

**RESOLUTION BY ICCAT REGARDING THE PRESENTATION
OF OBJECTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF PROMOTING EFFECTIVE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES ADOPTED BY ICCAT**

RECALLING that pursuant to Article VIII of the Convention, Contracting Parties may present objections to recommendations adopted by the Commission;

CONCERNED that the presentation of objections by ICCAT Contracting Parties has increased;

CONSIDERING that the presentation of an objection does not exempt a Contracting Party from the obligation to cooperate with Contracting Parties in pursuing the objectives of the ICCAT Convention;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that in conformity with the aims of the Commission and in view of the rights accorded by Article VIII of the Convention and taking account of the fundamental obligation of all Contracting Parties not to undermine the ICCAT objectives, it is essential that the terms relating to the presentation of objections be clearly defined;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF
ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RESOLVES THAT:

1. Contracting Parties wishing to present objections should do so no less than 45 days before the end of the extended objection period, so not as to delay further the entry into effect of a recommendation.
2. Each Contracting Party that presents an objection pursuant to Article VIII of the Convention should provide to the Commission, at the time of presenting its objection, the reasons for its objection, based on, *inter alia*, the following grounds:
 - The recommendation is inconsistent, with UNCLOS, the UN Fish Stocks Agreement, the ICCAT Convention or another ICCAT recommendation still in effect;
 - The recommendation unjustifiably discriminates in fact or law against the objecting Contracting Party;
 - The recommendation is inconsistent with a domestic measure that pursues compatible conservation and management objectives and that is at least as effective as the recommendation.
3. Each Contracting Party that presents an objection pursuant to Article VIII of the Convention should, at the same time, to the extent applicable, specify to the Commission the alternative management and conservation measures consistent with the objectives of the Convention it proposes to adopt and implement.
4. At each Commission meeting thereafter while its objection is maintained, the Contracting Party concerned should communicate to the Commission the alternative conservation and management measures it has adopted to respect the objectives of ICCAT and their effectiveness.
5. The Executive Secretary should provide all Contracting Parties with the details of all information and clarifications that have been received in conformity to paragraphs 2 and 3.
6. Each year the Commission should consider the effectiveness of the measures identified in paragraph 3.