



CCSBT-CC/2110/07

Progress Report on Compliance Committee Workplan Items for 2021

1. Introduction

This paper provides the Secretariat's report back on some elements of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee's (CC15's) 2021 Workplan allocated either to Members and/or the Secretariat. More substantive 2021 Workplan items are reported in separate agenda items and papers.

2. Background

The first two items from the 2021 Workplan commented or reported back on in this paper are:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Members with non-compliant issues outlined in paper CCSBT-CC/2010/04 relating to vessel authorisation, CDS¹ and port inspection reports to report in their national report on progress with actions taken to rectify non-compliance |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Secretariat to continue work with the WCPFC to operationalise the transshipment MoC with the WCPFC |

Also included in this paper are comments on two items which were originally in the 2020 Workplan and tasked for further follow-up in the 2021 Workplan:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• South Africa to investigate the trade data discrepancies reported on page 4 of paper CC/1910/10 (carried over from 2020 Workplan). |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Indonesia to provide further results of its investigation into discrepancies between COMTRADE and CDS data |

Details on the following two Workplan items are provided in paper CCSBT-CC/2110/11:

- The EU and Indonesia to provide the best available annual trade data summaries (volumes of fresh/frozen SBT exported/imported in tonnes) from their own national databases to the Secretariat (for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020); and
- The Secretariat to write to the Russian Federation to seek clarification relating to its notification to ICCAT that it intends to fish for SBT.

¹ Catch Documentation Scheme

3. Report Back from Members with non-compliant issues in paper CCSBT-CC/2010/04

CC15 agreed the following 2021 workplan item:

- *Members with non-compliant issues outlined in paper CCSBT-CC/2010/04 relating to vessel authorisation, CDS and port inspection reports to report in their national report on progress with actions taken to rectify non-compliance.*

To assist Members, the Secretariat has provided (below) a list of issues from paper CCSBT-CC/2010/04 that Members are to report on in their National reports with regard to rectification actions taken. It is expected that these items will be discussed in agenda item 2.3², rather than in agenda item 4³. The Secretariat has not included in this list items that have already been specifically addressed and/or rectified by Members⁴:

- Australia
 - Non-submission of import copies of CMFs
- Korea
 - Non-submission of import copies of both CMFs and REEFs
- New Zealand
 - Duplicate tag numbers (5 only)
- South Africa
 - One pole and line vessel which was listed in South Africa's 2019 catch by fleet report as having caught 1 SBT was not CCSBT-authorized
 - Authorised validator information was missing from some export forms
 - Issuing of duplicate CDS form numbers
 - Duplicated tag number (1 only)
 - Late CDS submissions
 - Non-submission of catcher/exporter copies of CDS forms including Catch Monitoring Forms (CMFs), Catch Tagging Forms (CTFs) and Re-export/Export after Landing of Domestic Product Forms (REEFs)
 - Discrepancies in the number and weight of SBT caught between different data sources

(Note: In information provided to CCSBT 27 about CDS issues, S. Africa advised that:

"It has been a challenging year. In response to Covid-19, South Africa was on total lockdown for a very long time. The implications of Covid-19 were that some of the State resources were redirected to fight the pandemic, officials only returned to office on 28 September 2020, there was serious back-log of work from all domestic and tuna RFMOs related matters. South Africa is indeed aware of the outstanding documents and is in contact with the Secretariat to resolve this as soon as possible.")

4. Update on Transshipment Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with the WCPFC

A Transshipment Memorandum of Cooperation⁵ (MoC) with WCPFC was signed by both the CCSBT and WCPFC Chairs during 2017.

In 2018, CC13 noted there was only one CCSBT Member potentially interested in transshipping SBT in the High Seas of the WCPFC Convention Area under the provisions of the transshipment MoC with the WCPFC. CC13 recommended that, with respect to operationalising this MoC, Option 1⁶ be pursued by the Secretariat.

² Annual reports from Members

³ Review of progress on workplan items

⁴ Items already addressed were retrospective vessel authorisations and provision of late port inspection reports

⁵ 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

⁶ Three options were put forward for consideration

Option 1 was described as:

“That the Secretariat continue to work with the WCPFC, Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and South Pacific Community (SPC) to try to ensure that CCSBT’s requirements are incorporated into the Pacific Island minimum transshipment observer standards that the FFA and SPC will commence developing in the near future.”

In addition, CC13 agreed that, *“Members could simultaneously pursue option 2 or 3 bilaterally”*. To the Secretariat’s knowledge, no CCSBT Member has to date pursued a bilateral agreement to operationalise this MoC.

In order to continue to try to progress ‘Option 1’, *i.e.* the incorporation of CCSBT’s transshipment data requirements into the Pacific Island minimum transshipment observer standards, the Compliance Manager attended a virtual meeting of the Tuna Fishery Data Collection Committee (DCC)⁷ hosted by the Pacific Community (New Caledonia) between 18 – 20 November 2020⁸. The DCC meeting noted the initial work done on draft Generic Minimum Data Standards for Longline transshipment monitoring and recommended that:

- *“The subregional agencies (SPC, FFA and PNAO) and other relevant stakeholders including WCPFC and CCSBT collaborate with member countries, to enhance the data collection for transshipment observers based on the draft Generic Minimum Data Standards for Longline transshipment monitoring”*.

To conclude:

- No further DCC meetings have been held since November 2020, although the Pacific Community (SPC) advised it is hoping to convene another DCC meeting later in 2021, and
- No finalised minimum standards for longline transshipment monitoring have been agreed which meet the CCSBT’s requirements, and the transshipment MoC with WCPFC therefore remains un-operationalised.

5. COMTRADE/CDS Data Discrepancies Originally Reported in Paper CC/1910/10 and Flagged for Follow-up before CC16

There were two items originally in the 2020 Workplan that were subsequently tasked for follow-up by South Africa and Indonesia in the 2021 Workplan.

South Africa

CC14 requested South Africa report back on the following statement (in paper CC/1910/10): *“South Africa’s exports are also well under-represented on the COMTRADE database – COMTRADE records only 2.5t, 31.8t and 42.6t of total exports (fresh and frozen SBT combined) for 2016, 2017, and 2018 respectively.”*

South Africa did not report back on this Workplan item to CC15 in 2020 and therefore it was carried over to the 2021 Workplan. The Secretariat sent a reminder to South Africa about this item on 10/08/2021. No information had been provided by South Africa for CC16’s consideration at the time this paper was finalised.

Indonesia

Indonesia was tasked with investigating and reporting back on this statement (CC/1910/10): *“Indonesia’s SBT exports are well under-represented in all 3 years of the COMTRADE export statistics –COMTRADE records only 11t, 16t and 0.3t of total exports (fresh and frozen SBT combined) for 2016, 2017, and 2018 respectively.”*

⁷ Longline Electronic Monitoring Compliance Data and Transshipment Standards Workshop (DCC-NOV-2020)

⁸ The meeting report is available [here](#)

Indonesia provided a response concerning its initial investigation into these discrepancies in a paper to CC15⁹ and advised that:

“Indonesia needs more time to investigate the data discrepancy between UN COMTRADE vs. National Data.”

The Secretariat sent a reminder to Indonesia about this Workplan item on 16/07/2021. Indonesia had not yet provided any further results of its investigations for CC16’s consideration at the time this paper was finalised.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that CC16:

- Note any progress updates on the 2021 Workplan items presented in this paper, and
- Review whether Members have reported on their 2021 Workplan tasks, including providing updates on specified items within their National reports (where appropriate) and/or in other communications, and decide whether further information or follow-up action is required.

Prepared by the Secretariat

⁹ CCSBT-CC/2010/18