



CCSBT-EC/1710/14

## Relationship with Non-members

### Purpose

To provide an update concerning discussion or issues with Non-Member and Non-CNM (Cooperating Non-Member) States/Entities.

### Identification of States that have or are likely to become important port or market States for SBT, for consideration at CCSBT 24

CCSBT 18 agreed that the following process would be used for nominating States that have or are likely to become important port or market States for SBT:

- Members nominate important States whose cooperation is desired, together with background information supporting that nomination and provide this information to the Executive Secretary at least 6 weeks in advance of the Annual Meeting.
- The Executive Secretary incorporates this information in the Secretariat's agenda paper for the standing agenda item on "Relationship with Non-Members" for consideration by the Extended Commission.
- With the Extended Commission's endorsement, the Executive Secretary write to the nominated State(s) seeking their cooperation.
- The nominating Member follow-up the Executive Secretary's letter with bilateral discussion. This is an important step because experience has shown that many States do not respond to written communication.

No nominations were provided to the Secretariat in advance of CCSBT 24.

### Interactions with Non-members

In accordance with the decision of CCSBT 23, the Secretariat has invited the USA, China, Fiji and Singapore to attend the October 2017 Annual Meetings of the Compliance Committee and Extended Commission.

The main interactions with non-Members since CCSBT 23 have been with China and the USA.

#### 1. People's Republic of China (China)

There has been several items of correspondence with China in relation to the CCSBT Draft IUU Vessel list. This correspondence is described in paper CCSBT-CC/1710/07 that was provided to the Compliance Committee. Issues relating to the CCSBT Draft IUU Vessel list are not described further in the current paper.

In accordance with the request of CCSBT 23, the Secretariat wrote to China on 8 March 2017 seeking its cooperating with the CCSBT's Catch Documentation Scheme, requesting further information in relation to the SBT catch and operation of the Chinese flagged *FuYuan Yu* drift net vessels and requesting information concerning any other catches of SBT by Chinese flagged vessels. The Secretariat's letter is provided at **Attachment A**. The European Union also raised this matter bilaterally with China in the context of its High Level Bilateral Dialogue with China on Fisheries and Maritime affairs on 31 March 2017. The European Union presented the matter and indicated that a formal letter had been sent to China by CCSBT. The European Union invited China to follow-up on the letter.

As at the time of preparing this paper, the Secretariat has not received a response to its above mentioned letter.

As part of the same correspondence to China on 8 March 2017, the Secretariat provided a copy of TRAFFIC's report to the CCSBT on the southern bluefin tuna market in China. This report was commissioned by the CCSBT.

2. USA

The USA has continued its cooperation with the CCSBT Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) by providing the Secretariat with information relating to the CCSBT CDS Documents it receives on a quarterly basis. Further information is presented in paper CCSBT-CC/1710/06 that was provided to the Compliance Committee.

3. Cambodia

The Secretariat received a letter from Cambodia on 18 April 2017 which advised that the Royal Government of Cambodia has taken measures to exercise effective control over the vessels authorised to fly its flag. This letter is provided at **Attachment B**.