



ICCAT



Outcomes of the 21st Special Meeting, Dubrovnik

12-19 November 2018.

Meetings Calendar and Priority Actions for the EU in 2019





Outcomes of the 21st ICCAT Special Meeting - 2018

- Tropical tunas – Rec. 18-01
- Eastern and Med. Bluefin tuna – Rec. 18-02
- BFT Initial management objectives – Rec 18-03
- *Marlins rebuilding plan* – *Res 18-04*

- Compliance with Billfish measures – Rec 18-05
- Compliance with Sharks measures – Rec 18-06
- Compliance process – Rec 18-07
- List of IUU vessels – Rec 18-08
- IUU process – Rec 18-09
- VMS standards – Rec 18-10
- *Pilot Prog Exchange inspectors* – *Res 18-11*
- eBCD – Rec 18-12 & 18-13





Outcomes of the 21st ICCAT Special Meeting - 2018

▪ **Tropical tunas**

– Rec. 18-01

- ✓ Only minor change regarding payback for overfishing
- ✓ Overall consensus on priorities, as identified during the meeting Panel 1 in July 2018
- ✓ But difficult negotiations with many divergent interests
- ✓ Lost opportunity for the stock of BET and for ICCAT organisation
- ✓ Now urgent to take measures to avoid listing in CITES





Outcomes of the 21st ICCAT Special Meeting - 2018

Management plan **Eastern and Med. Bluefin tuna – Rec. 18-02**

- ✓ Acknowledged success of the recovery plan and need to move to new and more flexible management regime
- ✓ Relaxation of some of the capacity measures, in particular for the access of small scale artisanal vessels to the fishery
- ✓ Some unwanted slackening of PS and farming capacity limits for developing CPCs; while strengthening of some of the control measures for farming operations

Overall, new plan goes in the right direction, acknowledging the stock recovery, but the EU will need to remain vigilant regarding the future development of fishing capacity for purse seiners in the Med.





Outcomes of the 21st ICCAT Special Meeting - 2018

- **Marlins rebuilding plan** – **Res 18-04**
 - ✓ Could not agree with the US on proposal for amending the rebuilding plan for Blue and White Marlin
 - ✓ Particular problem with exoneration of recreational fleets (US) from efforts to rebuild BUM
- **SHARKS -Fins attached**
 - ✓ Usual opposition by Asian CPCs
 - ✓ Difficult in absence of progress on the amendment of the ICCAT Convention
 - ✓ EU likely to continue efforts in ICCAT

ICCAT Meetings Calendar 2019

22-26 April	YFT Data Prep Meeting	Madrid
8-10 May	Joint t-RFMO FADs WG Meeting	La Jolla, California
20-24 May	SMA Stock Assessment update	Madrid
10-14 June	White Marlin Stock Assessment	Miami, Florida
24-27 June	Small Tuna Species Group	Olhao, Portugal
8-16 July	YFT Stock Assessment	Ivory Coast
16-20 Sep.	MSE BFT	Madrid
23-27 Sep.	SCRS Species Group	Madrid
30 Sep - 4 Oct.	SCRS Plenary	Madrid
16-17 Nov.	PA1 Intersessional Meeting	Curacao
18-25 Nov.	ICCAT Annual Meeting	Curacao



EU PRIORITIES IN ICCAT IN 2019

- PA1 –Tropical tunas – Rebuilding plan for BET and possibly YFT
- Northern Shortfin Mako – Rebuilding plan
- Med Swordfish – SCRS advice – Review of indicators
- Blue shark (if catches superior to trigger limit for second consecutive year, ICCAT must review the management measures)
- Convention Amendment





EU PRIORITIES IN ICCAT IN 2019 - Tropical tunas

General approach – Focus on priorities, build on progress made last year and on areas of consensus

- ✓ Meeting with COMHAFAT 21-22 March
- ✓ YFT stock assessment 8- 16 July
- ✓ Intersessional meeting PA1 16-17 November

EU Level

- ✓ 1st Meeting with COMHAFAT 21-22 March to discuss possible cooperation ahead of Annual Meeting
- ✓ 2nd Meeting with COMHAFAT May (tentative)
- ✓ Technical meetings with MSs administrations (9 April - September)





EU PRIORITIES IN ICCAT IN 2019.

Northern Shortfin Mako

- ✓ Stock assessment Northern SMA
- ✓ Advice from SCRS on alternative management measures

Mediterranean swordfish

- ✓ Stock assessment delayed by one year (SCRS updated schedule)
- ✓ In 2019, SCRS to review stock indicators and inform Commission on status of the stock and possible need for amending the recovery plan.

Blue shark

- ✓ Possible request to review the management measures if catches above trigger for second consecutive year. It was already the case in 2016-2017 but it was argued that the catches of 2016 could not be taken into consideration because the measures had not been adopted at the time.





EU PRIORITIES IN ICCAT IN 2019. - Convention amendment

- ✓ Recent meeting of the editing working group (Jan 2019)
- ✓ Review by CPCs (45 days)
- ✓ Protocol prepared by chair of the WG on Convention amendment
- ✓ CPCs to secure mandate to adopt protocol
- ✓ Resolution on ICCAT species and fishing entities to be adopted by ICCAT Commission in November

EC will continue to liaise closely with ICCAT partner to ensure that they all secure the required mandate to adopt the protocol on convention amendment

