

RESOLUTION NO 99/03
ON THE ELABORATION OF A CONTROL AND INSPECTION SCHEME FOR IOTC

The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC):

Considering that the control and effective implementation of the management measures constitutes an essential element for the success of these measures;

Noting that IOTC does not have at present a control and inspection scheme adapted to the characteristics of tuna fisheries in the region;

Realizing that international law is evolving, especially as far as international control and inspection are concerned, and that IOTC must take the necessary steps to adapt itself to this evolution;

Considering that such a future control and inspection scheme should take into account the characteristics of the fisheries, the particularities of the different geographical zones within the IOTC area of competence, and the characteristics of the conservation and management measures to be adopted, with due regard to the cost effectiveness of the scheme;

Concerned that the activity of “flag of convenience” vessels will undermine every effort on stock conservation taken by IOTC Parties;

Recognizing that this is a complex task that should be started as soon as possible, to ensure that the system is in place by the time IOTC adopts management measures:

The Commission will engage in the elaboration of a control and inspection scheme containing all the necessary elements to ensure adequate control and enforcement of management measures for both Contracting and non-Contracting Parties.

For this purpose, the Commission establishes the following schedule of activities:

- Prior to the IOTC Session in 2000, Contracting Parties will submit to the Secretariat their proposals and suggestions for such a scheme. The Secretariat will circulate these proposals to other Contracting Parties.
- At the Session in 2000, a discussion will take place on the elements that could constitute the package of control measures.
- If necessary, during 2001 an intersessional meeting will be held to advance in the definition of the scheme.
- At the Session in 2001, the Commission will consider the adoption of the scheme.