INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION COMISIÓN INTERAMERICANA DEL ATÚN TROPICAL

73RD MEETING

LANZAROTE (SPAIN) 20-24 JUNE 2005

RESOLUTION C-05-01

RESOLUTION ON INCIDENTAL MORTALITY OF SEABIRDS

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Taking into account the FAO International Plan of Action for Reducing the Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries;

Recognizing the need to evaluate the incidental mortality of seabirds during longline fishing operations for tunas and tuna-like species;

Noting that fisheries other than longline fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species may also contribute to the incidental mortality of seabirds;

Further noting that other factors, such as swallowing marine debris, are also responsible for seabird mortality.

Recommends as follows:

- 1. Each IATTC Party, cooperating non-Party, fishing entity or regional economic integration organization (collectively "CPCs") should inform, if appropriate, the Commission of the status of its National Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries. The Commission should urge CPCs to implement, if appropriate, the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries if they have not yet done so.
- 2. CPCs should be encouraged to collect and voluntarily provide the Commission with all available information on interactions with seabirds, including incidental catches in all fisheries under the purview of IATTC.
- 3. When feasible and appropriate, the Working Group on Stock Assessment should present to the Commission an assessment of the impact of incidental catch of seabirds resulting from the activities of all the vessels fishing for tunas and tuna-like species, in the eastern Pacific Ocean. This assessment should include an identification of the geographic areas where there could be interactions between longline fisheries and seabirds.