

# COFI 35 – WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE PROCEDURE

## RECEIVED COMMENTS FROM OBSERVERS

### A – BASIC INFORMATION

<b>Document Number</b>	COFI/2022/9
<b>Document Title</b>	Developments in global and regional processes related to fisheries and aquaculture
<b>Commenting Observer</b>	International of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
<b>Referred paragraph numbers</b> (if applicable)	-

### B – COMMENT RECEIVED

Mr Chair,  
Distinguished delegates,  
In pursuing its management and conservation mandate, despite the constraints imposed by COVID-19, and while continuing to strengthen its science advice, ICCAT has been able to make significant progress.  
At its last annual meeting in November 2021, ICCAT agreed on a new conservation measure for North Atlantic shortfin mako shark caught in association with ICCAT fisheries. An agreement was reached to roll over the multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas, implying a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for bigeye tuna of 62,000 tonnes for 2022. In addition, to reduce the fishing mortality of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tuna, a new shorter FAD fishing closure was agreed upon. The annual TAC for yellowfin will remain at 110,000 tonnes. Finally, it was decided that intersessional meetings of Panel 1 will be held in 2022 to review existing measures and, inter alia, develop catch limits and associated catch verification mechanisms for 2023.  
ICCAT also established new technical working groups to advance work on catch documentation systems, electronic monitoring, and an ad hoc working group to examine labor standards in ICCAT fisheries. The Commission also adopted new measures on transshipment, VMS measures and vessel listing requirements.  
ICCAT continues to strengthen its cooperation with other organisations through frequent exchanges and a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention (IAC).  
I thank you very much, Mr President.