



## South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation

### **Press Release**

Windhoek, Namibia-The South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO) held its 11th Annual Meeting on 1-5 December 2014.

### **Resources Management**

Based upon on the best available scientific information, the Commission adopted the recommendations by the Scientific Committee to employ harvest control rules for the management of Patagonian toothfish, deepsea red crab, alfonsino and pelagic armourhead.

Furthermore, the Commission set TAC's for alfonsino, pelagic armourhead and orange roughy for 2015 and 2016. SEAFO further strengthened its compliance measures by adopting a bycatch regime for the trawl fisheries of alfonsino and pelagic amourhead.

### **Conservation Measures**

The Commission adopted a Conservation Measure dealing with Bottom Fishing Activities and Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems in the SEAFO Convention Area. The newly agreed measure consolidates existing measures aimed at protecting areas which contain concentrations of coral, sponge, and sea-pens. It aims to strengthen SEAFOs response to UNGA Res. 61/105 and further serves to protect the benthos from significant adverse impacts caused by fishing.

The Commission agreed on guidelines for scientific research conducted in the SEAFO Convention Area (CA). These guidelines serve to augment existing legally-binding measures contained in the "SEAFO System". The "SEAFO System" is a comprehensive management utility used to promote compliance in the Convention Area and came into effect in February 2013. Moreover, the "SEAFO System", in its application, is essential for the conservation of species under the SEAFO Convention and for the international efforts to combat Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing (IUU).

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