

– RESOLUTION –
ON REBUILDING PLANS FOR ATLANTIC BIGEYE

Resolution adopted by the Commission at its 11th Special Meeting (Santiago de Compostela, Spain-November, 1998), Report for Biennial Period, 1998-99, Part I. Officially transmitted to the Contracting Parties: December 22, 1998.

RECOGNIZING that the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) in 1997 estimated the biomass of Atlantic bigeye tuna to be 60 to 80% of B_{MSY} (biomass at MSY) and fishing mortality in 1996 (F_{1996}) to be 1.5 to 2.2 times F_{MSY} and that later some voluntary regulations, in order to reduce the catches of juvenile catches were adopted for some fleets;

NOTING that the goal of ICCAT is to maintain populations of tuna and tuna-like fishes in the Atlantic at levels that will permit harvesting maximum sustainable catch;

CONSIDERING the need for action to ensure the effectiveness of ICCAT objectives to conserve and manage bigeye tuna.

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

- 1 Using the most recent stock assessment, and if the stock is below a level that would produce MSY, the SCRS will develop stock rebuilding scenarios to levels that support MSY, if the SCRS considers the data sufficient to do so.
- 2 The SCRS explicitly state how they incorporate assumptions regarding size composition of catch in their assessment as well as in their projections.
- 3 All Contracting Parties, non-contracting parties, entities, and fishing entities undertake to provide SCRS with the best available Task I, Task II, and CPUE data, including size composition of their catch and dead discards to support this assessment.