

COMISIÓN INTERAMERICANA DEL ATÚN TROPICAL
INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

72ª REUNIÓN

LIMA (PERÚ)
14-18 DE JUNIO DE 2004

RESOLUTION C-04-06

**RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VESSEL MONITORING
SYSTEM (VMS)**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), meeting in Lima, Peru, on the occasion of its 72nd Meeting:

Recognizing the value of satellite-based Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) for the Commission's conservation and management programs, including compliance;

Aware that many Parties have established VMS systems and programs for their fleets and that their experience may be very helpful in supporting the conservation and management programs of the Commission;

Noting that such systems have been discussed at several meetings of the Commission, and are considered in the Resolution on Compliance of June 2000;

Agree that:

1. Each Party with tuna-fishing vessels 24 meters or more in length operating in the eastern Pacific Ocean and harvesting species for which the Commission has established conservation and management measures shall, by January 1, 2005, or as soon as possible thereafter, establish a satellite-based vessel monitoring system (VMS); except that a Party that already has such a program in effect shall be deemed to have satisfied this requirement;
2. While specific operational details of Parties' VMS requirements may vary, the Parties should seek to ensure that:
 - a. The information collected by the VMS for each vessel will include the vessel's identification and position (latitude and longitude) with an error of less than 500 meters at a confidence level of 99%, and the date and time and position information will be collected at least once every six hours.
 - b. VMS equipment on vessels will, at a minimum, be tamper proof, fully automatic for position data reporting, operational at all times regardless of environmental conditions, and, if possible, capable of manual transmission of reports and messages.
3. If practicable, the VMS equipment may be usable to transmit to the Director the weekly data considered in the *Resolution on At-Sea Reporting* (C-03-04) of June 2003.
4. The Commission strongly encourages governments not party to the Commission whose flag vessels fish in the EPO to participate in the VMS program established by this resolution.
5. Each Party and cooperating non-Party shall provide to the Director by May 31, 2005, a progress report on its VMS consistent with this resolution. Based on these reports, the Commission will discuss how best to proceed with future consideration of VMS to support its conservation and management program at its annual meeting in June 2005.
6. The Director shall ensure that any information provided to the Director or the Commission pursuant to this resolution is maintained in strict accordance with the Commission's rules and procedures on confidentiality.