



CCSBT-EC/2110/13

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 28

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 28.

Interactions with Non-Members

In accordance with the decision of CCSBT 27, the Secretariat has invited China, Fiji, Mauritius, Namibia, Singapore and the USA to attend the October 2021 Annual Meetings of the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission. The letters of invitation are provided at **Attachments A to F**. The Secretariat sent invitation reminders to all these non-Members on 3 August 2021.

CCSBT 27 agreed that a reminder should be sent to China with regard to the CCSBT's query on implementation of China's regulations concerning SBT and China's monitoring of the compliance of its vessels. This reminder was included in the invitation to China at **Attachment A** and in the invitation reminder sent on 3 August 2021. As at the time of finalising this paper, no response had been received from China in relation to the invitation or the request for information.

The Secretariat wrote to the Russian Federation during November 2020 to seek clarification in relation to Russia's Annual Fishing/Capacity Management Plan for tropical tunas that refers to southern bluefin tuna. The Secretariat's letter is at **Attachment G**. The Secretariat sent a reminder in April 2021, but as at the time of writing this paper, no response has been received.

There has been additional interaction between the CCSBT Secretariat and non-Member States in the compliance area, particularly the USA's continued cooperation with the CCSBT's CDS. Interactions with non-Members and other organisations in the compliance area are reported in papers CCSBT-CC/2110/11 and 13 respectively.

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Mr Sun Haiwen
Director
Division of International Cooperation
Bureau of Fisheries and Fishery Laws Enforcement
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
People's Republic of China

10 December 2020

Dear Director Sun,

I present my compliments to you on behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT).

In my letter to you dated 16 December 2019, I advised you that the CCSBT welcomed the steps taken by the People's Republic of China (China) to avoid illegal fishing for and incidental catch of southern bluefin tuna by issuing a prohibition on fishing for southern bluefin tuna (SBT) under part XIII of the "Notification by General Office of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs on Further Strictly Comply With International Tuna Measures. Nongbanyu1 (2019) No.1".

In that letter, I also informed you that the CCSBT would appreciate receiving advice from China as to: (1) the extent to which the area closures and non-retention of SBT specified in the Notification have been implemented; (2) whether China is using VMS to monitor compliance of its vessels with the closures specified in the Notification; and (3) the quantity of SBT that is now being incidentally caught and discarded by China. The CCSBT has not received advice from China regarding this request for information and the Commission has asked me to remind China that it is seeking this information. I therefore kindly request that to the extent possible, China provide this information to me at its earliest convenience.

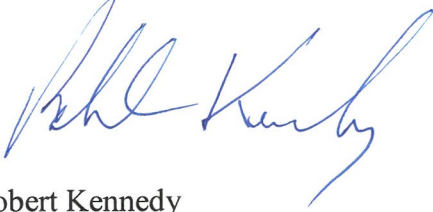
On behalf of CCSBT, I am also pleased to extend an invitation to China to participate as an observer at the following meetings of the CCSBT, in Fremantle, Australia, during 2021:

- Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee from 7-9 October 2021; and
- Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission, incorporating the Extended Commission, from 11-14 October 2021.

If China intends to participate at either of these meetings, please provide the names and contact details of nominated representatives to me (rkennedy@ccsbt.org) at least 14 days in advance of the respective meeting and preferably six weeks or more before the meeting. Please also be aware that there may be earlier deadlines for arranging accommodation.

Draft agendas for the meetings will be placed on the public area of the CCSBT web site approximately sixty days before the commencement of the respective meeting. Further details for meetings will be placed on the private area of the CCSBT web site at about the same time. Meeting participants will be given access to this information once I have been advised of their attendance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robt Kennedy', written in a cursive style.

Robert Kennedy
Executive Secretary

CC: Mr. Zhu Jiangfeng
Bureau of Fisheries and Fishery Laws Enforcement
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
People's Republic of China



Mr Craig William Strong
Permanent Secretary for Fisheries
Ministry of Fisheries
P.O. Box 13026
Suva
Fiji

22 April 2021

Dear Mr Strong,

Fiji has previously expressed interest in becoming a Cooperating Non-Member of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) and has previously indicated that some of its vessels have occasionally caught southern bluefin tuna.

In order to foster communication and cooperation between the CCSBT and Fiji, I am pleased to extend an invitation to Fiji to participate as an observer at the following **online** meetings of the CCSBT during 2021:

- Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee from 5-8 October 2021; and
- Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission, incorporating the Extended Commission, from 11-15 October 2021.

If Fiji intends to participate at either of these meetings, please provide the names and contact details of nominated representatives to me (rkennedy@ccsbt.org) at least 14 days in advance of the respective meeting and preferably six weeks or more before the meeting.

Draft agendas for the meetings will be placed on the public area of the CCSBT web site approximately sixty days before the commencement of the respective meeting. Further details for meetings will be placed on the private area of the CCSBT web site at about the same time. Meeting participants will be given access to this information once I have been advised of their attendance.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Kennedy
Executive Secretary



Mr Devanand Norungee
Director of Fisheries
Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping
Mauritius

22 April 2021

Dear Mr Norungee,

On behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), I am pleased to extend an invitation to Mauritius to participate as an observer at the following online meetings of the CCSBT during 2021:

- Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee from 5-8 October 2021; and
- Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission, incorporating the Extended Commission, from 11-15 October 2021.

The CCSBT considers Mauritius to be an important port State for transshipments in relation to southern bluefin tuna and wishes to establish and maintain a cooperative relationship with Mauritius.

If Mauritius intends to participate at either of these meetings, please provide the names and contact details of nominated representatives to me (rkennedy@ccsbt.org) at least 14 days in advance of the respective meeting and preferably six weeks or more before the meeting.

Draft agendas for the meetings will be placed on the public area of the CCSBT web site approximately sixty days before the commencement of the respective meeting. Further details for meetings will be placed on the private area of the CCSBT web site at about the same time. Meeting participants will be given access to this information once I have been advised of their attendance.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Kennedy
Executive Secretary



Mr Ueritjiua Kauaria
Deputy Executive Director
Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
Private Bag 13355
Windhoek
Republic of Namibia

22 April 2021

Dear Mr Kauaria,

I present my compliments to you on behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT).

The CCSBT notes that Namibia has declared small (1-17 tonne) catches of southern bluefin tuna to ICCAT for 2005, 2014 and 2016. The CCSBT also notes that Namibia's Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources contacted the CCSBT Secretariat during June 2019 to enquire about the procedures to export bluefin tuna.

To enhance the mutual understanding and cooperation between Namibia and the CCSBT, I am pleased to extend an invitation to Namibia, on behalf of the CCSBT, to participate as an observer at the following **online** meetings of the CCSBT during 2021:

- Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee from 5-8 October 2021; and
- Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission, incorporating the Extended Commission, from 11-15 October 2021.

If Namibia intends to participate at either of these meetings, please provide the names and contact details of nominated representatives to me (rkennedy@ccsbt.org) at least 14 days in advance of the respective meeting and preferably six weeks or more before the meeting.

Draft agendas for the meetings will be placed on the public area of the CCSBT web site approximately sixty days before the commencement of the respective meeting. Further details for meetings will be placed on the private area of the CCSBT web site at about the same time. Meeting participants will be given access to this information once I have been advised of their attendance.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Kennedy
Executive Secretary



Ms. Felicia Loh
Manager
Regulatory Policy Department
Food Regulatory Management Division
Singapore Food Agency
52 Jurong Gateway Road
JEM Office Tower, #14-01
Singapore 608550

22 April 2021

Dear Ms. Loh,

On behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), to foster continued cooperation between the CCSBT and Singapore, I am pleased to extend an invitation to Singapore to participate as an observer at the following **online** meetings of the CCSBT during 2021:

- Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee from 5-8 October 2021; and
- Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission, incorporating the Extended Commission, from 11-15 October 2021.

If Singapore intends to participate at either of these meetings, please provide the names and contact details of nominated representatives to me (rkennedy@ccsbt.org) at least 14 days in advance of the respective meeting and preferably six weeks or more before the meeting.

Draft agendas for the meetings will be placed on the public area of the CCSBT web site approximately sixty days before the commencement of the respective meeting. Further details for meetings will be placed on the private area of the CCSBT web site at about the same time. Meeting participants will be given access to this information once I have been advised of their attendance.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Kennedy
Executive Secretary



Ms Melanie King
NOAA Fisheries
1315 East West Highway (F/IA)
Silver Spring, MD 20910
USA

22 April 2021

Dear Ms King,

On behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), to foster continued cooperation between the CCSBT and the United States of America (USA), I am pleased to extend an invitation to the USA to participate as an observer at the following online meetings of the CCSBT during 2021:

- Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee from 5-8 October 2021; and
- Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission, incorporating the Extended Commission, from 11-15 October 2021.

If the USA intends to participate at either of these meetings, please provide the names and contact details of nominated representatives to me (rkennedy@ccsbt.org) at least 14 days in advance of the respective meeting and preferably six weeks or more before the meeting.

Draft agendas for the meetings will be placed on the public area of the CCSBT web site approximately sixty days before the commencement of the respective meeting. Further details for meetings will be placed on the private area of the CCSBT web site at about the same time. Meeting participants will be given access to this information once I have been advised of their attendance.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Kennedy
Executive Secretary

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



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Mr. Oleg Bulátov
Head of Russian Federation Delegation to ICCAT
Russian Federal Research Institute for Fisheries and Oceanography
Russian Federation

Email: obulatov@vniro.ru

12 November 2020

**RE: Query concerning the Russian Federation's Annual Fishing/Capacity
Management Plan for Tropical Tunas**

Dear Mr. Bulátov,

I present my compliments to you on behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT).

I am writing to you because the Russian Federation's Annual Fishing/Capacity Management Plan for Tropical Tunas that the Russian Federation submitted to ICCAT (pages 87-88 of ICCAT document Doc.No.PA1_501/2020) refers to "*Longline vessels of the Russian Federation equipped for bluefin tuna (SBT) fishing ...*".

Fishing for southern bluefin tuna (SBT) comes under the jurisdiction of the CCSBT. I would therefore appreciate it if you could clarify whether the bluefin tuna referred to in the Russian Federation's Annual Fishing/Capacity Management Plan for Tropical Tunas is southern bluefin tuna as indicated by the use of "SBT", or whether a different type of bluefin tuna was being referred to.

I thank you in advance for your response and assistance.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Robert Kennedy
Executive Secretary

CC: Mr Camille Manel
Executive Secretary, ICCAT