

Commission Decision of 6 April 2010 amending Decision 2009/296/EC establishing a specific control and inspection programme related to the recovery of bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (notified under document C(2010) 2060) (2010/210/EU)

COMMISSION DECISION

of 6 April 2010

amending Decision 2009/296/EC establishing a specific control and inspection programme related to the recovery of bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean

(notified under document C(2010) 2060)

(2010/210/EU)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 95 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The International Commission for the Conservation of the Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) has adopted in 2006 a multiannual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean (ICCAT Recommendation 06-05), which entered into force on 13 June 2007. That Recovery Plan was transposed into Community legislation by Council Regulation (EC) No 1559/2007⁽²⁾.
- (2) On 24 November 2008 ICCAT adopted Recommendation 08-05, amending Recommendation 06-05. That recommendation was transposed into Community legislation by Council Regulation (EC) No 302/2009 of 6 April 2009 concerning a multiannual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, amending Regulation (EC) No 43/2009 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1559/2007⁽³⁾.
- (3) In order to ensure the successful implementation of ICCAT Recommendation 08-05, a specific control and inspection programme was necessary. Commission Decision 2009/296/EC⁽⁴⁾ established therefore a specific control and inspection programme covering a period of 2 years (15 March 2009 to 15 March 2011).
- (4) In Annex I to Decision 2009/296/EC, the Section entitled 'Inspection tasks' should be updated in order to reflect the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 302/2009.
- (5) During its annual meeting in November 2009, the ICCAT Commission decided to improve the efficiency of inspections carried out under the ICCAT International Scheme of Inspections and to this view adopted a new format for inspection reports.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Decision of 6 April 2010 amending Decision 2009/296/EC establishing a specific control and inspection programme related to the recovery of bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (notified under document C(2010) 2060) (2010/210/EU). (See end of Document for details)

- (6) Decision 2009/296/EC should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (7) The measures provided for in this Decision have been established in concert with Member States concerned.
- (8) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for Fisheries and Aquaculture,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Decision 2009/296/EC is amended as follows:

- 1. Article 8 is amended as follows:
 - (a) Paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:
 - 1. Member States whose inspectors discover any infringement, while carrying out an inspection of the activities listed in Article 2, shall inform the following Parties of the date of inspection and the details of the infringement:
 - a the relevant flag Member State and the Commission, and where appropriate;
 - b the Member State where the farming installation or the enterprise engaged in the processing and/or trade of bluefin tuna products is established.
 - (b) Paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:
 - 3. Member States whose inspectors observe an activity or condition that may constitute a serious infringement, as defined in Section I(1) of Annex VI to Council Regulation (EC) No 302/2009⁽⁵⁾, shall immediately notify the Commission who will then notify directly the authorities of the flag State fishing vessel, as well as the ICCAT Secretariat.
 - (c) In paragraph 4, the first sentence is replaced by the following:

‘In case a serious infringement, as defined in Section I(1) of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No 302/2009, is discovered onboard a Community fishing vessel, the flag Member State shall ensure that, following the inspection, the fishing vessel flying its flag ceases all fishing activities.’
 - (d) Paragraph 5 is replaced by the following:
 - 5. Member States shall cooperate to ensure that, if prosecution of an infringement is transferred to the Member State of registration in accordance with Article 86 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009⁽⁶⁾, the security and continuity of any evidence of the infringement cited by its inspectors is guaranteed in each case..
- 2. Annex I is amended as follows:
 - (a) The Section entitled ‘Inspection tasks’ is amended as follows:
 - (i) Point 1.6(e) is replaced by the following:

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- (e) that the master of the catching and the tug vessels has ensured a monitoring of all the transfer activities by video camera in the water.
- (ii) Point 1.10(a) is replaced by the following:
 - (a) that the relevant documentation is present and duly completed and reported (bluefin tuna catch document and re-export certificate, transfer declaration, caging declaration, transshipment declaration);
- (b) The Section entitled 'Report of inspections' is replaced by the text in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 6 April 2010.

For the Commission

Maria DAMANAKI

Member of the Commission

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ANNEX

ICCAT INSPECTION REPORTS

Report of Inspection No ...

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1. Inspector(s) Inspector's witness
1.1. Name Name
1.2. Nationality Nationality
1.3. Contracting Parties Contracting Parties
1.4. ICCAT Identity Card number ICCAT Identity Card number
2. Vessel carrying the Inspector
2.1. Name and Registration
2.2. Flag
3. Vessel inspected
3.1. Name and Registration
3.2. Flag
3.3. Captain (Name and address)
3.4. Ship owner (Name and address)
3.5. ICCAT Record number
3.6. Type of vessel
4. Position
4.1. As determined by the inspector: Lat. Long.
4.2. As determined by the captain of the fishing vessel: Lat. Long.
4.3. Time (GMT) when position was recorded:
5. Date (dd/mm/yyyy)
6. Time
6.1. On arrival on board
6.2. Of departure from the vessel
7. Fishing gear on board
Purse seine [] Pole & Line (Bait boat) []
Long line [] Trolling lines []
Other (specify): Number of cages:
Towing cage(s) Yes No
8. Statement of photographs taken with description of subjects:
9. List of documents inspected and comments:
9.1. Log book Yes No Infringement Yes No
9.2. BCD Yes No Infringement Yes No
9.3. Transfer/transshipment declaration
Yes No Infringement Yes No
9.4. Other (specify):

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10. Results of the inspection of the fish on board:

10.1. Species observed on board

Table with 5 columns and 7 rows: Species, Total catch (kg), Information source, Product type, Sample inspected, % Under minimum size.

10.2. Species declared to be in the cage/s

Transfer document No Date of first transfer
Farm of Destination
Catching vessel name
ICCAT No
Cage No Specie Individuals No Weight (kg)

11. Infringements of ICCAT conservation and management measures observed (description of infringement with mention of legal reference, and if serious violation(s) have been detected, please complete the attached sheet)

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12. Inspector's comments (if necessary use a complementary sheet specifying: 'attachment to ICCAT report number xxx')

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13. Inspector's signature Witness' signature

14. Observer's name, comments and signature

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15. Captain's comments and signature

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Serious Violations Observed

Vessel name: ...

Vessel flag: ...

ICCAT number: ...

- # fishing without a license, permit or authorisation issued by the flag CPC;
- # failure to maintain sufficient records of catch and catch-related data in accordance with the Commission's reporting requirements or significant misreporting of such catch and/or catch-related data;
- # fishing in a closed area;
- # fishing during a closed season;
- # intentional taking or retention of species in contravention of any applicable conservation and management measure adopted by the ICCAT;
- # significant violation of catch limits or quotas in force pursuant to the ICCAT rules;
- # use of prohibited fishing gear;
- # falsification or intentional concealment of the markings, identity or registration of a fishing vessel;
- # concealment, tampering with or disposal of evidence relating to investigation of a violation;
- # multiple violations which taken together constitute a serious disregard of measures in force pursuant to the ICCAT;
- # assault, resistance, intimidation, sexual harassment, interference with, or undue obstruction or delay of an authorised inspector or observer;
- # intentionally tampering with or disabling the vessel monitoring system;
- # fishing with assistance of spotter planes;
- # interference with the satellite monitoring system and/or operating without VMS system;
- # transfer activity without transfer declaration;
- # other (specify).

Inspector's signature ...

Witness' signature ...

Date ...

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- (1) OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.
- (2) OJ L 340, 22.12.2007, p. 8.
- (3) OJ L 96, 15.4.2009, p. 1.
- (4) OJ L 80, 26.3.2009, p. 18.
- (5) OJ L 96, 15.4.2009, p. 1.
- (6) OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

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