

**RESOLUTION BY ICCAT ON THE INTERPRETATION OF THE
RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO ESTABLISH A REBUILDING
PROGRAM FOR NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH**

RECOGNIZING that no new stock assessments were conducted for North Atlantic Swordfish in 2000 and 2001;

NOTING that the North Atlantic Swordfish is currently under a ten (10) year rebuilding plan that began in 2000 and would continue through 2009;

RECALLING that during the 12th Special Meeting of the Commission (Marrakech, 2000), Trinidad and Tobago indicated the need for its catch statistics to be revised and requested the assistance of ICCAT in doing so;

CONSIDERING that Trinidad and Tobago with the assistance from ICCAT completed a partial revision of its catch statistics for North Atlantic Swordfish for the years 1993-2000 and that these partial catch statistics were accepted by the SCRS at its Annual Meeting in October, 2001;

FURTHER NOTING that the partial revised catch statistics from Trinidad and Tobago did not include data from locally owned vessels that were foreign flagged prior to the year 2000 and that these catch statistics still need to be verified;

RECOGNIZING that 4.9% of the TAC for the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 have been allocated to those without specific quotas, and that those with 1996 catch levels below 100 MT shall not increase their catch levels above their 1996 level as reported by the SCRS at its 1997 meeting.

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

The words "1997 SCRS Report" in paragraph 3d of the *Recommendation to Establish a Rebuilding Program for North Atlantic Swordfish* adopted at the 1999 Commission meeting should be read as "2001 SCRS Report" with respect to Trinidad and Tobago.