INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
COMISIÓN INTERAMERICANA DEL ATÚN TROPICAL

73RD MEETING

LANZAROTE (SPAIN)
20-24 JUNE 2005

RESOLUTION C-05-07

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A LIST OF VESSELS PRESUMED TO HAVE CARRIED OUT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING ACTIVITIES IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Recalling that the FAO Council adopted on 23 June 2001 an International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IPOA-IUU). This plan stipulates that the identification of the vessels carrying out illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities should follow agreed procedures and be applied in an equitable, transparent and non-discriminatory way.

Concerned that IUU fishing activities in the Convention area undermine the effectiveness of the IATTC conservation and management measures.

Further concerned that there is a possibility that vessel owners engaged in such fishing activities may have re-flagged their vessels to avoid compliance with IATTC management and conservation measures.

Determined to address the challenge of an increase in IUU fishing activities by way of counter-measures to be applied in respect to vessels, without prejudice to further measures adopted in respect of flag States under the relevant IATTC instruments.

Considering the action undertaken in other regional tuna fisheries organizations to address this issue;

Conscious of the need to address, as a matter of priority, the issue of vessels conducting IUU fishing activities; and

Noting that the situation must be addressed in the light of all relevant international fisheries instruments and in accordance with the relevant rights and obligations established in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement;

Resolves as follows:

1. For the purposes of this resolution, vessels fishing for species covered by the IATTC Convention are presumed to have carried out IUU fishing activities in the EPO, *inter alia*, when an IATTC Party, cooperating non-Party, fishing entity or regional economic integration organization (collectively "CPCs") presents evidence that such vessels:

    a. Harvest species covered by the IATTC Convention in the EPO and are not on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register, or

    b. Do not record or report their catches made in the EPO, or make false reports, or

    c. Take or land undersized fish in contravention of IATTC conservation measures, or

    d. Fish during closures in contravention of IATTC conservation measures, or

    e. Use prohibited fishing gear in contravention of IATTC conservation measures, or

    f. Transship with vessels included in the IATTC IUU Vessel List, established by this resolution, or

    g. Are without nationality and harvest species covered by the IATTC Convention in the EPO, or

h. Engage in fishing activities contrary to any other IATTC conservation and management measures, or

i. Are under the control of the owner of any vessel on the IATTC IUU Vessel List.

2. Each CPC shall transmit to the Director, before 1 February of every year, a list of any vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing activities in the EPO during the current and previous years, accompanied by the evidence supporting the presumption of IUU fishing activity.

   The IATTC IUU Vessel List shall be based on information collected by CPCs and from any other relevant sources. Information from CPCs should be provided in the format approved by the Parties.

3. On the basis of the information received pursuant to paragraph 2, the Director shall draw up a draft IATTC IUU Vessel List and shall transmit it, together with all the supporting evidence provided, to all CPCs, as well as to non-parties with vessels on the List, before 1 March of each year. CPCs and non-parties shall, before 15 April, transmit their comments to the Director, as appropriate, including evidence showing that the vessels neither have fished in contravention of IATTC conservation and management measures nor had the possibility of fishing for species covered by the IATTC Convention in the EPO.

   Upon receipt of the draft IATTC IUU Vessel List, CPCs shall closely monitor the vessels included in the draft List in order to determine their activities and possible changes of name, flag and/or registered owner.

4. On the basis of the information received pursuant to paragraph 3, the Director shall draw up a provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List, and transmit it, two weeks in advance of the Annual Meeting of the Commission, to the CPCs and the non-parties concerned, together with all the evidence provided.

5. CPCs may at any time submit to the Director any additional information which might be relevant for the establishment of the IATTC IUU Vessel List. The Director shall circulate the information, together with all the evidence provided, to the CPCs and to the non-parties concerned, at least two weeks before the Annual Meeting of the Commission.

6. The IATTC-AIDCP Joint Working Group on Fishing by Non-Parties (Joint Working Group) shall each year examine the provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List, as well as the information referred to in paragraphs 3 and 5. The results of this examination may, if necessary, be referred to the Permanent Working Group on Compliance.

   The Joint Working Group shall remove a vessel from the provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List if the vessel's flag State demonstrates that:

   a. The vessel did not engage in any of the IUU fishing activities described in paragraph 1, or

   b. Effective action has been taken in response to the IUU fishing activities in question, including, *inter alia*, prosecution, and imposition of sanctions of adequate severity.

7. Following the examination referred to in paragraph 6, the Joint Working Group shall recommend that the Commission approve the provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List, as amended by the Joint Working Group.

8. Once the provisional IATTC IUU Vessel List is adopted by the Commission, the Commission shall ask non-parties with vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List to take all the necessary measures to eliminate these IUU fishing activities, including, if necessary, the withdrawal of the registration or the fishing licenses of these vessels, and to inform the Commission of the measures taken in this respect.

9. CPCs shall take all necessary measures, under their applicable legislation and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU, to:

a. ensure that vessels flying their flag do not transship with vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List;

b. ensure that vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List that enter ports voluntarily are not authorized to land or transship therein;

c. prohibit the chartering of a vessel on the IATTC IUU Vessel List;

d. refuse to grant their flag to vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List, unless the vessel has changed owner, and the new owner has provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owner or operator has no further legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control of, the vessel or, having taken into account all relevant facts, the flag CPC determines that granting the vessel its flag will not result in IUU fishing;

e. prohibit commercial transactions, imports, landings and/or transshipment of species covered by the IATTC Convention from vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List;

f. encourage traders, importers, transporters and others involved, to refrain from transactions in, and transshipment of, species covered by the IATTC Convention caught by vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List;

g. collect, and exchange with other CPCs, any appropriate information with the aim of searching for, controlling and preventing false import/export certificates for species covered by the IATTC Convention from vessels on the IATTC IUU Vessel List.

10. The Director shall take any measure necessary to ensure publicity of the IATTC IUU Vessel List, in a manner consistent with any applicable confidentiality requirements, including placing it on the IATTC website. Furthermore, the Director shall transmit the IATTC IUU Vessel List to other regional fisheries organizations for the purposes of enhancing co-operation between the IATTC and these organizations aimed at preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing.

11. This resolution shall apply to any fishing vessel greater than 24 meters overall length.

12. Without prejudice to the rights of CPCs and coastal states to take proper action, consistent with international law, the CPCs shall not take any unilateral trade measures or other sanctions against vessels on the draft or provisional IATTC IUU Vessel Lists, pursuant to paragraphs 3 or 4, or that have been removed from the IATTC IUU Vessel List, pursuant to paragraph 6, on the grounds that such vessels are involved in IUU fishing activities.

13. This resolution replaces Resolution C-04-04.