



CCSBT-EC/0510/17

## 15. Compliance Committee

### **Purpose**

To discuss activation of the Extended Commission's Compliance Committee.

### **Background**

Australia has proposed this item.

A copy of a letter from Australia outlining the scope of its proposal is at Attachment A.

A copy of the Terms of Reference for the CCSBT Compliance Committee agreed at CCSBT4 in 1997 is at Attachment B.

**Prepared by the Secretariat**



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

CCSBT FILE

Mr. Brian Macdonald  
Executive Secretary  
Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna  
PO Box 37  
Deakin West ACT 2600  
AUSTRALIA

Dear Mr. Macdonald

There are a number of issues that Australia will be seeking to resolve at the twelfth annual Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) meeting in Taipei (11-14 October 2005).

In order to streamline discussion Australia offers some suggestions in relation to the order of the current agenda, both by way of amendments to current items and addition of new ones.

Australia seeks several sub-headings under item 12 (Catch Monitoring System).

- Firstly a sub-heading, entitled "Catch Documentation Scheme", which would deal with two matters:
  - "conversion of the current Trade Information Scheme (TIS) to a comprehensive Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) that tracks all catch of SBT", and
  - "annual reconciliation of Japanese market data with the scientific and catch data provided to the CCSBT by countries".
- Secondly, a sub-heading entitled "Trade Information Scheme", annotated as "report on the domestic SBT consumption in Korea and Taiwan, both of which have emerging SBT domestic markets". This item would seek to gain support from members to increase catch reporting to the Commission by all members to a monthly basis.

Australia sees one of the most important matters on the agenda to be the successful implementation of the management procedure. In signing onto a management procedure for southern bluefin tuna (SBT), Australia seeks firm commitments and resolutions from all CCSBT members on a range of issues that will ensure effective implementation of the management procedure.



Australia seeks a new item entitled "International Observer Program", annotated as "establishment of an independent international observer program managed and funded by the Commission to ensure data quality".

The Commission has a Compliance Committee, which has not been activated. Australia seeks a new item on the agenda, entitled "Compliance". We suggest the following matters be included under this item:


- activation of the CCSBT Compliance Committee;
- development and effective implementation of international boarding and inspection regimes consistent with international law;
- discussion and implementation of CCSBT centrally administered vessel monitoring system;
- the provision of shot-by-shot verified catch data to the CCSBT Secretariat by all parties to the Convention; and
- a review of the CCSBT vessel register. This item seeks to:
  - eliminate IUU fishing by vessels flying "flags of convenience" as well as to require that a "genuine link" be established between States and fishing vessels flying their flags; and
  - include all refrigerated transport vessels and supply vessels, incorporating information on beneficial ownership.

Australia believes that item 11 (review of RFMO bodies) is a matter which could be dealt with towards the end of the agenda or intersessionally.

Australia also believes it would be useful to have the Executive Secretary write to Japan and request that their longline raw data be submitted to the Commission for analysis.

Australia calls on other Commission members to approach this year's Commission meeting with vigour in order to reach a positive resolution on these matters.

Yours sincerely



Glenn Hurry  
General Manager  
Fisheries & Aquaculture Branch  
Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry

19 August 2005

**Terms of Reference  
for the Compliance Committee**

1. To review the southern bluefin tuna (SBT) fishing activities of each Member of the Commission, including compliance with national quota allocations and associated fishery management arrangements.
2. Develop cooperative systems, which can be implemented under the Convention, relating to monitoring and compliance for SBT fishing activities, taking into account international initiatives.
3. To review matters and prepare an annual report relating to implementation of conservation and management measures decided by the Commission, including:
  - (a) exchange of information on the activities by which each Member ensures compliance by vessels flying its flag; and
  - (b) exchange of information on measures including legislative and administrative arrangements and penalties; and
  - (c) exchange of views on practical and cost effective measures for improving monitoring and compliance.
4. To exchange information on flag State SBT enforcement activities including outcomes, where appropriate, of judicial and administrative proceedings and the development of measures to ensure compliance with Commission measures and recommendations.
5. Examine ways of cooperating in the undertaking of surveillance including arrangements for the exchange of information of sightings and other information about activities of vessels.
6. Develop educational material to promote the Commission's conservation and management measures.
7. To exchange information on activities for taking SBT by nationals, residents or vessels of any State or entity not party to the Convention.
8. To report the results of discussions, including making recommendations as appropriate, to the Commission.