

**Priority question for written answer P-002556/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Conservation of shortfin mako sharks in the South Atlantic within the framework of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

After the 2021 ICCAT meeting, the Commission acknowledged the agreement achieved on the conservation of shortfin mako in the North Atlantic, kick-starting an ambitious rebuilding programme for this depleted stock.

However, no measures have yet been adopted for the South Atlantic stock, despite the fact that this stock is also affected by overfishing and that scientists warn that it will soon be on a similar trajectory to that of the northern stock.

1. Does the Commission therefore plan to submit a similar proposal for the South Atlantic to that agreed in 2021 for the North Atlantic in order to limit the mortality of shortfin mako there, too?
2. In the light of the continued overfishing of this species since 2017, will it take a leadership role this time by suggesting a precautionary approach to limit the total mortality (including all discards) to below even the 2017/2019 ICCAT Standing Committee on Research and Statistics advice of a 2001 t shortfin mako catch limit?
3. Would the Commission consider including in such a proposal all other components agreed for the North Atlantic, e.g. mandatory reporting of all discards and the presence of observers as prerequisites for any retention of mako?

Supporter¹

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Rosa D'Amato (Verts/ALE)