
CHAIR'S SUMMARY OF WHERE THINGS STAND

Prepared by: The TCAC Chairperson

CONSENSUS VIEWS

- Support for a simple allocation regime
- General agreement on core principles, with the exception of attribution of catches in EEZ
- Eligibility:
 - Agreement that CPs and CNCPs should be eligible to receive allocations, while providing some incentive for eligible CNCPs to become Member of the IOTC
 - Agreement that New Entrants that are Coastal States should be eligible to receive allocations
- Scope: Agreement that the allocation regime should cover IOTC species throughout their range, with priority on tropical tunas, albacore and swordfish
- Allocation Structure:
 - General recognition that:
 - Catch history and
 - Coastal States' rights related to
 - Their status; and
 - Their developing coastal State's needs and aspirationsare likely to form the basis of the allocation criteria
 - Agreement that IUU catch should not be used to calculate catch history for allocations
 - Need to develop a mechanism to identify IUU catches
 - Taking into account the socio-economic impacts of changes that may result from the implementation of the allocation regime, there is an acknowledgment that a step wise negotiated outcome is needed that transitions from the current fishing patterns to a future allocation, where developing coastal States have a proportionately enhanced share of the IOTC resources
 - General reluctance to include additional factors that are subjective in nature or qualitative
 - Conversely, there appears to be support for objective/quantitative criteria for allocations
- Adjustments:
 - Agreement that overcatch can and should be addressed in the allocation regime through a form of pay back system, as has been done in the existing CMMs for some species

- Agreement that other forms of “run of the mil” non-compliance should not be addressed through the allocation regime
- Agreement that adjustments should be made to factor in the inability of some CPCs to fish due to piracy
- Implementation: Agreement that CPs should not be required to apply for an allocation; whereas New Entrants should be required to apply to receive an allocation
- Transfers: general Agreement that temporary transfers of allocations to CPs should be accommodated and that CPs that wish to do so should be required to notify the IOTC
- Process: general recognition that a catch validation mechanism will be needed to implement the allocation regime
- Term of Allocations: general agreement that the term of the allocations should follow the cycle of the management procedure or stock assessment cycle for each species
- Term of Allocation Regime/Resolution: support for a duration that is longer than the transition period and that the regime should not expire unless and until amended or replaced

DIFFERENT AND DIVERGENT VIEWS & MATTERS NOT THOROUGHLY DISCUSSED

- Eligibility:
 - Whether New Entrants that are not coastal States should be eligible
 - How to accommodate eligible New Entrants
- Scope:
 - Whether to exclude species entirely within coastal States’ EEZ
 - Whether to exclude Neritic coastal speciesRecognizing that the arguments presented for both exclusions are the same
- Structure of Allocation:
 - Whether to organize allocation criteria in a hierarchy
 - Variety of views on catch history reference period
 - The way to transition the current fishing patterns to a future allocation regime, including the schedule and amounts for this transition

- Whether to use the UN standards for defining the developing status of coastal States for the purpose of accommodating their aspirations, and if not, how to define this status
- Whether non-compliance, including lack of payment of contributions and lack of data submissions, should render a CPC ineligible to receive allocations
- Whether serious, repeated, systematic non-compliance should be factored in the allocation regime
- Weighting still needs to be discussed/negotiated
- Implementation: Whether CNCPs need to apply to receive an allocation
- Transfers:
 - Whether temporary transfers should be permitted for CNCPs
 - Whether CPCs should be allowed, at their discretion, to transfer allocations between gear types

POLARIZED PRINCIPLED VIEWS

- Strong opposing views on the attribution of catches taken in EEZ of coastal States
- Strong opposing views on qualifying catch history as a right