



CCSBT-EC/2010/14 (Rev. 1)

Kobe Process

Purpose

This is a standing item on the CCSBT agenda to provide an update on activities associated with the Kobe Process¹.

Kobe Process Activities

No meetings of the Kobe Process Steering Committee (KSC) have been held since CCSBT 25 (October 2018). A KSC meeting is usually held in the margins of COFI², but the July 2020 meeting of COFI was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As at the time of finalising this paper, the Secretariat is not aware of any intersessional correspondence occurring in relation to the Kobe Process since CCSBT 26 (October 2019). However, a joint tuna RFMO by-catch working group meeting, focused on sharks, was held in December 2019. The Chair's report of this meeting was circulated to Members in April 2020 (CCSBT Circular #2020/022).

There is continued cooperation between the tuna RFMO Secretariats on an ad-hoc basis and through the Tuna Compliance Network as reported to the Compliance Committee. A second phase of the Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project is also being planned.

Due to the declining Kobe Process activity over the past few years, the Secretariat recommends removing the Kobe Process standing agenda item from meetings of the Extended Commission. Instead, an agenda item can be included for the Kobe Process when there are matters of substance to report.

¹ A cooperative process involving joint meetings of members of the five tuna RFMOs. The first meeting was held in Kobe, Japan.

² The FAO Committee on Fisheries.

Prepared by the Secretariat