

**- RESOLUTION -
VALIDATION OF BTSD BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL**

**TITLE: *Resolution by ICCAT Concerning Validation by a Government Official
of the Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document ****
(Transmitted to Contracting Parties: **November 30, 1993**)

RECALLING the Recommendation concerning the ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document adopted by ICCAT at its Eighth Special Meeting held in November 1992;

RECALLING ALSO the Resolution to Establish a Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures;

RECOGNIZING the need to establish procedures, guidelines and criteria pursuant to which ICCAT may make recommendations for the effective operation of the Statistical Document Program;

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

- A. that the requirement for validation of the ICCAT statistical document by a government official of the flag state of the vessel that harvested the tuna, with respect to any member of the Commission in good standing which over the preceding 36 month period regularly provided to ICCAT statistical information consistent with ICCAT requirements, may be met by validation by a recognized institution accredited by it to validate documents, for example, a national Chamber of Commerce so recognized;
- B. that it may rescind the arrangement referred to in Paragraph A with respect to any Contracting Party that ceases to provide statistical information required by ICCAT for a period of 12 months or for such other period as may be specified by the Commission from time to time;
- C. to facilitate communications among Contracting Parties in respect of the operation of the arrangement referred to in Paragraph A.
- D. to review annually the status of the arrangement referred to in Paragraph A with a view to its smooth operation and to recommend improvements as appropriate;
- E. to instruct the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures, in cooperation with the SCRS and the ICCAT Secretariat, to review and make recommendations concerning ICCAT requirements for statistical information in a standard format and time frame, in line with modern statistical data analysis;
- F. to use the interim criteria as set out in the Addendum hereto for future acceptance by ICCAT of logbooks and information retrieval systems; and
- G. to instruct the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures to review the appended criteria with a view to their early finalization.

*** NOTE: The Addendum originally attached to this Resolution has been replaced by the Addendum to the Resolution adopted by ICCAT in 1994 on "Interpretation and Application of the ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Statistical Document Program" [94-4].**