

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
COMISIÓN INTERAMERICANA DEL ATÚN TROPICAL

72ND MEETING

LIMA (PERU)
14-18 JUNE 2004

RESOLUTION C-04-09

**RESOLUTION FOR A MULTI-ANNUAL PROGRAM ON THE
CONSERVATION OF TUNA IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN FOR
2004, 2005 AND 2006**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Recognizing that, based on past experience in the fishery, the potential production from the resource can be reduced by excessive fishing effort;

Recalling that the *Resolution on the Conservation of Yellowfin and Bigeye Tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean* approved by the IATTC at its 69th meeting in Manzanillo, Mexico, encouraged states and fishing entities with large-scale tuna longline vessels (LSTLVs) to undertake initiatives similar to that of Japan, *i.e.* reduction by 20% of its fleet, in accordance with FAO International Plan of Action;

Being aware with grave concern that, despite the above Resolution, the catch of bigeye tuna by LSTLVs and their fishing capacity are still growing in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO);

Taking into account the best scientific information available, as reflected in the recommendation of the staff and the report of the meeting of the Working Group on Stock Assessments in May 2004; and

Considering that the studies of yellowfin and bigeye tuna presented at this meeting show that both stocks are at a level below that which would produce the average maximum sustainable yield (AMSY);

Recognizing the importance of urging the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission to adopt appropriate measures to conserve the tuna stocks in that region;

Resolves as follows:

1. That this resolution is applicable in 2004, 2005 and 2006 to purse-seine vessels fishing for yellowfin, bigeye, and skipjack tunas, and to longline vessels.
2. Pole-and-line and sportfishing vessels are not subject to this resolution.
3. That the fishery for tunas by purse-seine vessels in the EPO, defined as the area bounded by the coastline of the Americas, the 40°N parallel, the 150°W meridian, and the 40°S parallel, shall for 2004, 2005 and 2006 be closed from either (1) 0000 hours on 1 August to 2400 hours on 11 September; or (2) from 0000 hours on 20 November to 2400 hours on 31 December.
4. Each IATTC Party, cooperating non-party, fishing entity or regional economic integration organization (collectively "CPCs") shall for each year concerned, choose which of the two specified periods will be closed to purse-seine fishing by all of its vessels, and notify the Director by 15 July. All the vessels of a national fleet must stop purse-seine fishing during the period selected.
5. Every vessel that fishes in 2004, 2005 and 2006, regardless of the flag under which it operates or whether it changes flag during the year, must observe the closure period to which it committed on 15 July of each year.
6. To prohibit landings, transshipments and commercial transactions in tuna or tuna products that have been positively identified as originating from fishing activities that contravene this resolution. The Director may provide relevant information to the Parties to assist them in this regard. The Commission shall develop transparent and non-discriminatory criteria and procedures to adopt trade

restrictive measures consistent with international law and the provisions of the World Trade Organization to promote compliance in the EPO.

7. Each CPCs shall, for purse-seine fisheries:
 - 7.1. No later than 45 days before the date of entry into force of a closure:
 - 7.1.1. take the legal and administrative measures necessary to implement the closure;
 - 7.1.2. inform all interested parties in its national tuna industry of the closure;
 - 7.1.3. inform the Director that these steps have been taken.
 - 7.2. For the 2004, 2005 and 2006 closures, ensure that at the time the closures begins, and for the entire duration of the closures, all purse-seine vessels fishing for yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas flying its flag in the EPO are in port, except that vessels carrying an observer from the AIDCP On-Board Observer Program may remain at sea provided they do not fish in the EPO. The only other exception to this provision shall be that vessels carrying an observer from the AIDCP On-Board Observer Program may leave port during the closure, provided they do not fish in the EPO.
8. China, Japan, Korea, and Chinese Taipei, shall take the measures necessary to ensure that their total annual longline catch of bigeye tuna in the EPO during 2004, 2005 and 2006 will not exceed the following catch levels¹.

China	2,639 metric tons
Japan	34,076 metric tons
Korea	12,576 metric tons
Chinese Taipei	7,953 metric tons

Other CPCs shall take the measures necessary to ensure that their total annual longline catch of bigeye tuna in the EPO during 2004, 2005 and 2006 will not exceed their respective 2001 catch levels. Each CPC with LSTLVs shall provide monthly catch reports to the Director.

9. The IATTC Scientific Working Group will analyze, in 2005 and 2006, the effect of these measures on the stocks, and will propose, if necessary, appropriate measures to the Commission in 2005 and 2006 for its consideration.
10. Each CPC shall comply with this resolution.
11. This resolution replaces Resolution C-03-12.

¹ The Parties acknowledge that France, as a coastal State, is developing a tuna longline fleet on behalf of its overseas territories situated in the EPO.