



CCSBT-EC/1610/13

## Cooperating Non-members

### Purpose

To discuss the on-going status of existing Cooperating Non-Members (CNMs) and consider any new applications for CNM status.

### Existing Cooperating Non-Members

The CCSBT has one Cooperating Non-Member, which is the Philippines. The Resolution establishing the status of Cooperating Non-Membership requires annual confirmation of that status after the Extended Commission (EC) has evaluated the performance of CNMs against commitments given to the Extended Commission.

The Philippines has been complying with the CCSBT's monthly catch reporting requirements and through this process, the Philippines has reported that it did not catch SBT in 2015, or so far (January to July) in 2016.

CCSBT 22 considered the performance of CNMs during 2015 and confirmed the continuing CNM status of the Philippines. CCSBT 22 also requested that the Philippines:

- attend future annual meetings; and
- respond to the request from the Compliance Committee in relation to the Philippines annual report.

The Secretariat wrote to the Philippines on 27 November 2015 with the request from CCSBT 22 (see Attachment A). The Philippines provided an interim response on 3 December 2015, advising that it would prepare its reply. The interim response from the Philippines stated that:

*“As far as 2015 is concerned, the Philippines did not have any vessel operating in the Indian Ocean area as they were sold. However, the fishing operators were busy trying to acquire newer second hand fishing vessels.”*

At the time of preparing this paper, the full reply from the Philippines had not been received.

The September 2016 meeting of the Extended Scientific Committee noted that the Philippines did not provide a national report to the meeting and requested that reports be provided in the future. This request has been forwarded to the Philippines. In addition, the Secretariat routinely reminds CNMs to submit national reports to relevant meetings in advance of those meetings.

Annual assessments of compliance with CCSBT management measures are conducted by the Compliance Committee. Consequently, for information concerning any current significant issues of non-compliance by CNMs, the EC is referred to the report of the 2016 annual meeting of the Compliance Committee, which is being held immediately before the annual meeting of the EC. In the interim, Attachments A and B of paper CCSBT-CC/1610/07 provide information concerning the compliance of both Members and CNMs with CCSBT measures (particularly reporting requirements and the TAC).

**Prepared by the Secretariat**