



**United States Department of State**

*Bureau of Oceans and International  
Environmental and Scientific Affairs*

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

February 24, 2016

Dr. Guillermo Compeán  
Director, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission  
8901 La Jolla Shores Drive  
La Jolla, California 92037-1509

Dear Dr. Compeán:

I am writing on behalf of the U.S. Section to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) to notify you that today the United States formally deposited its instrument of ratification of the Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention Between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica (the Antigua Convention). The United States will be transmitting diplomatic notes to the Parties to the Antigua Convention providing notification of this action.

I was privileged to personally receive the instrument of ratification upon its sealing and to make the deposit with the State Department's Office of the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, which provides depositary services for the Antigua Convention. That office will also be working in the very near term to update the status of ratifications of and accessions to the Antigua Convention shown on the State Department's website.

The United States wishes to convey to you and the IATTC Members our continued commitment to cooperate in the effective, science-based conservation and management of the very important living marine resources of the eastern Pacific Ocean, which is reinforced by our ratification of the Antigua Convention. I would be grateful if you could circulate this notification to all IATTC Members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David F. Hogan".

David F. Hogan  
Deputy Director  
Office of Marine Conservation

Cc: Mr. Barry Thom, U.S. IATTC Commissioner  
Dr. William Fox, U.S. IATTC Commissioner  
Mr. Don Hansen, U.S. IATTC Commissioner  
Mr. Ed Weissman, U.S. IATTC Commissioner