



CCSBT-CC/2010/13

Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with Other Bodies and Organisations

1. Introduction

This paper updates Members on developments regarding its compliance relationships with the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network (IMCSN), the Tuna Compliance Network (TCN), and RFBs¹/ RFMOs², including the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the Pacific Community (SPC), and also relationships with INTERPOL, the PEW Charitable Trusts, Global Fishing Watch (GFW) and the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF).

2. IMCSN/ TCN

The IMCSN is a non-profit and informal organisation, established to facilitate bilateral and multilateral co-operation to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and associated activities. The CCSBT became a member of the IMCSN in November 2013. A new Executive Director (Mr. Mark Young) was appointed to lead the IMCSN commencing in January 2020. The IMCSN did not convene any workshops during 2020 but is tentatively planning to convene a 7th Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop (GFETW) during June 2021.

The Tuna Compliance Network (TCN) will continue to function under the umbrella of the IMCSN. Mr. Young is combining his role of IMCSN Executive Director with that of also being the TCN Coordinator. Dr. Lara Manarangi-Trott of the WCPFC is continuing on as the TCN Chair.

The TCN held no in-person and one virtual meeting (9 June) during 2020. One important initiative the TCN achieved during 2020 was to set up an informal IUU Vessel List update notification system³ amongst all tuna and many non-tuna RFMO compliance colleagues, including with the majority of RFMOs that the CCSBT cross-lists with. This will help to ensure that any de-listings or newly listed vessels (on other RFMOs' lists) are not inadvertently missed and are actioned swiftly and appropriately now that cross-listing is in place.

3. ICCAT and IOTC

The CCSBT Secretariat has had regular interactions with both the ICCAT and IOTC Secretariat compliance personnel since CC14, primarily concerning the shared transshipment-at-sea observer program and the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on that program, as well as various communications concerning IUU Vessel Lists and IUU vessel cross-listing matters.

¹ Regional Fisheries Bodies

² Regional Fisheries Management Organisations

³ To complement the already established formal notification systems such as formal letters to RFMOs and website postings

In addition, the Compliance Manager was invited to, attended and gave a virtual Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) presentation to the IOTC's CDS Working Group which took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 10 – 11 February 2020. The presentation included a summary of the key differences between the CCSBT's and ICCAT's CDS.

Update on Transshipment LoU Between the CCSBT and the IOTC

As discussed at CC14, due to legal requirements associated with the IOTC being part of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), in 2019 the IOTC proposed replacing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Monitoring Transshipment at Sea by Large-Scale Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels between CCSBT and IOTC with a Letter of Understanding (LoU). A copy of the IOTC's proposed LoU which had already been signed by the IOTC Chair on 27/09/2019 was sent to the Secretariat. The Secretariat can confirm that following CCSBT 26's endorsement of this LoU, it was subsequently co-signed by the CCSBT Chair on 16/10/2019 and came into effect on 17/10/2019 and is provided at **Attachment A** for Members' reference.

4. WCPFC/ SPC

A Transshipment Memorandum of Cooperation⁴ (MoC) with WCPFC was signed by both the CCSBT and WCPFC Chairs during 2017, however this MoC has not yet been operationalised.

The CCSBT Secretariat has maintained contact with the WCPFC Compliance Manager and SPC personnel during 2020 in order to monitor any progress and contribute to the development of transshipment observer standards for use in the WCPFC Convention Area. However, in part due to the COVID-19 situation, there has been no further progress to date. The next opportunity to work on this item will be at the 12th SPC/FFA Data Collection Committee (DCC) which is now tentatively scheduled to be convened either virtually in late 2020 or in-person during 2021.

5. Pew Charitable Trusts/ ISSF Workshop

The Compliance Manager and Chair of the CCSBT Compliance Committee (CC) have been invited to attend a virtual Pew Charitable Trusts/ International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) joint Expert Workshop on 'Best Practices for Compliance in RFMOs', being held on-line between 8 to 11 September 2020, and have already contributed by providing some pre-meeting material about CCSBT for that workshop. The CC Chair has confirmed his attendance, however the Compliance Manager will not attend due to CCSBT commitments.

6. Pew Charitable Trusts and Global Fishing Watch

The PEW Charitable Trusts and Global Fishing Watch (GFW) have worked collaboratively to develop a web-based Carrier Vessel Portal (CVP). This is now publicly available⁵ and is focused on carrier vessel (CV) information and activities, especially those CVs authorised by the five tuna RFMOs (tRFMOs). The purpose of the CVP is to provide users with an easy, single-access data platform for information related specifically to carrier vessels and at-sea transshipments. The CVP displays vessel Automatic Identification System (AIS) and tRFMO fishing vessel authorisation data including encounters with carrier vessels, carrier vessel 'loitering events' and port visits.

⁴ Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on the Endorsement of WCPFC Regional Observer Programme Observers for Observing Transshipments of Southern Bluefin Tuna on the High Seas of the WCPFC Convention Area

⁵ <https://globalfishingwatch.org/carrier-vessel-portal/>

GFW demonstrated an early version of its CVP to the Secretariat on 6 November 2019 which was followed up with a further demonstration of the now publicly available version on 15 July 2020.

During 2020 GFW made a formal request to the IOTC for information on its transshipment observer program, specifically for a list of CVs carrying IOTC transshipment observers in order to infer which CVs within the IOTC area of competence do not have IOTC transshipment observers on board. Pew and GFW plan are hoping to incorporate this information into any future analyses presented to CCSBT annual meetings.

7. INTERPOL

The Compliance Manager participated in a preliminary virtual INTERPOL discussion on the use of financial and associated data to fight fisheries crime on 25 June 2020.

8. Recommendations

CC15 is invited to:

- Note the CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with other bodies and organisations; and
- Note the signed LoU in **Attachment A**.

Prepared by the Secretariat

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Commission des Thons de l'Océan Indien

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Letter of Understanding between the CCSBT¹ and IOTC² for Monitoring Transshipment at Sea by Large-Scale Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels

Introduction

1. The IOTC adopted Resolution 18/06³ that required implementation of a monitoring program for transshipment at sea by large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (LSTLVs) within the IOTC Area of competence. The CCSBT has adopted a similar Resolution⁴ for tuna longline fishing vessels with freezing capacity that applies globally to all transshipments involving southern bluefin tuna (SBT).
2. Within the IOTC area of competence, the CCSBT and IOTC Resolutions have similar provisions and most vessels that are required to comply with the CCSBT Resolution are also required to comply with the IOTC Resolution.
3. This Letter of Understanding (LoU) has been established to minimise the duplication of work and to minimise the associated costs for those that are required to comply with both the CCSBT and IOTC Resolutions.

Scope of this Letter of Understanding

4. This LoU applies to transshipments at sea involving southern bluefin tuna (SBT) within the IOTC area of competence, for all fleets.

The Arrangement between CCSBT and IOTC

5. All provisions of IOTC transshipment Resolution 18/06 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution) will continue to apply to transshipments at sea that fall within this arrangement.

¹ Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna

² Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

³ Resolution 18/06 on establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels

⁴ Resolution on establishing a program for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels

6. All provisions of the CCSBT transshipment Resolution (or any subsequent superseding Resolution) will also apply to transshipments at sea that fall within this arrangement, except that:
- a) To enable a single Transshipment Declaration form to be completed for transshipment by an LSTLV, an IOTC Transshipment Declaration form may be used instead of the CCSBT Transshipment Declaration form. This only applies where the IOTC and CCSBT forms remain compatible, unless there is agreement to the contrary. Furthermore, transmission of this form by Carrier Vessel masters to the IOTC Secretariat is deemed to also be a transmission to the CCSBT Secretariat. The IOTC Secretariat will transmit these documents to the CCSBT Secretariat without delay.
 - b) IOTC Register Numbers for LSTLVs and Carrier Vessels may be used instead of the CCSBT equivalents. The CCSBT Secretariat will conduct the necessary conversions between IOTC and CCSBT registration numbers.
 - c) To enable a single set of Transshipment Observers to be used, IOTC Transshipment Observers will be deemed to be CCSBT Transshipment Observers, providing these observers meet the standards established in the CCSBT Transshipment Resolution and providing that the CCSBT Secretariat is informed.
 - d) Transmission of Observer Reports by the Contractor to the IOTC Secretariat is deemed to also be a transmission to the CCSBT Secretariat. The IOTC Secretariat will transmit these and any other related documents to the CCSBT Secretariat without delay.
7. The combined effect of paragraphs 5 and 6 is that the IOTC Secretariat and Transshipment Observers will continue to follow the requirements of the IOTC Resolution with the additions that:
- a) The IOTC and CCSBT Secretariats will advise each other regarding any planned or actual changes to their Resolutions for at sea transshipment including the Transshipment Declaration form.
 - b) The IOTC Secretariat will transmit copies of Transshipment Observer Deployment Approvals, Transshipment Declarations, Five Day Reports and Observer Reports for all transshipments involving SBT to the CCSBT Secretariat without delay.
 - c) In addition to the experience and training required by IOTC Resolution 18/06 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution), IOTC Transshipment Observers that observe transshipments of SBT must:
 - have sufficient experience and knowledge to identify southern bluefin tuna; and
 - have a satisfactory knowledge of the CCSBT conservation and management measures.
 - d) An up-to-date list of Transshipment Observers will be maintained and provided to the CCSBT Secretariat by the IOTC Secretariat, at the beginning of every quarter of the year.
 - e) When IOTC is informed that an observer deployment will involve transshipments of SBT, IOTC will notify CCSBT prior to approving the observer deployment so that



the CCSBT Secretariat can check the validity of authorisations of the Fishing Vessels and Carrier Vessels against the published list of CCSBT Authorised Fishing Vessels and CCSBT Authorised Carrier Vessels, respectively.

- f) In addition to tasks specified in IOTC Resolution 18/06 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution), Transshipment Observers that observe transshipments of SBT will:
- Sign the transshipment verification section of the CCSBT CDS documentation to indicate that the transshipment details (date, name and registration of carrier vessel) were filled in correctly and that the transshipment of product was observed according to the CCSBT Transshipment Resolution⁵.
8. Additional costs imposed on the IOTC Secretariat by operating according to this arrangement (e.g. additional training and insurance required for observers) will be recovered in accordance with the cost recovery mechanism of IOTC Resolution 18/06 (or any subsequent superseding Resolution) from the fleets transshipping under the IOTC's Regional Observer Programme to monitor at-sea transshipments.
9. This arrangement comes into effect from the date notified below. Termination of this arrangement shall be effective upon the date notified by the IOTC's Executive Secretary to the CCSBT's Executive Secretary.
10. Effective from: 17 / 10 / 2019

Signed and duly dated:


 Chairperson
 Commission for the Conservation of
 Southern Bluefin Tuna

Date: 16 / 10 / 2019


 Chairperson
 Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

Date: 27 / 09 / 2019

⁵ A discrepancy between the stated product on the CDS document and the quantities recorded by the observer would be recorded in the observer's report (not the CDS document) and would not prevent the observer from signing the CDS document.