

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW THE IATTC CONVENTION

JUNE 1998

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission,

Noting that the Convention under which it was established was signed in 1949,

Taking into account the relevant principles of international law related to the conservation and management of living marine resources, as reflected in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as well as the provisions of, *inter alia*, the 1992 Agenda 21 and Rio Declaration, the 1993 FAO Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation on the Provisions of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks,

Convinced that to promote sustainable development in the tuna fishery it is necessary to strengthen the IATTC as the competent regional fisheries organization for the management of these highly migratory species, and recognizing its important contribution in this field since its establishment,

Referring to the Declaration on Strengthening the Objectives and Operation of the Convention Establishing the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, adopted at the 30th Intergovernmental Meeting in Panama, Republic of Panama, in 1995, and the resolution on Strengthening and Reform of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, adopted at the 35th Intergovernmental Meeting, held in La Jolla, California, USA, in 1998,

Notes the need to review the functions of the IATTC and its Convention and, if necessary, amend the Convention in order to bring it into harmony with the above-mentioned international instruments, and therefore

Agrees to establish immediately a working group of its member governments, open to other governments of coastal states and other States and regional economic integration organizations whose vessels are operating in the tuna fishery in the eastern Pacific Ocean, and which have the intention of adhering to the Convention, to review the functions of the IATTC and its Convention and, if necessary, formulate possible amendments to the Convention.

Instructs the working group to report the results of its work and progress towards these objectives to the Commission.