

**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**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC),

Recognizing the functions that the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) performs pursuant to the 2003 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, (Antigua Convention), in particular the following:

- Promote, carry out and coordinate scientific research concerning the abundance, biology and biometry in the Convention Area of fish stocks covered by the Convention 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;

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 provide the scientific basis for the conservation and rational utilization of these species in this region;
- Maintains a central database to support the scientific research of the Committee;

Reaffirming the importance and relevance of cooperation between both organizations, the IATTC and ISC have agreed to the following:

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 tuna and tuna-like species;
- 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 northeastern Pacific Ocean during part or all of their life cycle, as appropriate.
- Routinely exchange fishery data (Category I, II, and III) from the northeastern 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.

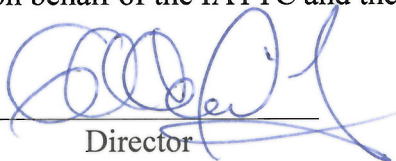
Part II: Administrative Arrangements

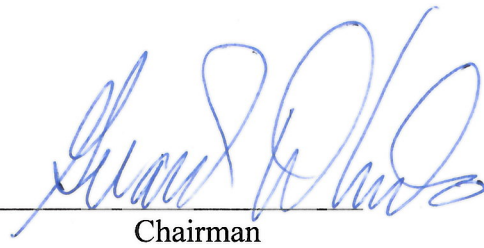
- This MOC will become effective upon the date of signature by the Director of the IATTC and the Chairman of the ISC, on behalf of each Party
- This MOC may be modified by written consent of both IATTC and ISC and the amended MOC will become effective upon the date of signature by the Director of the IATTC and the Chairman of the ISC on behalf of each Party.
- Each Party 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 Parties 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

Signed: 
Chairman

Date: 02-01-2016

Date: Jan. 26, 2016

Inter-American Tropical
Commission

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

