Trial Quality Assurance Review

On behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna

Undertaken by Global Trust Certification Ltd.

Member Report: Japan

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Executive Summary

This Quality Assurance Review has been carried out on behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT). It is one of four Member trial reviews undertaken to assess the feasibility of using a third party review mechanism to support the conformity of management systems to the Minimum Performance Requirements (MPR). MPR's have been established by the Commission in 2012 to support compliance with National allocations and associated fishery performance objectives.

The Japanese Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) fisheries management system comprises of regulations, operation systems and processes necessary to meet the Minimum Performance Requirements (MPR) for the compliance with national allocations. This quality assurance review covered Section 1.1. of the MPR (compliance with national allocations), and reviewed the existence of the operation systems and processes in place in Japan through documented evidence and consultation with the Fisheries Agency of Japan.

Outcomes and recommendations made based on the QAR of Section 1.1 are listed in the Chapter 6.

Japan's SBT fisheries are all commercial fisheries using longline fishing method only. The fishing season is from April 1st to the end of March of the following year. Government determines the total allowable catch (TAC) of SBT based on the national allocation determined at the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), and distributes it to each fishermen and vessels as non-transferable individual quota (IQ). IQ assigned to each fishermen and vessels, and the total are regularly monitored through real time monitoring program (RTMP). Systems such as Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) and physical inspections at landing ports are established to verify the RTMP data accuracy. As well, Japanese management systems are supported by well-established fisheries legislation and regulatory system with sanctions for effective implementation. There are no recorded cases of exceeding TAC or national allocations since the application of this management system.

Japan is currently not estimating the mortality of commercial discard mortality of SBT. Japan is reporting commercial releases and discard of SBT by number collected through RTMP at CCSBT data exchange) however, Japan notes that the calculation method for the estimate is still in discussion at the CCSBT scientific committee. Once the methodology is agreed, the reviewers understand that Japan is prepared to follow the reporting requirement.

Whilst the review focused on conformity with Section 1.1 of MPR only, the possible points of improvement and recommendations identified in this review include consideration of:

- Strengthening the cross-referencing of data among RTMP, logbook and scientific observer data,
- Better definition or integration of the meaning of release SBT / discard SBT and / or bycatch SBT to further support accuracy in recording in each system;
- Increased efficiency of at-sea monitoring,
- Improvement of DNA tests by establishing random testing system,
- Further risk-based compliance analysis, and
- Examination of the possibility to establish and use market traceability data for SBT with CDS.

Table 1. Summary of Quality Assurance Review Implementation Information: Japan

QAR Contract Period	*April-August 2013*
Reviewers	*Yoko Tamura- Japanese Lead Reviewer* *Dave Garforth- Project Lead Reviewer* *Sam Peacock – Support Reviewer* *Oliver Wilson- Support Reviewer*
Allocation Period covered	*2010 to 2013/14*
Date of consultation meeting(s) Length of consultation	*June 24th, 2013* *4 hour conference call*
List of Member Agencies consulted with.	*Fisheries Agency of Japan*
Report Draft for Member Review	*July 19th 2013*
Receipt of Member Review Template/Comments	*August 14th 2013*
Final Report	*August 30th 2013*

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ABBREVIATIONS

AC	Allocated Catch (Individual Member quota)
ASBTC	Attributable Southern Bluefin Tuna Catch
CCSBT	Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna
CDS	Catch Documentation System
FA	Fisheries Agency
FRA	Fisheries Research Agency
IQ	Individual Quota
JAFIC	Japan Fisheries Information Centre
JTFCA	Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperation Association
JTFCC	Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperation Corporation
LSTLV	Large Scale Tuna Long-line Vessel
MPR	Minimum Performance Requirement
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
METI	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
QAR	Quality Assurance Review
NRIFSF	National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries
RTMP	Real Time Monitoring Programme
SBT	Southern Bluefin Tuna
TAC	Total Allowable Catch

1 Quality Assurance Review

This is an evidence based review that forms the basis for the assessment of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) members against specific obligations from CCSBT's Compliance Policy 1, "Minimum performance requirements to meet CCSBT Obligations". Members were requested to demonstrate, by providing supporting documentation, that they meet the obligation from CCSBT's Compliance Policy. The scope of the assessment was limited to the obligations and associated Minimum Performance Requirements in section 1.1 of this policy, which are aimed at ensuring Members and Co-operating Non-Members have implemented adequate measures to ensure they do not exceed their Allocation of the global Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) catch. The obligations in this policy are derived from CCSBT Resolutions and Decisions, in particular:

- The "Resolution on the Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch"; and
- The "Resolution on Limited Carry-forward of Unfished Annual Total Allowable Catch of Southern Bluefin Tuna within Three Year Quota Blocks".

The main body of this report provides an overview of the management of fisheries of the Member under assessment; a step-by-step description of the approach taken by the Member to meet each Minimum Performance Requirement (MPR); a discussion of any areas where fishery management falls short of an MPR, and potential improvements; and a detailed flow diagram illustrating the relationships between the different components of the management process.

1.1 Methodology

- The QAR is an independent desk top review with remote consultation stages with Member authorities to gain further evidence, seek clarification and verification of performance against the Minimum Performance Requirements of Section 1.1 of the CCSBT Compliance Policy.

- A lead reviewer is assigned to each Member Review from a team of reviewers.
- The review method was undertaken in 4 steps.

i. Management System Review – the overall framework for management of SBT to ensure compliance with allocations
ii. Process and implementation review – the implementation of the fishery management system (description, features, specific measures, actions, rules/regulations that allow for implementation, catch recording, catch reporting and compliance). Evidence of implementation such as specimen records, reporting and recording documents will be requested to allow verification of the system's effectiveness to be assessed.
iii. Management System Effectiveness - the outcome of the analysis documented using a SWOT analysis with regard to the extent that the management system implementation effectively demonstrates compliance to each of the MPR.

iv. Recommendations for Improvement- areas identified through the review that may result in improved Member compliance (or improved reporting effectiveness for purposes of subsequent QAR activities). This is presented using the Opportunities component of the SWOT analysis.

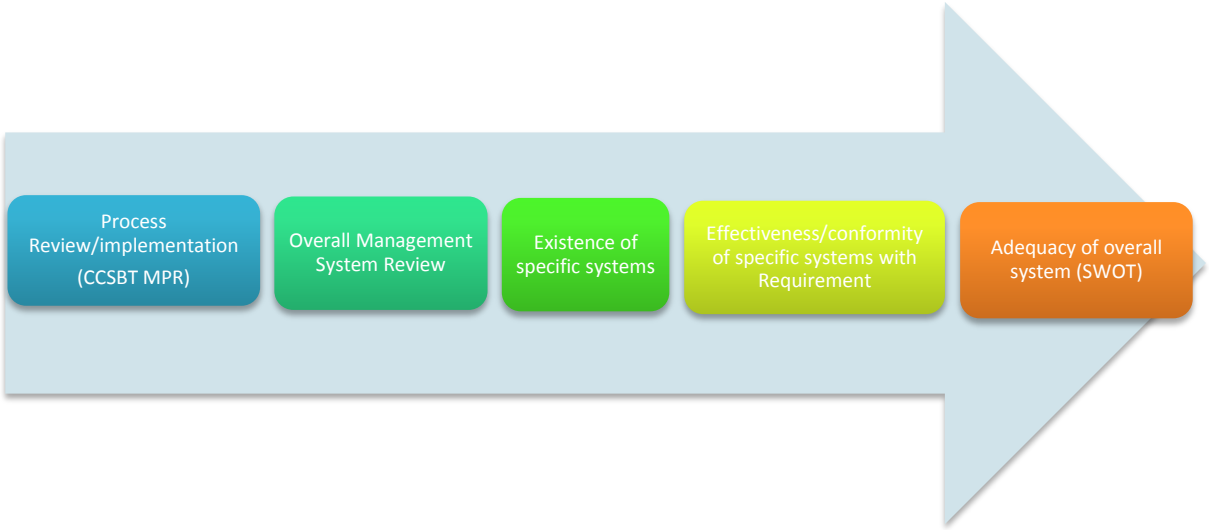


Figure 1. Methodology for the CCSBT Quality Assurance Review

A detailed process flow map of each Member is developed to provide a 'visual' description of allocation and catch accounting systems. The process flow maps are documented initially from the desk based review and then finalized during the final reporting stage.

The report is presented in 6 Sections.

Section 1: This section, providing a short description of the methodology.

Section 2: A background section that describes the fishery and the overall management system. This is supported with an organizational chart (section 4) and table of identified agency roles specific to each MPR (where applicable).

Section 3: Detailed description of the evidence that demonstrates level of conformity to the specific MPR requirement with a summary of outcome and key points.

Section 4: A detailed flow chart has also been prepared to support the evaluation and provides specific details of the SBT Allocation, CDS and MCS in place.

Section 5: Effectiveness of the Management Systems (SWOT)

Section 6: Opportunities/Recommendations

N.B. A further report on the overall outcome and feasibility of the approach, method and conclusions has also been undertaken as part of the QAR work.

2 Southern Bluefin Fishery

2.1 Introduction

Japanese Southern Bluefin tuna (SBT) fisheries are far-distance ocean fisheries operated by commercial vessels outside the Japanese territorial waters. Therefore there is only commercial SBT fisheries sector and there is no recreational and customary fisheries sector for SBT in Japan. There is very little scope to bycatch SBT by other fisheries, as the locations of the fishery are limited to further than the South latitude 40, where only SBT fishing vessels visit from Japan. Since 2006, SBT fisheries have operated all year round in the high-latitude waters of Southern Hemisphere with fishing grounds now predominantly concentrated by Capetown (around April – September), off Sydney and the Tasman Sea (around May – June) and South Indian Sea (around July – September). In recent years, Cape Town is the major foreign port used by Japanese vessels for resupplying, transhipment, and maintenance during the far-distance fishing for SBT, and Japan is in the process of establishing communications with the Republic of South Africa. Similar measures are planned for ports in other countries, in the order of the more frequently used ports by Japanese vessels (Pers. Communication with FA, 2013).

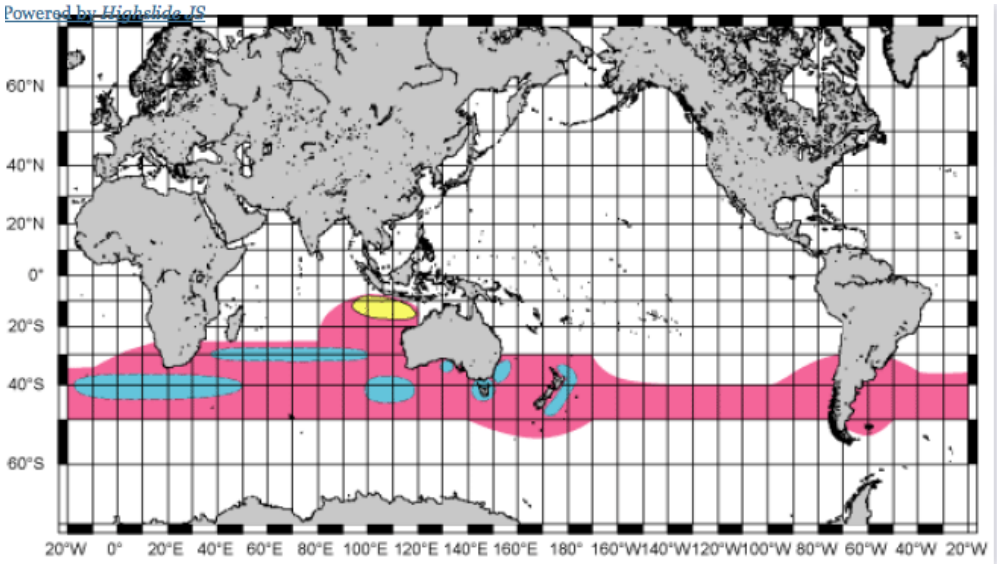


Figure 2. Distribution of SBT (pink), fishing grounds (blue) for all CCSBT member countries, SBT spawning ground (yellow)

2.2 Commercial Fishery

All Japanese commercial fisheries for SBT use longline gear. This fishery have started in 1952 around the low latitudes of the Eastern Indian Ocean (CCSBT statistical area 1 and 2), as the bycatch of post-spawning adult SBT during the bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna fisheries. As the quality of SBT meat in this area was not considered good, the Japanese fishermen extended the fishing ground to higher latitude areas. In 1956, Japanese longline fleets have reached the Northeastern region of New Zealand (Area 5), around the Tasman Sea (Area 4, 7) in 1961, the Southern Indian Ocean (Area 8) in 1965, and around Cape Town (Area 9) in 1967. The number of Japanese vessels that caught SBT in the 1960s was estimated to be about 300. No SBT fishery was established in the Eastern Pacific (Area 12) and off Argentina (Area 10) due to lower fish densities.

In the 1970s, because of the increasing proportion of small sized SBT in the catch and decreasing catches of adult SBT, Japan adopted voluntary area-closures for domestic longline fisheries, which have been in place since October 1971. Fishing in recognised spawning grounds was prohibited between December and March to protect migrating adults, with some fishing grounds closed seasonally to protect small SBT (off Sydney in May-July; Great Australian Bight in October-March; off Cape Town in October-January). In addition, because Japanese fishermen began to target high-quality SBT, the number of fishing operations in Area 1 and 2 dropped drastically. At this time Japanese vessels began using "deep tuna longline" in 1973-1974, and then considerable number of vessels changed their target from SBT to bigeye tuna.

In the early 1980s, SBT catches by Australian surface fisheries increased rapidly while Japanese longline catches decreased. In 1982, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand organized a SBT voluntary trilateral management framework, and began to apply quotas to their fisheries from 1985. Japanese quota was 23,150 t in 1985, and decreased to 19,500 t, 8,800 t, and 6,065 t in the 1986, 1988, and 1989 trilateral meetings, respectively. After 1989, Japan adopted official area/time-closures for domestic longline fisheries in order to manage the Japanese SBT quota. In 1994, the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) came into force. Japan was allocated a quota of 6,065 t in 1989-1997, and continued to regulate its quota up until 2003. In 2004-2006 the Japanese quota was 6,065 t, but Japan set a quota of 4,275 t in 2006 because of an overcatch of 1,790 t found in 2005. In the 2006 CCSBT Commission Meeting (CCSBT13), it was decided to decrease Japanese quota (3,000 t) in next 3 years (2007-2011), and further reduction of catch allocation in 2010-2011 was decided due to the poor stock status estimated in 2009. For the 2010 and 2011 fishing years, Japanese quotas were agreed as 4800t for the 2 years, for which Japan has managed as 2200 t and 2600 t[2] for 2010 and 2011 respectively. Japanese quota in 2012 was 2,519 t.

Area/time-closures were used in the main fishing ground to manage the Japanese quota before 2005. Under this management system, the Fisheries Agency of Japan set the quota for each fishing ground, monitored the SBT catches of authorized vessels, and closed the fishing grounds before the quota was exceeded. In 2006, Japan adopted an individual quota (IQ) system for SBT fisheries, and abolished the seasonal area/time-closures at the same time. In addition, catch monitoring tagging was adopted as a part of strengthening of national management measure. This IQ was relatively small for each vessel considering the recent higher catch per unit effort (CPUE), thus in recent years Japanese vessels tended to easily catch their quotas. The details of operation pattern in 2011 are given below. (From CCSBT-ESC/1208/SBT Fisheries/Japan) [1]

Error! Reference source not found. shows the historical trends of SBT catch for CCSBT members. Due to the decline of SBT, Japan's total longline catch has declined drastically since 1961, and reached as low as 20,000 t by 1985. [2]

[1] Sakai et al. (2012). Review of Japanese SBT Fisheries in 2011. CCSBT-ESC/1208/SBT Fisheries/Japan

[2] National Fisheries Research Institute. (2013) Status of International Fisheries Resources, Southern Bluefin Tuna.

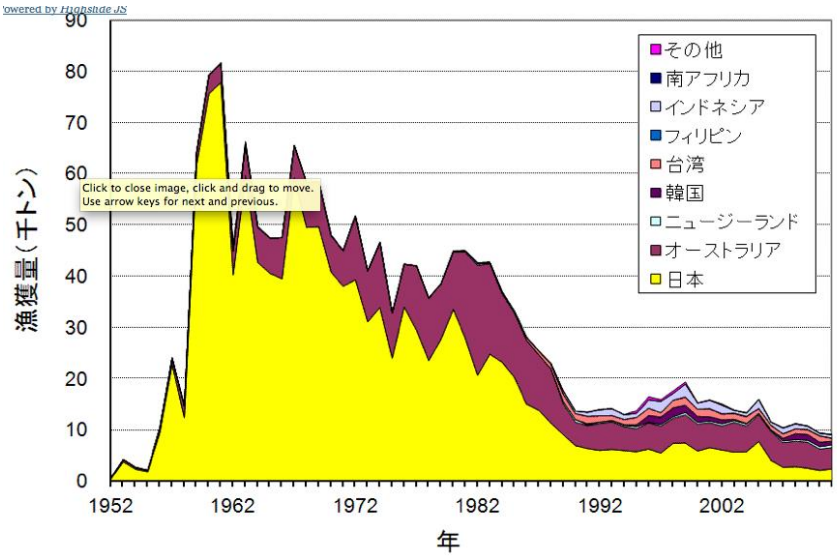


Figure 3 Catch (left axis) History of SBT

From the bottom, Japan (yellow), Australia (red), New Zealand, Korea, Taipei, Philippines, Indonesia, South Africa, other.

Table 2 Fishing season of Japanese SBT longliners (The area ranges are roughly identical to those of the CCSBT statistical area)

	Off Cape (Area 9)			Tasmania (Area 4 & 7)			South Indian Ocean (Area 8)			Total
Year	Start	End	Days	Start	End	Days	Start	End	Days	days
1989	1-Mar	25-Dec	299	1-Mar	25-Dec	299	1-Mar	25-Dec	299	897
1990	1-Apr	31-Jul	122	1-Apr	25-Jun	86	1-Jul	15-Aug	46	254
1991	15-Apr	31-Jul	108	15-May	31-Jul	78	15-Aug	30-Sep	47	233
1992	15-Apr	31-Jul	108	15-May	31-Jul	78	15-Aug	7-Oct	54	240
1993	15-Apr	3-Jul	80	15-May	30-Jun	47	15-Sep	17-Sep	3	130
1994	15-May	26-Jun	43	1-Jun	15-Jun	15	1-Sep	5-Oct	35	93
1995	15-May	25-Jun	42	15-May	20-Jun	37	1-Sep	10-Nov	71	150
1996	1-May	31-Jul	92	15-May	24-Jun	41	1-Sep	30-Nov	91	224
1997	1-May	31-Jul	92	21-Apr	8-Jul	79	1-Sep	14-Dec	105	276
1998	1-May	10-Aug	102	21-Apr	31-Jul	102	5-Sep	5-Dec	92	296
1999	1-May	10-Aug	102	15-Apr	10-Aug	118	1-Sep	1-Dec	92	312
2000	1-May	1-Aug	93	15-Apr	1-Aug	109	1-Sep	27-Dec	118	320
2001	1-May	1-Aug	93	15-Apr	15-Jul	92	1-Sep	28-Nov	89	274
2002	1-May	5-Jul	66	15-Apr	19-Jul	96	1-Sep	28-Nov	89	251
2003	1-May	8-Jul	69	15-Apr	30-Jul	107	1-Sep	16-Dec	107	283
2004	1-May	9-Aug	101	15-Apr	31-Jul	108	1-Sep	23-Dec	114	323
2005	1-May	27-Aug	119	15-Apr	31-Jul	108	1-Sep	13-Dec	104	331
2006	Fishing season was started at 1-May in all area. There was no regulation as the seasonal area closure.									
2007										
2008										
2009	Fishing season was started at 1-April in all area. There was no regulation as the seasonal area closure.									
2010										
2011										

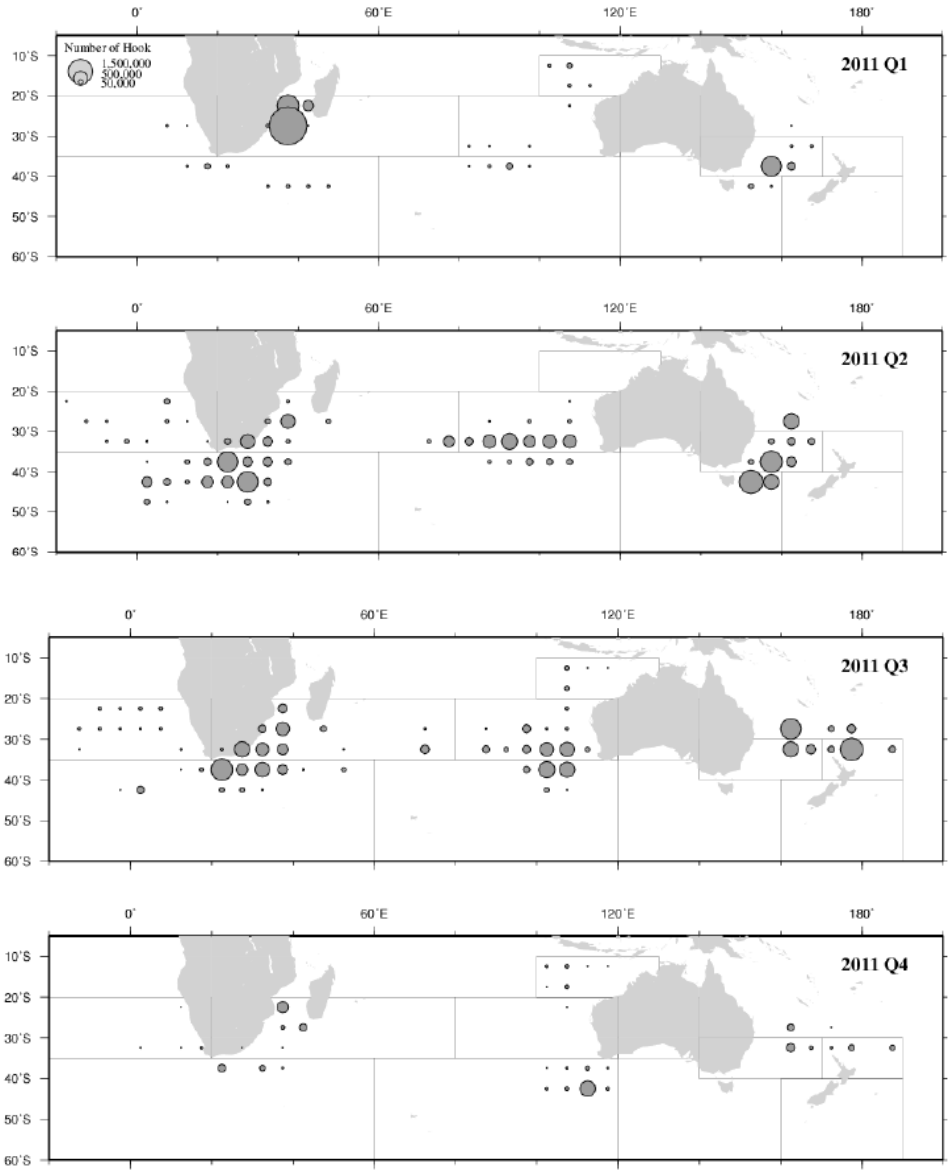


Figure 4: Number of Hooks by year, quarter and 5x5 degrees square (2011)

2.3 Management Authorities and Associations

Table 2. shows the summary of management authorities and their responsibilities. The Fisheries Agency (FA) under the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) is responsible for management of fisheries overall in Japan. The Fisheries Management Division is the main division in charge of the compliance for the national allocation of SBT. The division oversees and coordinates SBT's national allocation distribution (IQ) to fishermen and vessels, daily fisheries catch monitoring, 100% coverage landing inspection of SBT and the implementation of the CCSBT Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) and its daily processing / permit issuance / validation of documents. The division maintains an office close to the Shimizu port, one of the largest tuna landing port in Japan for easier handling of port landing inspection, issuance and validation of CDS and other necessary documents.

Japan is the largest import country of SBT in the world, which accounts for 3.4 times more than its domestic production. Japan therefore controls import / export of SBT to supplement accuracies of CDS measures as well as to support prevention of illegal trades. The fisheries processing industries and market distribution division in FA manages internal and external fishery products trades within Japan and its distribution in markets, and supports compliance of SBT conservation regulations by monitoring and issuing of documents for import / export application (CDS). Agricultural and Marine Products Office, Trade Control Department within the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) supports monitoring and control of import / export through monitoring before customs clearance.

FA monitors compliance of national allocation with support of Fisheries Research Agency (FRA), Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries (NRIFSF), Japan Fisheries Information Center (JAFIC) and fisheries associations such as Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperation Association (JTFCA), Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperation Corporation (JTFCC).

FA delegates scientific and technical research of fisheries to Fisheries Research Agency. Within the FRA, NRIFSF is in charge of tuna resources where SBT's scientific data collection and analysis are planned and conducted to advise FA for resources management measures. The NRIFSF conducts SBT research at the specialist group called SBT sub-unit in the Bluefin Unit of the temperate sea tuna research group.

Japan Fisheries Information Center (JAFIC), with its devolved role in maintaining databases including the one for Real Time Monitoring Program (RTMP), has a central function in informing management authorities up-to-date status of catch monitoring against allocation and TAC. JAFIC collects fisheries data with from Japanese fishing vessels, government research vessels, surveillance vessels, data from satellites, ocean buoys etc. to provide consolidated information on fisheries catch and at-sea environmental status.

Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperation Association (JTFCA) and All-Japan Far Seas Tuna Fisheries Association are producer organizations consisting of Japanese small to middle scale far-distance tuna fisheries. JTFCA co-operates Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperation Corporation (JTCC), which provides business services to member tuna producers. These organizations support fishermen in cooperation with government authorities by liaising to inform compliance requirements, providing necessary guidance to fishermen for implementation of necessary measures.

2.4 Management System

As SBT is a species with is distributed outside of Japanese territorial waters, stock management of SBT is performed at the stock assessment committee at CCSBT, where Japanese scientists participate to collaborate for the assessment. The national allocation of quota determined at CCSBT is normally directly applied as Japan's total allowable catch (TAC), after going through a necessary public comments process. The TAC can be revised when FA decides to carry-forward or take a payback measure based on the outcome of the previous fishing season. In these cases also, a public comments process are held before FA makes a final announcement.

Japan enacted the Law on the Special Measures for Strengthening Tuna Resources Conservation and Management (Tuna Law) in 1996 to implement Japanese fishermen's and transporters compliance and reporting requirements by proactively cooperating with international resources management agreements and to maintain and stabilize tuna supplies to Japanese markets. This law provides an overarching framework for inter-sectorial cooperation for implementation of compliance measures related to

management measures required by international commissions, preventing illegal international trade of tuna species, and to collect information on globally imported tuna to Japan to ensure compliance to the regulations in place.

2.5 Market System

All SBT caught by Japanese vessels must be transported to one of the eight designated domestic landing ports by the fishing vessels or by carrier vessels. Whilst direct export from vessels is prohibited, Japan is the largest Sashimi-market for SBT anyway. At the time of landing, all vessels receive physical landing inspections, in which it checks the consistency between the reported and actual SBT weight and individual counts of SBT as well as other requirements. Individual vessels and carrier vessels land large quantities of SBT at once, therefore it is a common practice in Japan to trade whole shipments of SBT in a vessel to a merchant. Otherwise the fish are sold through a bidding system or a negotiated transaction at designated domestic markets (most commonly at Shimizu and Yaizu) before they are distributed through a myriad of supply chains. Some export takes place after SBT has been landed into Japan (the direct export of SBT without first being landed in Japan is prohibited), however compared to the large amount of Japan's import of SBT, export quantities are significantly small numbers.

The import volume from other countries production quota (8,677t in 2011) to Japanese market is about 3.4 times of domestic catch (2011 in 2,518 t), and the export volume (1.2t in 2011) of domestic products is 0.05%. Total production volume of SBT in Japan accounts for only 1.6% of all tuna and tuna-like species caught by Japan, and 2.9 % of all tuna species (2011 Trade statistics), thus the production level of SBT is the lowest among all tuna species. Japan's catch of SBT is about a quarter of total SBT catch of the world. The amount of catch allocation for Japan in 2013 (2689 t) is only second to Australia and is about 25% of total TAC (10449 t in 2013) of all CCSBT member countries.

Table 2 Management Authority Responsibilities for Minimum Performance Requirement (MPR)

Management Authority	Description	Responsibilities	MPR
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) **Fisheries Agency (FA)**	Fisheries Management Division	• SBT national allocation distribution (IQ) to fishermen and vessels. • Daily fisheries catch monitoring • 100% coverage landing inspection of SBT • Fisheries management and coordination in general • Official document issuance prior to import of SBT (CDS)	MPR 1 *MPR 2a(i)* *MPR 2a (ii)* *MPR 2a (iii)* *MPR 4:*
	Fisheries Processing and Market Distribution Division	• Check and issue of documents for import application (CDS application)	
	International Division	• International negotiation and liaison	
Fisheries Research Agency (FRA)	National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries (NRIFSF)	Collection of scientific data and analysis	*MPR 2b* *MPR 3*
Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperation Association (JTFCA), Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperation Corporation (JTFCC) **All Japan Far Seas Tuna Fishermen Association**		Coordination for implementation of compliance measures	*MPR 2a(i)* *MPR 2a (ii):* *MPR 2a (iii):*
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)	Economic Affairs Bureau Fishery Division	Diplomatic works regarding fisheries resources management	
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) :	Agricultural and Marine Products Office Trade Control Department	Check and issue of documents prior to import application after FA's issuance of documents	

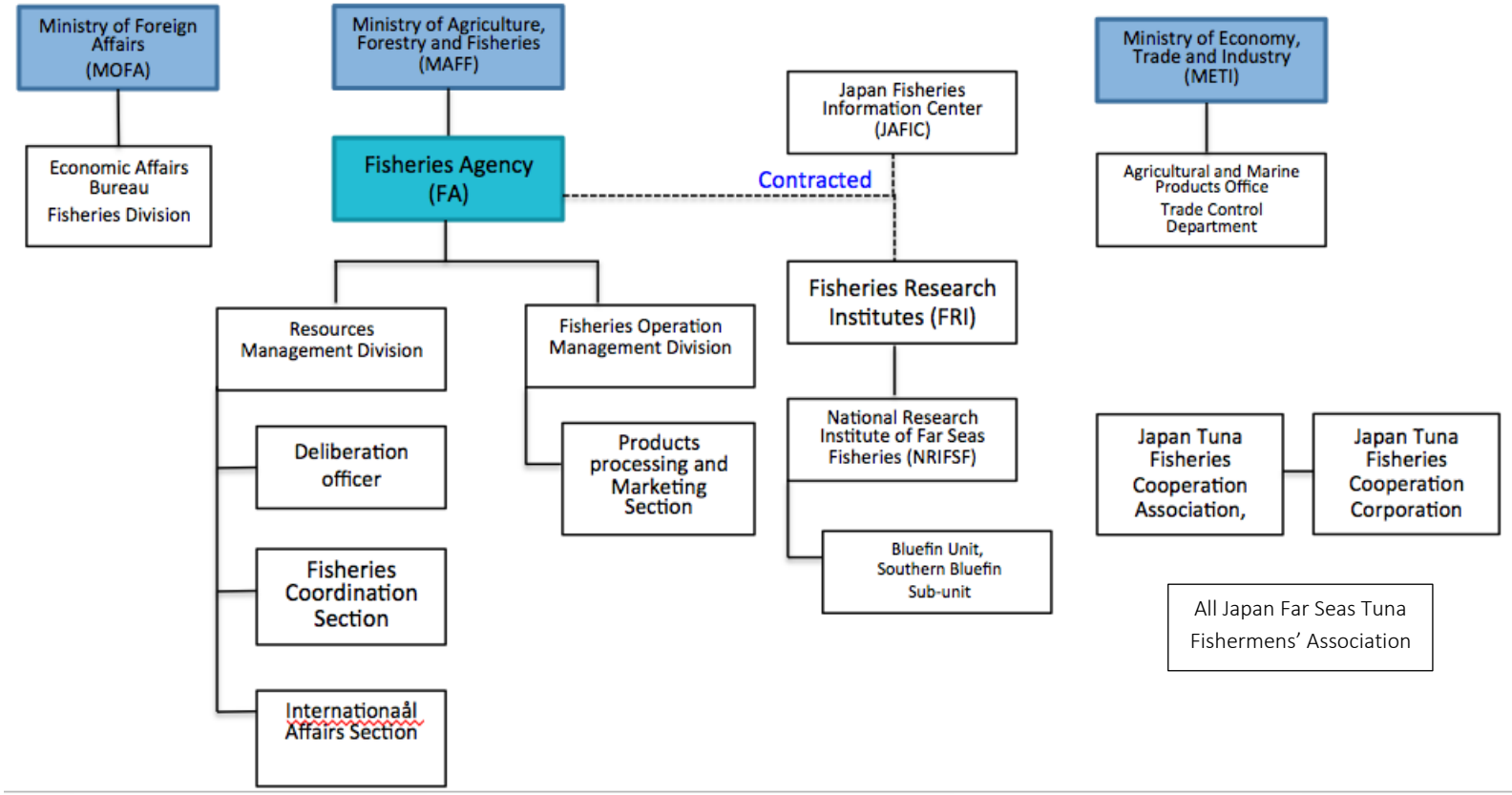


Figure 5 Management Authority Organogram

3. Member Management System Implementation of CCSBT Minimum Performance Requirements

This section is based on historical Member Compliance Action Plans against the 2012 quota allocation; data that demonstrates performance of compliance to date against the 2013 quota and including reference to 2014 allocation.

3.1 Obligation 1.1 (i)

3.1.1 MPR 1 – "Rules in place to ensure that the total 'Attributable SBT Catch' of each Member does not exceed the Member's Allocated Catch for the relevant period."

Summary – The fishing Effort in the Japan SBT fishery is limited by the application of a maximum catch limit, which is set in line with the CCSBT Allocated Catch (AC). During the time period under scrutiny in this review (2010-2013), the total Attributable SBT Catch (ASBTC) reported by Japan has been below both the maximum catch limit and the CCSBT AC for that period.

Key points

- Japan's SBT fishing season starts in April 1st and ends at last day of March every year.
- Japan decided to carry over 54 t from its 2012 allocation of 2519t to the 2013 quota. This decision had been reported to CCSBT commission secretariat on May 30th 2013. Previously, 117 tonnes had been carried forward from 2010 to 2011 fishery.
- If TAC is increased with additional national allocation at CCSBT or carry-over procedures, Japan reissues national catch limits and adjustments on individual quotas are made.
- Japan's Attributable SBT Catch definition: The amount of SBT put into fish hold of the vessel. There is no change in this definition as of current date (June 24, 2013).
- In 2012, no overfishing has been identified; therefore no payback measure is planned.

Japan's fisheries management ensures that the total Attributable SBT Catch (ASBTC) does not exceed Japan's nationally allocated catch (AC) determined at the CCSBT meetings through the strict monitoring systems implementing the individual quota allocation and the CDS documentation scheme that ensures reporting of catches against the quota.

As an authority responsible for administration of national catch allocation management and compliance, FA conduct following management measures:

- National allocation (Japan's final domestic catch limit) announcement and distribution to individual fishermen (can be a company representative) and each vessel under their possession that catch SBT;
- Preparation and distribution of SBT compliance rules and regulation documents (information dissemination);

- Implementation of Real Time Monitoring Program (RTMP) to monitor catch against the allocated quotas throughout the fishing season;
- Control of reporting and approval system of CDS, transshipments, monitoring through VMS, RTMP, designation and management of eight domestic and fifteen foreign ports of landing.
- Implementation of 100% inspection at domestic landing of SBT;

Table 3 Japanese national allocation and total catch from 2010 – 2013

Fishing year	National Allocation	Carry-forward	Domestic total quota	Total catch
2010*	2,200	0	2,200	2,083
2011*	2,600	117	2,717	2,585
2012	2,519	N/A	2,519	2465
2013	2,689	54 **	2689 (current, planned to be increased)	N/A

- * Catch allocation for Japan in 2010 and 2011 were determined as 4800t for 2 years (includes transferred allocation of 139t from New Zealand (NZ) based on NZ-Japan bilateral agreement). Unfished allocation (117t) of 2010 can be carried forward to 2011.
- ** Japan decided carryover of 54 t from 2012 allocation of 2519t to 2013 quota. This decision has been reported to CCSBT commission secretariat on May 30th 2013.

Table 3 details Japan's AC from 2010 to 2013, with 2010 – 2011 and 2012 – 2014 each being block timeframe when carry-forward are allowed within. In the 2011/2012 fishing year Japan caught within its allocated catch and was not required to pay back any quota. Japan has decided to carry-over 54 t from its 2012 national allocation to the 2013 quota. This decision has been reported to CCSBT Secretariat on May 30th 2013. Before the carry-over decision, Japan announced 2013's maximum catch limit as 2689 ton on February 14th 2013 in the official gazette, and as of reporting had not revised the maximum catch limit. This was described due to awaiting for the confirmation of final member quota allocation depending on the decision of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) whether or not it joins CCSBT Member by the end of May 2013. Due to the RSA's decision not to become a Member, allocation to Japan has increased (to 2703 t). Japan adds carry-forward amount of 54t to this revised allocation, (2703 + 54 ton, total 2757 t) and at the time of reporting, was preparing a public comment procedure and subsequent announcement of a new maximum catch limit. (The FA communicated that the revised allocation announcement was planned for early September 2013).

3.1.2 MPR 2a(i): [Operating systems and processes established to implement annual catching arrangements, including] Specification of allocations by company, quota holder or vessel

Summary – MAFF ordinance number 57, regarding permission and control of designated fisheries (based on Fisheries Law and the Law of Fisheries Resources Conservation) clarifies that Japan allocates maximum catch limit (AC) to commercial fishermen (individual fishers and each vessels) who possess far seas tuna fisheries permits, based on their requests. If the total request amount if more than the total allocation, catch is allocated based on the past 3 year's catch by the fishers and vessels and proportionally distributed among them within the total allocation. Japan does not divide the allocation to other sectors or bycatch mortality. Research mortality is granted for separate allocation from CCSBT, and this is not included in the total maximum catch for commercial fishing.

Key points

- The allocation of SBT catch in Japan is implemented through the issuance of a quota assignment document, which is separate from a fishing permit for far seas tuna fisheries in CCSBT area.
- After the maximum catch announcement, FA invites applications for individual quotas from fishermen (and their vessels) and the allocation is divided into non-transferable Individual Quotas (IQ).
- Only IQ transfer among vessels under the same owner are permitted.

When the national allocation is set by CCSBT in its October annual meeting, FA determines the same amount as the national allocation as domestic SBT maximum catch limit if there is no need to incorporate modification. FA invites public comments prior to the adoption of national allocation as the maximum catch limit as well. In 2013, public comments were invited through the official homepage by FA's fisheries coordination office around mid December in 2012. The announcement was held for 30 days. There had been no comments given so far regarding the maximum catch limit of SBT. (One comment given in 2012 was about general question regarding tuna resources, not about the catch limit, and none received in 2013.)

The determined maximum catch limit is then announced by official gazette and website around mid February, with the FA then inviting applications for individual catch quotas from licenced fishermen for far seas tuna fisheries (March 1st is the last day of acceptance). Fishermen possessing a fishing permit for far seas tuna fisheries can apply for the quota to MAFF, by providing their requested total allocation. They are required to also provide the planned allocation for each vessel under their ownership, a fishing plan and past three years catch history through their adjacent fisheries office.

Far seas tuna fisheries are a designated fisheries under Ministry ordinance for managing of designated fisheries, which is based on the Fisheries Law and Law of the Fisheries Resources

Management and Conservation, therefore fishermen must obtain Minister's license for this fishery. List of licensed vessels to operate with the licence are publicly available through FA's website (http://www.jfa.maff.go.jp/j/kikaku/sitei/pdf/enkama2013.pdf).

Physical recognition of the vessel is required. Fishermen must mark all the vessels they use for far seas tuna fisheries under this license with 1 meter width red paint in the vessels' bridge before using for far seas tuna fisheries and immediately remove the mark if the vessel is no longer used for the fisheries.

If the total of requested quota from fishermen is less than total quota, then MAFF accepts the requested quota and issues an official quota assignment document for each vessel. If the total requested amount exceeds the year's total quota, FA proportionaly calculates the appropriate amount taking into account the vessels' fishing capacity on the basis of their past three years catch history of SBT, and ensures that the total allocation catch does not exceed the maximum catch limit. If the total of requested quota from fishermen is less than the total quota, the unrequested quota may be carried over to next year. In the case that there is still remaining quota after allocation or there was an increase in the quota and fishermen request further reallocation, FA distribute the remaining quota based on the remaining amount divided by requesting numbers of fishermen, taking fishing capacity into account, within the total remaining or increased quota. [3]

After the quota allocation to fishermen, the total and detail of quota allocation to individual vessels are reported to CCSBT Secretariat every year and the list is made public on the CCSBT website. [4]

Transfer of individual allocation among or between individual fishermen is not permitted (*Section 4, Article 57 of the Ministerial Ordinance on Regulation, 1*.) However, if a fisherman (or representative of a fishing company that receives quota allocation) possesses more than one fishing vessel that will catch SBT, quotas allocated to his vessel can be transferred to other vessels under his possession. To change the allocation of the each vessels quota, the fishermen must submit a request for change of SBT allocation to MAFF.

FA controls and monitors allocated catch through following actions:

Allocation of Japanese SBT catch is implemented through the issuance of a quota assignment document issued separately from the fishing permit for far seas tuna fisheries in the SBT Fishing areas. Only the fishermen who hold a Minister's permit for far seas tuna fisheries in CCSBT area can apply for individual quota allocation. FA ensures this by cross-referencing the vessel registration number under the license and quota assignment permit numbers. *Ministry ordinance article 91, section 3* rules that a person who does not possess an individual allocation of SBT quota for the designated season is not allowed to catch SBT. Fishery license and vessel registration numbers are printed on the quota assignment document. The original quota assignment document must always be kept onboard the permitted fishing vessel, and must be presented to fisheries inspection officers whenever requested.

[3] Refer to Attachment 4.
[4] Refer to Attachment 4 (Individual vessels catch allocation table for 2013 season)

3.1.3 MPR 2a (ii): [Operating systems and processes established to implement annual catching arrangements, including] Arrangements for daily recording of all catches;

Summary - All Japanese vessels fishing for SBT are required to report fishing details every day throughout the fishing period through Real Time Monitoring Program (RTMP). The data is collected by JAFIC to be collated and constantly monitored with IQ and maximum catch limit. This database is shared with FA fisheries coordination office, who monitor the catch compliance.

Key points

- Real Time Monitoring Program (RTMP)- considered to support compliance through reporting
- Logbook- submitted every 10 days

Catches of SBT are monitored by Japan through the catch data reported and monitored through RTMP to which commercial fishers are required to submit on a daily basis throughout fishing activity. Fishermen are also required to submit logbook data every 10 days to FA whilst fishing, however logbook records are not specifically for allocation monitoring, and rather used as a supplementary reference as required. (It is for other compliance measures and collection of biological data)

The RTMP is administered by JAFIC, which monitors the total catch during the fishing season to ensure catch is under the catch limit and individual IQ is observed by each vessels. Prior to starting to fish for SBT, the captain or fishery operation manager who have been allocated IQ and intend to fish for SBT are required to report their vessels' general information and fishing plan for the season to JAFIC. Hereafter the vessel must report daily catch information until the vessel ends fishing.

Fishers manually record data on the RTMP form[5] which is sent to JAFIC by fax, where the information is received and entered into an electronic database maintained by JAFIC. Information submitted on the RTMP includes; reporting of dates, fishing vessel name and registration No., name and position of reporter, location at noon, surface temperature, wind direction and speed, activity type (fishery operation, travel to other location, etc.), number of hooks used, fishing start time, end time, catch amount, tag numbers, individual product weight, released SBT (alive or death and size), length, gender, process form, measurement tools and method for weighting the fish.

The JAFIC database is coordinated and shared with FA, which monitors the fisheries situation and usage of allocation at a daily basis. FA noted that by requiring fishermen to report their catch and fishing environment every day, it supports compliancy, reduces the risk of inaccurate reports and falsification of catch reporting. The daily reports serve to allow monitoring of total catch prior to its transshipment and landings to allow quantification of catches against quota for individuals holders. The reported data are then used for inspections to check consistency with other report such as CDS and at landing inspections.

Prior to a landing inspection at domestic landing ports, FA obtains reported catch data from RTMP and compares this data at the actual physical inspection (weight and individual counts of SBT). If a difference of more than 2% between the reported and inspected weight is found, FA orders the

[5] Attachment 3 includes RTMP form.

fishermen to investigate the cause of the difference and validation of the inspection is not completed until until the difference has been clarified.

Ministry ordinance article 28 and section 2 of article 28 requires SBT fisheries vessels to always keep and record logbooks with reports submitted to the FA every 10 days. Mandatory daily logbook records include the date of catch, vessel position, date and time of set and haul, number of hooks set, caught SBT's tag number with length, product weight, number of total SBT caught and released (as by-catch, but not including the state of alive or death). A conversion factor of 1.15 is attributed to SBT that has been processed as gilled, gutted and tail removed. The conversation factor is used to record weights in the logbook.

Fishermen are required to send logbook records to their company by fax every 10 days, and the company mails the faxed logbook information to FA. Upon receiving the logbook records, FA sends the records to NRIFSF where the data is analyzed and recorded in an electronic database. NRIFSF contracts a private consulting company to digitize and create an electronic database complete with logbook information for analysis use. This data is then shared with FA, NRIFSF and other relevant bodies for in –depth data analysis. Logbook data are collected for all far seas tuna fisheries; therefore it is not analyzed only for the purpose of SBT fisheries, rather to grasp all tuna fisheries trends.

Cross-checking of data in logbook with RTMP and catch monitoring data is not a routine, however total catch reported in logbooks is cross-checked time to time with total catch recorded in RTMP and total weights measured at landing inspection, especially at the end of the fishing season. [6]

3.1.4. MPR 2b: [Operating systems and processes established to], in accordance with the CCSBT timeline, monitor all fishing-related mortality of SBT.

Summary – Japan's commercial fisheries require fishermen to report the numbers of "released and discarded SBT" through entering in RTMP form and report by FAX everyday to JAFIC. The released or discarded SBT's approximate size (if they were <20kg, 20-40kg and >40kg) are also collected. At the time of the release, if the SBT released is alive, it is called released SBT and if it was dead, it is called discards.) The status of whether dead or alive, and the approximate size are determined by physical inspection on deck to swiftly return the alive SBT to ocean.

Key points

- For reporting of commercial discard mortality, currently JAFIC assembles the total commercial released and discards SBT number and is reported at CCSBT data exchange.
- There is no other Japanese fishery in the CCSBT fishing area, thus there is no by-catch mortality.
- Japan has no recreational fishing for SBT, thus no recreational mortality is reported.
- Other category of SBT mortality other than commercial fisheries is research fisheries mortality. This is separately reported as Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) to CCSBT.

[6] Attachment 3 includes logbook form.

MPR 2b states that Japan should monitor all fishing-related SBT mortality. In Japan, fishing related SBT mortality associated with commercial catch is recorded and reported through RTMP. The RTMP form requires fishermen to enter whether the released SBT is more or less than 20, 40kg and if it was alive or dead by eye measurement at the time of returning them to the ocean. For reporting of commercial discard mortality, currently JAFIC assembles the total SBT commercial released and discards number and is reported to the CCSBT data exchange. Currently, there is no legal definition for release and discard of fish in Japan, but depending on the fish status at the time of release, live fish is called "released SBT" and if the fish is dead, it is called "discards" for reporting purpose. Japan neither has a legal definition of "bycatch".

Japan notes that it is not estimating the mortality of released and discards SBT, as the calculation method for estimate is still in discussion at CCSBT scientific committee. Once the methodology is agreed, Japan has indicated that it is prepared to follow the reporting requirement.

Scientific observer's also record bycatch information including SBT discards number, actual scaled weight, size and state of dead or alive[7] but this report is currently not incorporated into the counting or estimation of SBT mortality. Observer data is reported separately to FA and NRIFSF and it takes approximately 1 year for the data to become available for analysis. [8] In addition, logbook records catch disposal of all bycatch species including SBT, although this information does not include the alive / dead status of SBT while it is released. It takes about 6 months until the collated data from logbook become available for analysis. Under the current system, due to the delay of data availability and staff shortage, RTMP / scientific observer /and logbook data are not regularly cross-referenced. However, FA is currently considering introduction of electronic logbook system, which will accelerate the data collation and analysis. On the other hand, scientific data is recognized as an important third-person information. Therefore, FA is currently considering the feasible methodology for the cross-checking of these three source of information.

There is no recreational and other Japanese fisheries that will produce bycatch of SBT, thus there is no reporting of other fisheries mortality, simply because the area is too far for Japan for recreational fisheries or other fisheries to occur. SBT fishing area is distributed further than south latitude 40° and no Japanese fishing vessels other than those that catch SBT go to the area. This is confirmed by FA through its monitoring of VMS in the fishing areas.

Research fisheries mortality also estimates SBT mortality with a maximum 1 t of research mortality allowance (RMA) allocated by CCSBT for drag-net SBT recruitment monitoring research. Japan has reported 0.325 t for this mortality in 2012.

(See MPR 3 also)

[7] Attachment 3 includes RTMP report format 2013.
[8] Scientific Observer Manual 2012

3.1.5. MPR 2c: Ensure accuracy of the "Attributable SBT Catch", including (for fishing Members) a physical inspection regime of SBT caught by the Member's fishing vessel, and (for farming Members) monitoring the accuracy of the stereo video monitoring and adjusting/ re-calibrating where necessary.

Summary – To Ensure accuracy of the "Attributable SBT Catch", Japan implements Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) to track all SBT caught by Japanese fishing vessels until they are sold to SBT wholesalers / whole-shipment buyers to be consumed in Japan or to be exported afterwards. 100% at port coverage physical inspection is performed at 8 designated domestic landing ports. There is a scientific observer program with 14.8 % coverage and vessel surveillance at sea support the general compliance of fisheries regulation implementation at the same time.

Key points

- CDS
  - Transhipment at sea, Port control, control for import/export/ re-export, first point of sale using catch tagging form
- Scientific Observer Program

Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS)

The CCSBT CDS incorporates CDS documentation and tagging of SBT. All transhipments, landings of domestic product, exports, imports and re-exports shall be accompanied by a Catch Monitoring Form. The Catch Tagging Program requires that a valid plastic tag be attached to each SBT brought on board a fishing vessel and retained. The tag attachment on all SBT caught and reported are validated landing inspection at Japan's designated domestic ports, which have 100% inspection cover of all landings. By having the CDS documents and tags, individual SBT's catch origin, weight, transhipment history, buyer information becomes traceable until the first entry to the market. Signatures are required by each step of the SBT trades.

When SBT is caught, fishermen measure its body length, remove its gut and tail and measure its weight, identify sex and attach a plastic tag that carries the tag serial number and the vessel's call signal, before the SBT is stored in the in-vessel freezer. The tag must be identifiable for the particular fishing year with colour and a tag must carry a tag number in the order of catch throughout the fishing season and vessel number. A paper that contains same information is attached on fish body as well Information necessary for logbook and RTMP are collected and recorded at the same time and RTMP record is faxed to JAFIC.

Before the landing and transshipment, fishermen must complete the Catch Monitoring Form (CMF) and send to FA at least 10 days in advance of landing or transhipment. FA will then create Catch Tagging Form based on the submitted information on CMF and RTMP, sign and FAX it to the fisher. The fisher fills the CMF form with CTF document number granted by FA to complete the form before

landing / transhipment inspection. It is FA's intention that only FA creates the CTF so that it includes officially verified information and strengthens CMF information. CMF will only inform the SBT's weight traded, and not inform what tag number of SBT has sold to a particular buyer. CMF will complete at the time when SBT has sold to a buyer with his signature given in the form and submitted to FA.

Transhipment

In 2011, the percentage of annual transhipment of SBT of all catch was around 45.0% in total (32.4% was transhipment at port, and 12.3% was transhipment at sea). There were 21 cases of transhipments at sea in 2011, by 19 Japanese LSTLVs. Transhipped products were inspected at the time of landing at Japanese ports.

Transhipment at Sea

For at-Sea transshipments, Japan requires fishing vessels to transship SBT products only to the Carrier vessels registered with CCSBT Carrier vessels, which carries 100% observer cover, in accordance with At-Sea Transhipment Observer Program in both the Indian and Atlantic Oceans. Japan submitted the list of Carrier vessels and transshipped vessels to CCSBT in 2011. (Available online). All SBT fishing vessels are permitted to tranship at sea, however transhipping vessel must file a transshipment application to FA by submission of the Declaration of Offloading Abroad and Transhipment for Tuna Longline Fishery form and CMF 10 days before the scheduled transhipment. When the CTF form is sent to the vessel from the FA, the fisher must fill out the CMF with the reported CTF document number. At the transshipment, the CMF must be signed by the Carrier vessel captain and regional fisheries management organization (RFMO) observer and handed over to them. In addition, within 15 days from completion of the transshipment, the transshipped vessel must fill in the transshipment declaration form required for each regional management organization depending on the SBT's caught region and send it to FA (for SBT, in accordance with CCSBT at-sea transhipment resolution who report to ICCAT and IOTC based on the memorandum of agreement with CCSBT and ICCAT and IOTC). The Carrier vessels are inspected for its proper registration against the CCSBT list and its carriage of CMF at the landing inspection in Japanese ports.

Transhipment at Foreign Ports

Japan designated 15 foreign ports (Capetown, Port Elizabeth, Durban (Sough Africa), Port Luis (Moulitious), Walvis Bay (Namibia), Mahe (Seyshelle), Montevideo (Urguay), Benoa (Indonesia), Aukland, Wellington, Nelson (New Zealand), Busan (Korea), Dalian (China), Suva (Fiji), Noumea (New Caledonia)) for SBT transhipment (attachment 1, SBT compliance rules).

Unlike transhipping-at-sea, carrier vessel after transhipment does not have to carry a transhipment observer, however the transshipping port country's government officer may witness the transshipments. Same as transhipping-at-sea, the transhipping vessel must file an application of transhipment to FA by submitting the Declaration of Offloading Abroad and Transhipment for Tuna Longline Fishery form and CMF 10 days before the transhipment. FA will then issue a CTF form and fax to the vessel. Fisher then must fill CMF with the given CTF document number. At the time of transhipment, CMF must collect signature from the Carrier vessels' captain and observer and handed over to the Carrier vessel while keeping a copy at transhipping vessel. In addition, within 15 days

from completion of the transhipment, transhipped vessel must fill in the transhipment declaration form required for each regional management organization (for SBT, in accordance with CCSBT at-sea transhipment resolution, it reports to ICCAT and IOTC based on the memorandum of agreement with CCSBT and ICCAT.) The Carrier vessels are inspected for its proper registration at CCSBT list and signed CMF at the landing inspection in Japanese landing ports, where FA inspector will validate CMF if the reported RTMP records, CMF records and weighted and counted SBT correspond altogether at the 100% cover landing inspection.

Total weight by fish species on board is provided to the designated port states in accordance with rules of the port states. In the case of Republic of South Africa (RSA), Japanese vessels submit CDS and CTF. FA issues RSA a document either; 1) vessels authorization for transhipment (with date of port entry, transhipment date and SBT weight) if the SBT is going to be transhipped at the port and, 2) confirmation of vessel's SBT carriage (date of port entry and SBT weight) if the vessel is entering the port but is not transhipping SBT. All transhipped SBT must be validated after full inspection at the designated Japanese Port. The reviewers were informed by FA that Japan is pursuing communication with the Republic of South Africa on sharing relevant information (Vessel name, planned date of arrival, transhipment date, transhipping SBT weight, numbers and whether SBT has a tag attached). Japan plans to start similar communication with the other port states.

Port landing inspection (Domestic landing)

Japan designated eight domestic ports (Tokyo (Tokyo prefecture), Kawasaki, Yokohama, Yokosuka, Misaki (Kanagawa prefecture), Shimizu, Ooigawa, Yaizu (Shizuoka prefecture)) for SBT landing. (Ministry ordinance article 18, section 1)

At the domestic port, landing SBT are inspected 100% by official inspector from FA. FA maintains a port office at a main Tuna landing port in Shimizu. Inspectors check actual total weight, individual tuna's tag and count the number of SBT and compare with the previously reported data through RTMP, Declaration of Offloading Abroad and Transhipment for Tuna Longline Fishery Form and CMF documents. Original catch weight is estimated at 1.15 times of product weight, and it must be less than the allocated quota to the vessel. When no overfishing or document error is found, inspectors sign the CMF to be validated. Where errors are not accepted, further action to establish the discrepancy is undertaken. If, for example the number of transshipped SBT reported and actual SBT counts at the port differs, inspector will hold for signing until the clarification is made. Fishers must also submit the product measurement record at port inspection, list of scales and measurement tools used, invoice, etc. to the inspector by 10 days from landing by FAX. All SBT caught by Japanese vessels must go through the inspection at designated ports, including the SBT that will be exported later.

Import / Export / Re-export of SBT

SBT that are caught under non-Japanese catch allocation are imported to Japan through flight and vessel shipments in many forms and routes. Under the Law on the Special Measures for Strengthening Tuna Resources Conservation and Management (Tuna Law), Japan requires the importer of SBT to submit the Report for Importing Frozen Tuna by 10 days prior to the import date. Also, Japan requires CTF submission with all frozen tuna import in order to stop import from countries that has poor compliance with internationally agreed management measures. In the case

of when submission of CTF is difficult, a document proving the weight of individual SBT being imported must be submitted.

Procedure for import of frozen SBT:

1. Importers or customs clearance agent of SBT must submit "application for validation for official vessels" against CCSBT Record of Authorized Vessels or CCSBT Record of Authorized Tuna Farms, and the "Report on SBT" including the record of importing frozen tuna, vessels name, transportation tool, import date, buyer, and species. (Tuna law article 10) and obtain a verification document from FA, fisheries coordination office.

2. Importers or customs clearance agent then bring the FA's verification document by attaching it to the application for permit of import at the Agricultural and Fisheries Products Office of METI, with CMF / Re-Export/ Export (REEF) form, bill of landing, invoice, proof of ship registration and country of origin, copy of transhipment application if transshipped, or port clearance documents, etc.

3. Bring the permit issued from METI to customs.

Procedure for import of fresh / chilled SBT (This procedure is made easier than frozen tuna to accelerate the process.):

1. Importers or customs clearance agent of SBT must submit CMF and REEF if relevant at the customs clearance, in addition to other regular requirements at the custom. CMF and REEF form submitted at the custom will be brought to METI within one month and kept as records.
2. Within 10 days after the import of SBT, submit a report of SBT import to FA with CMF and REEF if relevant, with name of vessel, transport method, import date, buyer information.

Scientific Observer Program

(following with the CCSBT Scientific Observer Program Standards)

Japan conducted the scientific observer program with the 16 authorized longline vessels in 2011. Scientific observer boards SBT fishing vessels selected at random, and the coverage against Japanese SBT longline fishery was 14.8% by the number of vessels, 11.0% by the number of hooks used, and 14.8% in the number of SBT caught.. There has not been any exchange of SBT observers with other countries. Observer verifies data such as the amount of SBT caught, bycatch information (both alive and dead) and other scientific data. Reports are submitted to FA and NRIFSF within one week from return to Japan. The data is checked for accuracy and processed by NRIFSF to become available for analysis use in the database about a year later.

For monitoring of catch allocation compliance, RTMP data is mainly used and the data from scientific observer are only referred as scientific data time to time as the need for verification arise.

2.1.6. MPR 3: All fishing-related SBT mortality is reported annually to the Extended Scientific Committee, for incorporation into stock assessment analysis, and to the Commission.

Summary – Japan is reporting commercial retained catch mortality and commercial discard (release and discard) mortality to CCSBT Extended Scientific Committee.

Key points

- Fishing related SBT mortality for Japan includes mortality from commercial catch (commercial retained catch) and released SBT records, which data is gained through RTMP's daily reports.
- Data collated at JAFIC is analysed at NRIFSF and provided to CCSBT data exchange.
- Japan is allocated Research Mortality Allowance with limit of 1 ton every year and the mortality is reported to the Commission.

Japan has reported fishery-related mortality to CCSBT on April 27th, 2012 for 2011 data, and April 30th, 2013 for 2012 data.

- **Total commercial retained catch:**

  2,465 t in 2012.

- **Total commercial discard mortality:**

Japan noted that discard mortality by number is recorded and reported at the CCBST data exchange. According to the document CCSBT-ESC/1208/40[9], in 2011, total of 3988 SBT fish were released or discarded. The report further mentions that from the data based on the visual size measurement by the fishermen, 79% of released/discarded SBT were <20 kg (correspond to age ≤4). Japanese longline vessels tend to release only the lived condition SBT except for the depredated fish by whale or shark. Total mortality of released / discarded SBT is not estimated, as its methodology is currently under discussion at CCSBT.

- **Total non-commercial discard mortality:**

Under the Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) of 1 ton, 98 SBT (324.9 kg) were killed and collected their otoliths, muscle, and stomach contents in this survey. The recruitment monitoring survey was conducted by trolling around the southwest coast of Australia. This RMA is separately reported to CCSBT by Japan. There is no recreational fisheries SBT mortality in Japan.

[9] Releases and discards of small-sized Southern Bluefin Tuna by the Japanese longline fishery in 2011

2.1.7. MPR 4: Operating systems and processes applied to monitor compliance with annual catching arrangements, and impose sanctions or remedies where necessary.

Summary – Compliance of catch allocation is controlled by individual quota allocation and prohibition to catch exceeding allocation quota under the ministry ordinances, which has sanctions for non-compliance designated for each offense. In addition, each control measures in place for SBT such as CDS scheme, VMS, transhipment measures, domestic port landing have related legislations that establish specific sanctions for the offenses. Offenders can be charged with fines, imprisonment and removal of catch allocation depending on the offenses. FA conducts at-sea vessel surveillance, mandates VMS reporting of location, and marketing and distribution research of SBT to identify potential areas under which compliance may be at risk.

Key points

- There is no case of serious transgressions of SBT reported in recent years.
- Japan has introduced DNA analysis research in order to prevent falsified SBT species and origin reporting.
- Japan requires all imported SBT to carry CTF and tags or a document to prove SBT's individual weights.
- FA checks all CMF forms after submission, and cross-check with other reported information.
- Investigation is conducted if discrepancy of more than 2% between the weight at landing inspection and reported weights in CMF is found.

Total Catch compliance

There is a framework of sanctions for violations relating to the Japanese SBT fishery. SBT catch by fishers without IQ is prohibited by the MAFF ordinance on *Permission and Regulation of Designated Fishery, Article 91 (3)*. *Article 57 (5)* prohibits SBT catches exceeding individually allocated catch quota. Article 106 (3) rules penalties for non-compliance imposed on the fisher for the above offenses. Penalty is up to 2-year imprisonment and/or up to five hundred thousand yen (about 5 thousand USD) fine and other applicable sanctions. In addition, the fisher will be deprived of all SBT allocation for the next 5 years. Similar sanctions are applied to the offenses such as SBT landing at non-designated ports and transhipment to non-registered carrier vessels.

Cooperation on information collection and accurate reporting relating to SBT catch, transport and import

Law on the Special Measures for Strengthening Tuna Resources Conservation and Management (Tuna Law) article 11 rules sanctions to be imposed on fisher (penalty payment no more than 300,000 yen (about 3 thousand USD)) for not reporting accurate information, and not carrying functioning VMS, etc.

Non-compliance of regulations on logbooks (keeping it with vessel, showing when required, recording correctly, etc.) has sanctions of less than 100,000.

At-sea inspections

Fisheries activities monitoring vessel (Mihama) plans and implements about 30 days each monitoring voyages twice a year within SBT fishing areas.

In 2011, although FA conducted two voyages for surveillance and monitoring within CCSBT fishing area, there were no Japanese fishing vessels in areas where the vessel performed at-sea inspection. In 2012, fisheries monitoring and control vessel, Mihama was dispatched from October 19th to November 12th, and November 16th to December 6th, and one inspection was carried out on Japanese fishing vessel registered with the CCSBT on October 31 through vessel radio communication.

On consultation with the FA, the reason for the low level interception is that the monitoring vessel navigation schedule is largely determined prior to the departure for the needs of staff and materials arrangement. The flexibility is limited during the schedule. Even though VMS information is provided to the monitoring vessel, there were small number of Japanese vessels in the area at the time, thus the inspection opportunities was reduced in 2011 and 2012. The area's rough sea conditions also hampers inspections and for safety reasons, radio communication is used for most inspections carried out in this vicinity.

Contents of inspection (radio communication inspection) are as follows.

- Vessel name, license number, name of chief fisherman and captain
- Operation status of VMS
- Logbook
- Date of departure and name of harbor, recent port of calls
- Catch record
- Implementation status of bycatch avoidance measures of seabirds such as the use of Tori-pole
- Retention of shark fin on board
- Voyage plan
- Retention of SBT and Pacific bluefin tuna on board.

Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)

Section 2 of Ministry ordinance article 24 requires fishermen operating for SBT fisheries to carry active VMS system to report their position at sea all the time. The vessel location through VMS is monitored by FA. To ensure all vessels compliance with VMS carriage, the system is configured to release an alarm if the vessels' VMS is turned off. If the alarm is received, FA will notify the fishermen's organization to let them contact the vessel to investigate the cause.

VMS is also used to verify that the vessels' route is consistent with the content reported on the CDS documents and application documents prior to landing inspection.

Recent infringements and sanctions

FA reported through our consultation that there was no recent case of infringement identified on SBT fisheries in Japan.

Compliance risk assessment

The following information was submitted by FA for consideration by the QAR review team with respect to risk assessment/risk review procedures carried out by Japan.

Market (domestic market distribution quantity and import quantity) control and research

JCCSBT is requiring member countries to investigate more than 5% discrepancy between the annual total catch reported to CCSBT and the total catch determined from the CDS. FA collects CMF documents after the SBT is sold at the first entry to the market, check all the contents filled in the form, especially the weight at the point of sales (from purchase slip etc.) to be compared with weight at landing inspection and weight reported in CMF (same as weight reported in RTMP). If discrepancy of more than 2% is found, FA investigates the cause of the difference and reports to CCSBT.

Japan conducts research and analysis of Japanese SBT market every month to monitor the amount and origin (catching/farming CCSBT Member) of SBT products traded, implemented by the NRIFSF and the Organization for Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries (OPRT). [10] General tuna quantities are analysed through wholesale market statistics and market annual reports, however, as this can not usually clarify origin of fish, if the fish is farmed, and product flows, additional interviews are conducted with market distributors to supplement information on product origin and form (processed, whole, etc.). As well, FA analyses submitted CMFs to calculate the total catch of each vessel to see if the total of these vessels' catch corresponds with the total annual catch reported by RTMP.

FA also analyses application for SBT import from foreign countries and compare the total import amounts with each country's national allocation, especially for countries that exported SBT exceeding its country allocation in the past. If the import (export) quantity reaches to 80% of its national quota, Japan considers notifying the exporting country.

The total market supply of SBT is compared with total allocated catch for Japan and international trade (import) statistics to ensure compliance of catch allocation from market side.

Regarding improvement of monitoring of fisheries for and landings/imports of other tuna species, Japan is carrying out a import tuna market distribution control project since 2010, in order to prevent import of tuna not compliant with regional fisheries management organizations rules. It is not directly related to the purpose of this survey and the details is omitted here, however this has been leading to the implementation of detailed surveys regarding CDS and fisheries statistics analysis and market distribution analysis. As part of this, Japan implemented DNA analysis (1,500 samples in 2011) on tuna products landed/imported as bigeye and yellowtail species to monitor if there is no disguised / mislabelled SBT. The survey was conducted on fresh, frozen, and processed products imported by ship container and the samples were collected at the freezers at domestic ports in Kanagawa and Shizuoka. 51 vessels carrying whole SBT and 9 vessels carrying processed fish

[10] 添付 Report on Market Survey and Analysis, 2012 (by OPRT)

(60 vessels in total per year) were surveyed from diverse port of origin with main focus to vessels from countries which have been pointed of high risk of tuna laundering in the past international meetings. No detection of disguised / mislabelled SBT during the survey was found so far. However the survey report points out some limitation in this survey that the implementation needs prior consent of import / vessel owners to enter the freezer and to obtain the target samples.

Risk areas identified by FA, Japan

- **Counting / measurement error risk**

Counter-measures:

- Understanding measurement tools and how fishers measure weights of SBT.
- FA collects CMF after SBT is sold to the first point of sale, then check its validation signatures required at each control inspection process to see if the SBT went though legitimate management process. FA compares the SBT weight reported in CMF (reported in RTMP) and the SBT weight inspected at the landing and if the discrepancy is more than 2%, conducts analysis to find the reason.

- **Risk of non- reporting: information collection, analysis (catch, bycatch, use of non-registered carrier vessel for transshipping, landing at non-registered ports, etc.).**

Counter-measures:

Under the Tuna law, Japan is requiring submission of CTF to all SBT to be imported (if CTF submission is difficult, a document to prove the SBT's individual weight must be submitted.) to reduce risk of import of non-reported SBT. Also, Japan carries out information collection at domestic landing ports and port patrols, as well as introducing DNA tests for some imported tuna products.

- Tag risk (improper tagging and fallen tags):

Japan is conducting countermeasures for this risk by implementation of 100% coverage physical inspection at landing ports, by checking the number of SBT, attachment of tags to the individuals, check of mistagging to other species.

If any new risk was identified at each process of control and monitoring measures in place (catch reporting, landing, transhipment report, landing inspection, etc.), the inspectors and related authorities are to discuss improvements for appropriate solutions. As well, annual meetings are held among program management staffs for annual catch allocation procedures. As there is no case of exceeding catch quota since Japan's implementation of individual quota allocation system, it is assumed by Japanese Agencies that the monitoring and control process is functioning effectively.

FA notes that existing risks will be continuously monitored.

2.2. Obligation 1.1(iii)

The aim of this obligation is to ensure that Members have processes in place to effectively and accurately manage the carry-forward of quota from one year to the next, within the restrictions agreed by the CCSBT.

3.2.1 MPR 1a: An accurate, verified and robust figure for the final Attributable Catch is available before the notification to the Secretariat of the carry-forward, and a report on the adoption and use of the carry-forward procedure is included in each annual report to the Extended Commission.

Summary – Japan is reporting the final attributable catch to CCSBT based on the RTMP data around September, which is the last months of 6 month reporting limit from the end of Japan's fishing season (March). This allows Japan to report the most robust, physically inspected and cross-checked catch amount after the vessels return to Japan from CCSBT fishing areas to increase accuracy.

Members may carry forward up to 20% of their unfished quota to the next quota year within the same three year quota block, but the carried forward quota may not in turn generate further under-fishing to be carried forward to the following year. Japan's management system is organized to ensure that attributable SBT catch by Japan does not exceed national allocation through the individual quota allocation system and strict monitoring and control systems including CDS scheme. FA communicated that there was no catch occurrence exceeding the national allocation during the period under this survey.

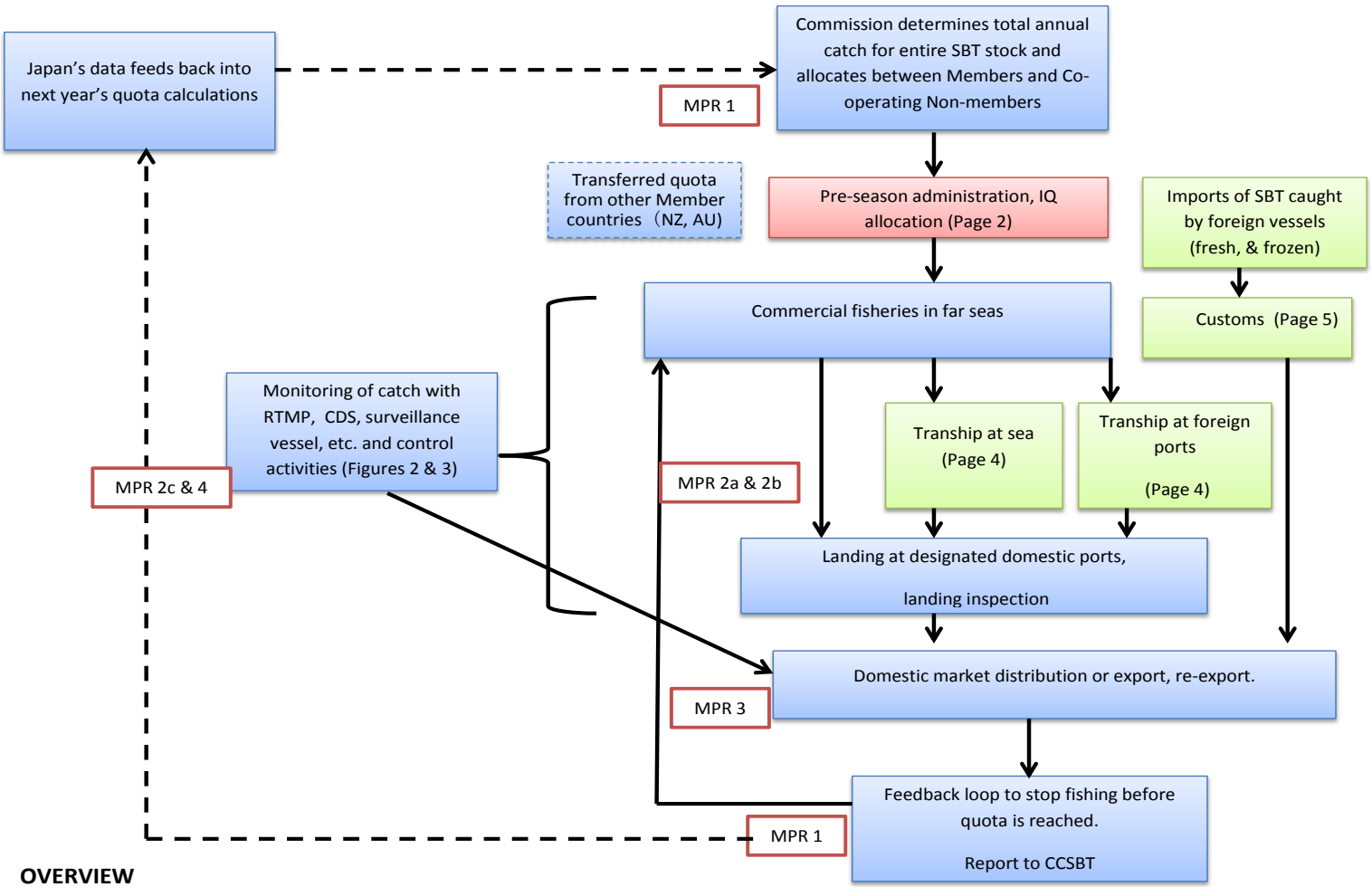
Japan has calculated total catch of 2012 fishing season based on the RTMP record in May 30th, 2013. From this calculation, unfished quota of 54.86t is found and Japan has decided and reported the carry-over of 54t to 2013 fishing season to CCSBT on the same day. Since the final attributable catch is due to report to CCSBT within 6 months from the end of the fishing season, and in May, there is still a possibility that not all Japanese vessels have gone through landing inspection, Japan plans to re-calculate around September to report the final RTMP data as the attributable catch to CCSBT.

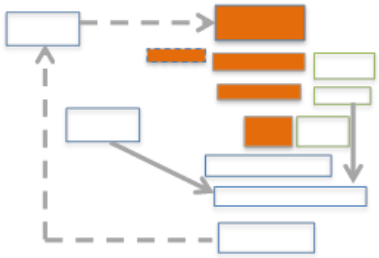
3.2.2. MPR 1b: The Executive Secretary is formally notified of the catch for the concluded quota year together with the available catch limit (Catch Allocation + carry-forward) for the new quota year within 60 days of the start of the new quota year.

Summary – Japan has reported the maximum catch limit（2689 t）＋carry over（54 t）to CCSBT committee on May 30th, 2013.

Japanese SBT fishing season starts on April 1st and ends at the end of March. Japan needed to report the carry-over decision by June 1st, to be within 60 days as agreed in CCSBT. Japan has reported to the committee the carry-over of unfished 54 tons quota to 2013 season on May 30th and received a confirmation response from the Committee.

4. Flow Chart of SBT Management in Japan





Commission allocates Japan Allocated Catch (AC)

↓

After public comment process, same amount as AC (plus carry-over and minus payback measure if applicable) is determined as the annual catch limit and announced in official gazette and website.

↓

Individual fishers must apply for SBT catch quota allocation (IQ) by March 1st for them and each vessel they catch SBT with.

↓

In the case of competition, allocation priority is made based on catch history of 3 previous years. If there is enough quotas for all requests, requested quota is allocated.

↓

MAFF issues quota assignment documents with name of fishermen and their individual vessels assigned with specific allocation.

↓

The list of individual quota allocation is reported to CCSBT by the end of April.

It is prohibited to catch SBT more than allocated catch or without a quota assignment document. *(Ministry ordinance No. 57, section 5, No 91, section 3.)*

Transfer of IQ between vessels is in principle prohibited, but can be permitted within vessels belong to the same fisher. Ministry order 57, section 4)

The assigned quota will be monitored by RTMP, CDS, landing inspection, etc. so that no exceeding of quota occurs.

Figure 6 SBT Quota Pre-Season administration: MPR 1, 2a(i)

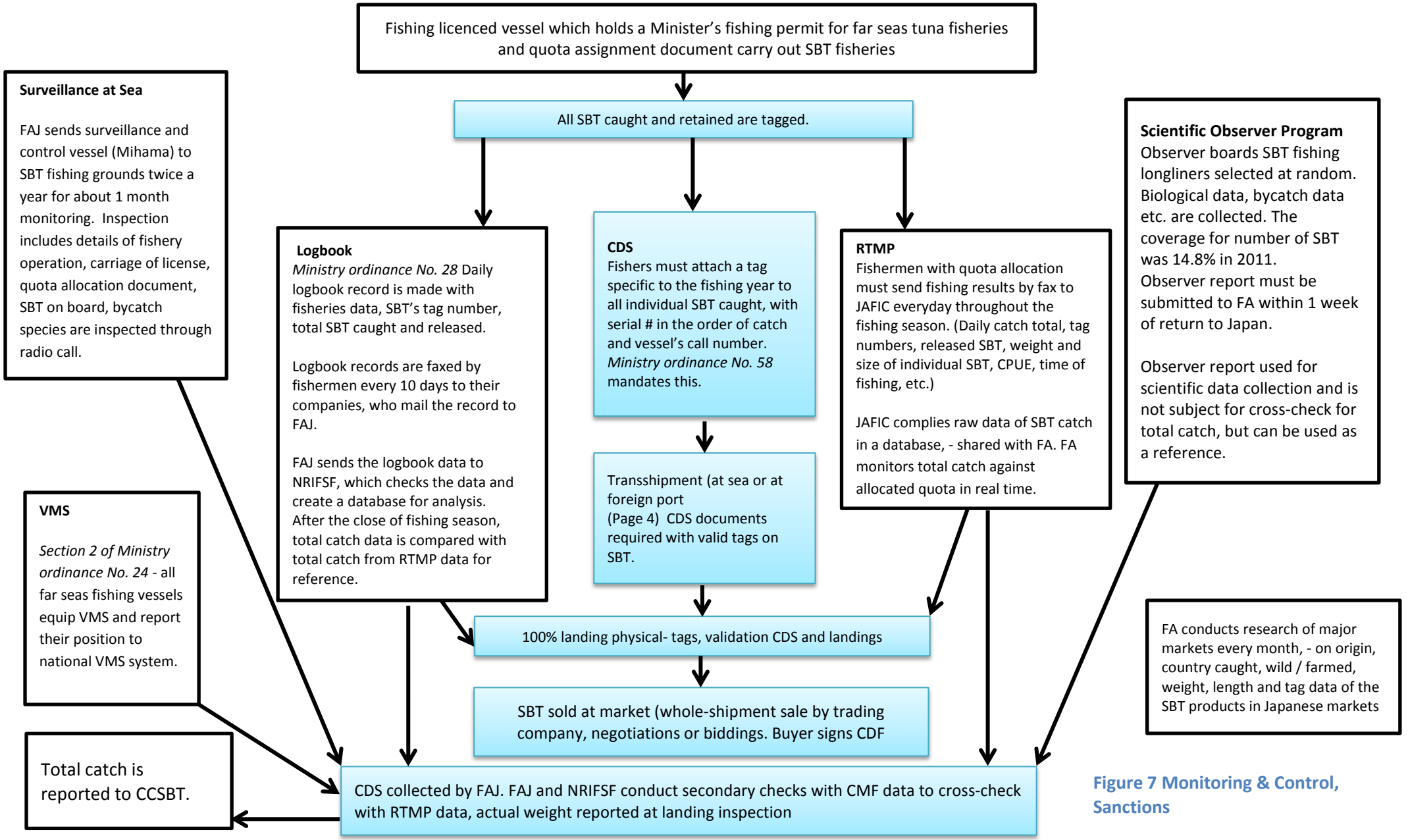


Figure 7 Monitoring & Control, Sanctions

All SBT caught is measured, gutted, gilled and weighted (product weight), identify sex, and attach plastic tags with serial # and vessel's call signal. A paper containing same information as in the tag is appended on fish body. Same information is to be reported in CDS documents. (Ministry ordinance No. 58)

↓

Fishers must submit transhipment or landing application form and CDS to FA 10 days before the transhipment or landing date. All carrier vessels must be registered at CCSBT list.

↓

FA checks vessel's registration with carrier vessel list and CDS contents to see consistencies with RTMP and other records. FA creates CTF based on CMF and RTMP, sign the document and fax to fishermen. Fishermen need to fill CMF form with the FA-issued CTF form number. （Ministry ordinance No. 18）

↓

Transhipment at Sea

Only officially registered CCSBT carrier vessel can transport SBT. All at-sea transshipment carrier vessel must have an observer onboard. CMF needs to be signed by carrier vessel captain and an observer. Original copy is handed to carrier vessel to be inspected at landing in Japan.

Transhipment at foreign ports

CMF needs to be signed by carrier vessel captain. Original copy is handed to carrier vessel to be inspected at landing in Japan.
No inspection observer required, and follows the port country's rules.
Japan needs to establish information exchange with the ports to share transshipment information (SBT amount, vessel, etc.).

↓

Transshipped vessel must submit transshipment report to FA with an appropriate RFMO form within 15 days from the transshipment. （Ministry ordinance No. 59)

↓

Buyer of SBTs must sign the CMF and record their company name and purchased amount of SBT. CMF is complete with the signature of buyers and fishermen who sold the SBT must submit the CMF to FA.

↓

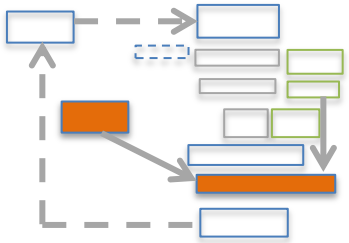
All SBT caught by Japanese vessels must land in Japan at 8 designated domestic landing ports, including the SBT that will be exported afterwards. 100% coverage landing inspection is conducted and CMF must be validated with official inspector. Physical weighting and counting of SBT are carried out to verify declared amount in CMF and RTMP.
Fishermen must also submit the copies of invoice, weight measurement report, measurement tool list, etc. to FA's inspection officer within 10 days after landing of SBT.

↓

FA checks the contents of the complete and submitted CMF to compare with RTMP records, SBT weight at the landing inspection, etc. to see consistency. If there is discrepancy of more than 2% in the reported amount of SBT, FA investigates the reason and reports it to CCSBT.

Figure 8 Transshipments at Sea (expanded)

Imported SBT caught in the other countries quota will come into Japanese market in the form of frozen, fresh and processed tuna products. They come is flights, vessel shipment, etc. All has to go through customs where SBT import is inspected by Japan.



Frozen SBT

1. Importers or customs clearance agent of SBT must submit "application for validation for official vessels" against CCSBT Record of Authorized Vessels or CCSBT Record of Authorized Tuna Farms, and the "Report on SBT Import" including the record of importing frozen tuna, vessels name, transportation tool, import date, buyer, and species. (Tuna law article 10) and obtain a verification document from FA, fisheries coordination office.

2. Importers or customs clearance agent then bring the FA's verification document by attaching it to the application for permit of import at the Agricultural and Fisheries Products Office of METI, with CMF/ REEF form, bill of landing, invoice, proof of ship registration and country of origin, copy of transhipment application if transshipped, or port.

3. Bring the permit issued from METI to customs with clearance documents, etc.)

Fresh SBT

1. Importers or customs clearance agent of SBT must submit CMF, REEF and application for permit of import, (with bill of landing, invoice, proof of ship registration and country of origin, copy of transhipment application if transshipped, or port clearance documents, etc.) directly to customs.

2. Submit the "Report on SBT Import" to FA within 10 days from import of SBT. CMF / REEF form submitted to customs will go to METI's agricultural and fisheries office within 1 month from custom clearance and kept there.

Figure 9 Import, export, transhipments control

Japan conducts DNA analysis (1,500 samples from 60 vessels among 1064 registered SBT vessels in 2011) on selected vessels, which has previously informed and agreed with the analysis. Frozen, fresh, processed tuna imported as bigeye and yellowfin were checked for the monitoring of disguised / mislabelled SBT.

FA analyses CDS applications for SBT import from foreign countries and compare the total import amounts with each country's national allocation. If the export amount to Japan reaches 80% of their total catch, FA notifies the country to alert the situation.

Japan conducts analysis of Japanese SBT market every month to monitor the amount and origin of SBT products traded. General tuna quantities are analysed through wholesale market statistics and market annual reports, interviews with market distributors. The total market supply of SBT is compared with total catch and international trade (import) statistics.

Figure 10 Customs & Market checks

5. Management System Effectiveness

Utilising information provided during consultation and from information provided by a review of the available documentation a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis has been conducted. For the QAR purpose; Opportunities have also been considered as Recommendations and Threats have been considered as Risks to compliance.

Table 4 Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and risks (threats) (SWOT) analysis conducted for Japan's systems determining compliancy to CCSBT Minimum Performance requirements (MPR's)

a) STRENGTHS

Strengths associated with Japan's SBT fishery and associated management in relation to CCSBT's MPRs

Obligation	MPR	Strengths
1.1 (i)	1	• Legal requirement that maximum catch of SBT be set in line with CCSBT AC. • Reported landings have been below CCSBT AC in the years examined by this review (2010-2013).
	2a (i)	• Well established individual quota (IQ) system in place with good function / compliance history. • Transfer of quota is minimized and the system well established.
	2a (ii)	• Real Time Monitoring Program collects data every day directly from fishing ground and provides real-time information to authority. • Mandatory logbooks record catch and effort on a set by set basis.
	2a (iii)	• Mandatory logbook submission every 10 days to FA is implemented.
	2b	• Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) is reported to CCSBT.
	2c (i)	• 100 % coverage landing inspection is implemented by FA. • CDS scheme in place for every SBT catch / transhipment process until sold. • Scientific observer program with 14.8 % coverage in 2011 and exceeds CCSBT's 10% cover target.
	2c (ii)	• N/A – Japan does not farm SBT.
	3	• None specific to the requirement.
	4	• Robust laws and regulation with sanction system is established. • Specific Law on strengthening report of tuna catch / import / export established to supplement CDS. (Tuna law) • VMS onboard all SBT fishing and transhipment vessels and monitored by FA. • Japan compares the total amount of annual SBT catch and the annual catch estimated from CDS documents and discrepancies greater than +/- 2% is investigated, exceeding the mandatory 5%. • Japan has introduced DNA analysis research to deter IUU and tuna laundering of imported SBT.
1.1 (iii)	1a	• Carry forward has been determined for 2013 and reported to CCSBT May 30th and in compliance with Regulation.
	1b	• Japan has reported the maximum catch limit and carry over amount to CCSBT committee within the required timeframe.

b) WEAKNESSESS

Weaknesses associated with Japan's SBT fishery and associated management in relation to CCSBT's MPRs

Obligation	MPR	**Weaknesses**
1.1 (i)	1	• None specific to the requirement.
	2a (i)	• None specific to the requirement for allocations to quota holders.
	2a (ii)	• RTMP is used for catch data collection. Integration / cross-check function with scientific observer and logbook records being minimal. • Release / discard mortality is recorded in RTMP, however its record is predominantly by crew's eye verification only and do not involve actual weighting and measuring or based on an estimate of weight. To the extent that this is a weakness is unverified at the time of reporting but is placed here to highlight for review purposes.
	2a (iii)	• Cross-checking of data in logbook with RTMP and catch monitoring data is not conducted unless the necessity arises.
	2b	• Logbook data is not incorporated for estimate of mortality (logbook does not record arrive / death status). •
	2c (i)	• At sea vessel inspection is conducted but effectiveness (only one inspection achieved in two years program) is very low. • Japan is working to establish communication system with foreign ports but it is not in place at the time of reporting. • Scientific observer program data becomes available only after about one year.
	2c (ii)	• N/A – Japan does not farm SBT.
	3	• None specific to the requirement.
	4	• Risk-based analysis (especially for non-reporting risks) is not conducted. • DNA analyses are conducted only with prior agreement with traders or vessels and the methodology may not random enough to be effective. • Japan's CDS scheme ends at SBT's first entry to the market. This may be sufficient for the monitoring of domestic catch quota compliance, but because of the wide varieties of existing market distribution channels with the lower market traceability, it makes it difficult to cross-check the total catch amount with the actual domestic consumption (market distribution) amount.
1.1 (iii)	1a	• None specific to the requirement.
	1b	• None specific to the requirement.

Further Notes on identified Weaknesses:

- **Robustness of data by cross-checking among RTMP, logbook and scientific observer data**

FA informed the QAR review team that it is examining to consider the introduction of an electronic logbook system and the introduction of effective cross-referencing among RTMP, logbook and scientific observer data, etc. .

c) THREATS (RISKS)

Threats (Risks) associated with Japan's SBT fishery and associated management in relation to CCSBT's MPRs

The weaknesses identified by the QAR have been used to determine potential threats or risks associated with the Japanese SBT fishery. Risks have not been quantified with regard to their relative impact on each MPR Obligation although are presented against one or more MPR where impacts on non-compliance would most likely occur. Potential risks analysed are summarized in the table below.

c) Risks associated with Japan's SBT fishery and associated management in relation to CCSBT's MPRs

Obligation	MPR	**Risks (Threats)**
1.1 (i)	1	• None specific to this MPR. Reported catch has been below Japan's CCSBT AC.
	2a (i)	• None specific to this MPR.
	2a (ii)	• Release / discard SBT is reported by RTMP, however the record is by crew's eyewitness only and do not involve actual weighting and measuring. • Potential for under-reporting or high grading of release / discards by commercial vessels without observers onboard. This is exacerbated by the lack of cross-check of data with scientific observer and logbook data.
	2a (iii)	• None specific to this MPR.
	2b	• Potential for confusion in reporting or difference in the meanings used for release / discard and bycatch in each recording system with lack of their definitions in Japan.
	2c (i)	• Potential for high grading/discarding by vessels when observers are not onboard. The level of risk is exacerbated by the lack of physical at-sea inspections.
	2c (ii)	• N/A Japan does not farm SBT.
	3	• None specific to this MPR.
	4	• Possibility of ineffectiveness at DNA survey with the survey design that requires pre-agreement with vessels for survey and the low rate of coverage. • Possibility of existence of non-recognized loophole in the control system with the lack of risk-based (especially for non-reporting risks) analysis of each compliance measures such as landing inspection. • Possibility for oversight of falsified import SBT with the difficulty to estimate the total amount of SBT distributed in domestic market.
1.1 (iii)	1a	• None specific to this MPR.
	1b	• None specific to this MPR.

6. Recommendations for Improvement (Opportunities of SWOT)

Based on the SWOT analysis and review of the effectiveness of management systems against the CCSBT minimum performance requirements from this QAR approach, the review team has provided recommendations for improvement of Japan's fishery management systems**.**

Table 5. Recommendations (Opportunities) identified for Japan's SBT Management System specific to CCSBT MPR Section 1.2

Obligation	MPR	**Recommendations (Opportunities)**
1.1 (i)	1	• None specific to this MPR.
	2a (i)	• None specific to this MPR.
	2a (ii)	• The role of observers and the use of the data related to catch reporting obligations should be reviewed to ensure the effectiveness. Consideration of incorporating and cross-referencing the SBT mortality calculated with the data from scientific observer reports and from fishery logbooks.
	2a (iii)	• None specific to this MPR.
	2b	• Considering defining or integration of meaning of release / discards and / or bycatch recorded in RTMP, observer records and logbook for accurate calculation and reporting of SBT mortality.
	2c (i)	• Review with the objective of increased effectiveness of at-sea monitoring and integration with CCSBT obligations in the monitoring purpose to reduce the potential risk of high grading/discarding of SBT at sea.
	2c(ii)	• N/A Japan does not farm SBT.
	3	• None specific to the requirement.
	4	• Consideration of establishment of random checking system for DNA tests to increase effectiveness and practicality. • Introduction of risk-based analysis for control measures related to national allocation compliance, especially for non-reporting risks. • Consideration for establishing improved market traceability and recording utilizing CDS in order to easily understand market distribution volume of SBT and support verification.
1.1 (iii)	1a	• None specific to this MPR.
	1b	• None specific to this MPR.

7. Post Final Report Member Feedback

Japan's comments on QAR final report:

Since 2006, Japan has introduced a series of measures such as the individual quota system, daily report of catch (RTMP), designated landing ports and physical inspection by government officials at the ports, and prohibition of possession and/or sales of illegally caught SBT, in order to improve its compliance with the measures adopted by CCSBT. As a result, serious infringement of the CCSBT measures has not been identified in its SBT fisheries since then.

In addition, to strengthen monitoring on transshipment in foreign ports, Japan has communicated on sharing relevant information with the Republic of South Africa where especially large number of Japanese SBT fishing vessels transship their catch. Japan considers starting similar communication with the other port states according to the frequency of transshipment activities by Japanese vessels.

Further, Japan conducted in-depth cross-verification of the catch and effort data obtained from RTMP, logbooks, landing inspection and scientific observer, and submitted the report document to the Extended Scientific Committee this year in accordance with the "High-level Code of Practice for Scientific Data Verification." As the result of the cross-verification, no substantial discrepancies and inconsistencies were found among the data-sets.

Japan will continue to ensure its compliance through implementation of the measures mentioned above.

8. Appendices

8.1 Consultation records

Organisation	Person	Action	Date
FA SAI Global	Sayako Takeda Chika Fukugama David Garforth	First contact	May 23rd
FA SAI Global	Sayako Takeda Chika Fukugama Yoko Tamura	Questionnaire sent, interview coordination	June 5th
FA SAI Global	Sayako Takeda Chika Fukugama Mitsuhiro Iwasaki Hiroki Morita Naoki Kumagai Yoko Tamura	Interview Evidences collection	June 24th
FA SAI Global	Same as above	Evidences collection, additional questions	June 25th – July 20th
FA SAI Global	Same as above	Draft report sent	July 20th
FA SAI Global	Same as above	Comments received	August 14th

8.2 Attachment documents (Evidences)

Attachment 1	1	Notice for SBT regulations
	2	Declaration of Offloading Abroad and Transhipment for Tuna Longline Fishery (blank form)
	3	Vessel Information Form （RTMP for research vessels）
	4	SBT report form for RTMP （2012）
	5	CCSBT Catch Monitoring Form, CDS
	6	Transhipment Declaration forms (ICCAT, IATTC, IOTC, WCPCF)
Attachment 2	1	The Logbook for Large Scale Tuna Longline Vessels)
	2	Conversion Factors for Round Weight
	3	The Logbook for Large Scale Tuna Longline Vessels form (actual), guidelines for filling the form
	4	Bycatch record format for logbook, guidelines for filling the form
Attachment 3	1	Vessel Information Form （RTMP for research vessels) (Actual)
	2	SBT RTMP form （2013） (actual)
	3	The Logbook for Large Scale Tuna Longline Vessels (Actual)
	4	The Logbook for Large Scale Tuna Longline Vessels (Actual)
	5	Bycatch record format for logbook, (Actual)
	6	CCSBT Catch Monitoring Form (Actual)
	7	CCSBT Catch Tagging Form (Actual)
Attachment 4	1	Ministry's announcement for determining SBT catch limit (2012 December 25th)
	2	Announcement in the Official gazette (SBT annual catch limit)、2013 February 14th
	3	Standard for SBT catch quota allocation for individual fishers and vessels. （Ministry announcement No. 1204)
	4	Application form for annual catch allocation of SBT 2013 February 21st.
	5	Quota assignment document for fishermen (Actual)
	6	List of Japan's quota allocations in 2013/14 fishing season
Attachment 5	1	Procedures required for import of SBT(announcement by Minister of METI)
	2	Application form for official confirmation for import goods
	3	CCSBT Catch Monitoring Form (original) and Instruction Sheet
	4	Re-Export / Export After Landing of Domestic Product Form and Instruction Sheet
Attachment 6	1	Amendment to import requirement regarding the issuance of FA validation document related to the CCSBT List of Authorized Vessels or List of Authorized Tuna Farms
	2	Application for validation related to the CCSBT measures for Authorized Vessels or Authorized Tuna Farms
Attachment 7	1	Reports required based on the Article 10 of the Law on the Special Measures for Strengthening Tuna Resources Conservation and Management
	2	Report format for import of SBT
	3	Report format for import of frozen tuna (for person who will import frozen

		tuna)
	4	Report format for import of frozen tuna (for person who imported frozen tuna)
	5	Report format for transport of frozen tuna (for person who transported frozen tuna)
Attachment 8		Report of Japanese scientific observer activities for southern bluefin tuna fishery in 2011
Attachment 9		2011 Report of Market Distribution Analysis Program
Attachment 10		Releases and discards of small-sized Southern Bluefin Tuna by the Japanese longline fishery in 2011

8.3 Overview of Obligations and Associated CCSBT Minimum Performance Requirements

Obligation 1.1(i):

For 2012, 2013 and 2014, each Member shall be bound to the Allocated Catch for the respective year as specified below:

	Allocated Catch (t)		
	2012	2013	2014*
Japan	2519	2689	3366*
Australia	4528	4698	5147
New Zealand	800	830	909
Korea	911	945	1036
Taiwan	911	945	1036
Indonesia	685	707	750

* The allocations shown for 2014 and the proportional allocation shown for Japan are dependent on the TAC for 2014 (these figures assume a TAC of 12,449t) and a compliance review at CCSBT 20 (2013) as described in the Resolution on the Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch.

Minimum Performance Requirements for Obligation 1.1(i):

1. Rules in place to ensure that the total "Attributable SBT Catch" (see the note below concerning the Attributable SBT Catch) of each Member does not exceed the Member's Allocated Catch for the relevant period.

Note on "Attributable SBT Catch"

Until the CCSBT agrees on a single definition, each Member and Cooperating Non-Member must clearly and unambiguously state the definition of its Attributable SBT Catch and these definitions are repeated below. As a minimum, the attributable catch must include all commercial catch landings:

- ***Australia: All commercial catch, except catch that is released in a live and vigorous state.***
- *Indonesia: The amount of commercial catch/landing of tagged SBT within its national allocation.*
- *Fishing Entity of Taiwan: Retained commercial catch.*
- ***Japan: The amount of SBT put into fish hold of the vessel.***
- ***Korea: Commercial landing of SBT.***
- ***New Zealand: Within its national allocation New Zealand allows for recreational and customary catch, other sources of fishing mortality and sets a total allowable commercial catch limit.***
- *European Union: Catches landed by commercial vessels*
- *Philippines: The entire catch of SBT including any discards (alive or dead) counted is against its allocation.*

• South Africa: Any SBT catch that is landed, independently verified by the Department, and counted against the individual right holding company in the tuna and swordfish longline sectors. This does not include SBT that has been released alive, discarded, depredated or confiscated.

2. Operating systems and processes established to:

a) Implement annual catching arrangements, including:
   i. specification of allocations by company, quota holder or vessel,
   ii. arrangements for daily recording of all catches,
   iii. weekly reporting of catches by large scale tuna longliners and monthly reporting of catches by coastal fishing vessels.

b) In accordance with the timeline in the table in the Compliance Policy Guideline document, monitor all **fishing-related mortality of SBT.**

Starting Year for Monitoring of SBT Mortality

MEMBER	Sources of SBT Mortality					
	Commercial Retained Catch (t)	Commercial Discard Mortality (numbers and/or estimated weight)	Commercial Towing Mortality (t)	Non-Commercial Retained Catch (t)	Other Discard Mortality (numbers and/or estimated weight)	Other Sources of Mortality (numbers and/or estimated weight)
Australia	now	now	now	now	now	now
Indonesia	now	now	N/A	now	now	now
Japan	now 2	now	N/A	N/A	now	now
Republic of Korea	now	now	N/A	N/A	now	now
New Zealand	now	now	N/A	now	now	now
Taiwan	now	now	N/A	N/A	now	now
European Union	now	now	N/A	N/A	now	now
Philippines	now	now	N/A	N/A	now	now
South Africa	now	now	N/A	now	now	now

Any of the sources of the mortality listed in the table above may or may not contribute to 'Attributable Catch'

c) Ensure accuracy of the "Attributable SBT Catch", including:
   i. For fishing Members, a physical inspection regime of SBT caught by the Member's fishing vessel
   ii. For farming Members, monitoring the accuracy of the stereo video monitoring and adjusting/ re-calibrating where necessary.

3. All fishing-related SBT mortality is reported annually to the Extended Scientific Committee, for incorporation into stock assessment analysis, and to the Commission.

4. Operating systems and processes applied to:

    a. monitor compliance with annual catching arrangements; and
    b. impose sanctions or remedies where necessary.

Obligation 1.1(ii) applies only to Co-operating Non-Members

Obligation 1.1(iii):

Unless the Extended Commission reduces the TAC or a Member's allocation of the TAC, Members may carry forward up to 20% of their unfished quota to the next quota year within the same three year quota block, but quota that is carried forward may not in turn generate further under-fishing to be carried forward to the following year. Members that decide to adopt the carry-forward procedure for their fishery shall:

a. Report on their use of the procedure in their annual reports to the Extended Commission, regardless of whether the procedure was in fact used by the Member during that quota year;

b. If at the beginning of a new quota year, the Member decides to carry forward unfished quota from a previous year, it shall within 60 days of the new quota year, notify the Secretariat of this carry-forward and provide a revised annual available catch limit (i.e. Catch Allocation + carry-forward) for the new quota year

Minimum Performance Requirements for Obligation 1.1(iii):

1. For Members that decide to adopt the carry-forward procedure (regardless of whether carry-forward was used in the particular year):

a) Operating systems and processes must be in place to ensure that
    i. an accurate, verified and robust figure for the final Attributable Catch is available before the notification to the Secretariat of the carry-forward,
    ii. a report on the adoption and use of the carry-forward procedure, together with documentation on quantification and verification of the total catch is included in each annual report to the Extended Commission;
b) The Executive Secretary is formally notified of the catch for the concluded quota year together with the available catch limit (Catch Allocation + carry-forward) for the new quota year within 60 days of the start of the new quota year.