JOINT IATTC AND WCPFC-NC WORKING GROUP MEETING ON THE MANAGEMENT OF PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA SIXTH SESSION (JWG-06)

ELECTRONIC MEETING 8am-11am, Japan Standard Time 27-29 July 2021

Report On Pacific Bluefin Tuna Activities

IATTC-NC-JWG06-2021/DP-07

MEXICO

Dorothy Lowman and Masanori Miyahara Co-Chairs of the Joint NC-IATTC WG for PBF

Appreciated Co-Chairs.

As you are well aware, México has annually fully contributed with the NC-IATTC-WG and again once more is voluntarily providing the following information in order to contribute, share and give an account-related with the 2020 fishing year catch of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (PBF) in the Mexican EPO region.

Previously and for many years, we have in these meetings as well, presented orally the same type of information with the main objective to fully contribute, share, and provide ample cooperation for a complete view of current fishing activities related to with the PBF and also in this way, to ensure the best management for that tuna species across the entire Pacific Ocean.

It is also important to highlight that Mexico does not fish and has never fished for PBF in the area managed by the WCPFC. All the catch of PBF by Mexican vessels has been caught within the IATTC area and mostly within-Mexico's own Economic Exclusive Zona (EEZ).

In relation to 2020 fishing year and in accordance with Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) Resolution C-18-01 "Measures for the conservation and management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, 2019 and 2020", under the catch limit established for Mexico, its purse seine vessels captured 3,268 tons of PBF in 2020 for a total of 5,517 tons, well below the 6000 tons set as a biannual limit. As well and following the rules, all the Mexican vessels that participated in this fishery had a scientific observer on board during the entire time of all the fishing operations. All the catch referred was caught alive and transfer to feeding pens located in the Baja California Peninsula. It is important to highlight that given the above explanations, México is in full compliance with the obligations of the IATTC and will deeply appreciate the opportunity to once more share this information with the Northern Committee members.