

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

96TH MEETING (EXTRAORDINARY)

**(by videoconference)
22 December 2020**

RESOLUTION C-20-05

**RESOLUTION ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR
TROPICAL TUNAS IN 2021**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), gathered virtually, on the occasion of its 96th (Extraordinary) Meeting;

Aware of its responsibility to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fish stocks covered by the Antigua Convention, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law;

Reaffirming its obligation pursuant to article IV of the Antigua Convention to apply the precautionary approach, as described in the relevant provisions of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and/or the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement, for the conservation, management and sustainable use of fish stocks covered by this Convention;

Recognizing that the recent events worldwide as a consequence of the COVID 19 pandemic have led to the need to hold meetings by videoconference as an alternative to presential meetings, with the limitations inherent to that format;

Taking into account the recommendations of its scientific staff and of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) at its 11th meeting, regarding the conservation and management of tropical tunas in 2021 and afterwards;

Acknowledging the permanent commitment of the Commission Members to build consensus for the improvement of the management of the fish stocks covered by the Antigua Convention;

Convinced that to ensure the sustainability of the tropical tuna stocks in the Convention Area, it is essential to maintain in force sufficient and effective conservation and management measures, adjusted to their period of application and the reference points adopted by the Commission;

Also noting the recommendation from the 11th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) based on the best available information “to explore further actions to limit fishing mortality at appropriate levels and in particular to avoid increases of fishing mortality beyond the status quo conditions”;

Agrees:

1. To extend the validity of the current conservation and management measures established in resolution C-17-02 for the year 2021, to be recorded as Resolution C-20-06, and that they be reviewed for subsequent years no later than the annual meeting of 2021, with a view to ensuring long-term conservation and the sustainable use of fish stocks in the Convention Area;
2. To continue working on the development of comprehensive measures including, but not limited to, the improvement of the management of fish aggregating devices (FADs) and the collection of data to advance on the monitoring and assessment of the FAD fishery based on scientific advice and the precautionary approach;

3. To engage intersessionally, both bilaterally and through dedicated meetings of the relevant working groups, particularly the ad hoc Working Group of FADs, as well as at the 12th meeting of the SAC, in order to address any pending matters to facilitate agreement at an extraordinary meeting of the Commission to be held as soon as possible according to the progress of the work and at the latest in June 2021, and likewise at the regular meeting of the Commission in August of the same year, on comprehensive additional measures for the sustainable management of the tropical tuna fishery based on scientific advice.