



CCSBT-EC/1710/16

Activities with Other Organisations

Purpose

To receive reports from meetings of other RFMOs, agree on the CCSBT observers to attend meetings of other RFMOs during 2018 and to consider any other relevant activities with other organisations.

(1) CCSBT Observers at non-CCSBT meetings

CCSBT Members act as the CCSBT observer at RFMO meetings of interest (e.g. tuna RFMOs and CCAMLR¹), and the observing Member provides a report back to the CCSBT on matters of relevance in order to improve coordination with other RFMO's. The following Members were nominated at CCSBT 23 to observe the next series of RFMO's annual meetings:

- Korea to observe meetings of WCPFC²;
- Australia to observe meetings of CCAMLR;
- Indonesia to observe meetings of IOTC³;
- Japan to observe meetings of ICCAT⁴; and
- Taiwan to observe meetings of IATTC⁵.

These CCSBT observers may have matters of relevance to report back to the CCSBT.

The EC should confirm which Members will act as CCSBT observers to the next series of RFMO annual meetings.

It should be noted that CCAMLR has already invited the CCSBT to participate as an observer at its Thirty-sixth annual meetings of the Commission and Scientific Committee, from 16 to 27 October 2017. After CCSBT 24, the Secretariat will advise CCAMLR of the CCSBT observer that will attend CCAMLR.

(2) Progress in relation to the Memorandums of Cooperation (MoCs) with the WCPFC

CCSBT 23 agreed to sign two Memorandums of Understanding (MoCs) between the CCSBT and the WCPFC, these being:

- Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on the exchange and release of data (**Attachment A**); and

¹ Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

² Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

³ Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

⁴ International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

⁵ Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission.

- Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on the endorsement of WCPFC regional observer program observers for observing transshipments of southern bluefin tuna on the High Seas of the WCPFC Convention Area (**Attachment B**).

Both MoCs were signed by the WCPFC on 18 April 2017 and by the CCSBT on 5 June 2017, which was soon after the new CCSBT Chair was nominated on 11 May 2017.

The MoC on exchange and release of data facilitates the exchange of aggregated catch and effort data. The data agreed for exchange are the same as the publicly available catch effort data with the exception that strata containing less than 3 vessels are not removed from the data exchanged under the MoC.

It is expected that the first exchange of data under the MoC will occur during CCSBT's 2018 Scientific Data Exchange.

The MoC on transshipment provides a mechanism to endorse WCPFC observers to act as CCSBT transshipment observers to allow transshipments at sea involving SBT to be conducted in the high seas of the WCPFC Convention Area. This MoC will be implemented once the CCSBT and WCPFC Secretariats have completed developing the systems and processes necessary to operationalise the MoC. Further information on progress with regard to implementing the transshipment MoC is presented in paper CCSBT-CC/1710/16 that was provided to the Compliance Committee.

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MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION (MOC) ON THE EXCHANGE AND RELEASE OF DATA**between****THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN****and****THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA***as at 9th December, 2016*

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (hereafter WCPFC) and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (hereafter CCSBT):

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the Memorandum of Understanding of August 2009 between the WCPFC and the CCSBT agreed to exchange of data and scientific information on an annual basis; and

NOW THEREFORE the WCPFC and CCSBT confirm the following conditions for the exchange and release of data from fisheries which capture highly migratory fish species:

1. CONDITIONS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF DATA

- (a) Both Commissions exchange equivalent data, specified at Clause 2, on a reciprocal basis, and maintain the data in a manner consistent with the security standards established by each Commission.
- (b) Data may be provided to the Members, Cooperating Non-Members (CNMs) and Service Providers of each Commission in accordance with the data access rules of each Commission, but shall not be released or distributed further and shall be kept confidential by the Commissions and their Members, CNMs and Service Providers.
- (c) This MOC applies only to the data specified at clause 2 and does not permit the exchange between Commissions of any other data.
- (d) The data exchanged under this MOC shall be used only for the purposes of the Conventions of the WCPFC and the CCSBT.
- (e) The area of mutual interest under this cooperation is the WCPFC Convention Area, south of 20°S.
- (f) Data are to be exchanged on at least an annual basis from the date of signature of this MOC.
- (g) Outputs developed (such as scientific meeting papers) using the data exchanged under this MOC are to be exchanged on at least an annual basis from the date of signature of this MOC.

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2. AGGREGATED DATA TO BE EXCHANGED

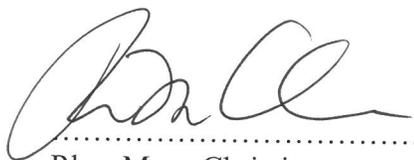
The following aggregated catch and effort data is to be exchanged on a reciprocal basis between Commissions:

- (a) Data for long line gear aggregated by flag State by 5° latitude and by 5° longitude by month with no minimum number of vessels; and
- (b) Data for surface gear (including purse seine) aggregated by flag State by 5° latitude and by 5° degree longitude by month with no minimum number of vessels.

3. OTHERS

- (a) This cooperation on the exchange and release of data may be modified at any time by mutual consent, acknowledging the need to obtain endorsement from respective RFMO member countries.
- (b) Either Commission may end this cooperation on the exchange of data by giving six months' notice of intention to terminate to the other Commission.

Signed on behalf of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna:



.....
Rhea Moss-Christian
Chair, WCPFC

Date: 18 April 2017



.....
Chair, CCSBT

Date: 5 June 2017

WCPFC13 Summary Report Attachment Y

**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**

between

**THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY
MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN**

and

THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC) and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT):

UNDERSTANDING that the CCSBT and the WCPFC have overlapping jurisdictions for transshipment monitoring in the western and central Pacific Ocean;

CONSIDERING the Memorandum of Understanding between the WCPFC and the CCSBT signed in 2009;

NOTING that the CCSBT has adopted a Resolution¹ for tuna longline fishing vessels with freezing capacity (LSTLVs) that applies globally to all transshipments involving Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT);

ALSO NOTING that the WCPFC has adopted a Conservation and Management Measure on the regulation of transshipment (CMM 2009-06) that applies to all transshipments in the WCPFC Convention Area of all highly migratory fish stocks covered by the Convention, and a Conservation and Management Measure for the Regional Observer Programme (CMM 2007-01) that establishes the Regional Observer Programme (ROP);

RECALLING paragraph 86 (a) of the Final Report of the Preparatory Conference for the Establishment of the Commission for the Conservation of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean of 7 December 2004, which recognises the need to establish an understanding between the WCPFC and the CCSBT clarifying that, because the CCSBT has competence with respect to Southern Bluefin Tuna throughout its migratory range, the WCPFC recognises that the CCSBT is the appropriate body to develop and implement Southern Bluefin Tuna conservation and management measures;

¹ Resolution on establishing a program for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels (hereafter referred to as the “CCSBT Transshipment Resolution”)

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CONFIRM the following conditions for the endorsement of WCPFC ROP observers to operate on authorised vessels that are involved in High Seas transshipments of Southern Bluefin Tuna (*Thunnus maccoyii*) in the WCPFC Convention Area:

1. The CCSBT and the WCPFC recognise the importance of facilitating mutual cooperative participation between the Members of both Commissions.
2. Fishing vessels may fish for, retain, transship or land Southern Bluefin Tuna in the WCPFC Convention Area only if they are included on the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels and the CCSBT Record of Authorised Fishing Vessels on the date that these activities occur. Carrier Vessels may only receive and transport Southern Bluefin Tuna transshipments in the WCPFC Convention Area if they are included on the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels and the CCSBT Record of Authorised Carrier Vessels on the date that these activities occur.
3. CCSBT endorsement of a WCPFC ROP observer to monitor transshipments of Southern Bluefin Tuna in the High Seas of the WCPFC Convention Area will occur only when the CCSBT Secretariat agrees that the WCPFC ROP observer has met the necessary requirements for observing transshipments of Southern Bluefin Tuna as specified in the CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution. The CCSBT Secretariat will provide the WCPFC Secretariat with a list of ROP observers that have been endorsed by the CCSBT for observing transshipments in accordance with this MoC. The list of CCSBT-endorsed ROP observers will be updated by the CCSBT Secretariat whenever changes (*e.g.* additions/deletions) occur.
4. Each Secretariat will identify the transshipment data and information requirements for its Commission and will ensure that ROP observers will be able to meet all such requirements with respect to vessels to which this MoC applies.
5. If a transshipment involving Southern Bluefin Tuna occurs in the High Seas of the WCPFC Convention Area, the relevant transshipment observer data and information requirements of each Commission will be met by the WCPFC ROP observers that have been endorsed by the CCSBT. The data and information collected will be provided to both the CCSBT and the WCPFC Secretariats, in accordance with procedures of each respective Commission, and will be considered to be held by each respective Commission.
6. Data and information collected by a WCPFC ROP observer endorsed by the CCSBT may be used for compliance purposes and in legal proceedings.
7. The Secretariats of each Commission may assist in facilitating the training of observers to meet requirements for endorsement by the CCSBT, with a view towards developing a core group of ROP observers who may be assigned to carrier vessels operating on the High Seas in the WCPFC Convention Area to meet the requirements of both the CCSBT and WCPFC with respect to observing at-sea transshipments.

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8. Endorsement of a WCPFC ROP observer by the CCSBT Secretariat does not affect the application of domestic legislation and procedures of coastal CCMs² of the WCPFC or Members/Cooperating Non-Members of the CCSBT.

9. A WCPFC ROP observer endorsed by the CCSBT remains under the control of the respective national or subregional observer programme and will be made available to fulfil duties in the WCPFC Convention Area subject to approval of such programmes.

10. This MoC is subject to periodic review, and may be modified as agreed by both Commissions. Either Commission may terminate this MOC with three months' notice of such intention to the other Commission.

11. This MoC will commence from the date of signature³.

Signed on behalf of the WCPFC and the CCSBT:



Rhea Moss-Christian
Chair of the WCPFC

Date: 18-April-2017



Chair of the CCSBT

Date: 5 June 2017

² CCMs means Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories

³ If the signature dates differ, this MoC will commence from the more recent date of signature.