



*11th Meeting of the
International Scientific Committee
for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean
San Francisco, California, USA
20-25 July 2011*

MOC between IATTC and ISC¹

IATTC and ISC

July 2011

¹Prepared for the Eleventh Meeting of the International Scientific committee on Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), 20-25 July 2011, San Francisco, CA, USA. Document should not be cited without permission of the authors.

**Memorandum of Cooperation between
The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and
The International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species
in the North Pacific Ocean**

Recognizing that the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), established by the 1949 Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica, pursuant to the 1949 Convention and the Convention for the Strengthening of the IATTC, adopted in Antigua, Guatemala on 27 June 2003 (Antigua Convention), has the responsibility, *inter alia*, to:

- Promote, carry out and coordinate scientific research concerning the abundance, biology and biometry in the Convention Area of fish stocks covered by the IATTC and, as necessary, of associated or dependent species, and the effects of natural factors and human activities on the populations of these stocks and species;
- Establish a comprehensive program for data collection and monitoring which will include such elements as the Commission determines necessary;
- Fulfill other obligations related to research and conservation as elaborated in the Antigua Convention;

Also recognizing that the IATTC has maintained an active research program in the eastern Pacific Ocean since 1950;

Further recognizing that the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC):

- Was established in 1995 to enhance scientific research and cooperation for conservation and rational utilization of the species of tuna and tuna-like fishes which inhabit the North Pacific Ocean during a part or all of their life cycle;
- Was established to create the scientific groundwork, if at some point in the future, it is decided to create a multilateral regime for the conservation and rational utilization of these species in this region;
- Is establishing a central database to support the scientific research of the Committee and continues to consider establishing a permanent Secretariat;

The IATTC and the ISC, the Parties to this Memorandum of Cooperation (“MOC”), have therefore reached the following understanding:

Part I: Framework for Mutual Cooperation

The IATTC and ISC will:

- Encourage reciprocal consultations and regular contacts on matters of common interest regarding scientific research on highly migratory tuna and tuna-like fish resources;
- Regularly exchange meeting reports, information, project plans, documents, and publications regarding matters of common interest;
- Cooperate in research and assessment of stocks that occur in the north eastern Pacific during part or all of their life cycle, as appropriate.
- Routinely exchange fishery data (Category I, II, and III) from the north eastern Pacific Ocean, in accordance with the rules and procedures for data confidentiality adopted by each organization, to minimize duplicative data collection efforts and enhance fishery monitoring and stock assessment; and
- Strive to develop compatible data codes and data standards to facilitate data exchange, to the extent practicable.

The Director of the IATTC and his designated staff will be invited to participate as observers at the ISC plenary and to participate as full members at the ISC Working Groups.

The Chairman of the ISC will be invited to observe the annual meetings of the IATTC and the Director of the IATTC will recommend that the Chairman of the ISC be invited to participate in the work of the IATTC Scientific Advisory Committee and its working groups.

Part II: Administrative Arrangements

- This MOC will become effective upon the date of signature of the responsible representatives of both Parties.
- This MOC may be modified by written consent of both IATTC and ISC and when signed by the responsible representative in each organization. The modified MOC will become effective upon the date of signature of the responsible representatives of both Parties.
- Either the IATTC or ISC may terminate this MOC by providing 30 days written notice to the other of its intention to withdraw from this MOC.

- A full review of the terms and operation of the MOC will be conducted by the signatories as soon as practicable after three years from the date of its signature by the Director of the IATTC and the Chairman of the ISC, and subsequently every three years.

Part III: Signature

Signed on behalf of the IATTC and the ISC:

Signed: 
Director

Date: 06/24/2010

Inter-American Tropical
Commission

Signed: 
Chairman

Date: 15 June 2010

International Scientific Committee for Tuna
Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North
Pacific Ocean