

Provisional Agenda
Ninth meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group
27 – 30 March 2012
Tokyo, Japan

1. Opening

1.1 Adoption of the Agenda

1.2 Adoption of Document List

During the adoption of the documents for the meeting, Member and Cooperating Non-Members (CNMs) will be asked to assign documents to specific agenda items.

1.3 Appointment of Rapporteurs

Members will be asked to nominate rapporteurs for agenda items 5 and 6. In addition, presenters of papers will be asked to provide a brief paragraph for papers they have presented (excluding annual reports) for inclusion in the report of the meeting.

2. Annual reports

Members and CNMs will prepare and provide annual reports to the ERSWG in the agreed format (attached). The annual report should include implementation of the IPOAs for sharks and seabirds. It will be assumed that reports have been read by participants prior to the meeting, so this agenda item will be reserved for questions of clarification regarding the reports.

2.1 Members

2.2 Cooperating Non-Members

3. Review of relevant international instruments

3.1 Review of the implementation of relevant international instruments

This agenda item is for consideration of international instruments other than the IPOAs for sharks and seabirds (which are part of the requirement of annual reports). Members and CNMs are requested to include information on the implementation of other relevant international implements (such as FAO guidelines to reduce sea turtle mortality in fishing operations) in their annual reports or as a separate paper. As with agenda item 2, it will be assumed that the reports/papers have been read, so this item will be reserved for questions of clarification regarding the reports/papers.

3.2 Review and recommendations on other best practice guidelines

(e.g. FAO, ACAP).

4. Reports of meetings of other organisations relevant to the ERS Working Group

4.1 Recommendations of the Joint Tuna RFMO Technical Bycatch Working Group

A report from the 2011 meeting of the Joint Tuna RFMO Technical Bycatch Working Group held in conjunction with Kobe 3 will be presented by the Chair, followed by a discussion on how CCSBT should respond to the results and future actions of the JTBTWG.

4.2 Regional Fisheries Management Organisations/Arrangements/ NGOs

All organisations with long terms observer status for CCSBT ERSWG meetings (see http://www.ccsbt.org/site/observers_attendance.php) will be invited to attend and to present a report to the meeting.

5. Information and advice on ERS

This is a key agenda item to progress the assessment of the risks to ERS posed by fishing for SBT, and the identification of any additional measures that might be needed for the mitigation of these risks. In relation to the sub-items below, Members and CNMs are requested to consider any information they can provide to assist in these assessments, including observer data that contains information relevant to an assessment of spatial and seasonal risks and also including, where relevant, data from non-SBT fisheries. Members and CNMs are also requested to develop and submit papers in advance of the meeting on the following agenda items.

5.1 Seabirds

5.1.1 Information on stock status

5.1.2 Information from other fisheries of relevance

5.1.3 Ecological risk assessment

5.1.4 Future analyses to obtain improved estimates of ERS mortality and estimates of uncertainty

5.1.5 Update on mitigation research and priorities

Report results from recent mitigation trials, and provide updates on current and planned mitigation research (including line weighting).

5.2 Sharks

5.2.1 Information on stock status

5.2.2 Information from other fisheries of relevance

5.2.3 Ecological risk assessment

5.2.4 Future analyses to obtain improved estimates of ERS mortality and estimates of uncertainty

5.2.5 Update on mitigation research and priorities

Report results from recent mitigation trials, and provide updates on current and planned mitigation research.

5.3 Other ERS

5.3.1 Information on stock status

5.3.2 Information from other fisheries of relevance

5.3.3 Ecological risk assessment

5.3.4 Future analyses to obtain improved estimates of ERS mortality and estimates of uncertainty

5.3.5 Update on mitigation research and priorities

Report results from recent mitigation trials, and provide updates on current and planned mitigation research.

5.4 Predator and prey species that may affect the condition of the SBT stock

6. ERS activities in CCSBT Strategic Plan or tasked by the CCSBT

6.1 Data provision requirements for ERS

Consider the ERS data needs and data sources, and recommend data for inclusion in an annual ERS data exchange.

6.1.1 Observer data

6.1.2 Data exchange

- 6.2 **Template for reporting ERS interactions to the CCSBT Compliance Committee**

The Compliance Committee requested that the ERSWG review the compliance reporting template in order to assist Members to improve reporting to the Compliance Committee (CC) and Extended Commission (EC) on ERS matters. The Secretariat will provide details of current reporting requirements to the CC and EC.
 - 6.3 **Recommendations on the provision of data to spatially based RFMOs**

CCSBT's agreed Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on Ecologically Related Species of Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna outlines that Members will collect and report data on ERS, and authorises the CCSBT Secretariat to collect and exchange relevant data on ERS with the Secretariats of relevant area-based RFMOs. Under this agenda item, Members can discuss data that CCSBT could make available to these Secretariats to assist them in assessing total catches of ERS within their jurisdictions (including bycatch in SBT fisheries).
 - 6.4 **Assessment of mitigation measures adopted by other RFMOs**

Assess the effectiveness of ERS measures adopted by area-based RFMOs for mitigating the risks of fishing for SBT, and advise whether any additional or different measures (such as line weighting) may be required while fishing for SBT, noting the particular characteristics of SBT fisheries.

 - 6.4.1 **Review seabird mitigation measures that Members/CNMs are expected to implement in accordance with the 2008 Recommendation on Ecologically Related Species**

In particular, the meeting will review the options in Table 1 of the mitigation measures of the relevant IOTC and WCPFC resolutions (available at: http://www.ccsbt.org/userfiles/file/other_rfmo_measures/iotc/Resolution%2010_06.pdf and http://www.ccsbt.org/userfiles/file/other_rfmo_measures/wcpfc/CMM-2007-04_Mitigation_of_the_Impact_of_Fishing_on_Seabirds.pdf respectively).
 - 6.4.2 **Consideration of whether any additional or different measures may be required while fishing for SBT**

Based on discussion under previous agenda items.
7. **Education and public relations activities**

Education and public relation activities conducted by Members should be covered under agenda item 2, so they should not need to be discussed here. This agenda item is intended for discussion of any new activities that should be conducted by the CCSBT to enhance mitigation and/or data collection in relation to ERS.

 - 7.1 **Finalisation of updated CCSBT ERS pamphlets**

Intersessional work has been conducted on CCSBT's seabird and shark pamphlets. Changes have been agreed to the pamphlets and it is expected that the updated pamphlets will be on the CCSBT web site before the end of 2011. However, it was not possible to resolve all suggested changes intersessionally and outstanding issues will be discussed here. The Secretariat will provide a paper that identifies outstanding issues from the intersessional work.
 8. **Future work program**
 9. **Other business**
 10. **Recommendations and advice to the Extended Commission**

Recommendations on the risk to ERS of fishing for SBT, and how to mitigate these risks.
 11. **Conclusion**
 - 11.1. **Adoption of meeting report**
 - 11.2. **Recommendation of timing of next meeting**
 - 11.3. **Close of meeting**

Template for the Annual Report to the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG)

(From the ERSWG 7 meeting. Changes since then are footnoted below.)

1. Introduction
 - General comments on fishing methods by which southern bluefin tuna is caught in party fisheries (by fleet, area, and time).
 - General comments on type and magnitude of ERS caught by fishery/method.
2. Review of SBT Fisheries
 - Fleet size and distribution (brief summary of trends)
 - Distribution of Catch and Effort (Summary of catch and effort by area and fleet)
3. Fisheries Monitoring for Each Fleet
 - Summary of recent observer coverage of SBT fisheries fleets and summary of data collection activities of observers.
 - Summary of data collection activities from non observed activities.
4. Seabird
 - Summary of cpue and total numbers of seabird incidentally caught by area and fleet and list of numbers of each seabird species observed caught¹.
 - Summary of seabird capture from non observed sources¹.
5. Other Non-target Fish
 - Summary of cpue and total numbers of shark and the predominant non-target fish species by area and fleet¹.
6. Marine Mammal and Marine Reptile
 - Summary of total numbers of marine mammal and marine reptile incidentally caught¹.
7. Mitigation Measures to Minimise Seabird and Other Species Bycatch

Current Measures

 - Mandatory Measures for Each Fleet
 - Description of each measure
 - Compliance Monitoring System (i.e. how is compliance measured)
 - Level of Compliance for each measure
 - Voluntary Measures for Each Fleet
 - Description of each measure
 - Proportion of fleet using each measure and how this proportion was determined

Measures under Development/Testing

 - Description of each measure being developed and tested
 - Lead agency undertaking research
 - Description of any collaboration
 - Results to date
 - Planned development/testing for next year
 - Expected completion date and report to ERSWG

¹ In addition, ERSWG 8 recommended (and CCSBT 16 endorsed) that Members and Cooperating Non-Members should include the information shown in Attachment 4 of the ERSWG 8 report, in future national reports to the ERSWG and including both interaction with ERS and mortalities of ERS. This information should also be provided by species (including the scientific name) wherever possible in either the national report or other reports submitted to the ERSWG.

8. Public Relations and Education Activities

Public Relations Activities

- media releases
- information booklets, posters, other written material
- video
- public presentations
 - trade shows
 - forums, conference
 - school/university group

Education

- crew training, especially ship masters
- trainee fishers
- engineers
- managers
- observers

Information Exchange

- research
- educational materials
- other regional fisheries organisations
- international organisations
- non-member states and entities
- review of new ideas obtained from crew debriefings or ship fishing reports

9. Information on other ERS (non-bycatch) such as prey and predator species

10. Others

- Information obtained concerning ERS related fishing activities of non-party fleets.

11. Implementation of the IPOA-Seabirds and IPOA-Sharks

- A description of activities undertaken for the implementation of NPOAs as they relate to SBT fisheries. The emphasis should be on updates and recent activities.

Also note that CCSBT 9 specified that Members should provide a summary of papers submitted to the ERSWG meeting in their national report (see paragraph 89 of the CCSBT 9 report).