

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

75TH MEETING

CANCUN (MEXICO)
25-29 JUNE 2007

PROPOSAL D1

SUBMITTED BY THE UNITED STATES

**RESOLUTION ON A MULTI-ANNUAL PROGRAM ON THE
CONSERVATION OF TUNA IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN FOR
2008, 2009, AND 2010**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), at its 75th Meeting in Cancun, Mexico, in June 2007:

Having responsibility for the scientific study of the tunas and tuna-like species of the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO), defined as the area bounded by the coastline of the Americas, the 40°N parallel, the 150°W meridian, and the 40°S parallel, and for the formulation of recommendations to Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Parties, fishing entities and regional economic integration organizations (collectively "CPCs") with regard to these tuna resources, and having maintained since 1950 a continuous scientific program directed toward the study of tuna resources;

Recognizes, based on past experience in the fishery, that the potential production from the tuna resource can be reduced by excessive fishing effort;

Being aware with grave concern that, despite the previous conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission, although the catches of bigeye and yellowfin tunas have declined recently, capacity continues to increase and overfishing of bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna is occurring;

Notes that the tuna resource of the EPO supports one of the most significant surface fisheries for tunas in the world;

Notes the staff's recommendation that the conservation measures for tunas for 2008 should include a closure of the purse-seine fishery of 109 days in order to conserve the stocks of yellowfin and bigeye in the EPO;

Taking into account the best scientific information available, as reflected in the recommendations of the staff and the report of the meeting of the Working Group on Stock Assessments in May 2007; and

Considering that the studies of yellowfin and bigeye tunas presented at this meeting show that the stocks are at a level below that which would produce the average maximum sustainable yield (AMSY);

Resolves as follows:

1. This resolution is applicable in the years 2008, 2009, and 2010 to all purse-seine vessels and all longline vessels fishing for yellowfin, bigeye, and skipjack tunas in the EPO.
2. The objective of this Resolution is to reduce fishing levels to levels that will produce the AMSY of yellowfin tuna within three years, and of bigeye tuna within five years.
3. Pole-and-line, troll, and sportfishing vessels are not subject to this resolution.
4. In each one of the years covered by this resolution, the fishery for tunas by purse-seine vessels in the EPO shall be closed for the rest of that year when a total allowable catch (TAC) of 200,000 metric

tons of yellowfin tuna is reached. The Director will be authorized to decrease or increase the TAC by no more than four reductions or increments of 30,000 metric tons each, if the Director concludes, from examination of available data, that any such decreases are required to increase the stock to the level producing AMSY or any such increases will pose no significant risk to the stock so as not to fall below the level producing AMSY. Any reduction or increase shall go into effect 30 days after the Director has notified each CPC that the Director has determined such change is appropriate and provided the information upon which the Director's determination was based.

5. In addition, during 2008, 2009, and 2010, each CPC shall limit the annual catch of bigeye tuna by each one of its purse-seine vessels to no more than 500 metric tons per vessel.
6. Each CPC shall, for purse-seine fisheries:
 - a. Before the date of entry into force of the closure, take the legal and administrative measures necessary to implement the closure;
 - b. Inform all interested parties in its national tuna industry of the closure;
 - c. Inform the Director that these steps have been taken;
 - d. Ensure that at the time a closure begins, and for the entire duration of the closure, all purse-seine vessels fishing for yellowfin, bigeye, or skipjack tunas flying its flag, or operating under its jurisdiction, in the EPO are in port, except that vessels carrying an observer from the AIDCP On-Board Observer Program may remain at sea, provided they do not fish in the EPO. The only other exception to this provision shall be that vessels carrying an observer from the AIDCP On-Board Observer Program may leave port during the closure, provided they do not fish in the EPO.
7. Each CPC shall take the measures necessary to control the total annual longline catch of bigeye tuna in the EPO during 2008, 2009, and 2010 by longline vessels fishing under its jurisdiction.
8. China, Japan, Korea, and Chinese Taipei shall take the measures necessary to ensure that their total annual longline catches of bigeye tuna in the EPO during 2008, 2009, and 2010 does not exceed the following levels:

China	2,190 metric tons
Japan	28,283 metric tons
Korea	10,438 metric tons
Chinese Taipei	6,601 metric tons

9. Other CPCs shall take the measures necessary to ensure that their total annual longline catches of bigeye tuna in the EPO during 2008, 2009, and 2010 do not exceed 500 metric tons or their respective catches of bigeye tuna in 2001, whichever is higher¹.
10. To prohibit landings, transshipments and commercial transactions in tuna or tuna products that have been positively identified as originating from fishing activities that contravene this resolution. The Director shall provide relevant information to the Parties to assist them in this regard. The Commission shall develop transparent and non-discriminatory criteria and procedures to promote compliance in the EPO, consistent with international law, including World Trade Organization agreements and other applicable trade agreements.
11. Catches of bigeye tuna by large-scale longline vessels (> 24 meters in length) that are not landed in ports in the EPO will be verified for the purpose of paragraphs 8-11 through either Commission-approved port sampling programs or at-sea observers. The Director shall determine, and announce to the CPCs, the appropriate level of observer coverage.
12. Each CPC shall, in each of the years covered by this resolution, notify the Director by 15 July of national actions taken to implement this Resolution, including any controls it has imposed on its fleets

and any monitoring, control, and compliance measures it has established to ensure compliance with such controls.

13. Each CPC with tuna longline vessels shall provide monthly of reports of longline catches of bigeye tuna to the Director.
14. To evaluate progress towards the objectives of paragraph 2 of this Resolution, in 2008 the IATTC Scientific Working Group will analyze the effects on the stocks of the implementation of Resolution C-06-02, Resolution C-04-09, and previous conservation and management measures, and will propose to the Commission, if necessary, appropriate measures to be applied in 2009 and thereafter.
15. Each CPC shall comply with this resolution.

¹ The Parties acknowledge that France, as a coastal State, is developing a tuna longline fleet on behalf of its overseas territories in the EPO.

