

## Japan

### Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission

*(Revised as agreed at CC10 following CCSBT 22)*

*If there are multiple SBT fisheries, with different rules and procedures applying to the different fisheries, it may be easier to complete this template separately for each fishery. Alternatively, please ensure that the information for each fishery is clearly differentiated within the single template.*

*This template seeks information on a quota year basis. Those Members/CNMs that have not specified a quota year to the CCSBT (i.e. Indonesia, EU, South Africa and the Philippines), should provide the information on a calendar year basis. Within this template, the quota year (or calendar year for those without a quota year) is referred to as the “fishing season”. Unless otherwise specified, information should be provided for the most recently completed fishing season. Members and CNMs are encouraged to also provide preliminary information for the current fishing season where the fishing for that season is complete or close to complete.*

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## I. Summary of MCS Improvements

### **(1) Improvements achieved in the current fishing season**

*Provide details of MCS improvements achieved for the current fishing season.*

In 2013/14 fishing season, Japan achieved 10 % target onboard observer coverage both in effort and catch. Moreover, Japan improved its onboard observer coverage both in effort and catch in 2014/15 fishing season and also in 2015/16.

During 2015/16 fishing season, Japan conducted genetic tests for 1350 samples of declared bigeye and yellowfin tuna which is imported. As the results, all of the samples were identified as the declared tuna.

Japan conducted genetic tests for 125 samples of declared Bigeye tuna and 25 samples of declared yellowfin tuna from Japanese vessels during 2015/2016 fishing season. As the results, it concluded that all samples were the declared tuna.

### **(2) Future planned improvements**

*Describe any MCS improvements that are being planned for future fishing seasons and the expected implementation date for such improvements.*

Nothing in particular

### **(3) Implementation of the common CCSBT definition for the “Attributable SBT Catch”**

*CCSBT 21 agreed on a common definition of the Attributable SBT Catch. Further, it agreed to implement this common definition as soon as practicable, but not later than the 2018 quota year. Members should report on progress on the action points for implementing the Attributable SBT catch as specified in Table 1 at paragraph 53 of the CCSBT 21 report (provided here as Attachment A).*

As Japan advised that it will be capturing the best available information for its releases and discards and that it is trying to incorporate them into its allocation from 2016/17 fishing season, Japan starts to implement it from 2016/17 fishing season.

## II. SBT Fishing and MCS Arrangements

### **(1) Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna**

*(a) Specify the number of vessels that caught SBT in each sector (e.g. authorised commercial longline, authorised commercial purse seine, authorised commercial charter fleet, authorised domestic fleet) during the previous 3 fishing seasons.*

Fishing Season (e.g. 2011/12)	longline
	Number of vessels
2013/14	90
2014/15	90
2015/16	89

*(b) Specify the historic national SBT allocation, together with any carry-forward of unfished allocation and the total SBT catch counted against the national allocation (Attributable Catch) during the 3 previous fishing seasons. All figures should be provided in tonnes. Some CCSBT Members use slightly different definitions for the catch that is counted against the allocation, so in the space below the table, clearly define the catch that has been counted against the national allocation:-*

Fishing Season (e.g. 2011/12)	National SBT allocation (t) (excluding carry-forward)	Unfished allocation carried forward to this fishing season (t)	SBT catch counted against the national allocation (t)					
			Sector 1 (Longline)		Sector 2 (N/A)		Sector 3 (N/A)	
			Domestic allocation	Actual Catch Against Allocation	Domestic allocation	Actual Catch Against Allocation	Domestic allocation	Actual Catch Against Allocation
2013/14	2703	54	2757	2694				
2014/15	3403	9	3412	3361				
2015/16	4847	41	4888	4798				
2016/17	4737	49	4786	-				

(c) Describe the system used for controlling the level of SBT catch. For ITQ and IQ systems, this should include details on how the catch was allocated to individual companies and/or vessels. For competitive catch systems this should include details of the process for authorising vessels to catch SBT and how the fishery was monitored for determining when to close the fishery. The description provided here should include any operational constraints on effort (both regulatory and voluntary):-

The IQ system has been implemented since 2006 to ensure the compliance with the SBT allocation to Japan. Fishers have to apply for SBT allocation to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) by 1<sup>st</sup> March every year. If the amount of applied quantity is greater than the Japanese catch allocation, allocation to individual vessel is decided based on the SBT catch record of the applying vessel in the past 3 years. Transfer of IQ between vessels is in principle prohibited, but can be permitted among vessels under the same owner. The catches are monitored through RTMP (Real Time Monitoring Program) and verified at the landing inspection by government officials with 100 % coverage.

In case of catches exceeding IQ in contravention of domestic regulations (Ordinance of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries on Permission and Regulation of Designated Fishery (hereinafter referred to as "Ordinance"), Article 57 (5)), the penalties imposed on the fisher are up to 2-year imprisonment and/or up to five hundred thousand yen fine. In addition, the fisher will be deprived of all SBT allocation for the next 5 years in case of serious offenses. SBT catch by fishers without IQ is prohibited by Ordinance Article 91 (3). The penalty is up to 2-year imprisonment and/or up to five hundred thousand yen fine.

(d) Provide details of the methods used to monitor catching in the fishery by completing the table below. Details should also be provided of monitoring conducted of fishing vessels when steaming away from the fishing grounds (this does not include towing vessels that are reported in Section 2).

Monitoring Methods	Description
Daily log book	<p>Specify:</p> <p>i. Whether this was mandatory. If not, specify the % of SBT fishing that was covered:-</p> <p>Reporting by daily log book is mandatory for all SBT fishers by the Ordinance.</p> <p>ii. The level of detail recorded (shot by shot, daily aggregate etc):-</p> <p>Shot by shot data has to be recorded on the logbook.</p> <p>iii. Whether the effort and catch information collected complied with that specified in the "Characterisation of the SBT Catch" section of the CCSBT Scientific Research Plan (Attachment D of the SC5 report), including both retained and discarded catch. If not, describe the non-compliance:-</p> <p>Most of the data described in the section of "Characterisation of the SBT Catch" of the CCSBT Scientific Research Plan is collected. Scientific/biological data, including sex, otoliths and environmental data, is collected by RTMP and scientific observers. RTMP data also includes size information (length / product weight) data and record of release or discard by individuals.</p> <p>iv. What information on ERS was recorded in logbooks:-</p>

	<p>For sharks, sea turtles and seabirds, information including date of by-catch and number of by-caught individuals is recorded.</p> <p>v. <i>Who were the log books submitted to<sup>1</sup>:-</i></p> <p>Log books are submitted to Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) by fishers.</p> <p>vi. <i>What was the timeframe and method<sup>2</sup> for submission:-</i></p> <p>Log books for every 10 days period have to be submitted within the next 10 days period to MAFF by post.</p> <p>vii. <i>The type of checking and verification that was routinely conducted for this information:-</i></p> <p>Cross checking of the data from the log books with the data obtained daily from RTMP</p> <p>viii. <i>Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-</i></p> <p>Legislation : Ordinance 28 (2-1)  Penalty : One hundred thousand yen fine for failure in recording data on log books/in equipping logbooks on board (contravention of Ordinance 28 (2-1))</p> <p>ix. <i>Other relevant information<sup>3</sup>:-</i></p> <p>As described in the following section, RTMP is also used for monitoring fishing activities of individual fishing vessels, including the amount of SBT catch, and collecting CPUE data.</p>
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<sup>1</sup> If the reports are not to be submitted to the Member's or CNM's government fisheries authority, then also specify whether the information will later be sent to the fisheries authority, including how and when that occurs.

<sup>2</sup> In particular, whether the information is submitted electronically from the vessel.

<sup>3</sup> Including information on ERS, and comments on the effectiveness of the controls or monitoring tools and any plans for further improvement.

<p><i>Additional reporting methods (such as real time monitoring programs)</i></p>	<p><i>If multiple reporting methods exists (e.g. daily, weekly and/or month SBT catch reporting, reporting of tags and SBT measurements, reporting of ERS interactions etc), create a separate row of in this table for each method. Then, for each method, specify:</i></p> <p><i>i. Whether this was mandatory. If not, specify the % of SBT fishing that was covered:-</i></p> <p>In addition to log books, reporting in each day by RTMP is required for SBT vessels during operation, regardless of whether SBT catch exists.</p> <p><i>ii. The information that was recorded (including whether it relates to SBT or ERS):-</i></p> <p>Date of catch, vessel position, date and time of set and haul, number of hooks set, individual measurements of SBT (tag number, length, product weight and sex), number and status of SBT caught and released/discarded (weight categories, alive/dead).</p> <p><i>iii. Who the reports were submitted to and by whom (e.g. Vessel Master, the Fishing Company etc)<sup>1</sup>:-</i></p> <p>Fishers submit RTMP reports to the Fisheries Agency Japan (FAJ) and the National Research Institute of Fisheries Science (NRIFS) via Japan Fisheries Information Service Center (JAFIC, the organization that handles row fishery data collected from fishers).</p> <p><i>iv. What was the timeframe and method<sup>2</sup> for submission:-</i></p> <p>RTMP reporting is made by fax on a daily basis.</p> <p><i>v. The type of checking and verification that was routinely conducted for this information:-</i></p> <p>After preliminary checking, JAFIC compiles RTMP data received from fishers. FAJ and NRIFS conduct secondary checking of the data received from JAFIC. Such checking includes position of fishing operations, number of SBT caught and individual product weight.</p> <p><i>vi. Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-</i></p> <p>Instruction of FAJ</p> <p><i>vii. Other relevant information<sup>3</sup>:-</i></p>																		
<p><i>Scientific Observers</i></p>	<p><i>Specify:</i></p> <p><i>i. The percentage of the SBT catch and effort observed and the total number of days that observers were actually deployed for in the three previous seasons for each sector (e.g. longline, purse seine, commercial charter fleet, domestic fleet). The unit of effort should be hooks, sets and tows for longline, purse seine and towing respectively:-</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="520 1559 1268 1744"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Fishing Season (e.g. 2011/12)</th> <th colspan="2">Longline (area 4-9)</th> <th rowspan="2">Obs. days deployed</th> </tr> <tr> <th>% effort obs.</th> <th>% catch obs.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>12.3</td> <td>11.5</td> <td>1,112</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>17.1</td> <td>17.1</td> <td>1,959</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015/16*</td> <td>18.5</td> <td>18.0</td> <td>1,772</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* The data for 2015/16 are tentative value.</p> <p><i>ii. The system used for comparisons between observer data and other catch monitoring data in order to verify the catch data:-</i></p> <p>Data from observer reports, RTMP reports and log books are cross checked to verify fishery data, including vessel position, number of hooks and number of SBT caught.</p> <p><i>iii. Excluding the coverage, specify whether the observer program complied with the</i></p>	Fishing Season (e.g. 2011/12)	Longline (area 4-9)		Obs. days deployed	% effort obs.	% catch obs.	2013/14	12.3	11.5	1,112	2014/15	17.1	17.1	1,959	2015/16*	18.5	18.0	1,772
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	<p><i>CCSBT Scientific Observer Program Standards. If not, describe the non-compliance. Also indicate whether there was any exchange of observers between countries:-</i></p> <p>The observer program complies with the CCSBT Scientific Observer Program Standards. There has not been any exchange of SBT observers with other countries.</p> <p><i>iv. What information on ERS was recorded by observers:-</i></p> <p>For by-catch species including sharks, sea turtles, sea birds, and marine mammals data such as date of by-catch, time when by-caught individual was pulled up on board, length, species and their status (alive/dead) is recorded by individual.</p> <p><i>v. Who were the observer reports submitted to:-</i></p> <p>Reports are submitted to FAJ and NRIFS.</p> <p><i>vi. Timeframe for submission of observer reports:-</i></p> <p>Reports are submitted within one week after disembarking from the vessels</p> <p><i>vii. Other relevant information (including plans for further improvement – in particular to reach coverage of 10% of the effort):-</i></p> <p>In 2015/16 fishing season, as well as the previous season, observer coverage exceeded 10% in terms of the number of vessels, hooks and SBT caught.</p>
<p><b>VMS</b></p> <p><i>The items of “ii” are required in association with the Resolution on establishing the CCSBT Vessel Monitoring System</i></p>	<p><i>Specify:</i></p> <p><i>i. Whether a mandatory VMS for SBT vessels that complies with CCSBT’s VMS resolution was in operation. If not, provide details of non-compliance and plans for further improvement:-</i></p> <p>Domestic regulation (the Ordinance) requires all far seas fishing vessels to be equipped with VMS. The requirement is in line with the CCSBT VMS Resolution.</p> <p><i>ii. For the most recently completed fishing season, specify:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The number of its flag vessels on the CCSBT Authorised Vessel List that were required to report to a National VMS system:-</i></li> </ul> <p>90 vessels in 2015/16 fishing season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The number of its flag vessels on the CCSBT Authorised Vessel List that actually reported to a National VMS system:-</i></li> </ul> <p>90 vessels in 2015/16 fishing season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Reasons for any non-compliance with VMS requirements and action taken by the Member:-</i></li> </ul> <p>N/A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In the event of a technical failure of a vessel’s VMS, the vessel’s geographical position (latitude and longitude) at the time of failure and the length of time the VMS was inactive should be reported:-</i></li> </ul> <p>N/A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The procedures used for manual reporting in the event of a VMS failure (e.g. “manual position reporting on a 4 hourly basis”):-</i></li> </ul>

	<p>In the event of a technical failure, by the Ordinance, the vessel is required to immediately report FAJ on the failure, and the position of the vessel every 6 hours in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean area/ every 4 hours in the other areas, until the VMS is fixed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A description of any investigations initiated in accordance with paragraph 3(b) of the CCSBT VMS resolution including progress to date and any actions taken:-</i></li> </ul> <p>N/A</p> <p><i>iii. Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-</i></p> <p>Legislation : Ordinance 24(2)  Penalty : Up to 6-month imprisonment and/or up to three hundred thousand yen fine for failure in equipping VMS (contravention of Ordinance 24 (2-1))</p>
<i>At-Sea Inspections</i>	<p><i>Specify:</i></p> <p><i>i. The coverage level of at sea inspections (e.g. % of SBT trips inspected):-</i></p> <p>During 2015/2016 fishing season, Japan has dispatched monitoring and control vessel, Mihama of FAJ. She was dispatched from August 25<sup>th</sup> to September 10<sup>th</sup>, September 14<sup>th</sup> to October 9<sup>th</sup>, October 13<sup>th</sup> to November 5<sup>th</sup>, November 9<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup>, December 6<sup>th</sup> to December 30<sup>th</sup>, and January 3<sup>rd</sup> to January 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 9 inspections were carried out on Japanese fishing vessels registered with the CCSBT through vessel radio communication and visual confirmation.</p> <p><i>ii. Other relevant information<sup>3</sup>:-</i></p>
<i>Other (use of masthead cameras etc.)</i>	N/A

*(e) Report on the review of internal actions and measures taken in relation to the authorised vessel requirements provided at Attachment B, including any punitive and sanction actions taken.*

Japan permits Japanese or Japanese subsidiary to operate SBT fisheries in accordance with ordinance, after checking its competence in terms of its compliance and financial issues. Japan ensures that those authorized FVs keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorization to fish SBT.

Japan ensures that our FVs comply with all the other relevant CCSBT conservation and management measures in accordance with ordinance and instruction of FAJ. For example, under the RTMP, Japanese fishing vessels involved in SBT fishing must report the details of their catch daily throughout the fishing season. Fishery operators are also obliged to present their logbook entries to the Fisheries Agency every ten days. All fishing vessels must be equipped with VMS. Fishers are required to submit relevant documents, including report on landing of SBT and copies of CDS documents, to FAJ by 10 days before the planned landing date. Furthermore, eight domestic ports have been designated as ports where SBT products can be landed and government officials inspected all (100%) the domestic SBT products at designated ports.

## **(2) SBT Towing and transfer to and between farms (farms only)**

There is no SBT farming in Japan.

## **(3) SBT Transshipment (in port and at sea)**

*(a) In accordance with the Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels, report:*

- i. The quantities of SBT transhipped at sea and in port during the previous fishing season:-*

<b>Fishing Season</b> <i>(e.g. 2011/12)</i>	Percentage of the annual SBT catch transhipped at sea	Percentage of the annual SBT catch transhipped in port
2015/16	33.2%	1.0%

<Calculation Basis>

Amount of the total catch in fishing season 2015/16 was 4,797 ton. In the same term, the amount of SBT catch transhipped at sea was 1,595 ton and the amount of that transhipped in port was 50 ton.

- ii. *The list of the LSTLVs registered in the CCSBT Authorised Vessel List which have transhipped at sea and in port during the previous fishing season:-*

CCSBT List #	Vessel name
FV00258	KINEI MARU No. 81
FV00537	KINEI MARU No. 85
FV06078	SEIFUKU MARU No. 78
FV00639	KOEI MARU No. 1
FV00644	CHIHO MARU No. 18
FV00697	SANEI MARU No. 1
FV00693	RYUSEI MARU No. 2
FV00664	WAKASHIO MARU No. 128
FV00696	SANEI MARU No. 8
FV00683	MATSUEI MARU No. 5
FV00649	MATSUFUKU MARU No. 28
FV00681	MATSUEI MARU No. 28
FV00665	WAKASHIO MARU No. 83
FV00686	MATSUEI MARU No. 3
FV00666	WAKASHIO MARU No. 118
FV00658	TAIYO MARU No. 8
FV00692	RYUSEI MARU No. 8
FV00698	SANEI MARU No. 51
FV00667	WAKASHIO MARU No. 82
FV00702	WAKASHIO MARU No. 88
FV00668	WAKASHIO MARU No. 68
FV00701	WAKASHIO MARU No. 8
FV00643	KATSUEI MARU No. 88
FV00699	WAKASHIO MARU No. 108
FV00641	KATSUEI MARU No.78
FV00669	KOEI MARU No. 88
FV00700	WAKASHIO MARU No. 58
FV00467	KOYO MARU No. 6
FV00455	SUMIYOSHI MARU No. 10
FV00465	SUMIYOSHI MARU No. 75
FV00327	SHOFUKU MARU No. 88
FV00324	SHOFUKU MARU No. 38
FV00323	SHOFUKU MARU No. 58
FV00326	SHOFUKU MARU No.8



FV06212	SHOFUKU MARU No.18
FV00515	FUKUSEKI MARU No. 31
FV00531	HINODE MARU No. 38
FV00284	FUKUKYU MARU No. 8
Vessel total	38
Transshipment total	45

- iii. *A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received at-sea transshipments from their LSTLVs during the previous fishing season:-*

There were 41 cases of transshipments at sea in 2015/16, by using 37 Japanese LSTLVs. All such transhipped products were inspected by government officials when the products were landed at Japanese ports.

- (b) *Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring transshipments in port. This should include details of:*

- i. *Rules for and names of designated foreign ports of transshipment for SBT and for prohibition of transshipment at other foreign ports:-*

In accordance with the 2009 Resolution on action plans, Japan has already designated 25 foreign ports (Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban (South Africa), Port Luis (Mauritius), Walvis Bay (Namibia), Mahe (Seychelles), Montevideo (Uruguay), Benoa (Indonesia), Auckland, Wellington, Nelson (New Zealand), Busan (Korea), Dalian (China), Suva (Fiji), Noumea (New Caledonia), Maputo, Beira, Nacala (Mozambique), Honiara (Solomon Islands), Ponape (Micronesia), Tarawa (Kiribati), Nuku-Hiva, Papeete (French Polynesia), Balboa (Panama), Callao (Peru)) in accordance with the Ordinance Article 59. FAJ has authorized all vessels which operate SBT fisheries to conduct at-port transshipment. These fishers are required to submit a notification of transshipment each time to FAJ by 10 days before the planned transshipment date. They also have to submit a transshipment report within 15 days after transshipment.

Transshipment in ports other than above mentioned 25 ports is prohibited.

- ii. *Port State inspections required for transshipments of SBT (include % coverage):-*

Transshipments of SBT are subject to the port state inspections in ports where the inspection system is implemented, such as Cape Town. (Cape Town is the most frequently and predominantly used designated port for transshipments by Japanese vessels.)

- iii. *Information sharing with designated port states:-*

Information including total weight by fish species onboard at the time of transshipment is provided to states of the designated ports in accordance with rules of the states.

Especially, when SBT is transhipped at ports of the Republic of South Africa (RSA), Japanese vessels submit the relevant CDS documents (CTF) to RSA. In addition to this, FAJ issues a document to RSA, which confirms that; 1) each vessel is authorized to conduct transshipment, and 2) all of the transhipped SBT will be transferred to Japan, and CMF will be validated after full inspection at a Japanese port by Japanese government officials.

Even in the case the vessel does not intend to tranship SBT, FAJ issues a document of confirmation (no SBT transshipment by the vessel) to RSA.

- iv. *Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT transhipped:-*

FAJ cross-checks information obtained from the relevant documents submitted by fishers, including reports on transshipments and CMFs, with information obtained from inspections of landing of the transhipped products at a designated Japanese port by Japanese Government officials.

- v. *Process for validating<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup> and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form, Catch Tagging Form):-*

Fishers are required to obtain approval from FAJ for at port transshipments in advance. To apply for at port transshipment, fishers have to submit the relevant documents, including the application form and CDS documents, to FAJ 10 days before the planned transshipment date. At the time of transshipment, the fishing vessel obtains the certification from the Master of the receiving vessel on CMF. CMF and CTF are handed over to the Master of the receiving vessel, which are to be brought to the landing port in Japan. CMFs are validated when the products are landed and inspected by Government officials at the designated Japanese port. This CMF is eventually submitted to FAJ by the fisher after completion of domestic sales of the products.

- vi. *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*

Up to 2-year imprisonment and/or up to five hundred thousand yen fine for transshipment without approval (contravention of Ordinance Article 59 (1)), and for non-compliance with the Restrictions and Conditions on the fishery permit, including transshipments to the vessels that are not registered to RFMOs, and transshipments at non-designated foreign ports (contravention of Ordinance Article 59 (2)).

- vii. *Other relevant information<sup>3</sup>:-*

As Cape Town is the most frequently and predominantly used designated port for transshipments by Japanese vessels, Japan has communicated with RSA on sharing relevant information, according to the Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels paragraph 21.

*(c) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring transshipments at sea. This should include details of:*

- i. *The rules and processes for authorising transshipments of SBT at sea and methods (in addition to the presence of CCSBT transshipment observers) for checking and verifying the quantities of SBT transhipped:-*

Japan controls at-sea transshipments by its vessels in accordance with the 2014 CCSBT Resolution on transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels. FAJ has authorized all vessels which operate SBT fisheries to conduct at-sea transshipment. These fishers are required to submit a notification of transshipment and relevant CDS documents each time to FAJ by 10 days before the planned transshipment date. At the time of transshipment, the fishing vessel obtains certification and signature from the Master of the receiving vessel and the transshipment observer on CMF. CMF and CTF are handed over to the Master of the receiving vessel to be brought to a designated landing port in Japan. The master of the receiving vessel submits a transshipment report immediately to FAJ after the transshipment. The fisher is required to submit the transshipment report to FAJ within 15 days after the transshipment. CMFs are validated when the products are landed and inspected by Government officials at a designated Japanese port. This CMF is eventually submitted to FAJ by the fisher after completion of domestic sales of the products.

- ii. *Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT transhipped:-*

FAJ Cross checks information obtained from relevant documents submitted by fishers, including reports on transshipments and CMFs, with information obtained from inspections of landing of the transhipped products by government officials at a designated port in Japan.

- iii. *Process for collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form, Catch Tagging Form):-*

Copies of CMF and relevant information are submitted to FAJ 10 days before the planned transshipment date. FAJ issues CTFs based on the information on relevant CMFs and RTMP data before landing. CMFs are validated when the transhipped products are landed and inspected by Japanese Government officials at a Japanese port. CMFs are submitted by fishers to FAJ after completion of domestic sales of the products.

iv. *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*

Up to 2-year imprisonment and/or up to five hundred thousand yen fine for at sea transshipment without approval (contravention of Ordinance Article 59 (1)), and for non-compliance with the Restrictions and Conditions on the fishery permit, including transshipments to vessels that do not have transshipment observers on board (contravention of Ordinance Article 59 (2)).

v. *Other relevant information<sup>3</sup>:-*

N/A

**(4) Landings of Domestic Product (from both fishing vessels and farms)**

(a) *Specify the approximate percentage of the annual SBT catch that was landed as domestic product.*

100%

(b) *Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring domestic landings of SBT. This should include details of:*

i. *Rules for designated ports of landing of SBT:-*

Eight domestic ports have been designated as ports where SBT products can be landed (Ordinance 18 (1))

ii. *Inspections required for landings of SBT (including % coverage):-*

100%. From 2006, all the domestic SBT products are inspected by government officials at designated ports.

iii. *Details of genetic testing conducted and any other techniques that are used to verify that SBT are not being landed as a different species:-*

In accordance with the agreement at CCSBT20, Japan has expanded the scope of its genetic test to domestic products since 2014/15 fishing season. Japan conducted genetic tests for 125 samples of declared Bigeye tuna and 25 samples of declared yellowfin tuna from Japanese vessels during 2015/2016 fishing season. As the results, it concluded that all samples were the declared tuna.

iv. *Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT landed:-*

FAJ cross-checks information obtained from relevant documents, including reports on SBT landing as domestic products, CMFs, total weight measurement certificate, individual product weight measurement information, invoice etc., at the time of inspection of landings.

v. *Process for validating<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup> and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form, and depending on circumstances, Catch Tagging Form):-*

Fishers are required to submit relevant documents, including report on landing of SBT and copies of CDS documents, to FAJ by 10 days before the planned landing date. CMFs are validated when the products are inspected by Japanese government officials at the time of landing. Relevant documents (copies of CMF, total weight measurement certificate, individual product weight measurement information, invoice etc.) are submitted to FAJ immediately after the landing. The original CMFs are eventually submitted to FAJ by the fisher after completion of domestic sales of the products.

vi. *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*

Up to 2-year imprisonment and/or up to five hundred thousand yen fine for landing at a port other than the 8 designated ports (contravention of Ordinance Article 18 (1))

vii. *Other relevant information*<sup>3</sup>:-

N/A

### **(5) SBT Exports**

(a) *Specify the quantity of the domestic catch that was exported and provide an estimate of the total quantity of the domestic SBT catch (in tonnes to 1 decimal place ) that was retained within the country/fishing entity (i.e. the quantity can be estimated by subtracting the total export from domestic catch) during each of the last 3 fishing seasons to each country/fishing entity.*

Fishing Season (e.g. 2011/12)	Estimate of retained within the country/fishing entity (Domestic catch-Export)	SBT Exported to							
		Korea	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
2013/14	2640.1	53.9							
2014/15	3200.9	160.1							
2015/16	4521.1	276.9							

(b) *Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring exports of SBT (including of landings directly from the vessel to the foreign importing port). This should include details of:*

i. *Inspections required for export of SBT (including % coverage):-*

All SBT products caught by Japanese vessels have to be landed on Japan, and direct landings and export at foreign ports are prohibited. All SBT products, including products to be exported, are strictly inspected at the time of landing at a designated port in Japan as described in the previous sections.

ii. *Details of genetic testing conducted and any other techniques that are used to verify that SBT are not being exported as a different species:-*

N/A

iii. *Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT exported:-*

Quantity of exported SBT is recorded using information from the CDS documents, including CMF and REEF, submitted by exporters.

iv. *Process for validating <sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup> and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form and depending on circumstances, Catch Tagging Form or Re-export/Export after landing of domestic product Form):-*

Exporters have to submit relevant documents, including copies of CMF, REEF and sales contract, to FAJ. FAJ validates REEF after examination of such documents. At the time of validation, FAJ obtains copies of the CDS documents.

v. *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*

Procedures and requirements for SBT exports are provided in the regulations of FAJ on certifications of REEF.

vi. *Other relevant information*<sup>3</sup>:-

N/A

### **(6) SBT Imports**

(a) Specify the total quantity of SBT (in tonnes to 1 decimal place) imported during each of the last 3 fishing seasons from each country/fishing entity.

Fishing Season (e.g. 2011/12)	SBT Imported from								
	Australia	New Zealand	Indonesia	Korea	Taiwan	South Africa	Philippine	...	...
2013/14	7906.4	458.3	517.8	667.5	608.8	2.4	39.4		
2014/15	8862.3	496.1	485.8	996.7	633.8	1.1	39.6		
2015/16	8,556.9	532.3	278.9	938.7	758.2	7.4	-		

(b) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring imports of SBT. This should include details of:

i. Rules for designated ports for import of SBT:-

Japan does not designate ports and airports for imports of SBT.

ii. Inspections required for import of SBT (including % coverage):-

Inspections are conducted when necessary, based on results of the strict examination of the relevant documents submitted to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and Customs by importers.

iii. Details of genetic testing conducted and any other techniques that are used to verify that SBT are not being imported as a different species:-

During 2015/16 fishing season, Japan conducted genetic tests for 1,350 samples of declared bigeye and yellowfin tuna which were imported. As the results, no disguised SBT was found.

iv. Process for checking and collecting CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form and depending on circumstances, Re-export/Export after landing of domestic product Form):-

Importers are required to obtain approval from the Government of Japan for imports of SBT. To apply for imports, importers have to submit the relevant documents, including the application form and CDS documents (CMF, REEF), to FAJ and METI, and/or Customs. FAJ and METI, and/or Customs approve imports based on the results of strict examination of the submitted documents. CDS documents are collected by Customs when the SBT products are imported.

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010, Japan requires SBT importers to submit tagging data of the imported wild SBT products, including tag number, length and weight, in order to ensure that the products had been caught in accordance with all the relevant CCSBT conservation and management measures.

v. Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-

Up to 1 year prohibition of any import of SBT and/or imprisonment or fine (Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act, Article 52 etc)

vi. Other relevant information<sup>3</sup>:-

N/A

## **(7) SBT Markets**

*(a) Describe any activities targeted at points in the supply chain between landing and the market:-*

All SBT caught by Japanese vessels are inspected by government officials when landed at a Japanese designated port. FAJ conducts research of major markets every month, to collect the latest information on origin (catching/farming CCSBT Member), weight, length and tag data of the SBT products traded in Japanese markets.

*(b) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring of SBT at markets (e.g. voluntary or mandatory requirements for certain documentation and/or presence of tags, and monitoring or audit of compliance with such requirements):-*

Through analysis of the data obtained from the research of Japanese SBT market every month, Japan monitors the amount and origin (catching/farming CCSBT Member) of SBT products traded in Japan, and confirms compliance of Japanese vessels with relevant CCSBT conservation and management measures, especially national TAC allocation to Japan.

*(c) Other relevant information<sup>3</sup>*

Not only fishers, but also traders that knowingly purchase or process illegally caught and/or landed SBT will be considered as contravening Ordinance Article 91 (4) and will be subject to penalties. The penalties could be up to 2-year imprisonment and/or up to five hundred thousand yen fine.

## **(8) Other**

*Description of any other MCS systems of relevance.*

N/A

### III. Additional Reporting Requirements

#### **(1) Coverage and Type of CDS Audit undertaken**

*As per paragraph 5.9 of the CDS Resolution, specify details on the level of coverage and type of audit undertaken, in accordance with 5.8<sup>4</sup> of the Resolution, and the level of compliance.*

All SBTs caught by Japanese vessels are inspected by government officials at the time of landing in Japan. If discrepancy of more than 2 % between the weight at landing inspection and reported weight in CMF is found, additional investigation is conducted.

#### **(2) Ecologically Related Species**

*(a) Reporting requirements in relation to implementation of the 2008 ERS Recommendation:*

- i. Specify whether each of the following plans/guidelines have been implemented, and if not, specify the action that has been taken towards implementing each of these plans/guidelines:-*
- *International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries:*
  - *International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks:*
  - *FAO Guidelines to reduce sea turtle mortality in fishing operations:*

In accordance with FAO International Action Plans on sharks and seabirds, Japan established its National Action Plans on sharks and seabirds in 2001, and revised them in 2005, 2009 and 2016. In addition, Japan has been taking actions in accordance with the FAO Guidelines on sea turtle by-catch.

- ii. Specify whether all current binding and recommendatory measures<sup>5</sup> aimed at the protection of ecologically related species<sup>6</sup> from fishing of the following tuna RFMOs are being complied with. If not, specify which measures are not being complied with and the progress that is being made towards compliance:-*
- *IOTC, when fishing within IOTC's Convention Area:*
  - *WCPFC, when fishing within WCPFC's Convention Area:*
  - *ICCAT, when fishing within ICCAT's Convention Area:*

Longline fishing vessels operating to catch SBT are obliged to comply with respective rules of each tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organization, such as IOTC, WCPFC and ICCAT in each area.

- iii. Specify whether data is being collected and reported on ecologically related species in accordance with the requirements of the following tuna RFMOs. If data are not being collected and reported in accordance with these requirements, specify which measures are not being complied with and the progress that is being made towards compliance:-*
- *CCSBT<sup>7</sup>:*

Japan collects and reports the relevant data in accordance with the CCSBT requirements.

- *IOTC, for fishing within IOTC's Convention Area:*
- *WCPFC, for fishing within WCPFC's Convention Area:*
- *ICCAT, for fishing within ICCAT's Convention Area:*

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<sup>4</sup> Paragraph 5.8 of the CDS Resolution specifies that "Members and Cooperating Non-Members shall undertake an appropriate level of audit, including inspections of vessels, landings, and where possible markets, to the extent necessary to validate the information contained in the CDS documentation."

<sup>5</sup> Relevant measures of these RFMOs can be found at: [http://www.ccsbt.org/site/bycatch\\_mitigation.php](http://www.ccsbt.org/site/bycatch_mitigation.php).

<sup>6</sup> Including seabirds, sea turtles and sharks.

<sup>7</sup> Current CCSBT requirements are those in the Scientific Observer Program Standards and those necessary for completing the template for the annual report to the ERSWG.

When operating in the Convention areas of IOTC, WCPFC and ICCAT, Japan collects and reports the relevant data in accordance with the requirements of respective RFMOs.

(b) Specify the number of observed ERS interactions including mortalities, and describe the methods of scaling used to produce estimates of total mortality (information should be provided by species –including the scientific name – wherever possible<sup>8</sup>):

	<b>Sector 1 (Longline)</b>		<b>Sector 2 (N/A)</b>	
<b>Most Recent Calendar Year (2015)</b>				
Total number of hooks (shots for PS)	16,043,803			
Percentage of hooks (shots) observed	14.4%			
	<i>Total number of observed interactions/mortality</i>			
	<i>Interactions</i>	<i>Mortality</i>	<i>Interactions</i>	<i>Mortality</i>
Large albatrosses	62	54		
Dark colored albatrosses	35	35		
Other albatrosses	609	596		
Unidentified albatrosses	69	64		
Other petrels	132	128		
Other birds	11	9		
Unidentified birds	12	10		
Blue shark	13356	1423		
Shortfin mako shark	518	167		
Porbeagle	2510	388		
Other sharks	596	53		
Leatherback turtle	1	0		
<b>Previous Calendar Year (2014)</b>				
Total number of hooks (shots for PS)	15,635,717			
Percentage of hooks (shots) observed	11.9%			
	<i>Total number of observed interactions/mortality</i>			
	<i>Interactions</i>	<i>Mortality</i>	<i>Interactions</i>	<i>Mortality</i>
Large albatrosses	78	72		
Dark coloured albatrosses	4	3		
Other albatrosses	351	327		
Unidentified albatrosses	53	53		
Other petrels	68	64		
Othrer seabirds	3	3		
Unidentified birds	74	58		
Blue shark	5903	2746		
Shortfin mako shark	367	292		
Porbeagle	625	316		
Other sharks	835	144		
Loggerhead turtle	1	0		
Unidentified sea turtles	1	0		

(c) Mitigation – describe the current mitigation requirements:

Seabird: Tori-lines, night-setting and weighted-line, etc. in accordance with each RFMO's requirements

Turtle: Circle-hooks, line cutters and dehookers in accordance with each RFMO's requirements

Shark: At least one of the following options in accordance with WCPFC's requirement;

a. do not use or carry wire trace as branch lines or leaders: or

b. do not use branch lines running directly off the longline floats or drop lines, known as shark lines.

(d) Monitoring usage of bycatch mitigation measures:

<sup>8</sup> Where species specific information is available, insert additional line(s) for each species below the relevant Seabird, Sharks, and/or Sea Turtles sub headings.



- i. Describe the methods being used to monitor compliance with bycatch mitigation measures (e.g. types of port inspections conducted and other monitoring and surveillance programs used to monitor compliance). Include details of the level of coverage (e.g. proportion of vessels inspected each year):

During 2015/2016 fishing season, Japan has dispatched monitoring and control vessel, Mihama of FAJ. She inspected 9 Japanese fishing vessels registered with the CCSBT through vessel radio communication and visual confirmation relevant to bycatch mitigation measures. The coverage is 10% (9 vessels / 90 vessels).

- ii. Describe the type of information that is collected on mitigation measures as part of compliance programmes for SBT vessels:

Fishers have been mandated to write down seabird bycatch mitigation measures applied their operations in the logbook since 2014.

### **(3) Historical SBT Catch (retained and non-retained)**

Specify the best estimate (weight and number as available) of the historical fishing amounts of SBT for each sector (e.g. commercial longline, commercial purse seine, commercial charter fleet, domestic fleet, recreational) in the table below. The table should include the most recently completed fishing season. Figures should be provided for both retained SBT and non-retained SBT. For longline and recreational, “Retained SBT” includes SBT retained on vessel and “Non-Retained SBT” includes those returned to the water. For farming, “Retained SBT” includes SBT stocked to farming cages and “Non-Retained SBT” includes towing mortalities. If the number of individuals is known but the value in tonnes is unknown, enter the number of individuals in square brackets (e.g. [250]). Table cells should not be left empty. If the value is zero, enter “0”. It is recognised that for some sectors, the information requested in this table may not yet be available. Therefore, if the value is unknown, enter “?”. However, estimates are preferred over unknown entries. Cells containing estimates with a high degree of uncertainty should be shaded in light grey. A description of any estimation methods should be provided below the table.

Fishing Season (e.g. 2011/12)	Retained and Non-Retained SBT					
	Sector 1 (Longline area 1-15)		Sector 2 (N/A)		Sector 3 (N/A)	
	Retained SBT	Non-Retained SBT	Retained SBT	Non-Retained SBT	Retained SBT	Non-Retained SBT
2010/11	[46,212]	[4,249]				
2011/12	[59,405]	[4,057]				
2012/13	[51,754]	[10,209]				
2013/14	[49,575]	[10,423]				
2014/15	[59,401]	[11,648]				
2015/16	[84,904]	[12,027]				

Retained number and non-retained number are revised; Non-retained number was estimated using logbook data with the non-retained ratio based on the RTMP data.

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53. The action points shown in Table 1 were agreed by Members, noting that within the table, “External” refers to non-Member catches, while “Internal” relates to Members’ attributable catches.

**Table 1:** Action points in relation to implementing the Attributable SBT Catch.

	<b>External</b>	<b>Internal</b>	<b>ESC work schedule</b>
<b>2015</b>	The EC initiates discussion on the principles and process for taking account of non-member catch in the 2018-20 TAC period. The ESC, CC and Members to undertake analyses to provide estimates of non-member catch. Commission market analyses on significant markets to contribute to estimating non-member catch.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Individual Member research on applicable sources of mortality and report back to ESC and CC for discussion and review.</li> <li>2. Members shall endeavour to set allowances to commence for 2016-17 quota years for all sources of attributable mortality based on best estimates and notify other Members by CCSBT22. If Members can't they will notify CCSBT22 and explain why they are unable to and set a date by which they can set the allowance.</li> <li>3. The EC initiate discussion and agreement to a process for dealing with attributable catch within the next quota block (2018-20).</li> </ol>	Collation of information on unreported mortalities and categorising this information in accordance with OM “fleets” (ESC19 Report).
<b>2016</b>	The ESC, CC and Members continue analyses to provide estimates of non-member catch. The EC decides on the adjustment to take account of non-member catch in the 2018-20 TAC period.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The EC if necessary continue discussion so as to agree on a process for dealing with attributable catch within the next quota block (2018-20).</li> <li>2. Individual Members continue research on applicable sources of mortality and report back to the ESC and CC for discussion and review.</li> </ol>	ESC scheduled to run MP to recommend TAC for 2018-2020.
<b>2017</b>	The ESC, CC and Members continue analyses to provide estimates of non-member catch.	Individual Members continue research on applicable sources of mortality & report back to the ESC and CC for discussion review.	ESC scheduled to conduct full stock assessment and the first formal review of MP.
<b>2018</b>		Full implementation of the common definition of attributable catch.	

**CCSBT Authorised Vessel Resolution**

The flag Members and Co-operating Non-members of the vessels on the record shall:

- a) authorize their FVs to fish for SBT only if they are able to fulfill in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the CCSBT Convention and its conservation and management measures;
- b) take necessary measures to ensure that their FVs comply with all the relevant CCSBT conservation and management measures;
- c) take necessary measures to ensure that their FVs on the CCSBT Record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorization to fish and/or tranship;
- d) affirm that if those vessels have record of IUU fishing activities, the owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that they will not conduct such activities any more;
- e) ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their FVs on the CCSBT Record are not engaged in or associated with fishing activities for SBT conducted by FVs not entered into the CCSBT Record;
- f) take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the FVs on the CCSBT Record are citizens or legal entities within the flag Members and Co-operating Non-members so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them.