



CCSBT-EC/1210/13

Cooperating Non-members

Purpose

To discuss the on-going status of existing Cooperating Non-Members.

Discussion

The resolution establishing the status of Cooperating Non-Membership requires annual confirmation of that status after evaluation by the Extended Commission (EC) of the performance of Cooperating Non-Members (CNMs) against commitments given to the Extended Commission.

The Compliance Committee conducts annual assessments of compliance with CCSBT management measures. Consequently, for information concerning any significant issues of non-compliance by CNMs, the EC is referred to the report of the annual meeting of the Compliance Committee, which is being held immediately before the annual meeting of the EC.

In the interim, Attachments A and B of paper CCSBT-CC/1210/04 provide information concerning the compliance of both Members and CNMs with CCSBT measures (particularly reporting requirements and the TAC). These attachments indicate that there are some areas of non-compliance or late/partial-compliance by CNMs as there are with some Members.

In discussing the Status of CNMs at CCSBT 18, the EC noted in paragraph 45 of its meeting report that:

“However, while acknowledging the extenuating circumstances involved, Members expressed their disappointment at the absence of the EU from the meeting and its low level of performance particularly relating to compliance with catch reporting obligations and implementation of the CDS. Members requested that the Executive Secretary write to the EU strongly recommending that it take steps to implement the CDS, improve compliance with CCSBT reporting obligations”

The Executive Secretary’s letter to the European Union (EU) on this matter is provided at Attachment A. The EU still does not appear to be participating in the CCSBT Catch Documentation Scheme as the Secretariat has not received any CDS validator details from the EU, nor has the Secretariat received any CDS documents from the EU for domestic landings, imports¹ or exports of southern bluefin tuna.

¹It is possible that there were no SBT imports by the EU from non-EU States in 2011 and early 2012 as there are no CDS records of exports from CCSBT Members or CNMs to the EU in this period (although there are some {<3t} records in the Global Trade Atlas (GTA) database for imports by the EU in 2011 from Australia and Indonesia). The GTA database did record significant EU SBT imports (>250 t in 2011) from other EU States, but it is possible that some of this is due to species miscoding errors in the EU trade data.

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐる保存委員会

Mr Stefaan Depypere
Director
International Affairs and Markets
Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
European Commission
J II - 99 3/90
Brussels
BELGIUM

2 November 2011

RE: Participation of the European Union to the 18th Annual Meeting of the CCSBT

Dear Mr Depypere,

Thank you for your letter dated 5 October 2011, in which you advised me of the urgent and unforeseen circumstances that prevented the European Union from being represented at the Annual Meetings of the CCSBT and its Compliance Committee.

Your letter was circulated to CCSBT Members at both meetings. The European Union's regrets were also conveyed to Members at the start of both the Extended Commission and the Compliance Committee meetings.

The Extended Commission acknowledged the extenuating circumstances involved, but also expressed its disappointment at the absence of the European Union from the meeting and the low level of the European Union's performance, particularly in relation to compliance with CCSBT catch reporting obligations and implementation of the CCSBT Catch Documentation Scheme. The Chair of the Compliance Committee also noted that despite the European Union submitting a National Report and a Compliance Action Plan, it was disappointing that for the second year in a row the European Union was not present at the Compliance Committee to answer questions from Members.

Nevertheless, I am pleased to advise you that the Extended Commission has confirmed the European Union's Cooperating Non-Member status for 2012.

I also wish to convey to you, the Extended Commission's strong recommendation that the European Union take steps to implement the CCSBT's Catch Documentation System and to improve compliance with CCSBT reporting obligations. The CCSBT Secretariat stands ready to assist the European Union to implement these measures and we will be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

On a different matter, I regret to inform you that the Extended Commission postponed discussion on the modified "*Resolution to Establish an Extended Commission and an Extended Scientific Committee*". This was because the Extended Commission considered it necessary to have the European Union present at the meeting before discussing possible approaches to admitting Regional Economic Integration Organisations into the CCSBT.

Finally, I would like to express our sincere appreciation of the European Union's interest in the CCSBT and of the European Union's commitment to the conservation of southern bluefin tuna.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Robert Kennedy
Executive Secretary