

AQUATIC RESOURCES AUTHORITY OF PANAMA INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AFFAIRS

Technical Circular 050 – 2023

To:	Shipowners, Operators, Captains and Resident Agents
From:	Directorate of Technical Cooperation and International Fisheries Affairs
Subject:	Compliance in the reporting of target species, non-target species and bycatches in IATTC and ICCAT Area, and transshipment activities carried out in areas not regulated by RFMOs.
Ref.:	ARAP/IFA/TC/050/2023

The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP), informs the Owners, Operators, Captains and Resident Agents that, considering the international guidelines for the management and conservation of fisheries resources for catches of target, non-target and bycatch species, and taking into account the need to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities, the Republic of Panama in its capacity as a Cooperating Party (CPC) to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), reiterates to Panamanian-flagged capture fishing vessels and fishing related activities (refrigerated cargo and supply), which carry out activities within the area regulated by these RFMOs, **the obligation to provide the Authority with the report of catches of target species, non-target species and bycatches, products of the activities carried out in the areas regulated by these Commissions.**

In this sense, Panamanian vessels registered in the vessel registry of each Commission shall provide statistical data on their catches and transshipments involving not only target species, but also non-target species and bycatch/catches of non-retained species, available for the evaluation and management of the resources caught in those RFMOs, in the formats requested by the Authority (fishing logbooks/set reports, transshipments, etc.), in accordance with the regulations in force and which we attach.

Consider as non-retained species: turtles, sharks, rays, marine mammals, seabirds, billfish and others requested by the Authority.

Likewise, **it is reiterated the compliance of refrigerated cargo vessels under Panamanian flag, that in addition, all transshipment activities carried out in non-regulated areas and with species not regulated by RFMOs, must provide the data of such species in the previously established transshipment notification and declaration forms only for this Authority.**

It should be noted that these submissions must contain accurate data and mainly must be submitted to ARAP in the stipulated time, in order to guarantee the information submitted and the obligations as a Cooperating Party before said RFMOs, and to the e-mails:

transshipment@arap.gob.pa, ivc@arap.gob.pa, hsfs@arap.gob.pa.

✓ **Important and Mandatory**

It is necessary that all capture fishing vessels and activities related to international service fishing that intend to operate in the regulatory area of these RFMOs fully comply with the recommendations, management and conservation measures adopted by the Republic of Panama, prior to the start of operations.

Vessels that do not comply with providing the data corresponding to their fishing activities, will be subject to the application of the regulations in force established by this Authority in sanctioning matters.

Attachments: Law 204 of March 18, 2021, Resolution IATTC C-04-05 (Rev2) and Recommendation ICCAT 11-10.

For more information on this Technical Circular, please contact:

Directorate of Technical Cooperation and International Fisheries Affairs
Aquatic Resource Authority of Panamá
Phone: (+507) 511-6008 / 511-6019
E-mail: hsfs@arap.gob.pa.