

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

75TH MEETING

CANCUN (MEXICO)
25-29 JUNE 2007

RESOLUTION C-07-02

CRITERIA FOR ATTAINING THE STATUS OF COOPERATING NON-PARTY OR FISHING ENTITY IN IATTC

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), meeting in Cancun, Mexico, on the occasion of its 75th Meeting:

Recalling Resolution C-04-02 on Criteria for attaining the Status of Cooperating Non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity to AIDCP and IATTC;

Recognizing the continuing need to encourage non-parties or fishing entities with vessels fishing for species covered by the IATTC Convention to implement the conservation and management measures of the IATTC; and

Recognizing the need for clear criteria to enable non-parties or fishing entities whose vessels fish for species covered by the IATTC Convention to attain the status of Cooperating non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity;

Resolves as follows:

1. Each year, the Director shall contact all non-parties and fishing entities with vessels known to be fishing for species covered by the IATTC Convention, to urge them to become a Party to the IATTC or to attain the status of a Cooperating Non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity to IATTC (Cooperating Status). In doing so, the Director shall provide copies of all relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission.
2. Any non-party or fishing entity that seeks to be accorded Cooperating Status shall apply to the Director requesting such status. Such requests must be received by the Director no later than ninety (90) days in advance of an annual meeting of the Commission in order to be considered at that meeting.
3. Non-parties and fishing entities requesting Cooperating Status shall fulfill the following requirements in order to have this status considered by the Commission:
 - a. Information requirements:
 - i. Communicate full data on its historical fisheries in the IATTC area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas;
 - ii. Communicate annually catch and effort data and size-frequency distribution of the catches (when possible) in due time and appropriate format for scientific evaluation of the stocks;
 - iii. Communicate details on current fishing presence in the area, number of vessels and vessel characteristics;
 - iv. Communicate research programs it has conducted in the IATTC area and share the information and the results with the IATTC.
 - b. Compliance requirements:

- i. Respect all conservation measures in force in IATTC;
- ii. Respect the capacity limits already in force in IATTC for tuna vessels;
- iii. Inform the IATTC of all the management and conservation measures it takes to ensure compliance by its vessels, including *inter alia* and as appropriate, observer programs, inspection at sea and in port, and Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS);
- iv. Respond to alleged violations of IATTC measures by its vessels, as determined by the appropriate bodies, and communicate to IATTC the actions taken against the vessels.

c. Participation:

Participation at plenary and relevant subsidiary and scientific meetings, as an observer.

4. An applicant for Cooperating Status shall also:
 - a. confirm its commitment to respect the Commission's conservation and management measures; and
 - b. inform the Commission of the measures it takes to ensure compliance by its vessels with the conservation and management measures of the IATTC.
5. The Joint Working Group on Fishing by non-Parties shall be responsible for reviewing requests for Cooperating Status and for recommending to the Commission whether an applicant should receive Cooperating Status. In granting Cooperating Status, caution shall be used to avoid excess fishing capacity or illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities in the Convention area.
6. Cooperating Status shall be reviewed and conferred annually by the Commission, if the Cooperating Non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity has complied with the criteria for attaining such status established by this resolution.
7. Any Cooperating Non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Antigua Convention or the Instrument for the Participation of Fishing Entities attached to Resolution C-03-02 on the Adoption of the Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention Between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica, as appropriate, shall be exempted from submission of the annual application for Cooperating Status as required in paragraph 2 above, if cooperating status has been maintained consistently subsequent to the initial application. Such Cooperating Status shall be subject to annual review as prescribed in paragraph 5 above, and may be revoked by the Commission, if the Cooperating Non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity has not complied with the criteria for attaining such status established by this resolution.
8. This resolution replaces Resolution C-04-02 on Criteria for attaining the Status of Cooperating Non-Party or Cooperating Fishing Entity to AIDCP and IATTC.