

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING

33RD MEETING

Del Mar, California (USA)
17 October 2013

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

AGENDA

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	
3. Approval of the minutes of the 32 nd meeting	
4. Review of the implementation of the AIDCP dolphin safe certification system	TT-33-04
5. Other business	
6. Recommendations for the International Review Panel	
7. Place and date of next meeting	
8. Adjournment	

APPENDIX

1. List of attendees

The changes marked in this document were proposed by the European Union

The 33rd Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking was held in Del Mar, California (USA) on 17 October 2013. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chairman of the AIDCP, Mr. Alvin Delgado, of Venezuela, who requested nominations for chair of the meeting. Mr. Arnulfo Franco, of Panamá, was elected.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda was adopted without any changes.

3. Approval of the minutes of the 32nd meeting

The minutes of the 32nd meeting, previously circulated by the Secretariat, were approved without changes.

4. Review of the implementation of the [dolphin safe certification system](#)

The Secretariat presented Document TT-32-04 “*Matters related to the tuna tracking and dolphin safe certification programs*”. The Secretariat received 67 signed dolphin safe certificates since 15 April 2012; of these, the 84 considered valid correspond to 93 fishing trips. The reasons for not considering the three other certificates valid were: a) the respective competent national authority voided two due to clerical

errors; b) the Secretariat voided one certificate because it referred to a Tuna Tracking Form (TTF) that was not in its records.

Venezuela noted that it had sent more TTFs recently, and with those would be close to 100% compliance. Peru indicated that there are TTFs from years ago that are listed as not received, and asked why. It was explained that possibly they were sent, but the Secretariat did not receive them. Colombia explained that it had problems with the mails regarding sending TTFs, but even so its compliance percentage was not as stated in the report, and it would review this with the Secretariat.

Bolivia asked why it was not included in the table of TTFs received. It was explained that the competent authority of the Party where the tuna is unloaded is responsible for sending the original TTFs, and no tuna is unloaded in Bolivian territory.

The European Union asked about the disparity between the number of TTFs and the number of dolphin-safe certificates as in the presentation by the Secretariat, out of 1,136 TTFs (relating to 1,218 trips) only 64 certificates were issued. It was explained that it is obligatory to separate dolphin-safe and non-dolphin-safe tuna and to implement the tuna tracking requirements, up to a point, regardless of whether the tuna is destined for use of the AIDCP label. However, the issuance of dolphin-safe certificates for qualifying tuna products is voluntary, and this is the source of the disparity. Regarding the audits of the national tuna-tracking systems contemplated in the AIDCP, the European Union asked that the Secretariat include information on this in its next report on the tuna tracking system.

Mexico noted that there are achievements that must be recognized and publicized in the submission of TTFs, currently at over 93%, and in the development of the system, and these should be matched by an opening of markets to products caught in accordance with AIDCP rules.

5. Other business

No other business was discussed.

6. Recommendations for the International Review Panel

The working group agreed to recommend that the Panel 1) invite interested Parties to investigate cases involving missing or contradictory TTFs and report the results of those investigations to the Secretariat; 2) urge the Parties to comply with the requirement to conduct audits of their national tuna tracking programs and report on the same to the Secretariat so that this information can be considered by the working group. The working group also highlighted that the Secretariat has received over 90% of all TTFs from the Parties, indicating that a high level of compliance has been achieved. Place and date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Working Group will be held on the dates agreed for the meetings of the AIDCP in July 2014.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m. on 14 October 2013.

Appendix 1.

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