

**RECOMMENDATION 03/06**  
**RECOMMENDATION TO COMMISSION A REPORT ON MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FOR TUNA AND TUNA-LIKE SPECIES**

**The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC):**

*RECOGNISING* the need for action to ensure the achievement of the IOTC's objectives to conserve and manage tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC Area of Competence.

*ACKNOWLEDGING* the diversity of participants in the IOTC, including their varying geographic, political, social and economic situations,

*RECOGNISING* that since its 4<sup>th</sup> session the Scientific Committee has recommended that a reduction in catches of Bigeye tuna from all fishing gears should be implemented as soon as possible, and has at its 6<sup>th</sup> session expressed concern over current catches of Yellowfin tuna and Swordfish,

*AGREES* in accordance with Article IX paragraph 8 of the IOTC Agreement that:

1. Contracting and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties will work in the intersessional period before the Ninth Session of the IOTC to develop Terms of Reference for a Working Group of the Commission that will meet in 2005 to consider conservation and management options that may be applicable to the highly migratory fish stocks of the Indian Ocean.