



CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC  
OF COSTA RICA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-AMERICAN  
TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

The United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica considering their mutual interest in maintaining the populations of yellowfin and skipjack tuna and of other kinds of fish taken by tuna fishing vessels in the eastern Pacific Ocean which by reason of continued use have come to be of common concern, and desiring to cooperate in the gathering and interpretation of factual information to facilitate maintaining the populations of these fishes at a level which will permit maximum sustained catches year after year, have agreed to conclude a Convention for these purposes and to that end have named as their Plenipotentiaries:

The President of the United States of America:

James E. Webb, Acting Secretary of State  
Wilbert M. Chapman, Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of State

The President of the Government of Costa Rica:

Mario A. Esquivel, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
of Costa Rica

Jorge Hazera, Counselor of the Embassy of Costa Rica

who, having communicated to each other their full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

1. The High Contracting Parties agree to establish and operate a joint Commission, to be known as the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, which shall carry out the objectives of this Convention. The Commission shall be composed of national sections, each consisting of from one to four members, appointed by the Governments of the respective High Contracting Parties.

2. The Commission shall submit annually to the Government of each High Contracting Party a report on its investigations and findings, with appropriate recommendations, and shall also inform such Governments, whenever it is deemed advisable, on any matter relating to the objectives of this Convention.

3. Each High Contracting Party shall determine and pay the expenses incurred by its section. Joint expenses incurred by the Commission shall be paid by the High Contracting Parties through contributions in the form and proportion recommended by the Commission and approved by the High Contracting Parties. The proportion of joint expenses to be paid by each High Contracting Party shall be related to the proportion of the total catch from the fisheries covered by this Convention utilized by that High Contracting Party.