

November 5, 2026

ATTN: Heads of Delegation to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

20 Environmental Organizations Call on ICCAT to Advance MSE Processes for Tropical Tunas, South Atlantic Albacore and Blue Sharks

The 26th special session of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) on 16-23 November 2026 brings an important opportunity to enhance conservation of key species.

- Specifically, we urge the Commission to **advance the MSE processes for multi-stock tropical tunas and south Atlantic albacore** for management procedure adoption in 2027 and the **MSE for blue sharks** for management procedure adoption in 2028.

Additionally, we urge the Commission to:

- **Fully allocate the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for yellowfin tuna** to ensure compliance.
- **Update REC 16-14 to require an increase of observer coverage to at least 20% for pelagic longline vessels, as recommended by the SCRS,** and adopt a timeline to reach 100% coverage.

We the undersigned agree that these critical issues can and must be addressed during the Commission's annual meeting.

As a delegate to the ICCAT, we urge your government to support efforts to adopt proposals or take other actions to address the important issues noted above this year.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,


BirdLife
INTERNATIONAL


CONSERVATION
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DEUTSCHE STIFTUNG
MEERESSCHUTZ (DSM)


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Action
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FOUNDATION


Marine
Stewardship
Council


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OCEAN OUTCOMES


Pew


MCS
青岛市海洋生态研究会


SHARK
ADVOCATES
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SHARKPROJECT


Sustainable Fisheries
PARTNERSHIP


Wild
Oceans


WWF