

Date of most recent action: September 10, 2012

Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program

Done: Washington; May 21, 1998
In accordance with Article XXIV, the Agreement was opened for signature at Washington from May 21, 1998, until May 14, 1999 by States with a coastline bordering the Agreement Area* and by States or regional economic integration organizations which are members of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission or whose vessels fished for tuna in the Agreement Area while the Agreement was open for signature.

Entry into force: February 15, 1999
In accordance with Article XXV, the Agreement is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the Signatories in accordance with their domestic laws and procedures and, in accordance with Article XXVI, the Agreement shall remain open to accession by any State or regional economic integration organization that meets the requirements in Article XXIV, or is otherwise invited to accede to the Agreement on the basis of a decision by the Parties.
In accordance with Article XXVII, paragraph 1, the Agreement entered into force upon deposit of the fourth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Depository [the Government of the United States of America].
In accordance with Article XXVII, paragraph 2, after entry into force of the Agreement, with respect to each State or regional economic integration organization that meets the requirements of Article XXVI, the Agreement will enter into force for each State or regional economic integration organization upon deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

Legend: (no mark) = ratification; **A** = acceptance; **AA** = approval; **a** = accession; **w** = withdrawal or equivalent action

Participant	Signature	Consent to be bound		Entry into Force	Other Action	Notes
Belize		May 11, 2011	a	May 11, 2011		
Bolivia						¹
Chile						
Colombia	May 21, 1998	September 10, 2012		September 10, 2012		²
Costa Rica	May 21, 1998	November 30, 1999		November 30, 1999		
Ecuador	May 21, 1998	February 9, 1999		February 15, 1999		
El Salvador	January 22, 1999	July 30, 1999		July 30, 1999		³

* Annex I to the Agreement states:

The Agreement Area comprises the area of the Pacific Ocean bounded by the coastline of North, Central, and South America and by the following lines:

- The 40°N parallel from the coast of North America to its intersection with the 150°W meridian;
- The 150°W meridian to its intersection with the 40°S parallel;
- And the 40°S parallel to its intersection with the coast of South America.

European Community	May 12, 1999	December 22, 2005	AA	December 22, 2005		4
France						
Guatemala		May 17, 2001	a	May 17, 2001		
Honduras	June 23, 1998	January 5, 2000		January 5, 2000		
Japan						
Mexico	May 21, 1998	February 15, 1999		February 15, 1999		
Nicaragua	May 21, 1998	October 1, 1999		October 1, 1999		
Panama	May 21, 1998	December 23, 1998		February 15, 1999		
Peru		March 10, 2000	a	March 10, 2000		
Spain						
United States	May 21, 1998	July 21, 1998	A	February 15, 1999		
Vanuatu	June 26, 1998					5
Venezuela	May 21, 1998	September 29, 1999		September 29, 1999		

¹ The Ministry of Foreign Relations and Worship of Bolivia notified the Department of State, by a note dated October 15, 2001 and received by the Depositary on October 16, 2001, of Bolivia's intention to provisionally apply the Agreement.

² The acting foreign minister of Colombia notified the Secretary of State, by a note dated November 29, 1999 and received by the Depositary on November 30, 1999, of Colombia's intention to provisionally apply the Agreement.

³ The full power authorizing signature of the Agreement by El Salvador included a declaration, an English translation of which reads as follows:

"Insofar as El Salvador is a High Contracting Party to the [Convention for the establishment of an] Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and a Pacific coastal State, the Government of El Salvador agrees to sign today the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program. It nevertheless states for the record that in signing this Agreement, El Salvador does not become a State Party to every international instrument mentioned therein, nor does it limit its position or viewpoint prior or subsequent to this Agreement with regard to matters relating to the Law of the Sea."

⁴ The General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union sent a Note Verbale, dated June 8, 1999 and received by the Depositary on that date, which reads in pertinent part as follows:

"The General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union presents its compliments to the Government of the United States of America and has the honour to notify it, on behalf of the European Community, that in accordance with Article XXIX thereof, the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program shall apply provisionally in the European Community with effect from 1 June 1999."

⁵ The Department of Foreign Affairs of the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu notified the Embassy of the United States of America in Port Moresby, by a note dated August 1, 1999 and received by the Depositary on August 26, 1999, that "the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program shall apply provisionally in the Republic of Vanuatu with the effective date of 1 August 1999."