



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 CCAMLR<sup>1</sup>), 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 WCPFC<sup>2</sup>;
- Australia to observe meetings of CCAMLR;
- Indonesia to observe meetings of IOTC<sup>3</sup>;
- Japan to observe meetings of ICCAT<sup>4</sup>; and
- Taiwan to observe meetings of IATTC<sup>5</sup>.

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

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<sup>1</sup> Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

<sup>2</sup> Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

<sup>3</sup> Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

<sup>4</sup> International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

<sup>5</sup> 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.