

Updates on Japanese Market Proposal (CCSBT-EC/2010/19)

September 2021

Fisheries Agency of Japan

Introduction/History

2019

- In ESC meeting, some recommendations arising from the Market Expert's report were accepted by ESC (see para 60 of ESC24 report).
- In EC meeting, Japan committed to submitting a paper to the ESC and CCSBT 27, which will include a proposal to compare Japanese market data with catch data from all Members to identify any anomalies or discrepancies.

2020

- In 2020, Japan submitted a comprehensive proposal (Proposal on monitoring of SBT distribution in Japan to verify catch of all Members: CCSBT-ESC/2008/23) to the ESC meeting. ESC generally agreed that the proposal captured the intent underlying the previous discussions including ESC 24 recommendations.
- Taking into account the discussion at ESC, Japan proposed actions to be taken to the EC meeting in 2020, as indicated in Appendix A of CCSBT-EC/2010/19. The suggested actions in Appendix A were accepted by EC.

2021

- This paper provides updates and further suggestions on the accepted actions in Appendix A.

Whole picture

Proposal item		Actions approved in 2020 EC	Progress/Suggested actions in 2021
a. Verification of all Members' catch in Japan	(1) Update of estimation formula of distribution amount of Japanese SBT catch in Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Japan leads an intersessional correspondence group to draft ToR for hiring an external expert, taking into account the ESC discussion ➤ As soon as the ToR reaches to an agreement, the Secretariat starts the nomination and selection process in accordance with the agreed ToR ➤ Allocate 57,200 AUD* from 2021 CCSBT budget to hire external expert 	<p>(See page 5-6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ToR for hiring the external expert was drafted and adopted ➤ Some nominations of the expert were made. To be selected in EC
	(2) New development of estimation formulas for distribution amount of other Member's catch in Japan		
	(3) Calculation of distribution amount estimate based on formulas in (1) and (2) above		
	(4) Calculation of the proportion of the estimated distribution amount in (3) to the global distribution amount of SBT and assessment of the value of the estimation works		
b. Further utilization of CDS data	(1) Verification of SBT international trade and domestic distribution utilizing CDS data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Request the Secretariat to implement this on a pilot basis for presentation to the next CC meeting ➤ The result will be shared with the external expert 	<p>(See page 7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Secretariat has developed the analysis table
	(2) Development of Resolution to seek cooperation of non-Members		
	(3) Verification of reported catch with tag data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Defer discussion on CCSBT's expense to the next EC/FAC in 2021 ➤ Item b(3): Request the Secretariat to conduct a trial analysis for data up to 2020 which will be provided by Japan ➤ Item c(1): Japan continues its current tag survey in 2021 and report the result to CC and EC in 2021 ➤ Item c(2): Discuss this at TCWG meeting, if possible with relevant technical experts 	<p>(See page 9-18)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CCSBT's expense on tag management survey: Work intersessionally for 2023 ➤ Item b(3): Secretariat has conducted the analysis ➤ Item (1): Some improvements are suggested ➤ Item c(2): Revisit in 2022 or later
(1) Improvement of tagging based on current CDS Resolution			
c. Development of system to detect illegally caught products	(2) Creation of intersessional working group for future improvement of tag specifications		

Suggested timeline by proposal item

		2021	2022	2023
a. Verification of all Members' catch in Japan	Hiring of external expert for methodology of verification of all Member's catch	ToR → Hire →	Work by the expert →	Possible extension →
b. Further utilization of CDS data	Verification of SBT international trade and domestic distribution utilizing CDS data	Review in CC →	Review in CC →	Review in CC →
	Resolution to seek cooperation of non-Members		Discuss in EC →	
	Verification of reported catch with tag data obtained in tag management survey in market	Review in CC →	Review in CC →	Review in CC →
	CCSBT's expense for tag management survey in market		Intersessional correspondence → Discuss in FAC/EC →	Possible operation under CCSBT budget →
c. Development of system to detect illegally caught products	Improvement of tagging based on current CDS Resolution	Discuss in CC →	Improvement → Review in CC →	
	Future improvement of tag specifications		input ↓ Discuss in CC →	

a. Hiring of external expert for methodology of verification of all Member's catch

- The proposal item A “Verification of all Member’s catch in Japan” plans to hire an external expert to develop a detailed methodology for verification of all Members’ catch in markets (focusing mainly on the Japanese market).
- After the proposal was endorsed by the EC in 2020, the terms of reference (ToR) describing the expert’s tasks, schedule and budget were intersessionally drafted under Japan’s initiative. This draft ToR was formally adopted by the EC under the intersessional decision-making procedure (CIRCULAR #2021/052).
- Some nominations of experts were made (CIRCULAR #2021/055). EC will handle the selection of the expert.
- Japan expresses appreciation to contributions made by Members and the Secretariat in this process

(Revised Draft)

Terms of Reference

For Verification of All Member’s Catch through Monitoring of SBT Product Distribution

1. Selection of the external expert

(1.1) Each Member of the EC may nominate one external expert¹ having expertise in tuna market analysis to the Secretariat by the end of August 2021. Each nomination must include:

- Current CV
- Declaration of conflicts of interest
- Demonstration of independence

(1.2) The Secretariat will circulate the nominations by September 3, 2021.

(1.3) In the 2021 EC Meeting, the EC should choose one expert from the candidates

2. Roles of expert

(2.1) The external expert is expected to do following work:

a) Update of the existing formula for estimating the total product amount of SBT caught by Japan and distributed in Japan, taking into account:

- Needs to update one or more of the eleven parameters used for estimation (e.g. off-market selling rate) to reflect the recent situation of the market;
- The results of the examination presented by the Market Expert to the 2019 ESC Meeting; and
- Comments from Member(s) to the draft work plan in 2.3 below.

b) Development of new formulas for estimating product amounts of SBT caught by Members other than Japan and distributed in Japan, taking into account:

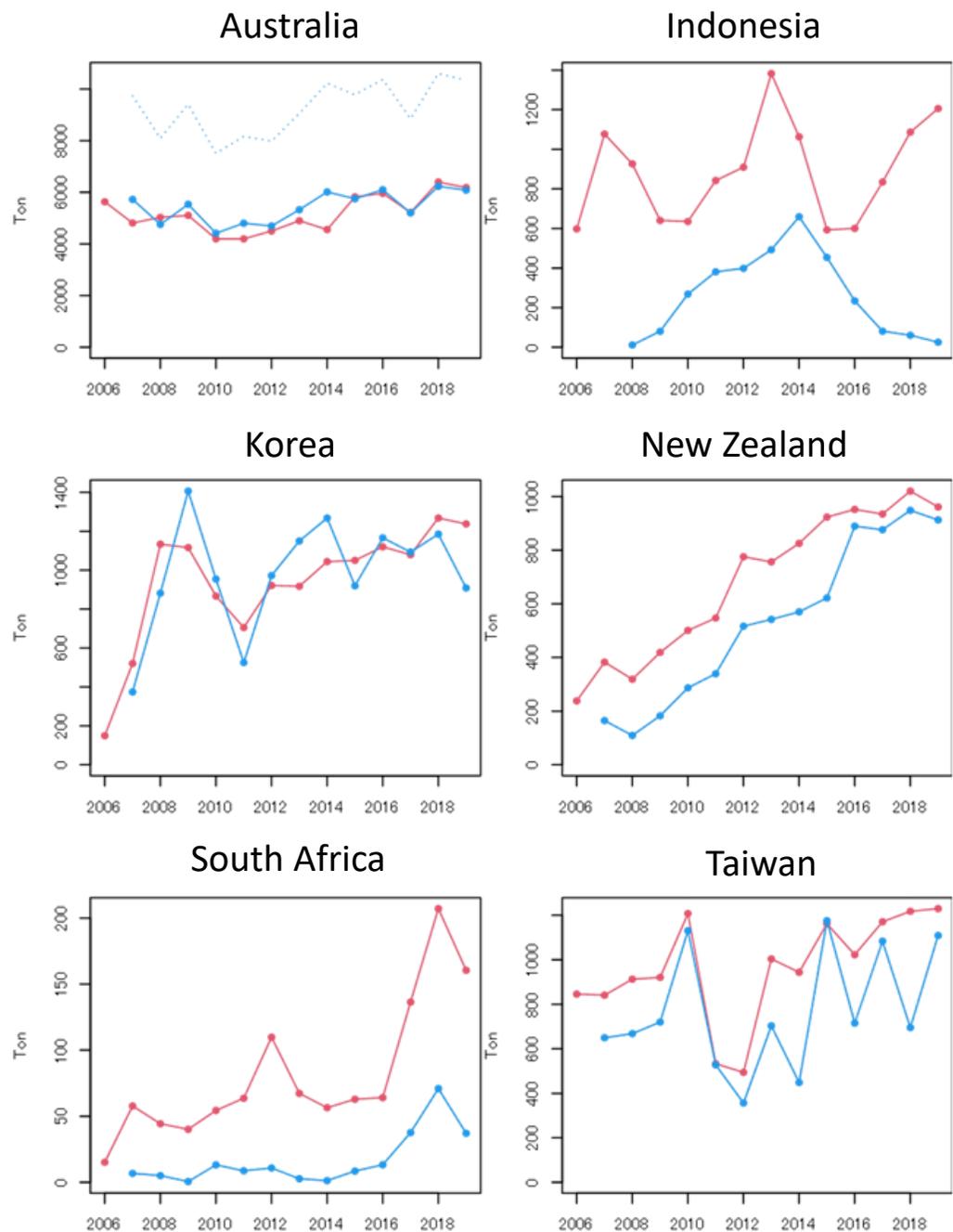
- The current methodology for estimating SBT caught by Japan and distributed in Japan as well as additional factors (e.g. difference of primary SBT product distribution route, transaction method and/or customers); and
- Comments from Member(s) to the draft work plan in 2.3 below.

c) Estimation of SBT product distribution amount based on the formulas in a) and b) above (The calculation methods should be clearly explained so that others can easily use them to make similar estimates at a later stage.)

¹ The expert shall not directly or indirectly be employed by Member governments and/or industry for market analysis or have any other conflict of interest at the time of appointment nor throughout the term of the contract, or in the previous three years.

a. Hiring of external expert for methodology of verification of all Member's catch

- Figures showing **SBT import into Japan by the trade statistics (Blue)** and **reported catch to CCSBT (Red)**. All values were converted to whole body weight.
- Note that there could be time-lag between year of catch year and that of import
- In Australia's figure, blue dotted line is nominal import quantity and blue solid line is estimated fish weight at wild catch taking into account growth at farming and product type.
- Verification of all Member's catch will contribute to reduction of uncertainty in stock assessment/management



b1. Verification of SBT international trade and domestic distribution utilizing CDS data

In 2020 EC, it was agreed to:

- Request the Secretariat to implement this on a pilot basis for presentation to the next CC meeting
- Share the result with the external expert

Possible global SBT distribution table

Data Item		A		B		C		Estimated Domestic Distribution (Market Size)
		Catch		Export		Import		
Data Source		Report	CDS	UN Comtrade	CDS	UN Comtrade	CDS	=A-B+C
Members	Australia							
	EU							
	Indonesia							
	Japan							
	Korea							
	New Zealand							
	South Africa							
	Taiwan							
Non-Members	XX							
	YY							
	ZZ							
	...							

- The Secretariat is developing the analysis table. This will be reviewed in CC and shared with the external expert. Japan appreciates for the Secretariat's additional effort for this work.
- This work will be useful for identification of major SBT market other than Japan

b2. Development of Resolution to seek cooperation of non-Members

- In 2020, Japan proposed this item for more accurate information gathering of UAM. Reservations on were made by some Members. Discussion was deferred.
- Before going into substantial discussion on this item, Japan suggests closely analyzing the outcome from item b1 and the Secretariat's document on interaction with non-Members (CCSBT–CC/2110/11), for developing more specific necessity/objective as well as its potential target.
- It may be useful to consider outcome from the performance review.
- With this in mind, Japan suggests revisiting this item in 2022 or later with input from above viewpoints or others

b3 : Verification of reported catch with tag data

(i) Comparison between fish-by-fish information of CTF and tag data obtained in tag management survey

- In 2020 EC, it was agreed to request the Secretariat to conduct a trial analysis for data up to 2020 which will be provided by Japan
- The Secretariat will provide a result of the pilot analysis. Japan appreciates the work done by the Secretariat.
- Japan considers it is useful exercise for verification of accuracy of catch reported by Members, and suggests continuing the analysis next year

place	date	country	tag	tag.ID	wei	tag.year
Tsukiji	2011/8/26	AU	AU10 [REDACTED]		45.4	2010
Tsukiji	2011/8/26	AU	AU10 [REDACTED]		42	2010
Tsukiji						
place	date	country	tag	tag.ID	wei	tag.year
Tsukiji	2010/11/19	ID	ID10 [REDACTED]		41.6	2010
Tsukiji	2010/11/19	ID	ID10 [REDACTED]		75	2010
Tsukiji	2010/11/19					
place	date	country	tag	tag.ID	wei	tag.year
Tsukiji	2010/11/19	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		44.4	2010
Tsukiji	2010/12/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		61	2010
Tsukiji	2010/12/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		76	2010
Tsukiji	2010/12/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		45.6	2010
Tsukiji	2010/12/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		62	2010
Tsukiji	2011/1/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		59	2010
Tsukiji	2011/1/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		65	2010
Tsukiji	2011/1/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		39.6	2010
Tsukiji	2011/1/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		61	2010
Tsukiji	2011/1/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		42.6	2010
Tsukiji	2011/1/12	TW	TW10 [REDACTED]		58	2010

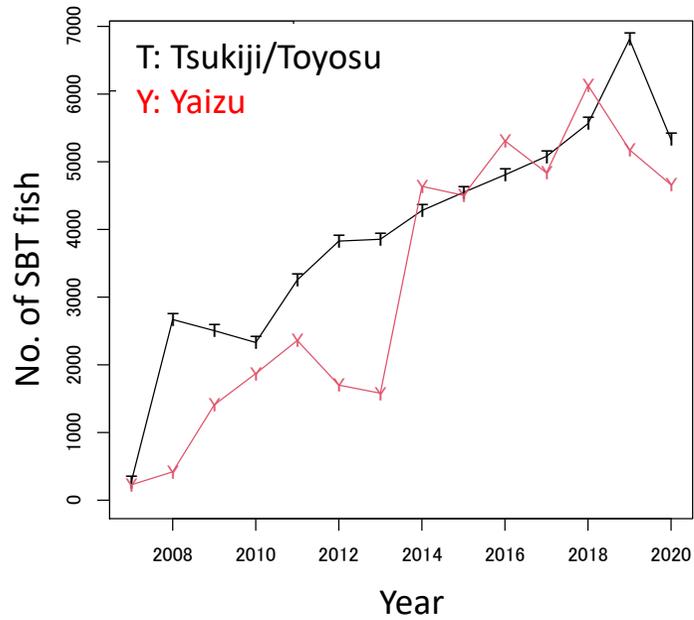
(ii) CCSBT's expense to tag management survey

- In 2020, Japan proposed expending cost for implementation of tag management survey from CCSBT budget (Cost estimate was 50,000-60,000 AUD). Some Members made reservations to this plan. Discussion was deferred.
- Japan still believes that the rationale for this plan is sufficiently strong: As long as utilizing tag management survey for verification of all Member's catch (and possible detection of non-Member UAM), it is no longer a domestic monitoring scheme but an international cooperation scheme for all Members. Also, if CCSBT delegates the survey to an independent third party, it would be effective for more transparent and organized operation/data sharing on the survey.
- In order to discuss this plan constructively and more informed way to all Members, Japan suggests followings:
 - ✓ Japan will form an intersessional email group to exchange information and views on this matter. If situation allows, a site visit may be organized.
 - ✓ Japan will circulate a draft survey standard procedure for the independent third party, and some candidates for contractors
 - ✓ The results will be reported to the CC/EC in 2022 for consideration

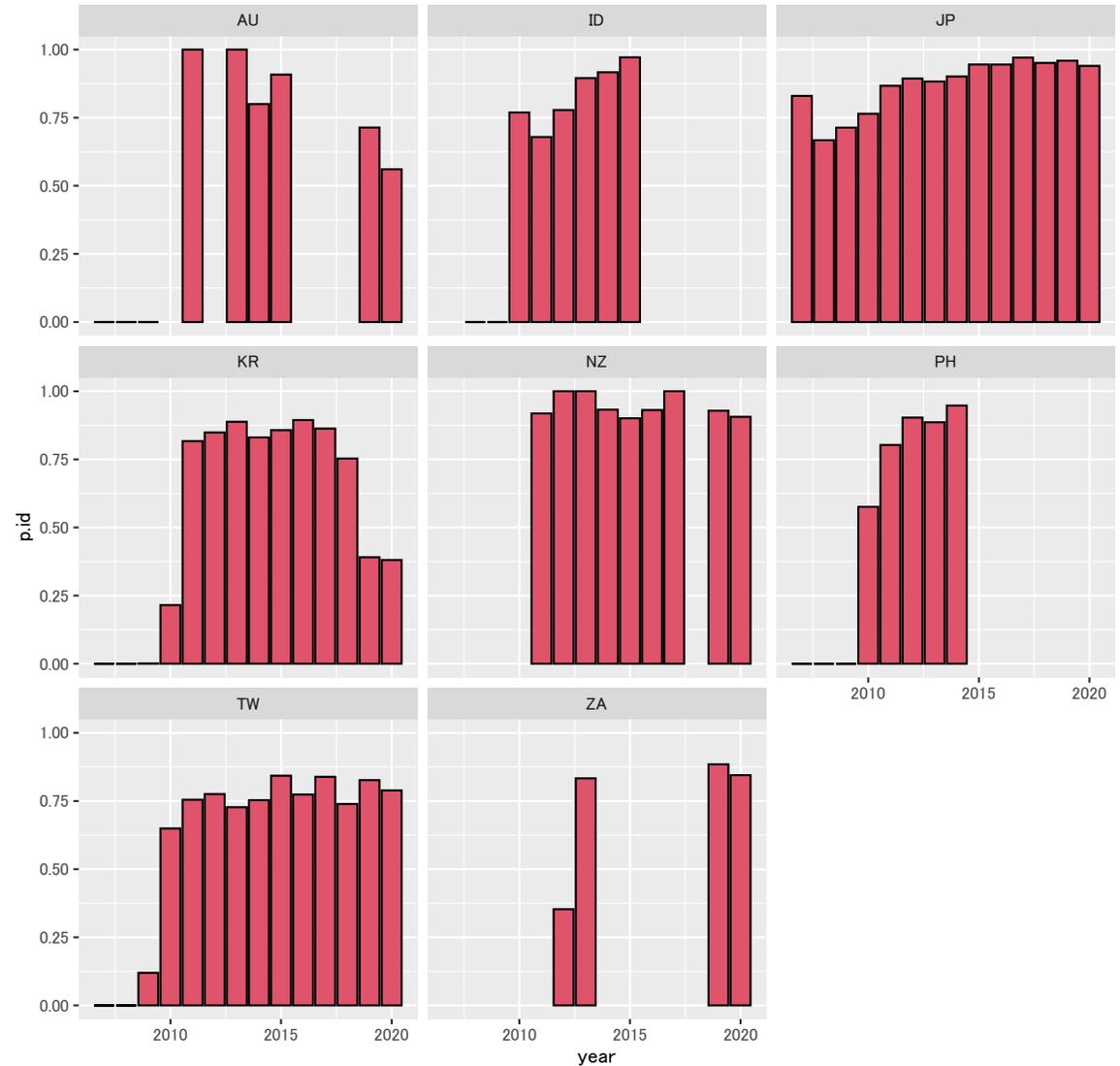
c1: Improvement of tagging based on current CDS Resolution

- In 2020, Japan pointed out that tag management survey have found out some SBT from which insufficient tag information due to method of tag attachments (e.g. tag information is not readable because the tag is attached too inside the fish mouth). Japan further suggested that improvement should be made under the current CDS Resolution.
- In 2020 EC, it was agreed that Japan continues its current tag survey in 2021 and report the result to CC and EC in 2021.
- In this paper, updated figures on result of tag management surveys are presented. Also, suggestions are made for future improvement under current CDS Resolution.
- These improvements would contribute to increased coverage of tag management survey and development of system to detect illegally caught products/UAM.

No. of SBT fish surveyed by year



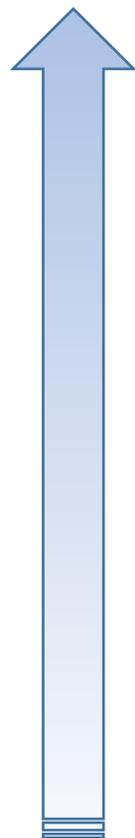
Ratio of SBT fish from which the necessary information for all items were obtained by Member/year



Why only insufficient data are obtained from some fish?

There are generally 3 types of difficulties in reading tag information at the survey(*).

More frequent

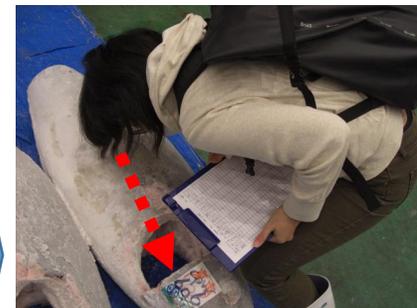


Type A

Hard to read when tag is attached inside the mouth. Especially, it is completely unreadable when tag is rolled into body tissue.



Often, survey staffs need to remove frosts covering tag



Type B

Tag is not readable when it is sandwiched between fish and base.



Type C

Tag is cut-off and unreadable.



** This is general assessment based on recent survey results. Further surveys may encounter other types of difficulties.*

Type A: Tag is attached deep inside the mouth

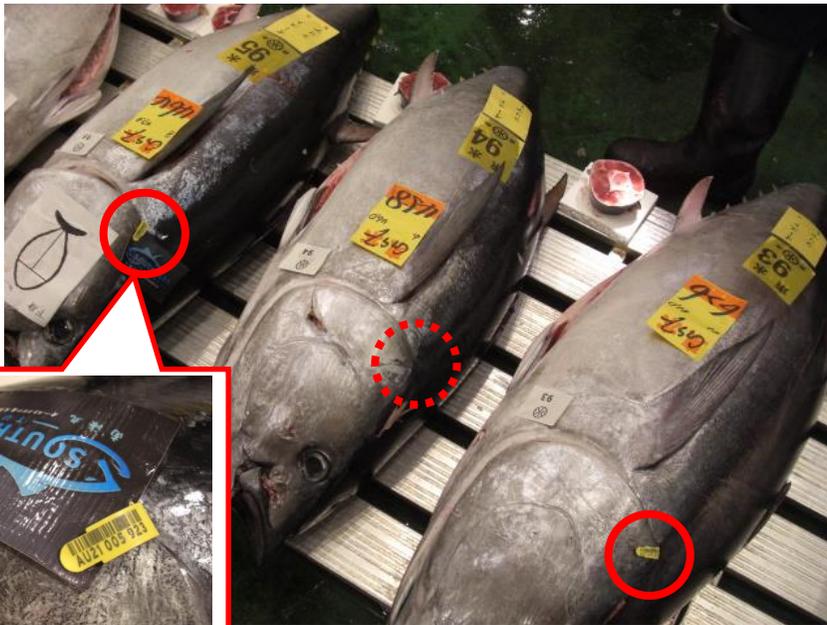
- When tags are attached inside the mouth, survey staff need to bend down and look into the mouth to verify the tag retention and read the tag information. In many cases, even with such efforts, it is still very difficult to read as the inside is dark and narrow.
- Tags with long bands are easy to read from outside, when tags are attached at the throat of fish body (see below)
- Therefore, Japan suggests that TCWG/CC encourages Members using this type of tags to direct fishermen to attach tags at the throat, not inside the mouth so that tag information becomes easily readable.



Please attach here!

Type B: Tag is sandwiched between fish and base

- Small tags as below are usually attached to the upper part of gill cover, but they become unreadable when the tag is sandwiched between fish and base.
- There were some cases where this type of tags are attached at anal fin, from which tag is easy to read no matter which side of body is up.
- Therefore, Japan suggests that TCWG/CC encourages Members using this type of tags to direct fishermen to attach tags at anal fin, not at the gill cover which may be sandwiched.



Type C: Tag is cut-off

- There are some cases where tags are cut-off from fish. It is impossible to obtain sufficient tag information from such fish.
- Under the current CDS Resolution, tag retention on fish is required until the first point of sale. Even thereafter, Members shall encourage the retention.
- Promoting tag retention would be important in other markets than Japan, for future worldwide effort to detect UAM and/or illegal SBT products.
- Therefore, Japan suggests that TCWG/CC encourages Members to recall this important obligation and further promote the tag retention to fishermen/traders.

Summary of suggestions for C1

- **Members** should report in section 1.1. of their national reports in 2022 CC/EC on their implementation of suggested improvements:
 - Type A: Attach tags at the throat, not inside the mouth
 - Type B: Attach tags at anal fin, not at the gill cover
 - Type C: Further promote the tag retention to fishermen/traders
- **TCWG** should recommend **CC** to specify above point in the CC workplan
- **Secretariat** should properly revise the instruction on tag attachment which is published in the CCSBT website.

c2 : Future improvement of tag specifications

- In 2020, Japan pointed out that because tag management survey detected some fish from which insufficient tag information are obtained, changes in tag specifications will be necessary.
- With further surveys in 2021, Japan felt that if improvements suggested in C1 are achieved, changes in tag specifications may not be necessary at this stage. Change of tag specifications should be carefully considered, as it would give substantial impact to fishermen and relevant stakeholders.
- Therefore, Japan suggests that revisit this item in 2022 CC or later when result of improvements in c1 becomes available.