CONSIDERING the Recommendations adopted by the Commission in 1974 and 1994 concerning bluefin tuna minimum size;

IN ORDER to facilitate commercial transactions without jeopardizing the quality of information on catches and trade of bluefin tuna;

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

FIRST:  the prohibition of retaining on board, landing and sale of age 0 fish (<1.8 kg)* by fishing vessels of Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties.

SECOND: that adequate measures be taken by the Commission in November 1997 to guarantee greater transparency and more reliability of statistics, with the aim of identifying the origin of catches.

This Recommendation is supplemental to the minimum size regulations currently in effect on bluefin tuna.

*NOTE: The phrase "of age 0 fish (<1.8 kg)" has been changed to "fish less than 3.2 kg" (see Recommendation 98-4, adopted by the 1998 Commission Meeting and which entered into force on June 21, 1999).