

December 2006

**E**



GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION  
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN  
COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES  
POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN**

**Thirty-first Session**

**Rome, Italy, 9-12 January 2007**

**ICCAT RECOMMENDATIONS OF RELEVANCE  
TO THE MEDITERRANEAN**

- I. Recommendation [06-05] by ICCAT to establish a multi-annual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.**
- II. Recommendation [06-07] by ICCAT on bluefin tuna farming.**
- III. Recommendation [06-11] by ICCAT establishing a programme for transshipment.**

December 2006

06-05

BFT

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO ESTABLISH A MULTI-ANNUAL RECOVERY PLAN FOR  
BLUEFIN TUNA IN THE EASTERN ATLANTIC AND MEDITERRANEAN**

*RECOGNISING* that the Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) has indicated in its 2006 stock assessment that the spawning stock biomass (SSB) for bluefin tuna continues to decline, while fishing mortality is increasing rapidly, especially for large fish,

*NOTING* that the SCRS has indicated a possible collapse of the stocks in the near future unless adequate management measures are implemented, in view of its estimation of the combined fishing capacity of all fleets and the current fishing mortality rates,

*CONSCIOUS* that in order to reverse these declines in spawning biomass and to initiate recovery, the SCRS recommends substantial reductions in fishing mortality and catch,

*CONSIDERING* that the SCRS has pointed out that management actions are also needed to mitigate the impacts of over-capacity, as well as to eliminate illegal fishing,

*NOTING* that the objective of the Convention is to maintain tuna populations at levels that will support maximum sustainable catch (usually referred to as MSY),

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the stock recovery scenarios developed by SCRS based on the stock assessment carried out in 2006,

*DESIRING* to achieve a stock level consistent with the objectives of the Convention within 15 years,

*CONVINCED* that to achieve those objectives, it is necessary to implement a coherent Recovery Plan for that stock over a fifteen year period. The objective is to recover the stock through a combination of measures which will protect the spawning stock biomass and reduce the juvenile catches,

*NOTING* that the measures included in the Multi-Annual Recovery Plan should be considered as specific emergency measures to address the status of bluefin stock,

*NOTING* that a substantial reduction of the fishing mortality, both on juveniles and adult fish could be obtained in a first stage by a combination of closed fishing seasons and increased minimum size,

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the 2001 ICCAT *Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*,

*RECOGNIZING* that the success of the Recovery Plan involves the implementation by ICCAT of an appropriate system of control which should include a set of effective control measures to ensure the respect of the management measures, in particular TAC and quotas, closed seasons and minimum size and the regulation of the caging operations,

*INSISTING* on the need to immediately improve the protection of juveniles and to adjust the minimum sizes for East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna,

*CONSIDERING* the responsibility of flag States, port States, farm States and market States to ensure compliance with the present Recommendation,

*GIVEN* the need to assess and address overcapacity in fleets participating in many ICCAT fisheries and seeking eventually to develop effective ways to address this problem in a comprehensive manner, in particular in the eastern and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishery, in the framework of the Capacity Working Group that will meet in 2007,

December 2006

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION  
OF THE ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

**Part I**

**General provisions**

1. The Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereinafter referred to as CPCs), whose vessels have been actively fishing for bluefin tuna in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean shall implement a 15 year Recovery Plan for bluefin tuna in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean starting in 2007 and continuing through 2022, with the goal of achieving Bmsy, with greater than 50% probability. Each CPC shall adjust its fishing effort commensurate with available fishing opportunities fixed in accordance with this Plan.
2. In 2008 this Recovery Plan shall be reviewed and may be adjusted, notably, on the basis of subsequent SCRS advice.
3. For the purposes of this Plan:
  - a) "Fishing vessel" means any vessel used or intended for use for the purposes of the commercial exploitation of tuna resources, included fish processing vessels and vessels engaged in transshipment;
  - b) "Joint fishing operation" means any operations between two or more vessels flying the flag of different CPCs where catch is transferred from the fishing gear of one vessel to another;
  - c) "Transfer activities" means any transfer of bluefin tuna
    - from the fishing vessel to the end fattening bluefin tuna farm, including for the fish dead or escaped during the transport,
    - from a bluefin tuna farm or a tuna trap to a processing vessel, transport vessel or to land.
  - d) "Tuna trap" means fixed gear anchored to the bottom usually containing a guide net that leads fish into an enclosure.
  - e) "Caging" means that bluefin tuna is not taken on board and includes both fattening and farming,
  - f) "Fattening" means caging of bluefin tuna for a short period (usually 2-6 months) aiming mostly at increasing the fat content of the fish,
  - g) "Farming" means caging of bluefin tuna for a period longer than one year, aiming to increase the total biomass,
  - h) "Transshipment" means the unloading of all or any of the fish on board a fishing vessel to another fishing vessel at port,
  - i) "Processing vessel" means a vessel on board of which fisheries products are subject to one or more of the following operations, prior to their packaging: filleting or slicing, freezing and/or transformation,
  - j) "Sport fishery" means a non-commercial fishery whose members adhere to a national sport organisation or are issued with a national sport licence.
  - k) "Recreational fishery" means a non-commercial fishery whose members do not adhere to a national sport organisation or are not issued with a national sport licence.

**Part II**

December 2006

**Management measures****TAC and quotas**

4. The total allowable catches (TACs) are fixed:
 

-	2007:	29,500 t,
-	2008:	28,500 t,
-	2009:	27,500 t,
-	2010:	25,500 t.
5. The TACs for subsequent years shall be established taking into account the progress made in the rebuilding of the stock.
6. The SCRS shall monitor and review the progress of the Plan and submit an assessment to the Commission for the first time in 2008, and each two years thereafter.
7. The TAC for 2009 and 2010 may be adjusted following the SCRS advice. The relative shares shall remain unchanged for 2010 from those in the current Recommendation.
8. To establish a fair and equitable allocation of the quota in the bluefin tuna fishery in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea, an allocation scheme for a four-year period, starting in 2007, shall be established at a meeting to be convened in early 2007.

**Associated conditions to TAC and Quotas**

9. Each CPC may allocate its bluefin tuna quota to its fishing vessels and traps authorized to fish actively for bluefin tuna.
10. No carry-over of any under-harvests shall be made under this Plan.
 

By derogation to paragraph 4 of the 2002 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning a Multi-year Conservation and Management Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean* [Rec. 02-08], no more than 50 % carry-over of any under-harvests arising from 2005 and/or 2006 may be made under this Plan. Paragraph 2 of the 1996 *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Compliance in the Bluefin Tuna and North Atlantic Swordfish Fisheries* [Rec. 96-14] shall not apply for the overages in 2005 and 2006.
11. Private trade arrangements and or transfer of quotas/catch limits between CPCs shall be done only under authorisation by the CPCs concerned and the Commission.
12. To comply with paragraph 1 of 2002 *Recommendation by ICCAT on Vessel Chartering* [Rec. 02-21], the percentage of a CPC's bluefin tuna quota/catch limit that may be used for chartering shall not exceed 60%, 40% and 20% of the total quota in 2007, 2008, 2009, respectively. No chartering operation for the bluefin tuna fishery is permitted in 2010.
 

By derogation of paragraph 3 of the 2002 *Recommendation by ICCAT on Vessel Chartering* [Rec. 02-21], only bluefin tuna fishing vessels flying the flag of a CPC can be chartered.

The number of bluefin tuna fishing vessels chartered and the duration of the charter shall be commensurate with the quota allocated to the charter nation.
13. Joint fishing operations for bluefin tuna shall only be authorised with the consent of flag States. Detailed information shall be provided to the flag State of the fishing vessel participating in the joint fishing operation related to the duration and the composition of the operators involved in the joint operation. This information shall be transmitted by the concerned flag State to the ICCAT Secretariat.

**Closed fishing seasons**

14. Bluefin tuna fishing shall be prohibited in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean by large-scale pelagic longline vessels over 24 m during the period from 1 June to 31 December, with the exception of the area delimited by West of 10°W and North of 42°N.
15. Purse seine fishing for bluefin tuna shall be prohibited in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean during the period from 1 July to 31 December.

December 2006

16. Bluefin tuna fishing by baitboats shall be prohibited in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean during the period from 15 November to 15 May.
17. Bluefin tuna fishing by pelagic trawlers shall be prohibited in the East Atlantic during the period from 15 November to 15 May.

**Use of aircraft**

18. CPCs shall take necessary measures to prohibit the use of airplanes or helicopters for searching for bluefin tuna in the Convention area.

**Minimum size**

19. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to prohibit catching, retaining on board, transshipping, transferring, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus thynnus*) weighing less than 30 kg.
20. By derogation to paragraph 19 above and without prejudice to paragraph 21, a minimum size for bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus thynnus*) of 8 kg shall apply to the following situations:
  - a) Bluefin tuna caught by baitboats, trolling boats and pelagic trawlers in the eastern Atlantic shall be authorised in accordance with the procedures set out in **Annex 1**.
  - b) Bluefin tuna caught in the Adriatic Sea for farming purposes.

**By-catch**

21. A by-catch of maximum 8% of bluefin tuna shall be authorized to fishing vessels, fishing actively or not for bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg and no less than 10 kg. This percentage is calculated on the total of these incidental by-catches in number of fish per landing of the total bluefin tuna catches of these vessels, or their equivalent in percentage in weight. By-catch must be deducted from the quota of the flag State CPC. The discard of dead fish shall be prohibited and shall be deducted from the quota of the flag State CPC.

The procedures referred to in **Annex 1**, paragraph 7 and 8, apply to the landing of by-catch.

**Recreational fisheries**

22. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to prohibit the catch and retention on board, transshipment or landing of more than one piece in each sea trip.
23. The marketing of bluefin tuna caught in recreational fishing is prohibited except for charitable purposes.
24. Each CPC shall take measures to record catch data from recreational fishing and transmit them to the SCRS.
25. Each CPC shall take the necessary measures to ensure, to the greatest extent possible, the release of bluefin tuna caught alive, especially juveniles, in the framework of recreational fishing.

**Sport fisheries**

26. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to regulate sport fishing, notably by fishing authorisations.
27. The marketing of bluefin tuna caught in sport fishing competitions is prohibited except for charitable purposes.
28. Each CPC shall take measures to record catch data from sport fishing and transmit them to the SCRS.
29. Each CPC shall take the necessary measures to ensure, to the greatest extent possible, the release of the bluefin tuna caught alive, especially juveniles, in the framework of sport fishing.

**Part III**

**Control measures****ICCAT record of vessels authorized to fish for bluefin tuna**

30. The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT record of all fishing vessels authorised to fish actively for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea. For the purposes of this recommendation fishing vessels not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to fish for, retain on board, tranship, transport, transfer or land bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea.
31. Each CPC shall submit electronically, where possible, to the ICCAT Executive Secretary, by 1 June 2007, the list of its vessels authorized to fish for bluefin tuna referred to in paragraph 30.
32. Conditions and procedures referred in the 2002 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Establishment of an ICCAT Record of Vessels Over 24 Meters Authorised to Operate in the Convention Area* [Rec. 02-22] apply *mutatis mutandis*.

**ICCAT record of tuna traps authorized to fish for bluefin tuna**

33. The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT Record of all tuna traps authorized to fish for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea. For the purposes of this recommendation, tuna traps not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to be used to fish for, retain, tranship or land bluefin tuna.
34. Each CPC shall submit electronically, where possible to the ICCAT Executive Secretary, by 1 June 2007, the list (including the name of the traps, register number) of its authorized tuna traps referred to in paragraph 33. Conditions and procedures referred in the 2002 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Establishment of an ICCAT Record of Vessels Over 24 Meters Authorised to Operate in the Convention Area* [Rec. 02-22] apply *mutatis mutandis*.

**Transshipment**

35. Transshipment at sea operations of bluefin tuna in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea shall be prohibited, except for fishing vessels operating in accordance with Recommendation 06-11.

Authorised vessels may only tranship bluefin tuna catches in designated ports. To this end, each CPC shall designate ports in which transshipping of bluefin tuna is authorized and communicate a list of these ports to the ICCAT Secretariat by 1 June 2007. Each CPC shall transmit to the ICCAT Secretariat any subsequent changes in the list at least 15 days before their entry into force. On the basis of this information the ICCAT Secretariat shall maintain a list of designated ports on the ICCAT website.

Prior to entry into any port, the receiving vessels (catching vessel or processing vessel) or their representative, shall provide the relevant authorities of the Port State or authorities of the State where the farm is located, at least 48 h before the estimated time of arrival, with the following:

- a) estimated time of arrival,
- b) estimated quantity of bluefin tuna retained on board,
- c) information on the geographic area where the catches were taken;
- d) the name of the catching vessel and its number in the ICCAT record of authorised fishing vessels for bluefin tuna,
- e) the name of the receiving vessel, its number in the ICCAT record of authorised fishing vessels for bluefin tuna,
- f) the tonnage of bluefin tuna to be transhipped,
- g) the geographic area of the tuna catches

December 2006

Any transshipment requires the prior authorisation from the flag State of the catching fishing vessel concerned.

The master of the catching vessel shall, at the time of the transshipment, inform its Flag State of the following:

- a) the quantities of bluefin tuna involved,
- b) the date and port of the transshipment,
- c) the name, registration number and flag of the receiving vessel and its number in the ICCAT record of authorized fishing vessels for bluefin tuna,
- d) the geographical area of the tuna catches

The relevant authority of the port State or of the farm CPC shall inspect the receiving vessel on arrival and check the cargo and documentation related to the transshipment operation.

The relevant authority of the Port State or of the farm CPC shall send a record of the transshipment to the flag State authority of the catching vessel, within 48 hours after the transshipment has ended.

### **Recording requirements**

36. The masters of authorized fishing vessels catching bluefin tuna shall keep a bound or electronic logbook of their operations, indicating particularly the quantities of bluefin tuna caught and kept on board, whether the catches are weighted or estimated, the date and location of such catches and the type of gear used set out in **Annex 2**.

37. The master of the vessel engaged in a joint fishing operation shall record in its logbook:

- a) where the catch is taken on board or transferred into cages:
  - the date and the time ,
  - the location (longitude/latitude),
  - amount of catches taken on board, or transferred into cages,
  - the name and international radio call sign of the fishing vessel by whose gear the catch has been taken,
- b) where the catch is not taken on board or is in a net before transfer activities or transferred into cages:
  - the date and the time ,
  - the location (longitude/latitude),
  - that no catches have been taken on board or transferred into cages,
  - the name and international radio call sign of the catching fishing vessel by whose gear the catch has been taken.

38. Authorised vessels may only land bluefin tuna catches in designated ports. To this end, each CPC shall designate ports in which landing of bluefin tuna is authorized and communicate a list of these ports to the ICCAT Secretariat by 1 June 2007. Each CPC shall transmit to the ICCAT Secretariat any subsequent changes in the list at least 15 days before their entry into force. On the basis of this information the ICCAT Secretariat shall maintain a list of designated ports on the ICCAT website.

Prior to entry into any port, the fishing vessels or their representative, shall provide the relevant authorities of the port, at least 4h before the estimated time of arrival, with the following:

- a) estimated time of arrival,
- b) estimate of quantity of bluefin tuna retained on board,
- c) information on the zone where the catches were taken;

Each landing or caging shall be subject to an inspection by the relevant authorities of the port.

The relevant authority shall send a record of the landing to the flag State authority of the vessel, within 48 hours after the landing has ended.

December 2006

After each trip and within 48 h of landing, the masters of authorised vessels fishing for bluefin tuna shall submit a landing declaration to the competent authorities of the CPC where the landing takes place and to its flag State. The master of the authorised vessel shall be responsible for the accuracy of the declaration, which shall indicate, as a minimum, the quantities of bluefin tuna landed and the area where they were caught. All landed catches shall be weighed and not only estimated.

39. The masters of authorised fishing vessels for bluefin tuna shall complete and transmit to their flag State the ICCAT transshipment declaration no later than 15 days after the date of transshipment in port in accordance with the format set out in **Annex 3**.

#### **Communication of catches**

40. Each CPC shall ensure that its authorised vessels engaged in fishing activities for bluefin tuna shall communicate by electronic, or other means, to its competent authorities, which shall transmit without delay, to the ICCAT Secretariat, the following report:
- a) Quantities of bluefin tuna, including nil catch returns. This report shall for the first time be transmitted at the latest at the end of the ten days after the entry into the Plan Area or after the beginning of the fishing trip. In the case of joint operations the master shall indicate to which vessel or vessels the catches are attributed, to be counted against the quota of the flag State.
  - b) From 1 June of each year, the masters shall transmit the report referred to in point a) on a five-day basis.

#### **Reporting of catches**

41. Each CPC shall report its provisional monthly catches of bluefin tuna. This report shall be sent to the ICCAT Secretariat within 30 days of the end of the calendar month in which the catches were made.
42. The ICCAT Secretariat shall within 10 days following the monthly deadlines for receipt of the provisional catch statistics collect the information received and circulate it to CPCs together with aggregated catch statistics.
43. The Executive Secretary shall notify without delay all CPCs of the date on which the accumulative reported catch taken by vessels of the CPCs is estimated to equal 85% of the concerned CPC quota for this stock. The CPC shall take the necessary measures to close its bluefin tuna fisheries before its quota is exhausted and notify this closure without delay to the ICCAT Secretariat which will circulate this information to all CPCs.

#### **Cross check**

44. CPCs shall verify, including by using VMS data, the submission of logbooks and relevant information recorded in the logbooks of their vessels, in the transfer/transshipment document and in the catch documents.
- The competent authorities shall carry out administrative cross checks on all landings, all transshipment or caging between the quantities by species recorded in the vessel logbook or quantities by species recorded in the transshipment declaration and the quantities recorded in the landing declaration or caging declaration, and any other relevant document, such as invoice and/or sales notes.

#### **Caging operations**

45. The CPC under whose jurisdiction the farm for bluefin tuna is located shall submit within one week a caging report, validated by an observer, to the CPC whose flag vessels has fished the tuna and to the ICCAT Secretariat. This report shall contain the information referred to in the caging declaration as set out in the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Bluefin Tuna Farming [Rec. 06-07]*.
- When the farming facilities authorized to operate for farming of bluefin tuna caught in the Convention area (hereafter referred to as FFB's) are located beyond waters under jurisdiction of CPCs, the provisions of the previous paragraph shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to CPCs where the natural or legal persons responsible for FFB's are located.
46. Before any transfer activity, the flag state of the catching vessel shall be informed by the competent authority of the farm State of the transfer into cage of quantities caught by fishing vessels flying its flag. If the flag State of the catching vessel considers on receipt of this information that:

December 2006

- a) the fishing vessel declared to have caught the fish had not sufficient quota for bluefin tuna put into the cage,
  - b) the quantity of fish has not been duly reported and not taken into account for the calculation of any quota that may be applicable,
  - c) the fishing vessel declared to have caught the fish is not authorised to fish for bluefin tuna,
- it shall inform the competent authority of the farm State to proceed to the seizure of the catches and the release of the fish into the sea.
47. The master of authorised fishing vessels for bluefin tuna shall complete and transmit to their flag State the ICCAT transfer declaration not later than 15 days after the date of transfer to tug vessels or to the cage, in accordance with the format set out in **Annex 3**.

The transfer declaration shall accompany the transferred fish during transport to the cage.

#### **Trap activities**

48. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure the record of the catches after the end of every fishing operation and the transmission of this data simultaneously by electronic means or other means within 48 hours after the end of every fishing operation to the competent authority, which shall transmit these data without delay to the ICCAT Secretariat.

#### **VMS**

49. CPCs shall implement a vessels monitoring system for its bluefin tuna fishing vessels over 24 m referred to in paragraph 30, in accordance with 2003 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Minimum Standards for the Establishment of a Vessel Monitoring System in the ICCAT Convention Area*.

With effect from 1 January 2010 this measure shall be applied to bluefin tuna fishing vessels over 15 m.

Not later than 31 January 2008, each CPC shall communicate without delay messages pursuant to this paragraph to the ICCAT Secretariat, in accordance with the data exchange formats and protocols adopted by the Commission in 2007.

#### **Observer programme**

50. Each CPC shall ensure observer coverage on its fishing vessels over 15 m in length of at least:
- 20% of its active purse seine vessels In the case of joint fishing operations, an observer shall be present during the fishing operation,
  - 20% of its active pelagic trawlers,
  - 20% of its active longline vessels,
  - 20% of its active baitboats,
  - 100% during the harvesting process for tuna traps.

The observer tasks shall be, in particular, to:

- monitor a vessel compliance with the present recommendation,
- record and report upon the fishing activity,
- observe and estimate catches and verify entries made in the logbook,
- sight and record vessels which may be fishing contrary to ICCAT conservation measures.

In addition, the observer shall carry out scientific work, such as collecting Task II data, when required by the Commission, based on the instructions from the SCRS.

December 2006

51. Each CPC under whose jurisdiction the farm for bluefin tuna is located shall ensure an observer presence during all transfer of bluefin tuna to the cages and all harvest of fish from the cage.

The observer tasks shall be, in particular, to:

- observe and monitor farming operation compliance with the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Bluefin Tuna Farming* [Rec. 06-07],
- validate the caging report referred to in paragraph 45,
- carry out such scientific work, for example collecting samples, as required by the Commission based on the directions from the SCRS,

#### **Enforcement**

52. CPCs shall take enforcement measures with respect to a vessel, where it has been established, in accordance with its law that the fishing vessel flying its flag does not comply with the provisions of paragraphs 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 36, 37, 38 and 39 (closed seasons, minimum size and reporting requirements).

The measures may include in particular depending on the gravity of the offence and in accordance with the pertinent provisions of national law:

- fines,
- seizure of illegal fishing gear and catches,
- sequestration of the vessel,
- suspension or withdrawal of authorisation to fish,
- reduction or withdrawal of the fishing quota, if applicable.

53. The CPC under whose jurisdiction the farm for bluefin tuna is located shall take enforcement measures with respect to a farm, where it has been established, in accordance with its law that this farm does not comply with the provisions of paragraphs 45, 46 and 51 (caging operations and observers) and with the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Bluefin Tuna Farming* [Rec. 06-07].

The measures may include in particular depending on the gravity of the offence and in accordance with the pertinent provisions of national law:

- fines,
- suspension or withdrawal of the record of FFBs,
- prohibition to put into cages or market quantities of bluefin tuna.

#### **Market measures**

54. Consistent with their rights and obligations under international law, exporting and importing CPCs shall take the necessary measures:

- to prohibit domestic trade, landing, imports, exports, placing in cages for farming, re-exports and transshipments of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna species that are not accompanied by accurate, complete, and validated documentation required by this Recommendation.
- to prohibit domestic trade, imports, landings, placing in cages for farming, processing, exports, re-exports and the transshipment within their jurisdiction, of eastern and Mediterranean bluefin tuna species caught by fishing vessels whose flag State either does not have a quota, catch limit or allocation of fishing effort for that species, under the terms of ICCAT management and conservation measures, or when the flag State fishing possibilities are exhausted.
- to prohibit domestic trade, imports, landings, processing, exports from farms that do not comply with the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Bluefin Tuna Farming* [Rec. 06-07].

#### **Conversion factors**

55. The conversion factors adopted by SCRS shall apply to calculate the equivalent round weight of the processed bluefin tuna.

### **Part IV**

---

December 2006

**ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection**

56. In the framework of the multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna, each CPC agrees, in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 3, of the ICCAT Convention, to apply the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection adopted during its fourth Regular Meeting, held in November 1975 in Madrid<sup>1</sup>.
57. The Scheme referred to in paragraph 56 shall apply until ICCAT adopts a monitoring, control and surveillance scheme which will include an ICCAT scheme for joint international inspection, based on the results of the Integrated Monitoring Measures Working Group, established by Resolution 00-20.

---

<sup>1</sup> Note from the Secretariat: (See Appendix II to Annex 7 in *Report for Biennial Period, 1974-75, Part II (1975)*).

**Specific conditions applying to baitboat, trolling boat and pelagic trawler fisheries in the eastern Atlantic**

1. CPCs shall limit the maximum number of its baitboat and trolling boats authorized to fish bluefin tuna to the number of the vessels participating in directed fishery for bluefin tuna in 2006.
2. CPCs shall limit the maximum number of its pelagic trawler vessels authorized to fish bluefin tuna as by-catch.
3. By 1 June 2007, CPCs shall submit to ICCAT Secretariat, the number of fishing vessels established pursuant to paragraph 1 and 2 of this Annex.
4. CPCs shall issue specific authorisations to baitboat, trolling boat and pelagic trawler vessels fishing for bluefin tuna and shall transmit the list of such vessels to ICCAT Secretariat.
5. Each CPC shall allocate no more than 10% of its quota for bluefin tuna among these authorised vessels, with up to a maximum of 200 t of bluefin tuna weighing no less than 6,4 kg caught by baitboat vessels of an overall length of less than 17 m.
6. Each CPC may allocate no more than 2% of its quota for bluefin tuna among its coastal artisanal fishery for fresh fish.
7. Authorised vessels may only land bluefin tuna catches in designated ports. To this end, each CPC shall designate ports in which landing of bluefin tuna is authorised and communicate a list of these ports to the ICCAT Secretariat by 1 June 2007. Each CPC shall transmit to the ICCAT Secretariat any subsequent changes in the list at least 15 days before their entry into force. On the basis of this information the ICCAT Secretariat shall maintain a list of designated ports on the ICCAT website for these fisheries.
8. Prior to entry into any designated port, authorised vessels or their representative, shall provide the competent port authorities at least 4 h before the estimated time of arrival with the following:
  - a) estimated time of arrival,
  - b) estimate of quantity of bluefin tuna retained on board,
  - c) information on the zone where the catches were taken;Each landing shall be subjected to an inspection in port.
9. CPCs shall implement a catch reporting regime that ensures that effective monitoring of the utilisation of each vessels quota.
10. Bluefin tuna catches may not be offered for retail sale to the final consumer, irrespective of the marketing method, unless appropriate marking or labelling indicates:
  - a) the species, fishing gear used,
  - b) the catch area and date.
11. Beginning 1 July 2007, CPCs whose baitboats are authorized to fish for bluefin tuna in the East Atlantic shall institute tail tag requirements as follows:
  - a) Tail tags must be affixed on each bluefin tuna immediately upon offloading.
  - b) Each tail tag shall have a unique identification number and be included on bluefin tuna statistical documents and written on the outside of any package containing tuna.

## Minimum specification for logbooks:

1. The logbook must be numbered by sheets.
2. The logbook must be filled in every day (midnight) or before port arrival
3. The logbook must be completed in case of at sea inspections
4. One copy of the sheets must remain attached to the logbook
5. Logbooks must be kept on board to cover a period of one-year operation.

## Minimum standard information for logbooks:

1. Master name and address
2. Dates and ports of departure, Dates and ports of arrival
3. Vessel name, register number, ICCAT number and IMO number (if available). In case of joint fishing operations, vessel names, register numbers, ICCAT numbers and IMO numbers (if available) of all the vessels involved in the operation.
4. Fishing gear:
  - a) type FAO code
  - b) Dimension (length, mesh size, number of hooks ...)
5. Operations at sea with one line (minimum) per day of trip, providing:
  - a) Activity (fishing, steaming...)
  - b) Position: Exact daily positions (in degree and minutes), recorded for each fishing operation or at noon when no fishing has been conducted during this day.
  - c) Record of catches:
6. Species identification:
  - a) by FAO code
  - b) round (RWT) weight in kg per day
7. Master signature
8. Observer signature (if applicable)
9. Means of weight measure: estimation, weighing on board.
10. The logbook is kept in equivalent live weight of fish and mentions the conversion factors used in the evaluation.

## Minimum information in case of landing, transshipment/transfer:

1. Dates and port of landing /transshipment/transfer  
Products
  - a) presentation
  - b) number of fish or boxes and quantity in kg
2. Signature of the Master or Vessel Agent

**GFCM:XXXI/2007/Inf.9**

December 2006

**Document N.**

**ICCAT TRANSFER/TRANSHIPMENT DECLARATION**

**Annex 3**

**Tug/Carrier vessel**

**Fishing Vessel**

Name of vessel and radio call sign:

Name of the vessel and radio call sign,

Flag:

Flag:

Flag State authorization No.

Flag State authorisation No.

National Register No.

National register No.

ICCAT Register No.

ICCAT Register No.

IMO No.

External identification:

Fishing logbook sheet No.

	Day	Month	Hour	Year	2_ 0_ _ _	F.V Master's name:	Tug/Carrier Master's name:	LOCATION OF TRANSHIPMENT
Departure	_ _	_ _	_ _	from	_ _ _ _			
Return	_ _	_ _	_ _	to	_ _ _ _	Signature:	Signature:	
Transfer/Transh.	_ _	_ _	_ _		_ _ _ _			

For transhipment, indicate the weight in kilograms or the unit used (e.g. box, basket) and the landed weight in kilograms of this unit: |\_|\_| kilograms.

**GFCM:XXXI/2007/Inf.9**

December 2006

Port	Sea		Species	Number of unit of fishes	Type of Product Live	Type of Product Whole	Type of Product Guttred	Type of Product Head off	Type of Product Filleted	Type of Product	further transfer / transhipments
	Lat.	Long.									
											Date: _____ Place/Position: _____
											Authorization CP No. _____
											Transfer vessel Master signature: _____
											Name of receiver vessel: _____
											Flag _____
											ICCAT Register No. _____
											IMO N° _____
											Master's signature _____
											Date: _____ Place/Position: _____
											Authorization CP No. _____
											Transfer vessel Master's signature: _____
											Name of receiver vessel: _____
											Flag _____
											ICCAT Register No. _____
											IMO No. _____
											Master's signature _____

In case of transfer of live fish indicate number of unit and live weight

ICCAT Observer signature (if applicable):

Obligations in case of transfer /transhipment:

1. The original of the transfer/transhipment declaration must be provided to the recipient vessel tug/processing/transport)

December 2006

2. The copy of the transfer/transshipment declaration must be kept by the correspondent catching fishing vessel
3. Further transfers or transshipping operations shall be authorised by the relevant CP which authorised the vessel to operate
4. The original of the transfer/ transshipment declaration has to be kept by the recipient vessel which holds the fish, up to the farm or the landing place
5. The transfer or transshipping operation shall be recorded in the log book of any vessel involved in the operation

December 2006

06-07

BFT

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT  
ON BLUEFIN TUNA FARMING**

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the increasing development of bluefin tuna farming activities, especially in the Mediterranean;

*RECALLING* the conclusions of 6th Ad Hoc GFCM/ICCAT Joint Working Group Meeting on Stocks of Large Pelagic Fishes in the Mediterranean Sea relative to the effects of the bluefin tuna farming and on the solutions that could be studied to regulate this activity;

*CONSIDERING* the advice of the 2001 Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) on effects of bluefin tuna farming in the Mediterranean on the collection of data and consequently on stock assessment procedures;

*DESIRING* to gradually implement effective management measures that permit the development of bluefin tuna farming in a responsible and sustainable manner in relation to the management of bluefin tuna;

*NOTING* the potential advantages of the use of underwater video monitoring in estimating the number of fish,

*CONSIDERING* the on-going work to establish a Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Programme,

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION  
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. Contracting Parties, Cooperating non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities (hereafter referred to as CPCs) whose flag vessels fish or transfer quantities of bluefin tuna to cages for farming shall undertake the necessary measures:
  - a) to require that the captains of vessels (including tugs and towing vessels) carrying out transfer operations of bluefin tuna for caging maintain vessel logs and report the quantities transferred and the number of fish as well as the date, place of harvest and name of the vessel and of the company responsible for the caging. This detailed information shall be entered into a register which shall contain details of all the transshipments carried out during the fishing season. This register shall be kept onboard and be accessible at any time for control purposes.
  - b) to require the reporting of the total amount of the transfers of bluefin tuna including loss in quantity and number during the transportation to the cages by farm for fattening and farming, carried out by their flag vessels.
  - c) to set up and maintain a list of their flag vessels that fish for, provide or transport bluefin tuna for farming purposes (name of the vessel, flag, license number, gear type), i.e., fishing boat, transport vessel, vessels with pools, etc.
  - d) to equip these tugs and towing vessels with an operational satellite tracking and monitoring system (VMS).
2. The CPCs under whose jurisdiction the farms for bluefin tuna are located in the Convention area shall adopt the necessary measures to:
  - a) assign an identifiable different number to each cage of its farming facility.
  - b) ensure that a caging declaration is submitted to the farming CPCs by the operator for further submission to the Commission in accordance with the ICCAT format in the attached **Annex**, on each fishing or transport vessel that participated in the transfer of tuna to cages for fattening, including the quantities of bluefin tuna destined for farming. This declaration shall include information relative to the validation numbers and dates of the bluefin tuna statistical document(s), the quantities (in t) of fish transferred to the cages, the number of fish, loss during transportation, the date, the place, the location of the catch, the name of the vessel, fishing methods used, as well as its flag and license number;

December 2006

- c) ensure that the tuna farms and the national scientific institutes obtain data as specified in the following paragraph on the size composition of the fish caught as well as the date, time and area of catch and the fishing method used, in order to improve statistics for stock assessment purposes;

To this end, establish a sampling program for the estimation of the numbers-at-size of the bluefin tuna caught which requires notably that size sampling (length or weight) at cages must be done on one sample (=100 specimens) for every 100 t of live fish, or on a 10% sample of the total number of the caged fish. Size samples will be collected during harvesting<sup>2</sup> at the farm and on the dead fish during transport, following the ICCAT methodology for reporting Task II. The sampling should be conducted during any harvesting, covering all cages. Data must be transmitted to ICCAT, by 31 July for the sampling conducted the previous year.

- d) ensure the reporting of the quantities of bluefin tuna placed in cages and of estimates of the growth and mortality while in captivity and of the amounts sold (in t);
- e) set up and maintain a registry of the farming facilities under their jurisdiction;
- f) each CPC referred to in this paragraph shall nominate a single authority responsible for coordinating the collection and verification of information on caging activities and for reporting to and cooperating with the CPC whose flag vessels have fished the caged tuna.

This single authority shall submit, to the CPCs whose flag vessels have fished the caged tuna, a copy of each caging declaration referred to in paragraph 2a and of its supporting Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document, within one week after the completion of the transfer operation of bluefin tuna into cages.

3. CPCs mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate to ensure that quantities caged are consistent with the reported catches (logbook) amount of each fishing vessel.
4. The CPCs that export farmed bluefin tuna products shall ensure that these products be accompanied by the ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document and, where appropriate, that these products be identified as "farmed" with cage number of 2 a) and ICCAT FFB Record Number on the ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document.
5. The CPCs shall transmit, each year, to the Executive Secretary, prior to 31 August:
- the total amount of the transfer of bluefin tuna by farm 1 b),
  - the list of flag vessels provided for in paragraph 1c),
  - the results of the program referred to in paragraph 2 b),
  - the quantities of bluefin tuna placed in cage and estimate of the growth and mortality by farm 2 d),
  - the quantities of bluefin tuna caged during the previous year,
  - the quantities by sourcing of origin marketed during the previous year.
6. The CPCs mentioned in this recommendation as well as the Contracting Parties that import bluefin tuna shall cooperate, particularly through the exchange of information.
7. The Commission shall request non-Contracting Parties that farm bluefin tuna in the Convention area to cooperate in the implementation of this recommendation.
8. Based on the information referred to in paragraph 4 on the Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document reports and the Task I data, the Commission shall review the effectiveness of these measures.
9. a) The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT record of farming facilities authorized to operate for farming of bluefin tuna caught in the Convention area (hereafter referred to as FFBs). For the purposes of this recommendation, FFBs not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to operate for farming of bluefin tuna caught in the Convention area.
- b) Each CPC under whose jurisdiction FFBs are located shall submit electronically, where possible, to the ICCAT Executive Secretary by 31 August 2004 the list of its FFBs that are authorized to operate for farming of bluefin tuna. This list shall include the following information:
- name of the FFB, register number,
  - names and addresses of owner (s) and operator (s),

<sup>2</sup> For fish farmed more than one year, other additional sampling methods should be established.

December 2006

- location,
  - farming capacity (in t)
- c) Each CPC shall notify the Executive Secretary, after the establishment of the ICCAT record of FFBs, of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the ICCAT record of FFBs at any time such changes occur.
- d) The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall maintain the ICCAT record of FFBs, and take any measure to ensure publicity of the record through electronic means, including placing it on the ICCAT website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements noted by CPCs.
- e) The CPCs under whose jurisdiction FFBs are located shall take the necessary measures to ensure that their FFBs comply with the relevant ICCAT measures.
- f) To ensure the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures pertaining to bluefin tuna:
- i) CPCs under whose jurisdiction FFBs are located shall validate Bluefin Tuna Statistical Documents only for the farms on the ICCAT record of FFBs,
  - ii) CPCs shall require farmed bluefin tuna, when imported into their territory to be accompanied by the Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document.
  - iii) CPCs importing farmed bluefin tuna and the States that authorize the FFB shall cooperate to ensure that the Bluefin Tuna Statistical Documents are not forged or do not contain misinformation.
- g) Each CPC shall take the necessary measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the imports and sale of bluefin tuna into and from farms not registered in the ICCAT record of farming facilities authorised to operate as well as those that do not respect the sampling requirements foreseen in paragraph 2c and/or do not participate in the sampling programme referred to in paragraph 2c.
10. a) The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT record of vessels that fish for, provide or transport bluefin for farming, i.e., fishing boats, transport vessels, vessels with pools, etc.
- For the purpose of this recommendation the vessels not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to fish for, provide or transport bluefin tuna for farming.
- b) Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the ICCAT Executive Secretary by 31 August 2006 the list of the vessels that are authorized to operate for farming of bluefin tuna. This list shall include the following information:
- name of the vessel, registry number
  - previous flag (if any)
  - previous name (if any)
  - previous details of deletion for other registers (if any)
  - international radio call sign (if any)
  - type of vessels, length and gross registered tonnage (GRT)
  - name and address of owner(s) and operator(s)
  - gear used
  - time period authorised for fishing and/or providing or transporting bluefin tuna for farming.
- c) Each CPC shall promptly notify, after the establishment of the initial ICCAT record, the ICCAT Executive Secretary of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the ICCAT record and any time such changes occur.
- d) The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall maintain the ICCAT record and take any measure to ensure publicity of the record and through electronic means, including placing it on the ICCAT website in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirement noted by CPCs.
11. Each CPC shall take the necessary measures so that the FFBs do not receive bluefin tuna from vessels that are not included in the ICCAT record (fishing vessels, transport vessels, vessels with pools, etc).
12. The SCRS shall undertake trials to identify growth rates including weight gains during the fattening or caging period.

December 2006

13. This Recommendation replaces the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Amend the Recommendation on Bluefin Tuna Farming* [Rec. 05-04].



06-11

GEN

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT  
ESTABLISHING A PROGRAMME FOR TRANSHIPMENT**

*TAKING ACCOUNT* of the need to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing activities because they undermine the effectiveness of the conservation and management measures already adopted by ICCAT;

*EXPRESSING GRAVE CONCERN* that organized tuna laundering operations have been conducted and a significant amount of catches by IUU fishing vessels have been transshipped under the names of duly licensed fishing vessels;

*IN VIEW THEREFORE OF THE NEED* to ensure the monitoring of the transshipment activities by large-scale longline vessels in the Convention area, including the control of their landings;

*TAKING ACCOUNT* of the need to collect catch data of such large-scale longline tuna to improve the scientific assessments of those stocks;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION  
OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT:

**SECTION 1. GENERAL RULE**

1. Except under the special conditions outlined below in Section 2 for transshipment operations at sea, all transshipment operations of tuna and tuna-like species in the ICCAT Convention area must take place in port.<sup>3</sup>
2. The flag Contracting Party, Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity (hereafter referred to as CPCs) shall take the necessary measures to ensure that large-scale tuna vessels (hereafter referred to as the "LSTVs") flying their flag comply with the obligations set out in **Annex 3** when transshipping in port.

**SECTION 2. PROGRAMME TO MONITOR TRANSHIPMENT AT SEA**

3. The Commission shall establish a program of transshipment which applies initially to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (hereafter referred to as the "LSTLVs") and to carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipment from these vessels.

The Commission shall at its 2008 annual meeting, review and, as appropriate, revise this Recommendation. Pending this review, small-scale albacore longline vessels shall be exempt from the requirements of paragraph 4.

4. The flag CPCs of LSTLVs shall determine whether or not to authorize their LSTLVs which fish for tuna and tuna-like species to transship at sea. However, the flag CPC may authorize the at-sea transshipment by its flag LSTLVs on the condition that such transshipment is conducted in accordance with the procedures defined in Sections 3, 4 and 5, and **Annexes 1** and **2** below.

<sup>3</sup> By derogation, this provision shall not apply until 31 December 2009 to four Russian vessels, the characteristics of which shall be notified to the ICCAT Secretariat. However, the extension to 2009 shall be subject to the results of the review process in 2008.

December 2006

### SECTION 3. RECORD OF VESSELS AUTHORISED TO RECEIVE TRANSHIPMENT IN THE ICCAT AREA

5. The Commission shall establish and maintain an ICCAT Record of Carrier Vessels authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species in the Convention area from LSTLVs. For the purposes of this Recommendation, carrier vessels not entered on the record are deemed not to be authorized to receive tuna and tuna-like species in transshipment operations.
6. Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the ICCAT Executive Secretary by 1 July 2006 the list of the carrier vessels that are authorized to receive transshipments from its LSTLVs in the Convention area. This list shall include the following information:
  - The flag of the vessel
  - Name of vessel, register number
  - Previous name (if any)
  - Previous flag (if any)
  - Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any)
  - International radio call sign
  - Type of vessels, length, gross registered tonnage (GRT) and carrying capacity
  - Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s)
  - Time period authorized for transshipping
7. Each CPC shall promptly notify the ICCAT Executive Secretary, after the establishment of the initial ICCAT record, of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the ICCAT record, at any time such changes occur.
8. The ICCAT Executive Secretary shall maintain the ICCAT record and take measures to ensure publicity of the record and through electronic means, including placing it on the ICCAT website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements notified by CPCs for their vessels.
9. Carrier vessels authorized for at-sea transshipment shall be required to install and operate a VMS in accordance with the 2003 *Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Minimum Standards for the Establishment of a Vessel Monitoring System in the ICCAT Convention Area* [Rec. 03-14].

### SECTION 4. AT-SEA TRANSHIPMENT

10. Transshipments by LSTLVs in waters under the jurisdiction of the CPCs are subject to prior authorization from the coastal State concerned. CPCs shall take the necessary measures to ensure that LSTLVs flying their flag comply with the following:

#### Flag State authorization

11. LSTLVs are not authorized to transship at sea, unless they have obtained prior authorization from their flag State.

#### Notification obligations

##### *Fishing vessel:*

12. To receive the prior authorization mentioned in paragraph 11 above, the master and/or owner of the LSTLV must notify the following information to its flag State authorities at least 24 hours in advance of the intended transshipment:
  - the name of the LSTLV and its number in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels,
  - the name of the carrier vessel and its number in the ICCAT record of carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the ICCAT area, and the product to be transshipped,
  - the tonnage by product to be transshipped,
  - the date and location of transshipment,

December 2006

- the geographic location of the tuna catches

The LSTLV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State, not later than 15 days after the transshipment, the ICCAT transshipment declaration, along with its number in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels, in accordance with the format set out in **Annex 2**.

***Receiving carrier vessel:***

13. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall complete and transmit the ICCAT transshipment declaration to the ICCAT Secretariat and the flag CPC of the LSTLV, along with its number in the ICCAT record of carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipment in the ICCAT area, within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment.
14. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, transmit an ICCAT transshipment declaration, along with its number in the ICCAT record of vessels authorized to receive transshipment in the ICCAT area, to the competent authorities of the State where the landing takes place.

***Regional Observer Program***

15. Each CPC shall ensure that all carrier vessels transshipping at sea have on board an ICCAT observer, not later than 31 March 2007, in accordance with the ICCAT regional observer program in **Annex 2**. The ICCAT observer shall observe the respect of this Recommendation, and notably that the transshipped quantities are consistent with the reported catch in the ICCAT transshipment declaration.
16. Vessels shall be prohibited from commencing or continuing transshipping in the ICCAT area without an ICCAT regional observer on board, except in cases of *force majeure* duly notified to the ICCAT Secretariat.

**SECTION 5. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

17. To ensure the effectiveness of the ICCAT conservation and management measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:
  - a) In validating the Statistical Document, flag CPCs of LSTLVs shall ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount by each LSTLV.
  - b) The flag CPC of LSTLVs shall validate the Statistical Documents for the transshipped fish, after confirming that the transshipment was conducted in accordance with this Recommendation. This confirmation shall be based on the information obtained through the ICCAT Observer Program.
  - c) CPCs shall require that the species covered by the Statistical Document Programs caught by LSTLVs in the Convention area, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party, be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the ICCAT record and a copy of the ICCAT transshipment declaration.
18. The CPCs shall report annually before 15 September to the Executive Secretary:
  - The quantities by species transshipped during the previous year.
  - The list of the LSTLVs registered in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels which have transshipped during the previous year.
  - A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received transshipment from their LSTLVs.
19. All tuna and tuna-like species landed or imported into the CPCs either unprocessed or after having been processed on board and which are transshipped, shall be accompanied by the ICCAT transshipment declaration until the first sale has taken place.
20. Each year, the Executive Secretary of ICCAT shall present a report on the implementation of this Recommendation to the annual meeting of the Commission which shall review compliance with this Recommendation.
21. This Recommendation replaces the *Recommendation by ICCAT Establishing a Programme for Transshipment by Large-scale Longline Fishing Vessels* [Rec. 05-06].

December 2006

ANNEX 1

ICCAT TRANSHIPMENT DECLARATION

**Carrier vessel**

Name of vessel and radio call sign

Flag

Flag State authorization number

National Register Number

ICCAT Register Number, if available

**Fishing vessel**

Name of the vessel and radio call sign

Flag

Flag State authorization number

National Register Number

ICCAT Register Number, if available

External identification

Day    Month    Hour    Year    |2\_|0\_|\_|\_|  
 Departure    |\_\_|    |\_\_|    |\_\_|    from    |\_\_\_\_\_|  
 Return        |\_\_|    |\_\_|    |\_\_|    to        |\_\_\_\_\_|  
 Transshipment    |\_\_|    |\_\_|    |\_\_|        |\_\_\_\_\_|

Agent's name:

Master's name of LSTLV:

Master's name of Carrier:

Signature:

Signature:

Signature:

Indicate the weight in kilograms or the unit used (e.g. box, basket) and the landed weight in kilograms of this unit: |\_\_| kilograms  
 TRANSHIPMENT.....

LOCATION OF

Species	Port	Sea	Type of Product	Type of Product	Type of Product	Type of Product	Type of Product	Type of Product	Type of Product	Type of Product	Type of Product	Type of Product
			Whole	Gutted	Head off	Filleted						

December 2006


If transshipment effected at sea, ICCAT Observer signature:

**ICCAT REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME**

1. Each CPC shall require carrier vessels included in the ICCAT record of vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the ICCAT area and which transship at sea, to carry an ICCAT observer during each transshipment operation in the Convention area.
2. The Secretariat of the Commission shall appoint the observers and shall place them on board the carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipments in the ICCAT area from LSTLVs flying the flag of Contracting Parties and of non-Contracting Cooperating Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities that implement the ICCAT observer program.

**Designation of the observers**

3. The designated observers shall have the following qualifications to accomplish their tasks:
  - sufficient experience to identify species and fishing gear;
  - satisfactory knowledge of the ICCAT conservation and management measures;
  - the ability to observe and record accurately;
  - a satisfactory knowledge of the language of the flag of the vessel observed.

**Obligations of the observer**

4. Observers shall:
  - a) have completed the technical training required by the guidelines established by ICCAT;
  - b) be nationals of one of the CPCs and, to the extent possible, not of the flag State of the receiving carrier vessel;
  - c) be capable of performing the duties set forth in point 5 below;
  - d) be included in the list of observers maintained by the Secretariat of the Commission;
  - e) not be a crew member of an LSTLV or an employee of an LSTLV company.
5. The observer tasks shall be in particular to:
  - a) monitor the carrier vessel's compliance with the relevant conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission. In particular the observers shall:
    - i) record and report upon the transshipment activities carried out;
    - ii) verify the position of the vessel when engaged in transshipping;
    - iii) observe and estimate products transshipped;
    - iv) verify and record the name of the LSTLV concerned and its ICCAT number;
    - v) verify the data contained in the transshipment declaration;
    - vi) certify the data contained in the transshipment declaration;
    - vii) countersign the transshipment declaration;
  - b) issue a daily report of the carrier vessel's transshipping activities;
  - c) establish general reports compiling the information collected in accordance with this paragraph and provide the captain the opportunity to include therein any relevant information.
  - d) submit to the Secretariat the aforementioned general report within 20 days from the end of the period of observation.
  - e) exercise any other functions as defined by the Commission.
6. Observers shall treat as confidential all information with respect to the fishing operations of the LSTLVs and of the LSTLVs owners and accept this requirement in writing as a condition of appointment as an observer;
7. Observers shall comply with requirements established in the laws and regulations of the flag State which exercises jurisdiction over the vessel to which the observer is assigned.

December 2006

8. Observers shall respect the hierarchy and general rules of behavior which apply to all vessel personnel, provided such rules do not interfere with the duties of the observer under this program, and with the obligations of vessel personnel set forth in paragraph 9 of this program.

**Obligations of the flag States of carrier vessels**

9. The responsibilities regarding observers of the flag States of the carrier vessels and their captains shall include the following, notably:
  - a) Observers shall be allowed access to the vessel personnel and to the gear and equipment;
  - b) Upon request, observers shall also be allowed access to the following equipment, if present on the vessels to which they are assigned, in order to facilitate the carrying out of their duties set forth in paragraph 5:
    - i) satellite navigation equipment;
    - ii) radar display viewing screens when in use;
    - iii) electronic means of communication;
  - c) Observers shall be provided accommodations, including lodging, food and adequate sanitary facilities, equal to those of officers;
  - d) Observers shall be provided with adequate space on the bridge or pilot house for clerical work, as well as space on deck adequate for carrying out observer duties; and
  - e) The flag States shall ensure that captains, crew and vessel owners do not obstruct, intimidate, interfere with, influence, bribe or attempt to bribe an observer in the performance of his/her duties.

The Secretariat, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, is requested to provide to the flag State of the carrier vessel under whose jurisdiction the vessel transhipped and to the Flag CPC of the LSTLV, copies of all raw data, summaries, and reports pertaining to the trip.

The Secretariat shall submit the observer reports to the Compliance Committee and to the SCRS.

**Observer fees**

- a) The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the flag CPCs of LSTLVs wishing to engage in transshipment operations. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the ICCAT Secretariat and the ICCAT Secretariat shall manage the account for implementing the program;
- b) No observer shall be assigned to a vessel for which the fees, as required under subparagraph a), have not been paid.

**IN-PORT TRANSHIPMENT BY LSTVs**

1. Transshipment operations in port may only be undertaken in accordance with paragraph 3 of the Introduction and the procedures detailed below:

**Notification obligations****2. Fishing vessel:**

- 2.1 Prior to transshipping, the captain of the LSTV must notify the following information to the Port State authorities, at least 48 hours in advance:
  - the name of the LSTV and its number in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels,
  - the name of the carrier vessel, and the product to be transshipped,
  - the tonnage by product to be transshipped,
  - the date and location of transshipment,
  - the major fishing grounds of the tuna catches
- 2.2 The captain of a LSTV shall, at the time of the transshipment, inform its flag State of the following:
  - the products and quantities involved
  - the date and place of the transshipment
  - the name, registration number and flag of the receiving carrier vessel
  - the major fishing grounds of the tuna catches.

The captain of the LSTV concerned shall complete and transmit to its flag State the ICCAT transshipment declaration, along with its number in the ICCAT record of fishing vessels, in accordance with the format set out in **Annex 1** not later than 15 days after the transshipment.

**Receiving vessel:**

3. Not later than 24 hours before the beginning and at the end of the transshipment, the master of the receiving carrier vessel shall inform the port State authorities of the quantities of catches of tuna and tuna-like species transshipped to his vessel, and complete and transmit the ICCAT transshipment declaration to the competent authorities within 24 hours.

**Landing State:**

4. The master of the receiving carrier vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, complete and transmit an ICCAT transshipment declaration, to the competent authorities of the landing State where the landing takes place.
5. The port State and the landing State referred to in the above paragraphs shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate with the flag CPC of the LSTV to ensure that landings are consistent with the reported catches amount of each vessel. This verification shall be carried out so that the vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience and that degradation of the fish is avoided.
6. Each flag CPC of the LSTV shall include in its Annual Report each year to ICCAT the details on the transshipments by its vessels.