

- RECOMMENDATION -  
FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT  
REGARDING CATCHES OF NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH  
FOR 1998 AND 1999

*Recommendation adopted by the Commission at its Fifteenth Regular Meeting (Madrid, November 1997). Report for Biennial Period, 1996-97, Part II. Entered into force: June 13, 1998.*

*RECOGNIZING* that the Commission, at its Tenth Special Meeting (San Sebastian, 1996), set a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and quota shares for north Atlantic swordfish for 1997, 1998 and 1999;

*RECOGNIZING* that 6% of the TAC for each of these years was set aside for those without specific quotas;

*GIVEN* that the TAC is decreasing in each of these years in recognition of the scientific advice provided by the SCRS;

*NOTING* that overall catches by those without specific quotas have been increasing in recent years;

*NOTING* that those with specific quotas have significantly reduced their overall catch since 1993.

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

1. Contracting Parties, non-contracting parties, entities or fishing entities, without specific quotas of swordfish in the north Atlantic reduce their catch for 1998 and 1999 by 45% of their 1996 catch levels as reported by the Standing Committee on Research & Statistics (SCRS) at its 1997 meeting with the following exception;
  - a) those with 1996 catch levels below 100 MT shall not increase their catch above their 1996 level as reported by the SCRS at its 1997 meeting.
2. Contracting Parties, non-contracting parties, entities or fishing entities without any reported catch in 1996 refrain from developing any directed swordfish fishery in the north Atlantic in 1998 or 1999.
3. The domestic fishery in the U.K. dependent territory of Bermuda be allocated a quota of 28 MT of north Atlantic swordfish for the year 1997; and decreasing, on a fixed percentage basis during 1998 and 1999, in accordance with the Recommendation adopted at the Tenth Special Meeting of the Commission.