

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

RESOLUTION ON FLEET CAPACITY

Agreed by correspondence on February 17, 2000

The Parties to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) resolve:

1. That cubic meters of well capacity be used as the unit of measurement of carrying capacity.
2. To supply the IATTC, no later than 30 April 2000, with all the information necessary, including the well volume of each vessel, to establish, maintain and update an accurate and transparent central register of purse-seine vessels fishing for tunas in the EPO, and that the staff shall circulate this register to the Parties and notify them of any changes which affect the carrying capacity of the purse-seine fleet operating in the EPO, and also make it available to other interested parties, as appropriate.
3. To use the volume recorded in this register for the purposes of determining the carrying capacity of vessels or fleets.
4. To maintain their respective carrying capacities at levels consistent with the resolution on fleet capacity of the 62nd Meeting of the IATTC until the Meeting of the IATTC in June 2000.
5. That the staff prepare:
 - a) A definitive list of purse-seine tuna vessels operating in the EPO, with their carrying capacity expressed in m³, and of their activity;
 - b) Elements of how management of the purse-seine fleet based on days fishing might be put into practice;
 - c) Alternatives to the proposed target of 135,000 metric tons of carrying capacity under various management regimes, taking into account, *inter alia*, the various modes of fishing with purse seines;
 - d) Mechanisms for quantifying the criteria for the allocation of capacity;
 - e) Criteria for transferring vessels within the EPO among participants.
6. To make any additional requests for analyses by the IATTC staff before 1 March 2000, with a view to having the analyses completed by early May for distribution to the Parties.
7. To acknowledge and affirm the right of coastal states and other states with a longstanding and significant interest in the tuna fisheries of the EPO to develop and maintain their own tuna fishing industries.
8. To consider the requests regarding purse-seine fleet carrying capacities presented by all participating governments at this meeting, as reflected in the minutes, in its deliberations at its meeting in June 2000.
9. To consider establishing a register to include all vessels of all nations, including non Parties, fishing for tunas using all gears in the EPO at its meeting in June 2000.
10. That the staff, in cooperation with the Parties, prepare a comprehensive draft plan for regional management of fishing capacity in accordance with the FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, including consideration of the measurement of fishing capacity, by the Meeting of the IATTC in June 2001.
11. To request those states or fishing entities not members of IATTC to act in accordance with the terms of this recommendation, and to allow their vessels to fish in the EPO only in accordance with agreed capacity limits.