

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

## **Report of the Second Annual Meeting**

**12 – 15 September 1995  
Tokyo, Japan**

**Report of the Second Annual Meeting  
12 - 15 September 1995  
Tokyo, Japan**

The representatives of the Governments of Japan, New Zealand and Australia met for the second meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna during 12 - 15 September 1995 to consider management measures for southern bluefin tuna. The overall objective for the management of the southern bluefin tuna fishery is the conservation and optimum utilisation of the southern bluefin tuna stock, as specified in the *Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna*.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Kenro Iino (Japan). Dr Alison Turner (Australia) was Vice Chair. The Commission approved the conclusions set out below and decided that a full summary record of the meeting would be presented for adoption at the Special Commission meeting below.

The Commission welcomed the attendance of observers from the Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Taiwan, CCAMLR, ICCAT and IPTP at its second meeting, and acknowledged the importance of extending the involvement of non-Convention parties in the conservation and management process for southern bluefin tuna.

New Zealand and Australia agreed that the total allowable catch (TAC) should be maintained with no change to the allocation among members. Japan sought an increase in the TAC of 6 000 tonnes. At the conclusion of the second commission meeting no consensus could be reached on change to TAC or its allocation. The Commission decided to convene a special meeting, commencing 2 October 1995 in Canberra, pursuant to article 6(5) to further discuss this issue.

### **Scientific Report**

The Commission considered the results of the scientific committee meeting on developments in SBT fisheries, stock status and recommendations from the committee. The Commission acknowledged the thorough and diligent work of the committee which included scientists from all Commission members, an observer from Indonesia and four invited external experts.

Hopeful signs continue to be present in the fishery in the form of continued increases in CPUE of juveniles and evidence of sequential rebuilding from 3 year old in 1990 through to age 6 years in 1993 and possibly 7 years old in 1994. While the sequential rebuilding pattern is clear the magnitude is uncertain. CPUE of adults continued to decline through 1993 with the partial 1994 data suggesting a slight increase relative to 1993. The VPAs and projections resulted in divergent views as to the current SBT stock status. The Commission noted with regret that it had not been possible for the scientists to reach a consensus on the status of the stock.

The Japanese assessment is more optimistic, indicating a very rapid recovery of the parental biomass to the 1980 level in 3-4 years. The Australian and New Zealand

interpretation of the assessment was more pessimistic suggesting that under current catches the probability of the parental biomass recovering to 1980 levels by 2010 ranged from 17-29% with a low probability of further declines over the same period. Given this range of assessment interpretations no agreement could be reached on the safety of either retaining current catches or on raising catch limits.

The Commission responded to the request from the Scientific Committee to pose questions consideration at their next meeting. A list of questions is provided at Annex 1.

### **Management Strategy**

Since 1993 Japan, Australia and New Zealand have committed to the longer term goal for SBT conservation and utilisation of restoring the parental stock to the 1980 level as soon as feasible. The short term strategy is to ensure that each year management action is directed at achieving an (annual) increase in the parental biomass and reduction in the risk of recruitment decline.

Australian and New Zealand sought to develop and implement a more detailed decision-making framework incorporating the use of reference points and specific time-frames, and noted that in their view, quota increases could only be considered in the context of such a strategy. Japan did not share that view. Although accepting the value of reference points, Japan expressed doubt in the ability to apply these in the short term, and a reluctance to set time-frames to reach goals because of the uncertainties in stock evaluation. The Commission noted that consensus on further development of the management strategy would be best developed in a specific workshop before the Scientific Committee meeting in 1996. The Terms of Reference for this workshop are attached as Annex 2.

### *Specific Measures*

The Commission will continue to manage the stock by adjustment of catch levels. Change in fishing practices which increase the catch of small fish will continue to be discouraged.

### **Scientific Process**

The Commission accepted an Australian offer to draft proposed rules of procedure for the Scientific Committee by the end of October 1995. The parties concurred that these rules would cover issues raised in a previous draft and would also consider issues related to data handling, especially confidentiality, and the role of external scientists. The procedures drafted for the participation of external scientists at the 1995 Scientific Committee meeting would be those used in the first draft. Commission members agreed to provide comments on the draft to Australia before December 24 1995.

The Commission agreed that the quality of the scientific debate and discussion at the scientific meeting would be enhanced if parties had an opportunity to examine other parties working paper and other key documents prior to the meeting. To this end a timetable for information exchange prior to the scientific meeting was agreed and a

timetable for 1996 is at Annex 3.

Australia made the point, supported by New Zealand, that it was very important that the scientists evaluate their previous projections so that steps could be taken to improve the accuracy and quality of information in following years. The Commission agreed that the scientific committee would be asked to provide a review of how well stock projections in previous years predicted subsequent stock structure and abundance, and provide this information in next years scientific report. It was noted by the Japan scientist present that this may be very complex, but would be conducted on a trial basis on the condition that different performance indicators may be used for different projections.

### **Collaborative Stock Assessment**

The Commission recognised that there was a high level of uncertainty in the stock assessment, and that there were areas within the assessment where there was not agreement with a consequent range of conclusions. The range of views in the scientific report makes the work of the Commission difficult. Australia and New Zealand recognised that international obligations required a precautionary approach to management under such circumstances. Japan noted that this approach should not be applied in an extreme way. The Commission expressed a strong commitment to take steps that would decrease the uncertainty in the stock assessment, and to enhance the opportunities for reaching mutual understanding and agreement. To achieve this the following specific items and actions were:

1. Every effort would be made by all Convention parties to ensure more timely provision of data for the stock assessment. The goal is to ensure that each annual Scientific Committee meeting has available to it the full catch, effort and size data for at least the years up to and including the previous year.
2. Collaborative research on the analysis of fine scale data would be continued, with the fine scale data being held by the responsible member. It was recognised that these data were commercially sensitive, and that these sensitivities must be respected in the use and reporting of analyses based on fine scale data. The Commission agreed to develop specific guidelines on handling data, and that they would be developed within the context of the Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Committee.

It was recognised that the analysis by the Commission scientists would be more efficient if data at a 1x1 degree and monthly level of aggregation was available to these scientists in their respective countries solely for conducting specific work of the Commission. Because of confidentiality issues Japan indicated they had difficulty in exchanging all data in this format at this time. The availability and conditions of data provision at this level of aggregation were not resolved during the meeting, but the Commission confirmed the existing arrangements to allow access to fine data.

3. There will be further development and examination of the methods of direct ageing from otoliths, and development of sampling and archiving arrangements for

otoliths. Australia and Japan expressed strong interest in the work on ageing methods, and noted that their scientists would collaborate as much as possible in this. The Commission decided to request the Scientific Committee to develop suggested approaches to sampling and archiving the SBT otoliths, and to report these suggestions to the Commission.

4. Fishery independent measures of abundance should be developed. The collaborative Japan-Australia Recruitment Monitoring Program has already provided the potential to access young fish abundance off southern Australia.
5. Australia was asked, and agreed, to provide surface fishery catch, effort and size data on a 5x5 degree basis to the other Parties to the Convention.

### **1995/96 CCSBT Workshop Program**

The Commission expressed its firm intention to improve mutual understanding and agreement on assessment methods so as to reduce uncertainties in the assessments. It was recognised that workshops were an effective way of achieving this, but also that only a small number of workshops would be achievable because of the limited resources available.

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Scientific Committee, the Commission agreed to hold a modelling workshop.

The Commission concurred that:

A scientific workshop be held to further develop and improve mutual understanding and agreement on modelling used in the stock assessment. It was recognised by the Commission that CPUE modelling and VPA modelling are closely inter-linked issues that have a major effect on the results. The Commission decided that the workshop should focus on these two issues. No conclusion was reached on whether the workshop should take place in Australia or Japan, although a preference was expressed by all parties for Australia. It was noted by the Commission that it would be possible to access the fine scale data necessary to address the CPUE issues in the Terms of Reference. Terms of Reference, a venue and a time for the workshop were identified by the Commission (Annex 4).

### **Real Time Monitoring program (RTMP)**

Australia stated that the RTMP was a highly regarded and very successful program that highlighted how the scientists, industries and managers of the Commission countries could work closely together in international cooperation.

Japan explained that the focus of the RTMP had changed from providing data in real time, as this was now happening on all Japanese SBT target tuna vessels. It was suggested that rather than having RTMP liaison group meeting, possibly a workshop to look at the program would be more appropriate.

The issue of foreign observers and the percentage of observer coverage was discussed. Australia and New Zealand noted the importance of a level of observer coverage that would provide representative data and acknowledged the commission should take advice from the scientific committee into account in discussing appropriate levels of observer coverage at the next meeting. Japan stated that the number of cruises observed and the number of days observed have been increased with cooperation from Japanese industry and expressed its intention to continue expanding effort within the extent of resources available. Japan also stated that it was prepared to accept foreign observers provided that logistical problems, such as length of observer cruises, timing of placements and accommodation could be addressed.

In addition, Japan stated that the placement of foreign observers should take place on vessels inside fishing zones. New Zealand gave "in principle" support to allow Japanese observers on board domestic vessels in the New Zealand EEZ on an exchange basis. Australia stated that the issue of domestic observers was being discussed through the tuna Management Advisory Committee and that these discussions would include the allowance of foreign observers on domestic vessels within the AFZ.

### **The Provision of High Seas Catch Data**

The Commission noted the request from the Scientific Committee to maintain and enhance data collection mechanisms for the timely provision of verifiable catch, effort and size composition data. They confirmed their mutual intention to make efforts to improve mechanisms for data collection and exchange on the high seas and within exclusive economic zones and set the following targets:

- a) New Zealand and Australia agreed to provide 100% of position, catch, effort and size data for all domestic and joint venture vessels for 1995 to other members by 1 April 1996.
- b) Japan committed to the provision of 100% of the 1994 data and at least 70% of position, catch, effort and size data, and would make the utmost efforts to achieve a greater level of data provision for 1995, to other members by 1 April 1996.
- c) Australia and New Zealand undertook to exchange as close to 100% of RTMP data (catch, effort and size composition) on a monthly basis.
- d) Japan indicated it would attempt to exchange 100% of catch, effort and size composition data from the vessels involved in the RTMP program in 1995 on a monthly basis

The necessity for careful procedures to maintain confidentiality and prevent unauthorised access to fisheries data was recognised as an essential component of these mechanisms. Observer coverage will be deployed to provide for verification of the data collected and allow statistically reliable interpretation.

## **Conversion Factors**

The report from the Scientific Committee noted that conversion factors for southern bluefin tuna may vary with the size of the fish, area and season. The Commission recognised that inappropriate conversion factors will influence the number of fish which may be taken within the quota. To effectively manage the southern bluefin resource the Commission should apply controls to accurately constrain removals.

The Commission agreed to review conversion factors for SBT in the 1996 Commission meeting. Each party was requested to compile information on conversion factors from their respective fishing areas. It was noted that RTMP data provided a source of information. The Commission decided that both the data and the respective reports should be exchanged between parties at the 1996 Commission meeting. New Zealand was of the view that it would be useful if Dr Elizabeth Bradford from NIWA, New Zealand coordinated the process inter-sessionally.

## **Enhancement Programme**

A short report was provided on the stock enhancement program conducted in Port Lincoln, Australia. Industry from Australia and Japan sought financial support from the Commission for continuing work. Japan supported this proposal. Although New Zealand and Australia recognised the potential value of this research, enhancement is costly and relatively risky in comparison to other research options which could benefit the stock. Therefore, they would rank this research as a lower priority. However, the Commission endorsed the continuation of the enhancement project with possible technical assistance from member countries.

## **Ecologically Related Species**

All parties agreed on the importance of making progress in addressing issues related to ecologically related species. While acknowledging the implementation of mitigation measures to date, the benefits of collecting and analyzing data with the aim of improving performance was recognised. The Commission formally adopted the Terms of Reference for the Ecologically Related Species (ERS) Working Group (Annex 5) and decided that the first ERS working group meeting would be held in Wellington, 18 - 20 December 1995. These dates would allow time for the working group to submit its report, through the Scientific Committee, for consideration by the Commission in 1996.

The Commission recognised that a large number of tasks were being asked of the ERS working group, and accepted that the first meeting should have a strategic focus and be tasked with developing an operational plan and time-table of tasks. It was noted that the working group should have principally a technical/scientific focus and operate under the same general principles as those of the Scientific Committee. The Commission recognised that the first meeting may benefit from a broad base of skills including managers.

## **Non-parties to the Convention**

Commission members noted that in recent years there had been significant developments with implications for the activities of non-parties to the Convention which fished for southern bluefin tuna. In particular, the new United Nations Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks provided that states fishing for highly migratory fish stocks in high seas areas covered by a regional fisheries management organisation or arrangement should either join that body or agree to apply its' conservation and management measures. The Commission members agreed that there was an urgent need for all non-parties fishing for southern bluefin tuna to come within the Convention regime.

The need to establish appropriate mechanisms for quota allocations for such non-parties was recognised as a high priority. With a view to advancing work in this area, the Chair circulated a Chair's text which outlines principles for determining quota allocation for new entrants (Annex 6). It was decided that in the inter-sessional period, representatives of the Commission would approach potential new entrants to explain these principles and hold discussions on their potential quota allocation. The Commission members also decided to seek from non-parties the fullest possible details of catch data, particularly for the 1991-93 period, to assist in the assessment of potential quota allocations.

The presence of observers from the Republic of Korea, Indonesia and Taiwan, and their presentations on their SBT fisheries were welcomed by the Commission members. The Commission members expressed the hope that the cooperation between the Commission and these three observers would continue to develop through their effective participation in the Convention regime. All three non-parties indicated their interest in participating in the Convention conservation and management arrangements. Commission members stressed that given the depleted state of the fishery and the restraint that Commission members had been required to demonstrate as a result, it was of crucial importance to the future of the fishery that the non-parties did not expand their fishing effort or take any other action that could undermine the objectives of the Commission.

## **Commission Secretariat**

The first meeting of the CCSBT had approved the administrative arrangements of the Commission including the terms of a Headquarters agreement between the Commission and the Government of Australia.

The draft 1996 budget and 1997 forecasted Commission budget were discussed. Given the decisions on timing of establishment of the Secretariat adjustments were made to the total salary component of the budget. A final approved 1996 and 1997 forecasted Commission budget is attached at Annex 7.

The Commission agreed to authorize New Zealand to sign the HQ agreement on behalf of the Commission.



## **Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)**

VMS was recognised by the meeting as being the most accurate and quick way of obtaining data from vessels at sea. Japan stated that trials were underway in the AFZ with Inmarsat A and C units. The trials suggested both systems were workable.

New Zealand stated that all foreign vessels fishing in their EEZ were required to use VMS and that all domestic vessels over 28 metres were also required to use VMS. It was also noted that as of 1 November 1995, all foreign vessels fishing in the AFZ would be required to report position and catch data via VMS. Japan stated that they would work towards the utilisation of VMS on Japanese tuna longliners.

It was suggested that non-convention countries should also be encouraged to install VMS on their tuna longline vessels on the high seas as well.

The meeting concurred that the responsibility for collecting VMS data rested with the Flag State. However, Australia stated that they would continue to require the reporting by foreign vessels to be made to the Australian Fisheries Management Authority for all AFZ operations. Australia and New Zealand suggested that VMS data needed to be standardised to ensure compatibility and useability between the Commission countries.

## **Enforcement and Infractions**

Australia expressed concern that, despite much useful work by all parties, the draft ToR for the Enforcement and Infractions Working Group would need further amendment in light of the new responsibilities set out in the UN High Seas Convention. The meeting concurred with this view and resolved that the intent of the relevant provisions of the UN High seas Convention should be incorporated into a new draft ToR for the Enforcement and Infractions Group. Australia undertook to redraft the present ToR out of session, incorporating the intent of the UN Convention and undertook to circulating the draft to NZ and Japan.

Australia also undertook to include the comments of Japan that the new arrangements had to be workable and efficient.

## **Relations with other bodies**

### **CITES**

It was noted that it was a measure of the strength of international concern at the state of SBT stocks that in the past few years several governments, including Australia, had been asked to propose listing of SBT on Appendix 2 of CITES.

Australia reminded the meeting that although earlier proposals to list SBT on CITES were not pursued, it is highly likely the issue will come up again if the Commission is not seen to be managing SBT sustainably. Australia urged that we ensure that the Commission was in a position to deal with any further listing proposals.

Japan noted that the new UN High Seas Agreement contains in Article 8(6) an obligation on States which were seeking the listing of a species such as SBT on CITES to communicate with the affected international fisheries management organisation before proceeding with that listing proposal.

### **ICCAT**

The Commission agreed that it should continue to pay attention to the issue of competence between CCSBT and ICCAT. It was supported by all parties that the CCSBT build upon the relationship between the bodies tentatively developed during the 9th special meeting of ICCAT at the end of last year. It was agreed that CCSBT should continue to attend ICCAT as an observer in order to address the issue of competence and maintain communication.

### **CCAMLR**

Mr Hermes, from the Australian delegation, was the official CCAMLR observer. He provided a report on CCAMLR activities including matters concerning ERS. Of significance is the 1994 resolution of CCAMLR concerning bycatch. CCAMLR has invited the CCSBT to provide an observer to the 1995 meeting and all delegates supported the proposal that Australia provide an observer.

### **IOTC**

Mr Ardill, the official observer from IPTP addressed the meeting. He informed the Commission that the IOTC Convention was likely to become effective in the near future. Subsequently, it will take a period for the establishment of the IOTC, and in the interim he sought support for IPTP to continue to function. When IOTC becomes operative the issue of competence over SBT should be addresses.

### **FAO Coordinating Working Party on Statistics**

Japan reported on its attendance at this meeting. The parties agreed the question of possible membership and sending observers, be evaluated following the establishment of the Secretariat.

### **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks**

The Commission welcomed the adoption by consensus on 4 August 1995, after three years of negotiations, of the Agreement for the Implementation Of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Agreement).

It was noted that the new Agreement established a strong, balanced and comprehensive regime for conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory

fish stocks which would have significant implications for the work of the Commission. The Commission noted the need to ensure that its work was consistent with the provisions of the new Agreement.

In view of the importance of the Agreement in regard to the conservation and management of tuna stocks including SBT, members agreed that priority should be attached to signing and implementing the Agreement at an early opportunity. It was noted that the Agreement would open for signature in New York in December 1995.

### **Arrangements for the Next Meeting**

At the closure of the meeting the Commission elected Dr Turner (Australia) to be the new chair and Mr Major (New Zealand) to be the vice chair. It was proposed that the third Commission meeting be held 15 - 19 July 1996.

On 15 September 1995 the Commission adopted this report in accordance with rule 10 of the Rules of Procedure.

Mr K Iino  
Chair  
Second Commission Meeting

## **Annex 1      Questions for the 1996 Scientific meeting**

(Note: these questions should be read with Article 9(2) of the Convention)

1. What is the status and trends for parental biomass and recruitment?
2. If the parental biomass is decreasing, what reductions in removals will reverse this trend?
3. If the parental biomass is increasing, how long will it take to rebuild to the 1980 parental biomass levels at current removals?
4. What catch scenarios result in 50% and 75% probability of recovery of the spawning stock biomass to 1980 levels by 2005, 2010, 2015 and 2020?
5. What are the major sources of uncertainty in the assessment? What steps can be taken to reduce these?
6. With respect to stock projections provided in previous scientific reports - how well have the previous projections predicted subsequent stock structure and abundance?
7. To what extent is it possible to express the degree of certainty regarding parameter estimates and data with a view to working towards the most likely projection of stock status?

## **Annex 2**

### **Draft Terms of Reference for the Workshop on Management Strategies.**

The parties decided to use the draft Australian and Japanese management strategies as the basis for discussion and development of a management strategy for the CCSBT at a workshop with regard to the present mid-term management strategy.

This workshop should further develop and discuss:

- approaches to management strategies
- objectives and time frames for management;
- how the management strategy can take into account uncertainty;
- what are possible reference points to trigger catch variation..
- how can the performance of a management strategy be assessed.

The members proposed an early February timing in Australia.

### **Annex 3**

#### **Revised Timetable**

18 – 20 December 1995	ERS Working Group, New Zealand
January/February 1996	Modelling workshop (venue to be determined)
Early February 1996*	Management Strategy consultations
1 April 1996	Data exchange** (catch, effort & size data) (11 weeks prior to Scientific meeting)
27 May 1996	Exchange** of Standardised CPUE series and brief description of methods (3 weeks prior to Scientific meeting)
10 June 1996 any	Exchange list of meeting documents** and key meeting documents to include CPUE, VPA and projections plus other documents** which have a major impact on the assessment. (1 week prior to Scientific meeting)
17-26 June 1996	Scientific Meeting, Hobart
15-19 July 1996	Commission meeting, Canberra

\* proposed

\*\* documents are to be exchanged between all parties in such a manner that the documents are received by the specified date

## **Annex 4      Proposed SBT Modelling Workshop**

Terms of Reference:

Taking into account the recommendations of the 1995 Scientific Committee Report, Appendix 2 sections B and C, Appendix 3, and discussion by the Commission, it was decided that a scientific workshop should be held with the objective of understanding some of the differences in the assessments. The workshop should address both CPUE and VPA modelling approaches by reference to the following general questions.

1. How do CPUE models behave when the completeness of catch and effort data varies?
2. What are the consequences of the different approaches to using CPUE as an index of abundance in the VPAs?
3. What is the sensitivity of the VPAs to the various assumptions, including about the plus-group?
4. What is the effect of the inconsistencies in historical data on the VPAs?

It is suggested that following the Commission meeting that the scientists develop an agenda for the workshop to address these general questions. It is anticipated that the workshop might be of approximately two weeks duration and could be held in January or February 1996 at a venue to be determined.

## **Annex 5**

### **Working Group on Ecologically Related Species (ERS)**

#### **Terms of Reference**

1. The Ecologically Related Species Working Group will report to the Commission through the Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee may provide comments to the Commission on the reports (including advice and recommendations) of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group.
2. To provide information and advice on issues relating to species associated with southern bluefin tuna (SBT) (ecologically related species), with specific reference to:
  - a) species (both fish and non-fish) which may be affected by SBT fisheries operations;
  - b) predator and prey species which may affect the condition of the SBT stock.
3. (a) With respect to species identified in 2 a) above, to monitor trends and review existing information and relevant research, including but not limited to studies on:
  - (i) the population biology of ecologically related species;
  - (ii) the identification of factors affecting populations of ecologically related species;
  - (iii) the assessment of the SBT and other fisheries effects on ecologically related species and of the proportion of the SBT and other fisheries effects to the overall effects;
  - (iv) modification to gear and operational aspects of the SBT fishery to minimise the effects on ecologically related species
- (b) With respect to species identified in 2 b) above, to monitor trends and review existing information and relevant research, including but not limited to studies on:
  - (i) the population biology of ecologically related species;
  - (ii) the identification of factors affecting population of ecologically related species;
  - (iii) the assessment of the effects of ecologically related species on the condition of the SBT stock
4. To provide recommendations on data collection programs and research projects with respect to species and issues identified in 2 above, including recommendations on research priorities and estimated costs of such research.
5. To provide advice on measures to minimise fishery effects on ecologically related species, including but not limited to gear and operational modifications.
6. To provide advice on other measures which may enhance the conservation and management of ecologically related species.



7. To review these terms of reference and to recommend to the Commission changes as and when appropriate.
8. To co-operate and liaise with relevant experts, scientists (from Convention parties and elsewhere) and inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations, in data collection and analysis on ecologically related species subject to the provisions of the data handling criteria (Annex1).
9. To respond to requests for advice on specific matters from the Commission.

**Annex 1      Data Handling Criteria for the Ecologically Related Species (ERS)  
Working Group**

**1. Collection of Data and Samples**

- a) The ERS Working Group will provide recommendations on the information required and advice on how to collect the relevant data and samples.
- b) The collection of data on and samples of ERS should follow agreed data collection protocols consistent with those of the Scientific Committee, and those of the relevant national authority.
- c) The collection of data and samples of ERS should be conducted in a way that does not interfere with the safe and smooth operation of the vessels.

**2. Management of the Data and Samples**

- a) The ERS Working Group shall use procedures that ensure strict confidentiality in the use and distribution of data.
- b) Unless otherwise agreed, samples of ERS collected on the high seas will be held by the flag States; that flag States should facilitate access by other interested scientists to the ERS samples.
- c) Participants in the ERS working group should assist each other's work by sharing data and samples on ERS.

**3. Analyses of Data and Samples**

Analyses of the data and samples on behalf of the Commission may be conducted by scientists from the Convention Parties and other relevant experts designated by the ERS Working Group.

**4. Consideration of the Results of the Analyses**

Results of analyses which use data and samples collected under these criteria will not be published without the consent of the parties who provide the data and samples.

## **Questions to be Asked of Ecologically Related Species (ERS) Working Group 1995**

### **Seabird Species:**

1. What is the nature and extent of the incidental seabird mortality in SBT and other relevant fisheries?
2. What is the information available on current overall abundance and recent trends in abundance for populations of seabirds that are incidentally caught in the SBT fishery?
3. To what extent does seabird mortality caused by the SBT fisheries and other relevant fisheries contributed to the decline of seabird populations?
4. What are the most effective and practical ways of minimising impacts of the SBT fishery on seabird populations?
5. What further data is required to address the issues raised in 1-4 above?

### **Other Incidentally Taken Species**

What is the nature and extent of information on the incidental take of other species in SBT fisheries?

### **Prey Species:**

1. What species are important prey of SBT?
2. What is the relationship between SBT abundance and prey species abundance?

### **Predator Species:**

1. What species are important predators of SBT?
2. What is the relationship between SBT abundance and predator species abundance?

## Annex 6

### Quota allocation to new entrants to the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna

The following conditions will be applied when considering the quota allocation to new entrants:

1. The quota allocation to new entrants including cooperative Parties will be calculated based on the past catch records of the new entrant prior to the signature of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna by the present three Parties in 1993. In this regard, figures in 1991 to 1993 should be provided as soon as possible by the entrants and shall be verified between the new entrants and the Parties. Thereafter, those figures should be used.
2. In considering the quota allocation to new entrants, the past catch reductions of the present Parties should be duly taken into account. This reduction rate is 59% (see below for the calculation).
3. In view of 1. and 2. above, it is suggested that in principle the quota allocation to a new entrant should be calculated by multiplying the average catch between 1991 and 1993 by 41% (100 minus 59). The quota may be adjusted, taking into account the provisions stipulated in Article 8, paragraph 4 of the Convention.:
  - (a) relevant scientific evidence
  - (b) the need for orderly and sustainable development of SBT fisheries
  - (c) the interests of Parties through whose exclusive economic or fishery zones SBT migrates
  - (d) the interests of Parties whose vessels engage in fishing for SBT including those which have historically engaged in such fishing and those which have SBT fisheries under development
  - (e) the contribution of each Party to conservation and enhancement of, and scientific research on, SBT
  - (f) any other factors which the Commission deems appropriateSuch adjustment should be made as a result of negotiation between the Parties and the new entrant.

\* The quota restriction was introduced in 1986 for the first time, when the catch amount was 28,841 mt. The catch amount in 1993 was 11,750 mt. Therefore, the catch reduction rate between 1986 and 1993 is calculated:

$$(1 - 11750/28841)*100=59\%$$

**Annex 7 Approved Commission Budget 1996**

ITEMS SUBITEMS		1996	1997
		Proposed	Forecast
<b>Income</b>			
	Member Contribution		
	Japan	\$262 029	\$235 826
	NZ	\$71 012	\$63 911
	Australia	\$234 959	\$211 463
	Carry over items		
	Arrears of Contributions	\$0	\$0
	Interest	\$0	\$10 000
	New Member Contribution	\$0	\$0
	Staff Assessment Levy	\$0	\$40 000
	Other	\$0	\$0
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 568 000</b>	<b>\$561 200</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
	<b>Data Handling</b>	\$12 000	\$13 200
	<b>Meetings and Workshops</b>	\$100 000	\$110 000
	including interpreters and translation services		
	<b>Publications</b>	\$20 000	\$22 000
	<b>Secretariat</b>		
	Admin/Vehicle	\$7 000	
	Allowances	\$64 000	
	Communications	\$7 000	
	Library	\$3 000	
	Office Requisites	\$9 000	
	Rent	\$35 000	
	Salaries		
	P4	\$90,000	
	P3	\$35,000	
	Clerical	\$40,000	
	Total Salaries	<b>\$165 000</b>	
	Travel*Inter.	<b>\$42 000</b>	
	Dom	<b>\$8 000</b>	
	Other	<b>\$4 000</b>	
	<b>Setup</b>	\$92 000	\$30 000
	Recruitment	<b>\$8 000</b>	
	Fitout	<b>\$25 000</b>	
	Capital equip	<b>\$40 000</b>	
	Stationary Logo	<b>\$14 000</b>	
	Financial systems	<b>\$5 000</b>	
	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$568 000</b>	<b>\$553 600</b>

**Notes**

Salary costings based on two prof officers (Ex Sect at UNP4 %&Ass Ex Sect UNP3 + clerical support)

\* Assumes International 2 weeks\*Japan, 1 week\*NZ, 1 week ICCAT, plus 1 week, plus domestic 2 week CCAMLR, plus other domestic

Forecast assumes increase in costs of 10% partly offset in revenue raised in interest and staff levy.

Note that this is subject to dates of Member contribution deposits & dates of employment of staff.

This is also not allowing for contribution of new states.

Adopted 15 September 1995