

**RESOLUTION BY ICCAT REGARDING THE SCRS
MIXING REPORT ON ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA**

RECALLING that the Commission adopted, in 2000 at its 12th Special Meeting (Marrakech, Morocco – November 13 to 20, 2000) a resolution for SCRS to examine the effects of mixing of Atlantic bluefin tuna for stock assessments and management,

NOTING that SCRS held a Workshop on Bluefin Mixing in Madrid from September 3-7 and considered the latest evidence on mixing of Atlantic bluefin tuna from the western and eastern fishing grounds from conventional tag, electronic and satellite tag research programs; and considered the latest results of genetic research on the stock structure of bluefin tuna,

ALSO NOTING that SCRS has concluded that it is likely that the distribution of fish from the two known spawning areas overlaps, at least for a part of the year, for a large proportion of the Atlantic Ocean, and that the current boundary does not depict the present understanding of the biological distribution and biological stock structure.

CONSIDERING the SCRS recommendation “that assessment models be developed that permit accommodating more biological realism and which provide for greater flexibility” for managers to select effective and efficient conservation programs and management units for bluefin tuna of western and eastern origin,

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

Contracting Parties, in cooperation with their National Scientists and the SCRS, should endeavor to conduct scientific research throughout the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea that will contribute to the better understanding of Atlantic bluefin tuna movement patterns. As recommended by the SCRS, research should include archival tagging of fish of all sizes, larval and spawning studies, and genetic and microconstituent analyses.