

RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT CONCERNING THE ICCAT BIGEYE TUNA STATISTICAL DOCUMENT PROGRAM

RECALLING the Recommendation by ICCAT on Establishing Statistical Document Programs for Swordfish, Bigeye Tuna and Other Species Managed by ICCAT adopted by the Commission in 2000 in which the full implementation of the program was required by 1 January 2002, or as soon as possible thereafter;

AWARE that there is uncertainty of the catch of Atlantic bigeye tuna and that the availability of trade data would greatly assist in reducing such uncertainty;

RECOGNIZING that Atlantic bigeye tuna is the main target species of IUU fishing operations and that most of the bigeye harvested by such IUU fishing vessels are exported to Contracting Parties, especially to Japan;

RECALLING the Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Belize, Cambodia, Honduras, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines Pursuant to the 1998 Resolution Concerning the Unreported and Unregulated Catches of Tuna by Large-scale Longline Vessels in the Convention Area and the Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Equatorial Guinea Pursuant to the 1998 Resolution Concerning the Unreported and Unregulated Catches of Tuna by Large-scale Longline Vessels in the Convention Area adopted by the Commission in 2000;

RECOGNIZING that the Statistical Document Program is an effective tool to assist the Commission's effort for the elimination of IUU fishing operations;

RECOGNIZING the nature of the international market for Atlantic bigeye tuna;

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT) RECOMMENDS THAT;

1. Contracting Parties, by July 1, 2002 or as soon as possible thereafter, require that all bigeye tuna, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party, be accompanied by an ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document which meets the requirements described in **Annex 1** or an ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificate which meets the requirements described in **Annex 2**. Bigeye tuna caught by purse seiners and pole and line (bait) vessels and destined principally for the canneries in the Convention area are not subject to this statistical document requirement. The Commission and the Contracting Parties importing bigeye tuna shall contact all the exporting countries to inform them of this program, in advance of implementation of the program.
2. (1) The ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document must be validated by a government official, or other authorized individual or institution, of the flag state of the vessel that harvested the tuna, or, if the vessel is operating under a charter arrangement, by a government official or other authorized individual of the exporting state;

(2) The ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificate must be validated by a government official or other authorized individual of the state that re-exported the tuna; and

(3) The substitutional measure described in paragraphs A-D of the *Resolution by ICCAT Concerning Validation by a Government Official of the Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document*, adopted by the Commission in 1993, may be applied to the above requirements for both validations in this Bigeye Statistical Document Program. The substitutional measure should also apply *mutatis mutandis* to chartering arrangements as provided in paragraph 2(1) above.
3. Each Contracting Party shall provide to the Executive Secretary sample forms of its statistical document and re-export certificate required with bigeye tuna imports and information on validation in the format specified in Annex 4 and inform him of any change in a timely fashion.
4. The Contracting Parties which export or import bigeye tuna shall compile data from the Program.
5. The Contracting Parties which import bigeye tuna shall report the data collected by the Program to the Executive Secretary each year by April 1 for the period of July 1 - December 31 of the preceding year and

October 1 for the period of January 1 - June 30 of the current year, which shall be circulated to all the Contracting Parties by the Executive Secretary. The formats of the report are attached as **Annex 3**.

6. The Contracting Parties which export bigeye tuna shall examine export data upon receiving the import data mentioned in paragraph 5 above from the Executive Secretary, and report the results to the Commission in the national reports.
7. The Contracting Parties should exchange copies of statistical documents and re-export certificates to facilitate the examination mentioned in paragraph 6, consistent with domestic laws and regulations.
8. The Commission shall request Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, Entities, Fishing Entities to take the measures described in the above paragraphs.
9. The Executive Secretary shall request information on validation from all the non-Contracting Parties fishing and exporting bigeye tuna to Contracting Parties, and request them to inform him in a timely fashion of any changes to the information provided.
10. The Executive Secretary shall maintain and update information specified in paragraphs 3 and 9 and provide it to all the Contracting Parties, and promptly circulate any changes.
11. The Commission shall request the non-Contracting Parties which import bigeye tuna to cooperate with implementation of the Program and to provide to the Commission data obtained from such implementation.
12. Implementation of this Program shall be in conformity with relevant international obligations.
13. At the initial stage of the program, the statistical documents and the re-export certificates will be required for frozen bigeye products. Prior to implementing this Program for fresh products, several practical problems need to be solved, such as guidelines to ensure procedures to handle fresh products at customs.
14. The provisions of the *Recommendation by ICCAT on Validation of the Bluefin Tuna Statistical Documents by the European Community*, adopted by the Commission in 1998, shall apply to the Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document Program for bigeye caught by vessels that fly the flag of a Member State of the European Community.
15. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the Contracting Parties shall implement this recommendation by July 1, 2002 or as soon as possible thereafter in accordance with the regulatory procedures of each Contracting Party.

**Requirements Concerning
the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document**

1. The sample form of the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document shall be as in the **Appendix**.
2. Customs or other appropriate government officials will request and inspect all import documentation including the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document for all bigeye tuna in the shipment. Those officials may also inspect the content of each shipment to verify the information on the document.
3. Only complete and valid documents will guarantee that shipments of bigeye tuna will be allowed to enter the territory of Contracting Parties.
4. Shipments of bigeye tuna that are accompanied by improperly documented Bigeye Tuna Statistical Documents (i.e., improperly documented means that the Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document is either missing from the shipment, incomplete, invalid or falsified) will be considered illegitimate shipments of bigeye tuna, that are contrary to ICCAT conservation efforts, and their entry will be suspended (PENDING RECEIPT OF A PROPERLY COMPLETED DOCUMENT) into the territory of a Contracting Party or subject to administrative or other sanction.
5. The import of fish parts other than the meat, i.e., head, eyes, roe, guts, tails may be allowed without the document.

DOCUMENT NUMBER	ICCAT BIGEYE TUNA STATISTICAL DOCUMENT			
EXPORT SECTION				
1.FLAG OF COUNTRY/ENTITY/FISHING ENTITY				
2.NAME OF VESSEL AND REGISTRATION NUMBER (when available)				
3.TRAPS (if applicable)				
4.POINT OF EXPORT(City, State / Province, Country / Entity / Fishing Entity)				
5.AREA OF CATCH (check one of the following) • (a) Atlantic • (b) Pacific • (c) Indian * In case of (b) or (c) checked, the items 6 and 7 below do not need to be filled out.				
6.DESCRPTION OF FISH				
Product Type (*1)		Gear Code(*2)	Net Weight (Kg)	
F/FR	RD/GG/DR/FL/OT			
1= F=Fresh, FR=Frozen, RD=Round, GG=Gilled and Gutted, DR=Dressed, FL=Fillet OT=Other, describe the type of product *2= When the Gear Code is OT, describe the type of gear,_____.				
7.EXPORTER CERTIFICATION I certify that the above information is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
Name	Company name	Address	Signature	Date License Number (if applica
8.GOVERNMENT VALIDATION I validate that information listed above is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
Total weight of the shipment _____ Kg				
Name & Title		Signature	Date	Government Seal
IMPORT SECTION:				
IMPORTER CERTIFICATION I certify that the above information is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
Importer Certification (Intermediate Country / Entity / Fishing Entity)				
Name	Address	Signature	Date	License # (if applicat
Importer Certification (Intermediate Country / Entity / Fishing Entity)				
Name	Address	Signature	Date	License # (if applicat
Final Point of Import				
City	State/Province	Country / Entity / Fishing Entity		

NOTE: If a language other than English is used in completing this form. Please add the English translation on this

INSTRUCTIONS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: Block for the issuing Country/Entity/Fishing Entity to designate a country/entity/fishing entity encoded Document Number.

(1) FLAG COUNTRY/ENTITY/FISHING ENTITY: Fill in the name of the country/entity/fishing entity of the vessel that harvested the bigeye tuna in the shipment and issued this Document. According to the ICCAT Recommendation, only the flag state of the vessel that harvested the bigeye tuna in the shipment or, if the vessel is operating under a charter arrangement, the exporting state, can issue this Document.

(2) NAME OF VESSEL AND REGISTRATION NUMBER (when available): Fill in the name and registration number of the vessel that harvested the bigeye tuna in the shipment.

(3) TRAPS (if applicable): Fill in the name of the trap that harvested the bigeye tuna in the shipment.

(4) POINT OF EXPORT: Identify the City, State or Province, and Country/Entity/Fishing Entity from which the bigeye tuna was exported.

(5) AREA OF CATCH: Check the area of catch. (If (b) or (c) checked, items 6 and 7 below do not need to be filled out.)

(6) DESCRIPTION OF FISH: The exporter must provide, to the highest degree of accuracy, the following information. **NOTE:** One row should describe one product type.

- (1) Product Type: Identify the type of product being shipped as either FRESH or FROZEN, and in ROUND, GILLED AND GUTTED, DRESSED, FILLET or OTHER form. For OTHER, describe the type of products in the shipment.
2. Gear Code: Identify the gear type which was used to harvest the bigeye tuna using the list below. For OTHER TYPE, describe the type of gear, including farming.
3. Net product weight in kilograms.

(7) EXPORTER CERTIFICATION: The person or company exporting the bigeye tuna shipment must provide his/her name, company name, address, signature, date the shipment was exported, and dealer license number (if applicable).

(8) GOVERNMENT VALIDATION: Fill in the name and full title of the official signing the Document. The official must be employed by a competent authority of the flag state government of the vessel that harvested the bigeye tuna appearing on the Document or other individual or institution authorized by the flag state. When appropriate, this requirement is waived according validation of the document by a government official, or if the vessel is operating under a charter arrangement, by a government official or other authorized individual or institution of the exporting state. The total weight of the shipment shall also be specified in this block. The substitutional measure described in paragraphs A-D of the *Resolution by ICCAT Concerning Validation by a Government Official of the Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document*, adopted by the Commission in 1993, may be applied to the above requirements for the validations in this Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document Program.

(9) IMPORTER CERTIFICATION: The person or company that imports bigeye tuna must provide his/her name, address, signature, date the bigeye was imported, license number (if applicable), and final point of import. This includes imports into intermediate countries, entities or fishing entities. For fresh and chilled products, the signature of the importer may be substituted by a person of a customs clearance company when the authority for signature is properly accredited to it by the importer.

GEAR CODE:

GEAR CODE	GEAR TYPE,
BB	BAITBOAT
GILL	GILLNET
HAND	HANDLINE
HARP	HARPOON
LL	LOGLINE
MWT	MID-WATER TRAWL
PS	PURSE SEINE
RR	ROD AND REEL
SPHL	SPORT HANDLINE
SPOR	SPORT FISHERIES UNCLASSIFIED
SURF	SURFACE FISHERIES UNCLASSIFIED
TL	TENDED LINE
TRAP	TRAP
TROL	TROLL
UNCL	UNSPECIFIED METHODS
OT	OTHER TYPE

RETURN A COPY OF COMPLETED DOCUMENT TO: (the name of the office of the competent authority of the flag state).

**Requirements Concerning
the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificate**

1. The sample form of the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificate shall be as in the **Appendix**.
2. Customs or other appropriate government officials will request and inspect all import documentation including the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificate for all bigeye tuna in the shipment. Those officials may also inspect the content of each shipment to verify the information on the document.
3. Only complete and valid documents will guarantee that shipments of bigeye tuna will be allowed to enter the territory of Contracting Parties.
4. A Contracting Party shall be free to validate ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificates for bigeye tuna imported by that Contracting Party, to which ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Documents or ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificates are attached. ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificates shall be validated by government organizations or by recognized institutions which are accredited by a Contracting Party's government to validate the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document. A copy of the original Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document accompanying the imported bigeye tuna must be attached to an ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificate. The copy of the original Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document so attached must be verified by that government organization or by that recognized institution accredited by a government which validated the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document. When re-exported bigeye tuna is again re-exported, all copies of documents, including a verified copy of a Statistical Document and Re-export Certificate which accompanied that bigeye tuna upon importation, must be attached to a new Re-export Certificate to be validated by a re-exporting Contracting Party. All copies of the Documents to be attached to that new Re-export Certificate must be also be verified by a government organization or a recognized institution accredited by a government which validated the ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Statistical Document.
5. Shipments of bigeye tuna that are accompanied by improperly documented Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificate (i.e., improperly documented means that the Bigeye Tuna Re-export Certificate is either missing from the shipment, incomplete, invalid or falsified) will be considered illegitimate shipments of bigeye tuna, that are contrary to ICCAT conservation efforts, and their entry will be suspended (PENDING RECEIPT OF A PROPERLY COMPLETED DOCUMENT) into the territory of a Contracting Party or subject to administrative or other sanction.
6. ICCAT Contracting Parties that validate Re-export Certificates in accordance with the procedure set forth in paragraph 4 shall require from the re-exporting bigeye dealer necessary documents (e.g. written sales contracts) which are to certify that the bigeye tuna to be re-exported corresponds to the imported bigeye tuna. Contracting Parties which validate Re-export Certificates shall provide flag states and importing states with evidence of this correspondence upon their request.
7. The import of fish parts other than the meat, i.e., head, eyes, roe, guts, tails may be allowed without the document.

DOCUMENT NUMBER	ICCAT BIGEYE TUNA RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATE			
RE-EXPORT SECTION:				
1. RE-EXPORTING COUNTRY / ENTITY / FISHING ENTITY				
2. POINT OF RE-EXPORT				
3. DESCRIPTION OF IMPORTED FISH				
F/FR	Product Type(*) RD/GG/DR/FL/OT	Net Weight (Kg)	Flag country/ Entity/Fishing Entity	Date of Import
4. DESCRIPTION OF FISH FOR RE-EXPORT				
F/FR	Product Type(*) RD/GG/DR/FL/OT	Net Weight (Kg)		
* F=FRESH, FR=Frozen, RD=Round, GG=Gilled and Guttled, DR=Dressed, FL=Fillet OT=Other(Describe the type of product)				
5. RE-EXPORTER CERTIFICATION: I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
Name/Company Name	Address	Signature	Date	License Number (if applicable)
6. GOVERNMENT VALIDATION: I validate that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
Name & Title	Signature	Date	Government Seal	
IMPORT SECTION:				
7. IMPORTER CERTIFICATION: I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.				
Importer Certification (Intermediate Country / Entity / Fishing Entity)				
Name	Address	Signature	Date	License # (if applicable)
Importer Certification (Intermediate Country / Entity / Fishing Entity)				
Name	Address	Signature	Date	License # (if applicable)
Importer Certification (Intermediate Country / Entity / Fishing Entity)				
Name	Address	Signature	Date	License # (if applicable)
Final Point of Import				
City _____	State/Province _____	Country / Entity / Fishing Entity _____		

NOTE: If a language other than English is used in completing this form. Please add the English translation on this document.

INSTRUCTIONS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: Block for the issuing Country/Entity/Fishing Entity to designate a Country/Entity/Fishing Entity coded document number.

(1) RE-EXPORTING COUNTRY/ENTITY/FISHING ENTITY

Fill in the name of the Country/Entity/Fishing Entity which re-exports the bigeye tuna in the shipment and issued this Certificate. According to the ICCAT Recommendation, only the re-exporting Country/Entity/Fishing Entity can issue this Certificate.

(2) POINT OF RE-EXPORT

Identify the City/State Province and Country/Entity/Fishing Entity from which the bigeye tuna was re-exported.

(3) DESCRIPTION OF IMPORTED FISH

The exporter must provide, to the highest degree of accuracy, the following information: NOTE: One row should describe one product type. (1) Product type: Identify the type of product being shipped as either FRESH or FROZEN, and in ROUND, GILLED AND GUTTED, DRESSED, FILLET or OTHER form. For OTHER, describe the type of products in the shipment. (2) Net weight: Net product weight in kilograms. (3) Flag Country/Entity/Fishing Entity: the name of the Country/Entity/Fishing Entity of the vessel that harvested the bigeye tuna in the shipment. (4) Date of import: Imported date.

(4) DESCRIPTION OF FISH FOR RE-EXPORT

The exporter must provide, to the highest degree of accuracy, the following information: NOTE: One row should describe one product type. (1) Product type: Identify the type of product being shipped as either FRESH or FROZEN, and in ROUND, GILLED AND GUTTED, DRESSED FILLET or OTHER form. For OTHER, describe the type of products in the shipment. (2) Net weight: Net product weight in kilograms.

(5) RE-EXPORTER CERTIFICATION

The person or company re-exporting the bigeye tuna shipment must provide his/her name, address, signature, date the shipment was re-exported, and re-exporter's license number (if applicable).

(6) GOVERNMENT VALIDATION

Fill in the name and full title of the official signing the Certificate. The official must be employed by a competent government authority of the re-exporting Country/Entity/Fishing Entity appearing on the Certificate, or a person or institution authorized to validate such certificates by the competent government authority. The substitutional measure described in paragraphs A-D of the *Resolution by ICCAT Concerning Validation by a Government Official of the Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document*, adopted by the Commission in 1993, may be applied to the above requirements for the validations in this Bigeye Statistical Document Part 1.

(7) IMPORTER CERTIFICATION

The person or company that imports bigeye tuna must provide his/her name, address, signature, date the bigeye tuna was imported, license number (if applicable) and re-exported final point of import. This includes imports into intermediate Countries/Entities/Fishing Entities. For fresh and chilled products, the signature of the importer may be substituted by a person of a customs clearance company when the authority for signature is properly accredited to it by the importer.

RETURN A COPY OF THE COMPLETED CERTIFICATE TO: (the name of the office of the competent authority of the re-exporting Country/Entity/Fishing Entity).

REPORT OF THE ICCAT BIGEYE TUNA STATISTICAL DOCUMENT

Period _____ to _____, _____ IMPORT COUNTRY/ENTITY/FISHING ENTITY _____
 Month _____ Month _____ Year _____

Flag Country/Entity/ Fishing Entity	Area Code	Gear Code	Point of Export	Product Type		Product Wt.(Kg)
				F/FR	RD/GG/DR/FL/OT	

<u>Gear Code</u>	<u>Gear Type</u>
BB	Baitboat
GILL	Gillnet
HAND	Handline
HARP	Harpoon
LL	Longline
MWT	Mid-water trawl
PS	Purse seine
RR	Rod & reel
SPHL	Sport Handline
SPOR	Sport fisheries unclassified
SURF	Surface fisheries unclassified
TL	Tended line
TRAP	Trap
TROL	Troll
UNCL	Unclassified methods
OTH	Other type (Indicate the type of gear):

<u>Product type</u>		<u>Area Code</u>	
F	Fresh	AT	Atlantic
FR	Frozen	PA	Pacific
RD	Round	ID	Indian Ocean
GG	Gilled & gutted		
DR	Dressed		
FL	Fillet		
OT	Other form, describe the type of products in the shipment		

REPORT OF THE ICCAT BIGEYE TUNA RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATE

Period _____ to _____, _____ IMPORT COUNTRY/ENTITY/FISHING ENTITY _____
 Month _____ Month _____ Year _____

Flag Country/Entity/ Fishing Entity	Re-export Country/ Entity/Fishing Entity	Point of Re-export	Product Type		Product Wt.(Kg)
			F/FR	RD/GG/DR/FL/OT	

Product type

F Fresh

FR Frozen

RD Round

GG Gilled & gutted

DR Dressed

FL Fillet

OT Other form, describe the type of products in the shipment

INFORMATION ON VALIDATION OF ICCAT STATISTICAL DOCUMENTS

1 Flag _____

2 Statistical Document (Bluefin, Bigeye, Swordfish, All): _____

3 Government/Authority organization(s) accredited to validate Statistical Documents

Organization Name	Organization Address	Sample Seal

NOTE: For each organization, attach a list with the names, titles and addresses of the individuals authorized to validate Documents.

4 Other institutions accredited by the government/authority to validate Statistical Documents

Organization Name	Organization Address	Sample Seal

NOTE: For each organization, attach a list with the names, titles and addresses of the individuals authorized to validate Documents.

Instructions Contracting Parties, non-Contracting Parties, Entities, Fishing Entities having vessels that harvest species whose international trade must be accompanied by ICCAT Statistical Documents are requested to submit the information on this sheet to the Executive Secretary of ICCAT¹, and to ensure that any changes to the above are also transmitted to the Executive Secretary on a timely fashion.

* ICCAT: c/Corazón de María, 8 (6th floor), Madrid, Spain 28002.