.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda circulated previously by the Secretariat was adopted without modification.

3. Approval of minutes of the 21st meeting

The minutes of the 21st meeting of the working group were approved as drafted.

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

Dr. Allen presented Document [TT-22-04](#), *Matters related to the Tuna Tracking and Dolphin-Safe Certification programs*. He noted that the presentation of the information was the same as in previous documents, with the inclusion of a new section addressing the detection of non-dolphin safe tuna that might have been classified as dolphin safe, which includes an analysis of the ranges of yields of tuna presented by some processing companies, and the information obtained from dolphin-safe certificates received by the Secretariat.

Dr. Allen reported that, from 1 September 2005 through 1 October 2006, the Secretariat had received 24 dolphin safe certificates, corresponding to 14 trips, and all the original TTFs had been received. He also observed that no queries had been received regarding the validity of the certificates.

Regarding the yields of processed tuna, Dr. Allen reported that, since the last meeting of the working group, only one Party had responded to the new questionnaire regarding yield, with respect to two of its

canneries, and that one of the forms received could not be used, since the information provided was not consistent with what was required. Costa Rica noted that the problem is the lack of will by industry to provide the requested information, and that the Parties should consider how to obtain an improved response. The United States reported that it would soon provide information from part of its industry.

In the analysis of the detection of non-dolphin safe tuna reported as dolphin safe, it was noted that only 8% of the total catch of all species of tuna in the EPO is not dolphin safe, and small amounts of this could be added to dolphin-safe tuna without greatly increasing the conversion factor calculated based on the weight of dolphin-safe tuna recorded on a TTF.

It was noted that, if a conversion rate of 0.5 were used, it would be possible to add some 30 tons of non-dolphin safe to 1,000 tons of dolphin-safe tuna without making the conversion rate seem unusual. If the real conversion factor of a batch of processed dolphin safe tuna were below average, it would be possible to hide greater quantities of non-dolphin safe tuna.

Several delegations and the Chair proposed that the analysis presented be maintained for future meetings, incorporating any new information received.

El Salvador expressed its view that the use of a range of yields for the detection of non-dolphin safe tuna reported as dolphin safe is not an effective approach.

Also, when doing the analysis of the certificates received, the Secretariat reported five recent dolphin safe certificates indicating very high conversion rates, and noted that it will seek further information about these.

Finally, it was noted that 94% of the original TTFs covered by this report of the Secretariat had been transmitted to the Secretariat, indicating a high rate of compliance by the Parties with this provision of the Tuna Tracking System. Colombia noted that it had provided missing TTFs to the Secretariat, so that the information presented should now reflect 100% compliance by Colombia with this requirement.

In concluding the discussion of the matter, the Parties agreed that for the following meeting:

1. The analysis section regarding the determination of the ranges of yields of tuna reported by the companies of the various Parties be maintained, encouraging those that have not already done so to submit the information. Also, efforts will be made to obtain information on the differences in yields by size as well as by species.
2. The Secretariat will seek further information regarding the five anomalous certificates and will report on this at the next meeting.
3. The Parties will bring proposals on how to improve the strategy for achieving the objectives of the Tracking and Certification System for AIDCP dolphin safe tuna.

5. Recommendations for the IRP

There were no recommendations for the International Review Panel.

6. Other business

There was no other business.

7. Place and date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Working Group will be held on 18 June 2007; the venue will be decided between Mexico and Panama.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m. on 24 October 2006.

Appendix 1.

ATTENDEES - ASISTENTES

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