

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA  
AQUATIC RESOURCES AUTHORITY OF PANAMA

ADM/ARAP RESOLUTION No. 056  
(July 30, 2025)

**"By which ADM/ARAP Resolution No. 013 of February 29, 2024, adopting Recommendation 21-14 of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), is amended, and provisions are established for covering contributions to the annual budget of said Commission."**

**THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL,**  
exercising his legal powers,

**CONSIDERING:**

That Law 44 of November 23, 2006, creates the Panama Aquatic Resources Authority, hereinafter "the Authority," as the governing entity of the State to ensure compliance with and enforcement of national fishing and aquaculture laws and policies.

That sections 2 and 3 of Article 4 of said Law establish, among the functions of the Authority, the regulation, promotion, and implementation of technical and administrative measures and processes for the rational, sustainable, and responsible use of aquatic resources, in order to protect the national aquatic heritage, contribute to environmental conservation, and comply with the international agreements and conventions signed by the Panamanian State in this regard.

That section 15 of Article 21 of the same Law empowers the General Administrator of the Authority to adopt the measures he deems appropriate for the organization and operation of the fishing and aquaculture sector.

That through Law 74 of November 10, 1998, the Republic of Panama approved the International Convention for the Conservation of the Atlantic Tuna, signed in Rio de Janeiro on May 14, 1966.

That Law 204 of March 18, 2021, regulates fishing and aquaculture in the Republic of Panama and establishes other provisions.

That Executive Decree No. 13 of November 1, 2023, which regulates Law 204 of 2021, establishes in its Article 75 that the owners and/or holders of international service vessels must cover, in addition to the license fee, the financial contributions determined by the Authority to guarantee the country's participation in the corresponding Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO). This calculation will be made in proportion to the activities carried out, according to the vessel's participation in fishing or fishing-related activities.

That the area of application of the ICCAT Convention (Convention Area) covers all waters of the Atlantic Ocean, including adjacent seas.

That the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), within the framework of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, adopted an International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, the objective of which is to eliminate excess fishing capacity and ensure that activity levels are compatible with the sustainable use of marine resources.

That the Authority recognizes that vessels registered in the ICCAT Vessel Record, under the corresponding Panama Chapter, are the only ones authorized to carry out fishing or fishing-related activities, in accordance with the Republic of Panama's participation rights in the Convention Area.

*Alvaro Morales*  
Alvaro Morales  
Traductor Público Autorizado  
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Resuelto No. 363 de 27 de Mayo de 2003

That, in compliance with the Recommendations issued by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the provisions of Article 75 of Executive Decree No. 13 of November 1, 2023, this Authority considers it essential to adopt ICCAT Recommendation 21-14 and establish mandatory provisions governing the payment of financial contributions to the annual budget of said Commission.

**RESOLVES:**

**Article 1:** To adopt in all its parts Recommendation ICCAT 21-14 on the establishment of an ICCAT record of vessels with an overall length of 20 meters or more, authorized to operate and conduct fishing or fishing-related activities in the Convention Area.

**Article 2:** The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP) is the entity with exclusive jurisdiction in the Republic of Panama to authorize vessels and make changes to the ICCAT Vessel Record.

**Article 3:** Every vessel holding an international commercial fishing license, registered in the ICCAT Vessel Register, and having carried out activities consistent with its participation as a catching vessel or fishing-related activities in the ICCAT area, under the Panama Chapter, shall contribute to the annual budget of said organization. This budget, adopted by ICCAT recommendation, shall be funded according to the following percentage distribution beginning in fiscal year 2025:

Vessels with an international commercial fishing license	90%
and vessels with an international commercial fishing license for fishing-related activities	
The Authority	10%

**Article 4:** Ninety percent (90%) corresponding to the distribution of the country quota, established in the previous article, shall be divided equally between vessels with an international commercial fishing license and those licensed for fishing-related activities.

**Article 5:** Once the ICCAT Secretariat officially notifies the Republic of Panama of the amount corresponding to its country quota, the Authority shall formally notify, within a period of no more than thirty (30) days, each owner, shipowner, or resident agent of vessels licensed for international capture commercial fishing services, as well as those licensed for fishing-related activities that operate in the Convention Area and are registered in the Vessel Registry, of the amount of the corresponding financial contribution and the method of payment.

Payment must be made no later than August 15 of the corresponding calendar year. If cancellation of the international commercial fishing license is requested before this date, the vessel will be obligated to pay the previously calculated and notified amount.

In the event that a vessel has carried out regulated activities during the corresponding calendar year, but has not yet received notification of the amount to be paid for the following fiscal period, the owner or shipowner must make the payment corresponding to the last notified amount. Formal notification shall be deemed to be a note from the General Administration of the Authority, sent to the vessel's owner, operator, resident agent, or registered legal representative, via email to: **cuota-orop@arap.gob.pa**. The notification shall be deemed to have been made from the moment it is sent to any of these parties.

**Article 6:** Failure to pay the contribution, or late payment, shall entail the following sanctions:

1. Failure to issue a Certificate of Good Standing by the Authority.

2. Failure to validate catch certificates.
3. Failure to issue, certify, or validate any other official documentation.
4. Suspension of the vessel's fishing or fishing-related activities.
5. Suspension of sailing before the competent Authority.

Pag 3

6. No authorization for the exchange, sale, loan, lease, transfer, or reservation of the use of the vessel's hold volume (carrying capacity), nor for its transfer to another flag in the Commission's vessel registry, until the full payment of the corresponding contribution has been made.

These restrictions will remain in place until the full payment of the corresponding contribution has been made.

**Article 7:** This Resolution amends ADM/ARAP Resolution No. 013 of February 29, 2024.

**Article 8:** This Resolution will enter into force upon its publication in the Official Gazette.

**LEGAL BASIS:** Law 74 of November 10, 1998; Law 44 of November 23, 2006; Law 204 of March 18, 2021; and Executive Decree 13 of November 1, 2023.

#### **PUBLISH AND COMPLY.**

**EDUARDO CARRASQUILLA D.**  
General Administrator



*Klenya Morales*  
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