

AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

29TH MEETING OF THE PARTIES

Lima, Peru
8 July 2014

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

AGENDA

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Election of Chairman	
3. Adoption of the agenda	
4. Approval of the minutes of the 28 th Meeting of the Parties	
5. Secretariat's report on the IDCP	
6. AIDCP budget	MOP-29-06
7. Report of the Working Group to promote and publicize the AIDCP Dolphin Safe Tuna Certification System	
8. Report of the International Review Panel	
9. Other business	
10. Place and date of next meeting	
11. Adjournment	

APPENDICES

1. List of attendees
2. Vessels with payments outstanding
3. Report of the Working Group to promote and publicize the AIDCP Dolphin Safe Tuna Certification System
4. Report of the International Review Panel
5. Resolution A-14-01 on the Agreement Area

The 29th Meeting of the Parties to the AIDCP was held in Lima, Peru, on 8 July 2014. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Vice-Minister of Fisheries of Peru, Mr. Paul Phumpiu Chang.

2. Election of Chairman

Mr. Alvin Delgado, of Venezuela, presided over the meeting.

3. Adoption of the agenda.

The agenda was adopted without changes.

4. Approval of the minutes of the 28th Meeting of the Parties

The minutes of the 28^a Meeting of the Parties were approved without changes.

5. Secretariat's report on the IDCP

Mr. Martín Hall, of the Secretariat, presented information on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (IDCP) during the previous year. He said that in 2013 Dolphin Mortality Limits (DMLs) were allocated to 90 vessels, of which 79 used them. In the 10,736 sets on dolphins recorded, the average mortality per set was 0.07 dolphins. No vessel exceeded its DML. The estimate of the incidental mortality of dolphins in the fishery in 2013 was 801, the lowest ever recorded in the IDCP.

The European Union indicated that it could make a contribution of up to € 1 million to update the assessments of the dolphin populations if another AIDCP Party covered the costs of operating the vessels needed for the assessment. The United States expressed its willingness to explore this option, and noted the importance of having the collaboration of other Parties. The United States had an active interest in carrying out a research cruise, but the difficulty was the availability of a suitable research vessel, and he hoped that the offer of financing and the interest of other Parties in collaborating would help in obtaining one. Mexico noted that the IATTC scientific staff should play a predominant role in the design and execution of an exercise of this nature, and in the analysis of the resulting data, and proposed that a research project be prepared for review by the Scientific Advisory Board. Nicaragua and Peru expressed interest in placing scientists on cruises of this type. The Secretariat indicated that the project would be prepared, and that it would be useful if oceanographic vessels took part, as well as commercial vessels.

6. AIDCP budget

Ms. Nora Wade, of the Secretariat, presented Document MOP-29-06 on the AIDCP budget, highlighting the program's deficit. The Secretariat was recommending an increase in vessel assessments from US\$ 14.95 to US\$ 17.61/m³, in order to resolve the current deficit, and the implementation of one of the options described in the document for improving the future financial stability of the AIDCP.

The European Union stated that it had difficulty in understanding the budget presented, and recalled that it had been agreed to carry out an evaluation of the Secretariat of the IATTC and the AIDCP, and that it would not accept any change in the budget if the terms of reference for that evaluation were not approved.

The United States noted that the Secretariat had followed the instructions to reduce costs, and that some of the options for reducing the deficit presented in the document were interesting, such as automatic adjustments of the budget.

Nicaragua noted the need for a comprehensive solution to the budgetary problems of the IATTC and national observer programs. The United States commented that the national programs and their financial situation were not the responsibility of the Parties to the AIDCP.

Mexico recalled that attempts had been made to delegate solutions to the AIDCP's budget problems to the IATTC, but without success, and reiterated its position that the evaluation proposed by the European Union should cover both the IATTC and the AIDCP, and not be limited to the operation of the Secretariat but address the performance of the IATTC and the AIDCP as a whole. Mexico also noted that linking the budget to an economic indicator could be positive.

The concept of linking vessel assessments to the AIDCP budget (option 5.5.2 in document MOP-29-06) generated a great deal of interest among the Parties and was generally supported, and the Secretariat was asked to prepare a simulation of its application in practice for consideration at the next Meeting of the Parties.

At the request of the Parties, a list of vessels with payments to the IDCP outstanding was presented (Appendix 2), and the Secretariat was asked to send letters to the Parties in question requesting payment.

Finally, no decision was reached regarding the budget and a possible increase in the vessel assessments, and the matter was postponed until the next Meeting of the Parties in October 2014.

7. Report of the Working Group to promote and publicize the AIDCP dolphin safe tuna certification system

Mr. Bernal Chavarría, of Guatemala, Chair of the Working Group, presented his report (Appendix 3). The Working Group recommended that some adjustments be made to the materials produced on the promotional video on the AIDCP and its certification system, the promotional leaflet, and the educational module on the AIDCP, and that the result be submitted for definitive approval as promotion and publicity tools for use by the AIDCP Parties.

The European Union recalled that it had asked for clarification in those materials that the reduction of the mortality of dolphins predated the La Jolla Agreement.

8. Report of the International Review Panel

Mr. Jeremy Rusin, of the United States, Presider of the 55th meeting of the Panel, presented his report (Appendix 4), noting that the Panel recommended taking a series of actions regarding three types of cases reviewed. The Meeting of the Parties approved these actions agreed by the Panel.

- a) Regarding cases 2014-004 and 2014-145, in which the designated observer was substituted by another person to carry out his tasks, that the Secretariat (1) publicize the name of the observer in question so that the national programs are aware of his past; (2) refer these cases to the flag States of the vessels involved for further investigation; and (3) send a letter to the Parties specifying the procedures for ensuring that the assigned observer is the one aboard.
- b) Regarding case 2014-323, a vessel that made two transit trips without notification of the exemption from carrying an observer, that the Secretariat refer it to the flag State for further investigation.
- c) Regarding special case 51-03, observer interference, that the Secretariat ask the flag State for additional information about its determination that there was insufficient evidence for a sanction, particularly in the light of the observer's notes shown to the Panel that support the allegation.

9. Other business

Ecuador proposed that the extent of the AIDCP Area be harmonized with that of the IATTC, by modifying Appendix 1 of the AIDCP to set the northern and southern boundaries of the AIDCP Area at the 50° North and 50° South parallels, respectively.

In accordance with the above, a resolution (Appendix 5) was approved to modify Annex 1 of the Agreement.

10. Place and date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parties will take place during the week of 20 October in The Jolla, California (USA).

11. Adjournment

The meeting was not adjourned, with the matter of the budget left pending.

Appendix 1.

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Appendix 2.

Vessels with assessments outstanding – Buques con cuotas pendientes

US\$	Vessel /Buque	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total	
GTM	7179	51,933	51,933	55,407	58,881	218,154	218,154
VEN	9563		13,814	14,738	15,662	44,213	
	14960		16,944	16,956	19,212	53,112	
	14961				14,450	14,450	
	15609				37,324	37,324	149,099
ECU	14689				8,773	8,773	
	3727				18,552	18,552	
	3202				6,474	6,474	
	3832				12,947	12,947	46,745
Total		51,933	82,691	87,101	192,272		413,997

Capacity/Capacidad < 363 t

Appendix 3.

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM
WORKING GROUP TO PROMOTE AND PUBLICIZE THE AIDCP DOLPHIN
SAFE TUNA CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

20TH MEETING

Lima, Peru
7 July 2014

REPORT OF THE MEETING

AGENDA

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Opening of the meeting2. Adoption of the agenda3. Approval of the minutes of the 19th meeting4. Actions to promote AIDCP dolphin safe tuna5. Other business6. Date and place of next meeting7. Adjournment	DSP-20-04
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APPENDIX

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. List of attendees
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The 20th Meeting of the Working Group to Promote and Publicize the AIDCP Dolphin Safe Tuna Certification System was held in Lima, Peru, on 7 July 2014. The attendees are listed in Appendix 1.

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair of the Working Group, Dr. Bernal Chavarría, Delegate of Guatemala.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Approval of the minutes of the 19th meeting

The minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Working group were approved with the modifications introduced in the document circulated previously by the Secretariat.

4. Actions to promote AIDCP dolphin safe tuna

Progress in the production of the promotional and publicity materials recounted in document [DSP-20-04](#) was reviewed with the following result:

- a) **Promotional video:** The promotional video is in the final stage of production, the company hired already concluded the contract and, although it is possible to revise the current production, major

changes would require the identification of resources that will permit the company to be hired to carry out the required modifications.

The Secretariat explained that the changes requested by the various parties have already been introduced into the video and that the product was submitted to review by various members of the general public, and the results suggested satisfactory comprehension of the message transmitted. After screening the draft video for the Working Group participants, the following observations were received:

1. The visual presentation of the subtitles in some of the interviews should be improved to ensure that they are legible. Specifically, in frames where the subtitles appear against a white background, the color of the text should be changed in order to provide greater contrast.
 2. The English translation of the subtitles should be improved, as in some instances it appears that the wrong word is used or there are spelling errors.
 3. The AIDCP, and specifically the reduction of dolphin mortalities achieved, should be put in context as the outcome of the efforts made under the La Jolla Agreement as well as under the AIDCP.
 4. The reference to fishing for tunas in association with dolphins catching exclusively adult tunas should be revised.
 5. It should be clarified that AIDCP data represent the observed mortality of dolphins in the fishery, and not necessarily the total dolphin mortality.
 6. It is recommendable to reduce the duration of the video by eliminating some portions of some interviews that provide redundant information.
 7. It should be ensured that the information shows correctly the AIDCP area.
 8. The comparison with other accepted fishing mechanisms or gears that are used in the EPO should be omitted.
 9. The video should put the importance of the dolphin fishery in context by expressing what percentage of EPO caught tuna are caught in dolphin sets.
- b) Informational pamphlet:** The Secretariat stated that the draft promotional leaflet attached to Document [DSP-20-04](#), which was distributed during the meeting and which is available to consult on the website, contains the observations made by the Parties in the intersessional period. After reviewing the pamphlet, the Secretariat was instructed to revise the material, to reflect the relationship and role that the La Jolla Agreement played in the transition from a system of scant regulation to the one that has been developed with the AIDCP and evaluate the efforts made before that Agreement.
- c) Educational module:** The Secretariat stated that the document presented as an Educational Module attached to Document [DSP-20-04](#), available to consult on the website, contains duly introduced the observations made previously by the Parties. After the review the Secretariat was instructed to revise the, so that the objectives of the program are spelt out, avoiding subjective expressions and highlighting the achievements of the AIDCP in accordance with the facts.

After the presentation of progress in the production of the mentioned tools, the effort made was recognized and the Parties agreed to recommend that the Secretariat, in each case, introduce the observations indicated and the result be delivered for definitive approval and be kept as promotion and publicity tools for use by the Parties to the AIDCP.

5. Other business

There were no proposals for reviewing other business

6. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the Working Group will be held on the dates agreed for the AIDCP meetings in October 2014 in The Jolla, California.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. on 7 July 2014.

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Appendix 4.

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM INTERNATIONAL REVIEW PANEL 55TH MEETING LIMA, PERU 7 JULY 2014
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REPORT OF THE MEETING

AGENDA

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Election of the Presider	
3. Adoption of the agenda	
4. Approval of the minutes of the 54 th meeting	
5. Review of Dolphin Mortality Limits for 2013 and 2014	IRP-55-05
6. Review of AIDCP <i>List of Qualified Captains</i>	IRP-55-06
7. Review of observer data	
8. Review of actions by Parties on possible infractions reported by the IRP:	
a. Actions taken since report at the 54 th meeting	IRP-55-08a
b. Status review of special cases	IRP-55-08b
9. Report of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking	
10. Other business	
11. Recommendations for the Meeting of the Parties	
12. Place and date of next meeting	
13. Adjournment	

APPENDIX

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| 1. List of attendees |
| 2. Report of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking |

The 55th Meeting of the International Review Panel was held in Lima, Peru, on 7 July 2014.

1. Opening of the meeting

Dr. Guillermo Compeán, Director of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), opened the meeting, and requested nominations for Presider of the meeting.

2. Election of the Presider

Mr. Jeremy Rusin, of the United States, was elected to preside over the meeting.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda was adopted as presented.

4. Approval of the minutes of the 54th meeting

The minutes of the 54th meeting of the Panel were approved without changes.

5. Review of Dolphin Mortality Limits for 2013 and 2014

The Secretariat summarized the situation with respect to the allocation, reallocation, and utilization of DMLs in 2013 and to date in 2014, contained in Document IRP-55-05. It was noted that no vessel reached its DML in 2013 and that 801 dolphin mortalities were reported in that year, making it the lowest reported dolphin mortality in the history of the fishery.

6. Review of AIDCP List of Qualified Captains

The Secretariat presented Document IRP-55-06, *Changes to the AIDCP List of Qualified Captains*, which updates the changes that have taken place between 13 September 2013 and 29 May 2014. During that period seven captains were added, and none removed or reinstated.

7. Review of observer data

The Secretariat presented data reported by observers of the On-Board Observer Program relating to possible infractions received and processed by the Secretariat since the Panel's previous meeting. The Panel discussed the three cases that were not automatically referred to the pertinent Parties, specifically:

Cases 2014-004 and **2014-145** involved trips in which someone other than the assigned qualified observer recorded data on the fishing activities of the vessel, compromising the value of those data and raising questions about whether the vessels involved could be deemed in violation of the AIDCP for fishing without a qualified observer. The Secretariat indicated that the observer had been dismissed from the program. The Panel expressed significant concern about these instances and requested additional information from the Secretariat in order to better understand how similar cases could be avoided in the future. It asked the Secretariat to provide the IRP with updates on these cases at future meetings, and also recommended that the Secretariat:

- a. Distribute the name of the observer who had been dismissed to the Parties and the national observer programs;
- b. Refer these cases to the flag states of the vessels involved for further investigation; and
- c. Send a letter to the AIDCP Parties regarding the procedures for ensuring that a qualified observer accompanies every trip by vessels covered by the Agreement, and the specific responsibilities of flag states and vessel owners in this regard.
- d. Classify these cases as special cases for regular future review by the IRP.

Case 2014-323 involved a vessel of a non-Party that transited through the Agreement Area on at least two occasions without a transit waiver and that departed port in the eastern Pacific without an observer and with a full crew and complement of fishing gear. The Panel expressed concern over the seriousness of these actions in the context of both the AIDCP and the IATTC. The Secretariat noted that a representative from the flag state would be present at the IATTC annual meeting the following week, so there would be opportunities for consultations. The IRP recommended that the Secretariat refer this case to the flag state for further investigation.

8. Review of actions by Parties on possible infractions reported by the IRP:

a. Actions taken since report at the 54th meeting

The Secretariat presented Document IRP-55-08a, Responses to six types of possible infractions identified at the 54th meeting. When the document was prepared, no responses had been received from the Parties involved to the one case of observer harassment, two cases of use of explosive use, and five cases of night sets, but during the meeting each Party indicated cases under its purview were under investigation. Status review of special cases

The Secretariat presented Document IRP-55-08b, *Summary of pending special cases monitored by the IRP*. The Panel reviewed case 51-03, which is an case of alleged observer interference that occurred in 2012 in the form of a bribery attempt. The Secretariat indicated that following a prolonged period without a response from the Party on this case, just prior to the current IRP meeting the Party had responded that insufficient evidence was available to enable an administrative investigation into the allegations of observer interference. The Panel decided to recommend to the Meeting of the Parties that the Secretariat write a follow-up letter to the Party to request additional information as to why it made this determination, particularly in light of the observer's notes presented to the Panel supporting the allegation.

9. Report of the Permanent Working Group on Tuna Tracking

The chair of the working group, Mr. Arnulfo Franco, of Panama, presented his report (Appendix 2). The working group had substantial discussions, but had no recommendations for the IRP.

10. Other business

No other business was presented.

11. Recommendations for the Meeting of the Parties

The IRP agreed on the following actions :

- a. Regarding cases 2014-004 and 2014-145, that the Secretariat performs the actions specified under item 7 above.
- b. Regarding case 2014-323, that the Secretariat refer this case to the flag state for further investigation.
- c. Regarding special case 51-03, that the Secretariat ask the flag State for additional information about its determination that there was insufficient evidence for a sanction, particularly in the light of the observer's notes shown to the Panel that support the allegation .

12. Place and date of next meeting

The 56th meeting of the IRP will be held in La Jolla, California (USA) in October 2014.

13. Adjournment

The 55th meeting of the IRP was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. on 7 July 2014.

Appendix 5.

AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

29TH MEETING OF THE PARTIES

LIMA (PERU)

8 JULY 2014

RESOLUTION A-14-01

AMENDMENT OF ANNEX I OF THE AGREEMENT

The Parties to the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP):

Recognizing the need to harmonize the northern and southern boundaries of the Agreement Area, as defined in Annex I of the Agreement, with those of the area of application of the Antigua Convention (“the Convention Area”), as defined in Article III of the Convention,

In accordance with the provisions of Article XXX, paragraph 3, of the Agreement,

Resolve as follows:

In Annex I (a), replace “40°N parallel” with “50°N parallel” and in Annex I, (b) and (c), replace “40°S parallel” with “50°S parallel”.