



CCSBT-EC/1310/16

Kobe Process

Purpose

The primary purpose of this agenda item is to provide the opportunity for CCSBT Members to review progress with Kobe Process¹ recommendations that require actions by the CCSBT. In accordance with the recommendations from Kobe 3, this is a standing item on the CCSBT agenda.

Progress with Kobe Recommendations

At CCSBT 18, the Extended Commission reviewed the recommendations from Kobe 3 and allocated priorities to those recommendations. The recommendations from Kobe 3, together with CCSBT's priorities for these recommendations are provided at **Attachment A**.

Also at Attachment A is the status of progress against each of the recommendations, together with the Secretariat's understanding of whether further work is planned in relation to the different recommendations. With the exception of two low priority items, the CCSBT has made progress with all relevant recommendations.

The Extended Commission should evaluate whether it considers progress and further planned work on Kobe 3 recommendations to be appropriate, or whether it wishes to take additional action.

Kobe Steering Committee

The last meeting of the Kobe Steering Committee² was held in the margins of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) meeting in Rome during July 2012. It was intended that the Steering Committee would reconvene about one year after that meeting to take stock of what occurred over the preceding year and to consider when the next plenary meeting in the Kobe process should convene and what the theme(s) of that meeting should be. This Kobe Steering Committee meeting has yet to occur. It is possible that the Steering Committee might next meet in conjunction with the June 2014 meeting of COFI.

The Extended Commission should consider whether it wishes to provide any advice or recommendations to the Kobe Steering Committee regarding the next Kobe plenary meeting, or regarding priorities for any intersessional joint tuna RFMO work.

Prepared by the Secretariat

¹ A cooperative process involving joint meetings of members of the five tuna RFMOs. The first meeting was held in Kobe, Japan.

² The Steering Committee comprises the Kobe Chair (currently Mr Russell Smith), and Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Executive Secretaries of the five tuna RFMOs. In CCSBT's case, the Chair rotates annually and typically has no previous experience of the CCSBT. Consequently, the CCSBT has agreed that its Chairing and Vice Chairing Members may nominate alternatives with CCSBT experience to represent the Chair and Vice Chair at Kobe Steering Committee meetings. In this case, the Chair's representative would report the outcomes back to the CCSBT.

Status and CCSBT Priorities for Recommendations from Kobe 3

	Kobe 3 Recommendation	CCSBT Priority ³	CCSBT Status ⁴	Further work planned
I. Science				
1	Recognizing that the five tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (tRFMOs) have different data confidentiality rules, and noting this might curb the exchange of data across tRFMOs, Kobe III participants recommended that tRFMO Secretariats cooperate to develop common data confidentiality rules and a draft protocol for data sharing. The protocol will specify the types of data to be shared, how it can be used, and who can have access to it.	Medium	P ⁵	No
2	Emphasizing the potential of the Kobe II Strategy Matrix (K2SM) to communicate efficiently among all stakeholders and to assist in the decision-making process according to different levels of risk, but also recognizing that substantial uncertainties still remain in the assessments, Kobe III participants recommended that the Scientific Committees and Bodies of the tRFMOs develop research activities to better quantify the uncertainty and understand how this uncertainty is reflected in the risk assessment inherent in the K2SM.	✓	✓ ⁶	Ongoing
3	Recognizing that a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process needs to be widely implemented in the tRFMOs in the line of implementing a precautionary approach for tuna fisheries management, it is recommended that a Joint MSE Technical Working Group be created and that this Joint Working Group work electronically, in the first instance, in order to minimize the cost of its work.	Low (for joint work)	✓ ⁷ (CCSBT) Underway (jtRFMO)	Regular OM/MP evaluations Yes, as requested
II. Management				
Bycatch Working Group				
4	In accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Joint Technical Bycatch Working Group (JTBWG), which were adopted at the Kobe II Bycatch Workshop, Kobe III participants welcomed the report of the first meeting of the JTBWG and recommended that it be transmitted to each tRFMO for its consideration.	High	✓	Not applicable

³ CCSBT priorities agreed at CCSBT 18. These priorities are: Low, Medium, High, and “✓” for already achieved.

⁴ The current status is sometimes abbreviated as “✓” for achieved, “P” for partially achieved and “X” for no progress. In some cases the completion status for CCSBT has been separated from the status for the joint tuna RFMOs (jtRFMO). In these cases, “CCSBT” or “jtRFMO” is used to indicate where the status applies.

⁵ CCSBT’s confidentiality rules were agreed in 2010 and used both ICCAT’s and WCPFC’s rules as the baseline for CCSBT’s rules. Consequently there is already significant compatibility of rules.

⁶ CCSBT does not use *the* K2SM but it actively addresses uncertainty in its assessments.

⁷ CCSBT has conducted its own management strategy evaluation and has implemented a Management Procedure for recommending TACs. Joint work with other tRFMOs is a low priority for the CCSBT itself, but CCSBT scientists have agreed to be involved in the joint work on a cooperative basis.

	Kobe 3 Recommendation	CCSBT Priority ³	CCSBT Status ⁴	Further work planned
	Capacity and Allocation			
5	Kobe III participants recommended that each tRFMO Secretariat annually measure existing capacity in tuna fisheries under its jurisdiction and monitor where that capacity is used and by whom. The results of this work should be referred to the respective Commission for its consideration.	Low ⁸	Underway ⁹	Not yet determined
6	In order to assist in the analysis and appropriate management decision-making to reduce overfishing and overcapacity, Kobe III participants recommended that by 2013 each tRFMO establish a record of vessels, by gear type, actively fishing for stocks under its jurisdiction, and that all tRFMO Secretariats coordinate the establishment of a common vessel database linked, to the extent possible, to the existing consolidated list of active vessels, taking into account the requirements of each tRFMO for vessel registration.	Low	✓ ¹⁰ (CCSBT) Yet to Commence (jtRFMO)	Ongoing (CCSBT) Not yet determined
7	Kobe III participants recommend that developed fishing members freeze large-scale purse-seine capacity under their flag. Based on the status of the stocks, each tRFMO should consider a scheme for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of over capacity in a way that does not constrain the access to, development of, and benefit from sustainable tuna fisheries, including on the high seas, by developing coastal States, in particular small island developing States, territories, and States with small and vulnerable economies; and Transfer of capacity from developed fishing members to developing coastal fishing members within its area of competence where appropriate. 	Low ^{11,8}	X	No
	Decision-Making			
8	Kobe III participants recommended that the decision-making framework guidelines outlined in Annex XX be referred to the respective tRFMOs for consideration.	Medium	✓	Not applicable
	III. Compliance and Enforcement			
9	Kobe III participants noted their appreciation for the work already conducted by the tRFMO Secretariats on the development of a consolidated list of authorized vessels, including the implementation of unique vessels identifier (UVIs), and recommended that they continue these efforts. Furthermore, the participants recommended that these efforts be coordinated with the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nation's (FAO) effort to develop and implement a global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels, and supply vessels.	High	✓ The tRFMO consolidated list is regularly updated. IOTC is lead agency coordinating with FAO	Ongoing

⁸ The CCSBT does not have a closed authorised vessel register, making capacity difficult to evaluate. In addition, because of the TAC management regime and the use of IQs or ITQs by most Members, capacity has not been considered a priority for CCSBT.

⁹ As part of the CCSBT Strategic Plan, Members (not the Secretariat) are scheduled to report the results of self assessments of capacity to CCSBT 20.

¹⁰ The CCSBT has an active vessel list (http://www.ccsbt.org/site/active_vessels.php) in place. A joint active vessel list has yet to be established amongst the tRFMOs.

¹¹ Purse seining for SBT is currently only conducted for farming purposes.

	Kobe 3 Recommendation	CCSBT Priority ³	CCSBT Status ⁴	Further work planned
10	Kobe III participants recommended that tRFMOs cooperate to harmonize illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) vessel listing criteria, processes, and procedures, to the maximum extent possible, and move towards adopting principles, criteria, and procedures for cross-listing IUU vessels that are listed on the IUU list of other tRFMOs, taking into account the principles in Annex XX.	Medium	Underway ¹²	Not yet determined
11	Kobe III participants recommended that the tRFMOs establish a common format for assessing compliance with data reporting requirements. Furthermore, to facilitate compliance, participants recommended that all tRFMOs streamline and harmonize their reporting formats, procedures, and timing.	Low ¹³ - Medium	X	No
12	Kobe III participants, reaffirming the recommendations regarding port state measures and catch document schemes (CDS), recommended that tRFMOs, developed States, and NGOs accelerate efforts to provide capacity building assistance through various means, including workshops, to implement CDS, port state measures, and data collection and to participate in the scientific work.	High	Underway ¹⁴	Ongoing
IV. Future of Kobe Process				
13	To support the ongoing importance of meeting the core objective of the Kobe process to harmonize approaches and actions of the five tRFMOs, a Steering Committee will be established, comprised of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of each of the five tRFMOs, supported by the five Executive Directors/Secretaries of those same tRFMOs.	-	Noted	As required
14	The Steering Committee's mandate will be to review and report to the five tRFMOs, on a regular basis as determined by the Steering Committee, on the implementation of the recommendations agreed to during the Kobe process, including those adopted at Kobe III. The first meeting of the Steering Committee will take place during the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) meeting in Rome, July 2012, and the work of the Steering Committee will be guided by the principle of transparency.	-	Noted	As required

¹² A draft Resolution for an IUU vessel list, based on other RFMO vessel lists, has been discussed intersessionally and submitted to CC8 for consideration. The draft resolution incorporates procedures for cross-listing.

¹³ Harmonised reporting formats (including data submission) could have considerable benefits, but it would also involve major work from all involved to implement new formats – e.g. significant changes to data submission/loading code, possible changes to the meaning of certain data items and possible re-submission of historic data etc. The “low” priority has been given on the basis of the significant effort and disruption involved rather than the usefulness of the concept. However, if all tRFMOs showed a strong commitment to this recommendation, then this priority should be increased.

¹⁴ In 2011 and 2013, CCSBT ran workshops for Indonesia on the CCSBT's Operating Model /Management Procedure and CCSBT's Catch Documentation Scheme respectively. In 2012, the CCSBT allocated funds for assistance to developing States for 2013, but this fund has yet to be accessed.

	Kobe 3 Recommendation	CCSBT Priority ³	CCSBT Status ⁴	Further work planned
15	Beginning from the adoption of this recommendation at Kobe III, the Secretariat of each of the five tRFMOs will propose that the agenda of their respective annual meetings include a specific item on the Kobe process, to be introduced and led by the Commission Chair, and focused on a review by the tRFMO members of the Kobe process recommendations requiring action by that tRFMO.	-	✓	Ongoing
16	Tuna RFMO members should provide input to the Steering Committee through the Chair(s) of their respective RFMO(s) and during the annual review at the RFMO meeting(s).	-	Ongoing	Ongoing