



CCSBT-EC/0610/16

18. Action Plan

Purpose

To consider the situation in relation to the countries, which have been identified under the Plan.

Discussion

Seven countries have been considered over time under the action plan;-

- Belize
- Cambodia
- Equatorial Guinea
- Honduras
- Indonesia
- Seychelles
- Philippines

Since CCSBT10 activity under the plan has been held in abeyance.

Belize, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea and Honduras appear to have disengaged from the fishery. TIS and members' import data is showing no catch in recent years by vessels registered in these countries.

Indonesia was invited to become a cooperating non-member of the CCSBT but has declined to do so. Recent catch monitoring in Indonesia is indicating that Indonesian fishing vessels have moved on to the high seas from traditional fishing grounds. Indonesia has indicated it will cooperate with the CCSBT although it is not exercising management control over the SBT fishery as it is a bycatch fishery.

The Seychelles have given an undertaking that it will not target SBT or authorise vessels registered in the Seychelles to catch SBT.

The Philippines has been admitted to the CCSBT as a cooperating non-member and is participating fully in the conservation and management measures of the CCSBT.

A copy of the resolution creating the action plan is at Attachment A.

Discussion

Of the countries identified under the Action Plan, only Indonesia could be regarded as warranting attention under the Action Plan.

However, the actions comprehended by the action plan to ultimately take trade restrictive measures are already effectively in place. Through a combination of the authorised vessel list and the trade documentation scheme, the CCSBT is taking trade restrictive measures against Indonesia, which is no longer able to trade with CCSBT Members. Trade with the United States is also prohibited, which recognises the CCSBT trade documentation scheme.

In these circumstances it is recommended that the Action Plan not be invoked for Indonesia.

Members might also consider whether the Action Plan be de-activated in the light of the more effective combination of the CCSBT authorised vessel list and trade documentation scheme.

Prepared by the Secretariat

ACTION PLAN

(adopted at the Sixth Annual Meeting - Second Part; 21-23 March 2000)

The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (the Commission),

RECALLING that the objective of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (the Convention) is to ensure the conservation and optimum utilisation of southern bluefin tuna (SBT);

AWARE that a significant number of vessels registered to non-Parties to the Convention are catching SBT;

CONVINCED of the need for urgent action to ensure the effectiveness of the conservation measures for SBT in force from time to time;

AWARE of the strenuous efforts by Parties to encourage non-Parties to accede to the Convention or cooperate with the Commission;

RECALLING that under Article 15(4) of the Convention Parties are obliged to cooperate in taking appropriate action to deter non-Party fishing which could adversely affect the objective of the Convention,

resolves as follows:

1. The Commission requests non-Members catching SBT to cooperate fully with the Commission in implementing the measures applicable to Members for conservation, management and optimum utilisation of SBT (hereinafter referred to as “conservation and management measures”). The Commission also requests those non-Members to advise it of their actions taken in that regard.
2. The Commission will identify, at or before the Seventh, and then at each subsequent Annual Meeting of the Commission, those non-Members whose vessels have been catching SBT in a manner which diminishes the effectiveness of the conservation and management measures, based on the catch data compiled by the Commission, trade information and other relevant information obtained in ports and on fishing grounds.
3. The Chair of the Commission shall request those non-Members identified pursuant to paragraph 2 to rectify their fishing activities so as not to diminish the effectiveness of the conservation and management measures and to advise the Commission of their actions taken in that regard.

4. Members shall jointly and/or individually request non-Members catching SBT to cooperate fully with the Commission in implementing the conservation and management measures.
5. The Commission will review, at subsequent Annual Meetings as appropriate, actions taken by those non-Members to which requests have been made pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4, and identify those non-Members which have not rectified their fishing activities.
6. The Commission may decide to impose trade-restrictive measures consistent with Members' international obligations on SBT products, in any form, from the non-Members identified pursuant to paragraph 5.