

Japan' proposal on information exchange, based on the  
Australia' s Proposed Draft Resolution on the Provision of Fisheries-Dependent  
Data to Support the Scientific Assessment of Southern Bluefin Tuna and  
Ecologically Related Species

The Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT),

~~Recalling that, at its sixteenth annual meeting, the Extended Commission Members and Cooperating Non-Members agreed to measures to systematically verify catch data of southern bluefin tuna and ecologically related species by fishers (the Resolution on action plans to ensure compliance with Conservation and Management Measures);~~

~~Mindful of the risk that incomplete submission of fisheries-dependent scientific data poses to the scientific assessment of the southern bluefin tuna stock;~~

~~Recognising the recommendations of the 2010 Joint Tuna RFMO Workshop on the Provision of Scientific Advice on catch, effort and size data;~~

~~Recognising that the ability of the Extended Scientific Committee to provide good quality advice depends on its access to the most recent fine-scale fisheries-dependent data;~~  
Recognizing the importance of the most accurate data in the conservation and management of SBT,

~~Agrees, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 5 and paragraph 1(a) of Article 8 of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, that:~~

1. The flag Members and Cooperating Non-Members of pelagic longline vessels shall annually provide information generated from shot-by-shot catch and effort data for the most recently completed fishing season ~~to the Secretariat~~ on the following basis:

a. ~~The Secretariat shall maintain the data and~~ The flag Members and Cooperating Non-Members shall make the data-information available to the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee in a format and style agreed in the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee for inclusion in stock assessments, the management procedure and other necessary scientific and compliance processes;

b. The data-information made available ~~by the Secretariat~~ to the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee may shall not be aggregated by vessel, gear, fleet, month, year, latitude or longitude;

~~cc.~~ The shot-by-shot catch and effort data that is used to generate the information should include target species per shot, number of hooks, number of baskets, gear, fleet, day, month, year, latitude and longitude to two decimal places, weight and number of retained and discarded southern bluefin tuna, and number of ecologically related species including key species used in the standardisation of catch and effort series;

~~dd.~~ The flag Members and Cooperating Non-Members ~~The Secretariat~~ may obscure the distinguishing symbol of individual vessels with a unique identifier ~~at the request of a Member~~

~~or Cooperating Non-Member.~~

2. The flag Members and Cooperating Non-Members of purse seine vessels farming southern bluefin tuna shall annually provide information generated from shot-by-shot operational data for the most recently completed fishing season ~~to the Secretariat~~ on the following basis:

a. ~~The flag Members and Cooperating Non-Members shall~~~~The Secretariat shall maintain the data~~ and make the information data available to the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee in a format and style agreed in the Extended Scientific Committee and/or Compliance Committee for inclusion in stock assessments, the management procedure and other necessary scientific and compliance processes;

b. The data information made available ~~by the Secretariat~~ to the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee ~~may~~ ~~shall not~~ be aggregated by vessel, gear, fleet, month, year, latitude or longitude;

~~ec.~~ The shot-by-shot operational data that is used to generate the information should include target species per shot, gear, fleet, day, month, year, latitude and longitude to two decimal places, number of hours searched including with spotter aircraft, weight and number of retained and released southern bluefin tuna, weight and number of dead SBT during purse seine operation and number of ecologically related species;

~~d. Report, in a timely manner, on methods to improve the quality of methods to estimate the total weight and size composition of southern bluefin tuna caught by purse seiners;~~

~~ed.~~ The flag Members and Cooperating Non-Members ~~The Secretariat~~ may obscure the distinguishing symbol of individual vessels with a unique identifier ~~at the request of a Member or Cooperating Non-Member.~~

3. The Members and Cooperating Non-Members farming SBT shall annually provide information generated from stocking and farming data for the most recently completed fishing season on the following basis:

a. The Members and Cooperating Non-Members farming SBT shall make the information available to the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee in a format and style agreed in the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee for inclusion in stock assessments, the management procedure and other necessary scientific and compliance processes;

b. The stocking and farming data that is used to generate the information should include weight and number of individual dead SBT during towing, stocking, transferring and growing, weight and length of individual SBT at the time of stocking (including data obtained from 40-fish sampling and stereo video) and harvesting and growth rate (including tag seeding data);

c. Report annually to the Extended Scientific Committee and the Compliance Committee starting from 2011 on the results of the implementation of new measures to improve the quality of current methods to calculate the total weight and size composition of southern bluefin tuna caught by purse seine, including the commercial trials of stereo video systems required by the Resolution on action plans to ensure compliance with Conservation and Management Measures in 2009;

d. The Members and Cooperating Non-Members farming SBT may obscure the distinguishing symbol of individual farms with a unique identifier.

4. The Members and Cooperating Non-Members with recreational SBT fishery shall annually provide information generated from recreational fishery data for the most recently completed fishing season on the following basis:

a. The Members and Cooperating Non-Members shall make the information available to the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee in a format and style agreed in the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee for inclusion in stock assessments, the management procedure and other necessary scientific and compliance processes;

b. The recreational fishery data that is used to generate the information should include total number, amount and area of catch/discard/release.

35. The Members and Cooperating Non-Members may directly exchange, and submit to the Extended Scientific Committee and/or the Compliance Committee, fisheries-dependent the data-information mentioned in this Resolution and other information relevant to scientific assessment of southern bluefin tuna and ecologically related species when appropriate.

46. The information ~~The provision of fisheries-dependent data by Members and Cooperating Non-Members to the Secretariat~~ shall be handled in accordance with relevant rules and procedures, including the “Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna” .

57. The Members and Cooperating Non-Members may provide alternative sources of data such as market and trade data to validate the information routinely reported by Members and Cooperating Non-Members and estimate catches from non-reporting flags.