



FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

3-7 December 2007

Tumon, Guam, USA

LETTER FROM ECUADOR TO THE WCPFC CHAIR

WCPFC4-2007/OP14

7 December 2007

Guam, 7 December 2007

Mr Glen Hurry
WCPFC Chairman

Dear Sir:

In view of the regrettable and insulting comments made by the delegation of New Zealand during this Commission meeting, I would like to express to you, as Chairman, my full rejection of the inappropriate accusation issued against the Republic of Ecuador.

Our country, as was stated by the delegate of the European Community, is an excellent example of responsibility in the conservation of fisheries resources, as well as compliance with the regulations and guidelines implemented by IATTC and other organizations and RFMOs, including FAO.

Ecuador at this time has one of the most important fleets in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and constitutes the point of reference for tuna-related activities in the Americas and therefore it is a complete fallacy that our country is involved in issuing flags of convenience.

The delegation of Ecuador will forward to our Ministry of Foreign Affairs the corresponding report containing the reference to the insults and lack of respect shown by the delegation of New Zealand.

I respectfully ask that this statement be read at the meeting before it adjourns and, should this not be possible, that copies be distributed to all delegations in attendance.

Sincerely,

Guillermo Morán Velásquez.
Under Secretary of Fisheries Resources

C.C: Dr. Mario Aguilar, IATTC Chairman