

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

Report of the Special Meeting

16-18 November 2000
Canberra, Australia

Report of the Special Meeting
Canberra
16-18 November 2000

1. The representatives of the governments of Australia, Japan and New Zealand convened a Special Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna from 16 to 18 November 2000, in Canberra.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting

2. The Chair, Mr Don Banfield opened the meeting and welcomed delegates from Australia, Japan and New Zealand and observers from the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Philippines and Taiwan. In addition, the Chair expressed appreciation for the attendance at the meeting of capital based representatives from Korea and Taiwan and hoped that their membership and cooperation with the Commission could be progressed.

1.1 Adoption of the Agenda

3. The agenda at **Attachment A** was adopted.
4. The list of participants is as at **Attachment B**.

1.2 Opening statements

5. The opening statement by Australia is at **Attachment C**, by Japan at **Attachment D** and by New Zealand at **Attachment E**.

Agenda Item 2: Status of non-members

6. The Chair noted that for the effective management of SBT, all countries and entities fishing for SBT should join the Commission or comply with its management arrangements. Representatives from non-members at the meeting responded to the Chair's comments.

2.1 Korea

7. The statement by Korea is at **Attachment F**.

2.2 Taiwan

8. Taiwan stated that participation in the work of the Commission was an important issue for it. Taiwan's presence at the meeting was a recognition of its support for the purpose of the Commission. Taiwan said that it was looking forward to working on an equal footing with the Members of the Commission.

2.3 Others

9. South Africa advised that it was still giving consideration to joining the CCSBT.
10. Philippines stated its interest in exploring means of cooperating with the CCSBT.

2.4 Next steps

11. The Chair advised that a series of bilateral discussions had been held with non-members. He welcomed the advice from Korea that it intended to initiate the formal process for acceding to the Convention as soon as possible. The Chair noted that Korea would formally advise the Commission of its intentions as soon as possible. On receipt of that advice, the Commission would involve Korea more closely in the work of the Commission, pending lodgement of its formal instrument of accession. Members welcomed the announcement by Korea on its intention to accede to the SBT Convention.
12. Australia and New Zealand also expressed their thanks to Mr Komatsu of the Japanese delegation for his work towards concluding this negotiation.
13. The Chair advised that the Commission had made a proposal to Taiwan setting out a mechanism to secure Taiwan's early participation in the Commission. The proposal represented the most serious efforts by Commission Members to take account of Taiwan's concerns and provide for its participation on the same footing as existing Members. The Commission is seeking an urgent formal response from Taiwan on this proposal so that there is a basis for future discussion with Taiwan intersessionally.
14. The Chair welcomed South Africa's interest in the CCSBT and indicated that a letter would be sent to South Africa shortly, seeking advice on its intentions regarding membership of the CCSBT and any information it may have on SBT fishing activities by its nationals or within its exclusive economic zone (EEZ).
15. The Chair also advised that a letter would be sent to Indonesia offering membership of the Commission and the allocation of a suitable level of quota.
16. In response to the Philippines' interest in attending the CCSBT meetings, the Commission would be contacting the Philippines and requesting information on its SBT fishing activities and any related data.
17. The Chair noted that under the Action Plan, approved at the last meeting, the Commission would review activities of non-members whose fishing activities diminished the effectiveness of the CCSBT conservation and management measures, and would consider whether further action should be taken under the Action Plan.

Agenda Item 3: Secretariat Work Program

3.1 Schedule of meetings

18. The Commission agreed to the schedule of the meetings and work program set out at **Attachment G**.

3.2 Arrangements for data management

Data Management and Statistics

19. The Members have identified an intent to share information on their respective management and monitoring regimes with a view to achieving transparency, consistent with confidentiality requirements. These steps will contribute to the establishment of an appropriate and workable database and serve to assist in achieving the Commission's goals and objectives.
20. The Members decided that the CCSBT 7 Commission meeting scheduled for April 2001 would discuss improvements to data and information exchange between the Members, and with non-members. Those discussions will draw on section 4.2.1 of the record of CCSBT 6(2) and the paper tabled by Australia at this Special Meeting of the Commission entitled Full implementation of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Trade Information Scheme/Statistical Documentation Program, paper number CCSBT/0011/16 (**Attachment H**).

3.3 Terms of Reference

21. Commission adopted CCSBT/0011/21, Terms of Reference for a Database and Database Manager for the CCSBT Secretariat (**Attachment I**).

Agenda Item 4: Report from the Finance and Administration Committee

4.1 Revision of 2000 Budget

4.2 Draft budget for 2001

22. The Commission adopted the budget for 2000 and agreed on the draft budget for 2001(**Attachment J**). However, Members noted that in regard to contributions for 2001, final approval was subject to each Member consulting with its government. Members also noted that details of the budget for 2001, including the budget for the ERS Working Group Meeting, would be reviewed at CCSBT 7. The Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee reported that a further revision of the budget for 2001 might be required if a new Member joined. In this case, review of the distribution of contributions between Members may also be necessary. The Chair also suggested that Members should direct queries regarding the budget to the Secretariat.

Agenda Item 5: Scientific Program

5.1 Management Strategy Workshop Report (Tokyo)

23. The Commission adopted the Report of the Management Strategy Workshop held in Tokyo in May 2000, paper CCSBT/0011/18.

5.2 Stock Assessment Process Report (Tokyo)

24. The Commission adopted the Report of the Stock Assessment Process Workshop held in Tokyo in May 2000, paper CCSBT/0011/24.

5.3 Stock Assessment Workshop Report(12-15 November 2000)

5.4 Scientific Research Program Report(12-15 November 2000)

25. These two meetings were combined and provided one report.
26. The Commission adopted the report of Scientific Meeting for Development of a SRP for the CCSBT and Overview of Progress on Stock Assessment. (Document CCSBT/0011/11 relates).
27. Dr Ana Parma, a member of the scientific Advisory Panel presented an outline of the Panel's preliminary views on a CCSBT Scientific Research Program, following productive discussions at the Scientific Meeting for Development of a SRP for the CCSBT and Overview of Progress on Stock Assessment. She advised that the Panel members considered that, in their view, the main objective of the SRP should be to improve the quality of the data used as input to the stock assessment process and to contribute to the development of reliable indices to monitor future trends in stock size.
28. The Panel members submitted an overview report at **Attachment K** in which nine research topics were identified. Of these, the following were perceived as priority areas where new input would be most beneficial:
- Characterisation of non-party SBT catches
 - Experimental fishing program to address CPUE issues
 - Scientific observer program
 - Conventional tagging program.
29. She advised that the Panel would require guidance on the financial and other constraints that would apply in developing and implementing the Program. She also advised that feedback would be required in specifying details of the Program components, particularly as Member country scientists had a much more detailed knowledge of SBT scientific issues, than the Panel members.
30. Japan noted that several points should be taken into account as follows, in the development of the Program:

- Costs needed for research activities, especially when using commercial vessels for research work (e.g. consideration of chartering dedicated research vessels will be needed for some components of the SRP)
 - Some observer programs, which have already been implemented within the framework of RTMP and EFP
 - Some problems with placing observers on commercial vessels, such as cost, lack of space on board and reduction of efficiency of fishing operations
 - Practical difficulty in accessing data on the fishing activities of non-members
 - Tagging programs may not address scientific uncertainties in the short term.
31. Members indicated their appreciation for the valuable input by the Panel members and the assistance they have given in progressing the scientific work and affirmed their commitment to work with the Panel members in developing the SRP.

5.4.1 TOR Scientific Research Program

32. The Commission decided that a SRP should be developed by the external scientists following consultation with national scientists, managers and industries. The Commission adopted the paper, Development of a SBT Scientific Research Program including a Scientific Fishing Component by the CCSBT external scientists, CCSBT/0011/22 (**Attachment L**). This paper describes the important role of the SRP in the future work of the Commission, provides a terms of reference for the external scientists in the development of the SRP and prescribes the decision-making procedure to be followed in respect of the report of the external scientists on the SRP.

Research Mortality Allowance

33. The Chair noted that some research activities might result in the mortality of some SBT. The Members had undertaken dedicated research in recent years, which resulted in a small number of mortalities and future research programs may also result in incidental mortalities. The Commission considered that this should be recognised under the research programs and agreed to adopt procedures to accommodate this activity. The Commission adopted procedures as set out in Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) within the framework of CCSBT (**Attachment M**).

Agenda Item 6: Total Allowable Catch (TAC)

34. The Commission acknowledged that there had been no stock assessment undertaken since 1998 and that the Commission since that year had not set a TAC. Japan proposed that on the basis of its assessment an increase of 3,000 tonnes to the TAC last set in 1997 was justified.
35. Australia noted the positive steps taken towards improvement of the stock assessment for SBT and, in its view, the results of that process should be

evaluated before any TAC increase was considered. Australia advised that it would voluntarily maintain its national allocation at 5,265 tonnes, i.e. the level last agreed by the Commission, and requested other Members to follow the same course of action.

36. New Zealand advised that it would also maintain its quota at the last agreed level, for 2001. However, in response to a small catch over its quota for 2000, of approximately 20 tonnes, New Zealand would reduce its quota for 2001 by the level of over catch in 2000.
37. New Zealand considered that the most recent scientific advice did not support an increase in the TAC, and that the objective of rebuilding the stock to 1980 levels by 2020 would not be achieved unless catches were constrained and potentially reduced. There is no basis to consider increases to the TAC until any such decision could be supported by an assessment based on the improved scientific process.
38. Japan noted the views of Australia and New Zealand, while it still considered an increase would not jeopardise the stock recovery. It also expressed full respect for the process now in place to improve the stock assessment. Confirming that there is no decided TAC, in its view, Japan believed that each Member should constrain its own catch on a voluntary basis. Japan would also prefer to have the agreement of the other Members to increase its amount by 711 tonnes, or at least no strong opposition to this increase.
39. Australia restated its position on this issue. Australia welcomed the progress that continues to be made towards resolving the dispute, which reflected the commitment of all Members to reaching a settlement and ensuring the Commission operates efficiently. Australia considered that this shared commitment provides the basis for addressing all outstanding issues.
40. Japan advised that it would consult on its quota on a voluntary basis through appropriate channels with other Members to seek a mutual understanding on this issue.

Agenda Item 7: Trade Information Scheme Operation

41. Japan advised that the Trade Information Scheme has been operating since June 2000 and while imports of SBT into Japan were being accompanied by TIS documents under the scheme, a significant number of the TIS documents were incomplete (see CCSBT/0011/14). As Japan is an importing country and a Member of the Commission, it was making every effort to ensure that the scheme operated effectively. Countries submitting incomplete TIS documents will continue to be advised of the need to ensure the TIS documents were correctly completed. Japan indicated that, as the TIS has passed its initial implementation stage and if incomplete TIS documents continued to be submitted, consideration may be given to taking corrective action, which could include not allowing that import. Japan acknowledged that although there had been some initial problems with TIS documents from Australia, significant improvements had been made in recent months. Australia acknowledged the efforts made by Australian and

Japanese officials to achieve this improvement. Japan noted its concern with the implementation of the TIS scheme in New Zealand and wished to discuss this matter further with New Zealand. New Zealand advised that discussions were continuing with Japan to resolve outstanding issues with documentation from New Zealand certifiers.

42. Australia and New Zealand considered it was important to improve information collection to include comprehensive catch and landings by all Members, and other elements of the Members' management and compliance regimes. Australia considered that there was a need to pick up a domestic component of the SBT catch that was not included in the TIS. Australia submitted a paper CCSBT/0011/16, which outlined a proposed enhancement of the existing TIS scheme, for consideration at CCSBT 7.
43. Japan considered that information under the TIS and catch data were separate issues and Japan was willing to discuss data management and statistics issues at CCSBT 7.

Agenda Item 8: Appointment of Executive Secretary

44. The Chair advised that in response to the advertisements for the position of Executive Secretary, over 30 applications had been received. The Chair noted that the Commission had established procedures for finalising the selection of the successful applicant and considered that this process should be completed as soon as possible.

Agenda Item 9: Other business

Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO Tuna Commission)

45. Japan stated with concern that at the MHLC meeting on 4 September 2000 in Hawaii a draft Convention for the management of tunas in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean was adopted by a two thirds majority of participating countries. This includes SBT. Japan opposed the adoption of the draft Convention because of a number of concerns including an unacceptable extension of the jurisdiction of the MHLC area north and south of the area originally proposed, decision-making and dispute settlement mechanisms and surveillance and enforcement provisions. Japan was also concerned that SBT was now subject to the jurisdiction of three Commissions CCSBT, IOTC and the WCPO Tuna Commission.
46. Australia and New Zealand considered that, in future, only those issues directly relevant to the management of SBT should be raised in CCSBT in relation to the activities of the new Commission. Australia recognised Japan's concerns over the Convention establishing the new Commission, but considered that the new arrangements were important to Australia's East Coast Tuna Fishery. Australia invited Japan to further discuss bilaterally its views on the new body. Australia reaffirmed its view on the primacy of the CCSBT in managing the global SBT

stock. Australia noted that the new Commission would be convening a Preparatory Conference in April 2001.

Agenda Item 10: Adoption of reports

47. The Commission adopted the Report of the Special Meeting.

Agenda Item 11: Close of meeting

48. The meeting closed at 1:15 PM.

Don Banfield
Chair

List of Attachments

- | | | |
|------------|---|---|
| Attachment | A | Agenda |
| | B | List of Participants |
| | C | Opening Statement by Australia |
| | D | Opening Statement by Japan |
| | E | Opening Statement by New Zealand |
| | F | Opening Statement by Korea |
| | G | Meeting Time Table for 2001 |
| | H | Full implementation of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Trade Information Scheme/Statistical Document Program |
| | I | Terms of Reference of a Database and Database Manager for the CCSBT Secretariat |
| | J | Draft Budget – 2000/01 (November 2000) |
| | K | Development of a Scientific Research Program for SBT |
| | L | Development of a SBT Scientific Research Program for SBT including a Scientific Fishing Component by the CCSBT External Scientists |
| | M | Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) within the Framework of CCSBT |

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
 - 1.1 Adoption of the Agenda
 - 1.2 Opening statements
2. Status of non-members
 - 2.1 Korea
 - 2.2 Taiwan
 - 2.3 Others
 - 2.4 Next steps
3. Secretariat Work Program
 - 3.1 Schedule of meetings
 - 3.1.1 Workplan for 2001
 - 3.2 Arrangements for data management
 - 3.2.1 Terms of Reference
4. Report from the Finance and Administration Committee
 - 4.1 Revision of 2000 Budget
 - 4.2 Draft budget for 2001
5. Scientific Program
 - 5.1 Management Strategy Workshop Report (Tokyo)
 - 5.2 Stock Assessment Process Report (Tokyo)
 - 5.3 Stock Assessment Workshop Report(12-15 Nov.)
 - 5.4 Scientific Research Program Report (12-15 Nov.)
 - 5.4.1 TOR Scientific Research Program
6. Total Allowable Catch (TAC)
7. Trade Information Scheme Operation
8. Appointment of Executive Secretary
9. Other business
10. Adoption of reports
11. Close of meeting

**List of Participants
CCSBT
Special Meeting
16-18 November 2000
Canberra, Australia**

CHAIR

Mr Don BANFIELD
Executive Manager
Industry Development Group
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 3773
Fax: +61 2 6271 6619
Email: don.banfield@affa.gov.au

Mr Jonathon BARRINGTON
Program Manager
International Tuna Program
Fisheries & Aquaculture
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 4975
Fax: +61 2 6272 4215
Email: jonathon.barrington@affa.gov.au

ADVISORY PANEL

Dr Ana PARMA
Senior Government Scientist
Centro Nacional Patagonico
Puerto Madryn, Chubut
ARGENTINA
Phone: +54 2965 451024
Fax: +54 2965 451543
Email: parma@cenpat.edu.ar

Dr John KALISH
Senior Research Scientist
Fisheries & Forestry Sciences Division
Bureau of Rural Sciences
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
PO Box E11, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 4045
Fax: +61 2 6272 4014
Email: john.kalish@brs.gov.au

AUSTRALIA

Mr Glenn HURRY
(Head of Delegation)
General Manager
Fisheries & Aquaculture
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 5777
Fax: +61 2 6272 4215
Email: glenn.hurry@affa.gov.au

Mr Charles HAUSKNECHT
Assistant Program Manager
International Tuna Program
Fisheries & Aquaculture
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 4464
Fax: +61 2 6272 4215
Email: charles.hausknecht@affa.gov.au

Mr Adam STOKES
Senior Policy Officer
International Tuna Program
Fisheries & Aquaculture
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 4981
Fax: +61 2 6272 4215
Email: adam.stokes@affa.gov.au

Dr Derek STAPLES
Deputy Executive Director
Bureau of Rural Science
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
PO Box E11
Kingston ACT2604
Phone: +61 2 6272 5350
Fax: +61 2 6272 4747
Email: derek.staples@brs.gov.au

Mr James FINDLAY
Manager Eastern Tuna and Billfish
Australian Fisheries Management Authority
PO Box 7051
Canberra Mail Centre
Canberra, ACT 2610
Phone: +61 2 6272 5177
Fax: +61 2 6272 4014
Email: james.findlay@afma.gov.au

Mr Brent WISE
Research Scientist
Fisheries & Forestry Sciences Division
Bureau of Rural Sciences
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
PO Box E11, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 4243
Fax: +61 2 6272 4014
Email: brent.wise@brs.gov.au

Mr Andrew McNEE
Senior Manager
Tuna & Billfish Fisheries
Australian Fisheries Management Authority
PO Box 7051
Canberra Mail Centre
Canberra, ACT 2610
Phone: +61 2 6272 5029
Fax: +61 2 6272 4614
Email: andrew.mcnee@afma.gov.au

Mr Peter NEAVE
Senior Management Officer
Tuna & Billfish Fisheries
Australian Fisheries Management Authority
PO Box 7051
Canberra Mail Centre
Canberra, ACT 2610
Phone: +61 2 6272 5794
Fax: +61 2 6272 4614
Email: peter.neave@afma.gov.au

Dr David KAY
Assistant Secretary
Marine Group
Environment Australia
GPO Box 787
Canberra, ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6274 1224
Fax: +61 2 6274 1006
Email: david.kay@ea.gov.au

Mr Mark FLANIGAN
Director, Coastal Strategies
Environment Australia
GPO Box 787
Canberra, ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6274 1917
Fax: +61 2 6274 1006
Email: mark.flanigan@ea.gov.au

Ms Glenda GAUCI
Assistant Secretary
North East Asia Branch
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade
RG Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton, ACT 0221
Phone: +61 2 6261 2303
Fax: +61 2 6261 1571
Email: glenda.gauci@dfat.gov.au

Ms Gayle MILNES
Director
Japan Section
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade
RG Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton, ACT 0221
Phone: +61 2 6261 3364
Fax: +61 2 6261 1571
Email: gayle.milnes@dfat.gov.au

Mr John LANGTRY
Director
Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan Section
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade
RG Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton, ACT 0221
Phone: +61 2 6261 3397
Fax: +61 2 6261 1571
Email: john.langtry@dfat.gov.au

Ms Emma KERSLAKE
Legal Branch
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade
RG Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton, ACT 0221
Phone: +61 2 6261 2375
Fax: +61 2 6261 2144
Email: emma.kerslake@dfat.gov.au

Mr Doug TRAPPET
Japan Section
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade
RG Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton, ACT 0221
Phone: +61 2 6261 3480
Fax: +61 2 6261 1571
Email: doug.trappet@dfat.gov.au

Ms Marnie WRIGHT
Japan Section
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade
RG Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton, ACT 0221
Phone: +61 2 6261 3783
Fax: +61 2 6261 1571
Email: marnie.wright@dfat.gov.au

Mr Andrew SERDY
Executive, Sea Law & Ocean Policy Section
Legal Branch
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade
RG Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton, ACT 0221
Phone: +61 2 6261 3258
Fax: +61 2 6261 2144
Email: andrew.serdy@dfat.gov.au

Mr Mark JENNINGS
Senior Advisor
Office of International Law
Attorney-General's Department
Robert Garran Office
National Circuit
Barton, ACT 2600
Phone: +61 2 6250 6029
Fax: +61 2 6250 5952
Email: mark.jennings@ag.gov.au

Mr Joshua BRIEN
Legal Officer
Intl. Trade and Environment Law Branch
Office of International Law
Attorney General's Department
Robert Garran Office
National Circuit
Barton, ACT 2600
Phone: +61 2 6250 6140
Fax: +61 2 6250 5931
Email: joshua.brien@ag.gov.au

Mr Brian JEFFRIESS
President
Tuna Boat Owners Association of Australia
PO Box 416, Fullarton SA 5063
Phone: +61 8 8373 2507
Fax: +61 8 8373 2508
Email: tuna-b-j@camtech.net.au

Mr Robin PIKE
Managing Director
Di Fishery PTY LTD
PO Box 1491
Port Lincoln, SA 5606
Phone: +81 8 8683 3284
Fax: +81 3 8683 3285
Mobile: 0419 911 3284

Mr Joe PUGLISI
President
Australian Bluefin Pty Ltd
PO Box 1607
Port Lincoln SA 5606
Phone: +81 8 8682 5577
Fax: +81 3 8682 6593

Ms Denise BOYD
Greenpeace

JAPAN

Mr Masayuki KOMATSU
(Head of Delegation)
Counsellor
Fisheries Policy Planning Dept.
Fisheries Agency
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 1086
Fax: +81 3 3502 0571

Mr Yoshiaki ITO
Director
Fisheries Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8917
Phone: +81 3 3581 1783
Fax: +81 3 3501 7832
Email: yoshiaki.ito@mofa.go.jp

Mr Hideaki OKADA
International Affairs Division
Fisheries Policy Planning Dept.
Fisheries Agency
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 1086
Fax: +81 3 3502 0571
Email: hideaki_okada@nm.maff.go.jp

Mr Hisashi ENDO
Deputy Director
International Affairs Division
Fisheries Policy Planning Dept.
Fisheries Agency
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 1086
Fax: +81 3 3502 0571
Email: hisashi_endo@nm.maff.go.jp

Dr Sachiko TSUJI
Section Chief
Temperate Tuna Section
National Research Institute of
Far Seas Fisheries
5-7-1 Orido, Shimizu,
Shizuoka 424-8633
Phone: +81 543 36 6042
Fax: +81 543 35 9642
Email: tsuji@enyo.affrc.go.jp

Mr Koichi ISHIZUKA
Deputy Director
Resources Development Department
Fisheries Agency
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 1086
Fax: +81 3 3502 0571
Email: kouichi_ishiduka@nm.maff.go.jp

Doug BUTTERWORTH
Dept. of Mathematics and Applied
Mathematics
University of Cape Town
Rondebosch 7701
South Africa
Phone: +27 21 650 2343
Fax: +27 21 650 2334
Email: dll@maths.uct.ac.za

Ms Keiko ISHIHARA
Fisheries Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8917
Phone: +81 3 3581 1783
Fax: +81 3 3503 3136
Email: keiko.ishihara@mofa.go.jp

Mr Fumio HAMAKI
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: section2@intldiv.japantuna.or.jp

Mr Kenichi NOTOU
Far Seas Fisheries Division
Fisheries Agency
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 1086
Fax: +81 3 3502 0571
Email: kenichi_notou@nm.maff.go.jp

Mr Shinroku SASAKI
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: section2@intldiv.japantuna.or.jp

Mr Kaneji NISHIKAWA
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: section2@intldiv.japantuna.or.jp

Mr Hirotaka INOUE
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: section2@intldiv.japantuna.or.jp

Mr Yuji KAWAI
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: section2@intldiv.japantuna.or.jp

Mr Nozomu MIURA
International Division
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: section2@intldiv.japantuna.or.jp

Mr Taro TAKESHITA
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: section2@intldiv.japantuna.or.jp

Mr Kosuke HIGAKI
Deputy Manager
National Ocean Tuna Fisheries Association
1-1-12 Uchikanda Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 101
Phone: +81 3 3294 9634
Fax: +81 3 3294 9607

Mr Toshiaki KANAZAWA
Managing Director
National Ocean Tuna Fisheries Association
1-2-12 Uchikanda, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 101
Phone: +81 3 3294 9634
Fax: +81 3 3294 9607

Mr Fumito MIZUMA
Counsellor
Embassy of Japan
112 Empire Circuit
Yarralumla, ACT 2600
Australia
Phone: +61 2 6273 3244
Fax: +61 2 6273 1848

NEW ZEALAND

Mr Mark EDWARDS
(Head of Delegation)
Policy Manager
Ministry of Fisheries
PO Box 1020, Wellington
Phone: +644 470 2619
Fax: +644 470 2669
Email: Mark.Edwards@fish.govt.nz

Dr Talbot MURRAY
Pelagic Project Leader
National Institute of Water & Atmospheric
Research Ltd
PO Box 14-901, Kilbirnie, Wellington
Phone: +644 386 0300
Fax: +644 386 0574
Email: t.murray@niwa.cri.nz

Mr Bill MANSFIELD
Advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and Trade
Private Bag 18 901, Wellington
Phone: +644 494 8340
Fax: +644 473 2103

Ms Elana GEDDIS
Legal Adviser, Legal Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Private Bag 18 901, Wellington
Phone: +644 494 8340
Fax: +644 473 2103
Email: elana.geddis@mfat.govt.nz

Mr Peter KELL
C/-Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Private Bag 18 901, Wellington
Phone: +644 494 8500
Fax: +644 473 2103
Email: peter.kell@mfst.govt.nz

Ms Lesley RAJ
Policy Analyst
Ministry of Fisheries
PO Box 1020, Wellington
Phone: +644 470 2658
Fax: +644 470 2669
Email: rajl@fish.govt.nz

Mr William EMERSON
Senior Policy Analyst
Ministry of Fisheries
PO Box 1020, Wellington
Phone: +644 470 2600
Fax: +644 470 2669
Email: EmersonW@fish.govt.nz

OBSERVERS

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr Yeon-sung SHIN
(Head of Delegation)
Deputy Director-General
International Economic Affairs Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Government Complex, 77 Sejongro
Jongro-Gu, Seoul, Korea
Phone: +82 2 720 2434
Fax: +82 2 733 1996
Email: ysshin@mofat.go.kr

Mr Hyung-nam KIM
(Head of Delegation)
Director-General for International Cooperation
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
139 Chunjong No.3, Sedaemun-Gu
Seoul, 120 715, Korea
Phone: +82 2 3148 6150
Fax: +82 2 3148 6996
Email: 2622Kim@momaf.go.kr

Mr Jong-geun KIM
First Secretary
Korean Embassy
113 Empire Circuit, Yarralumla
ACT 2600
Phone: +82 2 720 2434
Fax: +82 2 733 1996

Ms Eun-jung BAE
Assistant Director
Director-General of International Cooperation
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
139 Chunjong No.3, Sedaemun-Gu
Seoul, 120 715, Korea
Phone: +82 2 3148 6993
Fax: +82 2 3148 6996
Email: ej_bae@momaf.go.kr

PHILIPPINES

Dr Maria Araceli E. Albarece
Agricultural Attache
Embassy of the Philippines
11 Moonah Place
Yarralumla, ACT 2600
Phone: +61 2 6273 2535
Fax: +61 2 6273 3984

SOUTH AFRICA

Mr Eugene GROBLER
Acting High Commissioner
South African High Commission
State Circle
Canberra, ACT 2600
Phone: +61 2 6273 2424
Fax: +61 2 6273 3543
Email: info@rsa.emb.gov.au

TAIWAN

Mr Kuo-ching PU
Senior Assistant
Department of Treaty and Legal Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Phone: +886 2 2348 2506
Fax: +886 2 2312 1161
Email: kpo866@exchange.law.miami.edu

Chun-yu CHANG
Senior Assistant
Department of Treaty and Legal Affairs
Phone: +886 2 2348 2527
Email: hcychang14@hotmail.com

Dr. Huang-chih CHIANG
Associate Professor
Central Police University
Email: una144@sun4.cpu.edu.tw

Mr Kuo-jang WANG
Division Director
Taipei Economic & Cultural Office
Unit 8, Tourism House
40 Blackall Street
Barton
Canberra, ACT 2600
Phone: +61 2 6273 3344

CCSBT SECRETARIAT

PO Box 37, Deakin West ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

Phone: +61 2 6282 8396
Fax: +61 2 6282 8407

Mr Campbell McGREGOR
Executive Secretary
Email: cmcgregor@ccsbt.org.au

Mr Morio KANEKO
Deputy Executive Secretary
Email: mkaneko@ccsbt.org.au

Ms Chika SCALLY
Administrative Officer
Email: cscally@ccsbt.org.au

Mr David Campbell

INTERPRETERS

Ms Saemi BABA

Ms Kumi KOIKE

Ms Yuki SAYEG

Opening Statement by Australia

On behalf of Australia I would like to welcome the delegates of Japan and New Zealand along with the non-members, Korea, Taiwan, South Africa and the Philippines to this special meeting of the CCSBT.

I would also like to welcome Dr Anna Palma and am pleased that she has been able to stay for this first day of the meeting.

I would also like to welcome the interpreters. I am sure it was more fun when they were in the room with us but I guess that is the cost of progress.

I thought that with the end of CCSBT6(2) we had finished with CCSBT meetings and I was looking forward to a relaxing Christmas and some fishing. But that said, I am very pleased to be at this special meeting following a long period of dispute and disagreement, and I welcome the spirit of cooperation that I now sense in the CCSBT and look forward to a long period of growth and good fisheries management for SBT.

These good dynamics within regional organisations do not happen by accident, but they are very important for success. It is up to all of us to make sure that the momentum gathered by the CCSBT over the last three months continues.

Australia congratulates Peter Yuile on his recent promotion and would like to thank him for his very real efforts to improve the functioning of the CCSBT. I would like to welcome Don Banfield to the Chair and wish him well. I would also like to welcome the Australian delegation of Dr John Kalish and Mr John Barrington.

This meeting follows a useful four days of scientific discussion that provides a framework for the agenda. We are particularly interested in a number of key agenda items, including progressing the issue of non-members and the CCSBT work program, data management arrangements and the Scientific Research Program.

This is not a detailed statement as the agenda is clear and the key issue for Australia is to get agreement on issues so that we can move the CCSBT forward. I know that we have had our differences but let us try to leave the past in the past and move forward.

Thank you.

(Translated by the Secretariat)

Opening statement by Japan

It is regrettable that Mr. Yuile is not able to continue his role as Chair. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Mr. Yuile for his contribution to the CCSBT. I also would like to express a heartfelt welcome to Mr. Don Banfield as the new chair of the CCSBT.

Also, I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Ana Parma for her further contribution to this Special Meeting as a member of Advisory Panel, who had greatly contributed to the successful Scientific Meeting which was held from 12 to 15 November, 2000.

The Commission has been in a situation where it has not been able to decide a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) since 1998, because of the large difference of views on the stock status of SBT among member countries. In order to resolve this situation, Japan implemented Experimental Fishing Programmes (EFP) for three years, from 1998 to 2000. Australia and New Zealand brought it as a case to the Arbitral Tribunal constituted under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) against Japan, which led this issue into an international dispute. In August 2000, the Arbitral Tribunal established under UNCLOS decided that it was without jurisdiction to rule on the merits of the dispute, and the provisional measures in force by Order of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) on August 27 1999 were revoked. Japan welcomes the decision as Japan's view was respected by the tribunal.

Therefore, we are now in a situation where there is no legal binding for three member countries when acting independently in light of setting their own catch limits of southern bluefin tuna (SBT) or conducting their research plans. However, Japan strongly hopes that the negotiations under CCSBT will proceed in good faith and necessary issues will be resolved by consensus.

Japan is of the view that, from now on, the issues arising from the CCSBT should be resolved in the framework of the CCSBT. This Special Meeting is the first official meeting to be held after the decision of the Tribunal issued on August 4, 2000. Japan

sincerely hopes that function of CCSBT will be further improved and enhanced through discussion among the member countries during the Special Meeting.

At the Scientific Meeting, the member countries started the discussion on a Scientific Research Program (SRP) for the next two years, which includes a scientific fishing component of up to a specific amount of SBT, in order to reach an agreement at CCSBT7 to be held in Japan's next spring season. Japan hopes that a realistic and feasible scientific program will be established. Particularly, Japan would like to emphasize the necessity to consider the cost needed for implementation of the program and its practicality.

Japan highly appreciates the current progress for enhancement and improvement of the functioning of the CCSBT. In this respect, Japan has high expectations of the important role of the Advisory Panel and the independent chairs of SAG and SC, established under its initiative.

Japan appreciates the significant contribution made by the members of the Panel and the independent chair during the Scientific Meeting prior to this meeting, and looks forward to their continuing cooperation in the future. Japan hopes that the stock assessment process will be improved and that a realistic and feasible SRP will be established by consensus following full discussion among member countries with the assistance and recommendations of the external scientists.

Although the Parties have not yet reached a collective view on TAC, as mentioned above, we have started the discussion on the improvement of the stock assessment process and the establishment of a management strategy. We have begun consideration on the SRP including a scientific fishing component to obtain new data necessary. Japan hopes that these processes will finally, but quickly, lead to setting a TAC acceptable to all the Parties based on scientific evidence.

On the issue of non-members, the Commission adopted "The Action Plan to Ensure the Effectiveness of the Conservation Measures for SBT" which includes possible future trade restrictive measures at CCSBT 6(2) held in March this year. CCSBT sent letters to non-members requesting them to join or cooperate with CCSBT in accordance with the Action Plan. We have received a positive and constructive response from Korea. On the other hand, we have not yet received any clear responses from other countries or

entity to date.

Japan believes that it is necessary to consider further steps as soon as possible considering the situation where non-members' catch of SBT continues increasing. Japan would like to stress the importance to decide on concrete future steps and then to implement those steps.

Furthermore, with regard to unilateral measures by Australia and New Zealand prohibiting calls at their ports by Japanese fishing vessels introduced as a result of Japan's implementation of the EFP, Japan is of the view that, since Japan has been refraining from unilateral implementation of the EFP, the measures should be removed immediately. The result of EFPs implemented in 1998 to 2000 is now under review with a view to establishing an SRP which includes EFP, with the participation of the external scientists. In this regard, Japan believes that Australia and New Zealand now have no reason to prohibit Japanese fishing vessels from calling at their ports unilaterally. Japan requests both countries to immediately remove their unilateral measures.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Australia as host, the persons in charge and the staff of the CCSBT Secretariat for their work for preparation of this meeting.

Thank you.

Opening Statement by New Zealand

Good morning ladies and gentlemen. We are looking forward to working again with the delegations from Australia and Japan. We appreciate the willingness of our new chair, Don Banfield, to guide our discussions, and we extend a particular welcome to the representatives from Taiwan and Korea.

After a period of disagreement and slow movement on key issues, the Commission has in recent months been able to make significant progress. The high level discussions in Tokyo in September provided a solid basis for the work Commission members are now undertaking.

Since that meeting intercessional exchanges have developed a comprehensive draft work programme that sets out a number of steps in the process to develop an SRP, review the core Commission stock assessment process, and steps to achieve accession or cooperation of non-members. We expect to agree any necessary modifications to the work programme at this meeting to provide clear outline of next steps we take.

In our view the most important purpose of this meeting was to establish an agreed process for the development on an SRP. We are now close to reaching agreement on the principles of an appropriate process. We would like to acknowledge the efforts of the scientific delegations and externals who have, I understand, had a very successful meeting in the last few days. They have been continuing their discussions directed at a revision of the approach to the scientific assessment by the Commission, and have had a useful initial exchange on the components of an SRP and its development over the next three months.

The Commission has also taken substantive steps towards the inclusion of non-members in the regime through negotiation with both Korea and Taiwan. For Korea, we expect to be able to confirm the mutually beneficial outcome of these negotiations at this meeting. In Taiwan's case, this meeting will provide the opportunity for further discussion of the proposals and examination of the next steps to move us toward closer cooperation.

We expect the next two days of Commission discussions will be rewarding and are confident that this meeting will continue and consolidate progress being made to resolving past difficulties in the function of the Commission. We look forward to being able to report a successful outcome to Government.

Opening Statement by the Republic of Korea

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of my delegation, I thank Mr. Chairman for inviting Korean delegation to this special meeting of the commission, and especially for making your kind offer of the national quota allocation for ROK on behalf of member countries. Korean delegation firmly believes this meeting will produce fruitful result under your leadership. Our heartfelt thanks also go to the secretariat and his staff for the successful arrangements of this important meeting.

More than anything else, I am very much pleased to report to the commission that Korea is ready to accept the offer made and proceed the domestic procedures required. Korean government is determined to play its proper role as a responsible fishing country within the framework of the convention.

Korea strongly supports the sustainable use of the precious fishing resources. In this context, it has fully cooperated with the CCSBT through legitimate implementation of TIS and self-imposed catch limit.

Besides, Korea has long showed its eagerness to accede to the CCSBT. The only obstacle which has kept Korea from becoming a member of the CCSBT is the level of the national quota allocation. Korea's position on this issue has been consistent in that it should be given a proper national quota allocation.

Given its historical catches of SBT, which showed a fluctuation between 1,200 tons and 1,600 tons per annum during a period of 1996-1999, Korea's requests on the quota allocation have been always based on the sincere and practical foundation. Nevertheless, we have shown a great deal of flexibility in the course of quota negotiation.

Recognizing the important role of the commission for effective conservation and management of the precious SBT stock, Korea's joining of the commission is highly recommended for its efficient operation. In this regard, I appreciate the commission that

it carried out active dialogue with Korea which laid some solid foundation for Korea's membership.

Now, I do hope that Korea's sincere attitude and cooperation so far are properly evaluated and that this meeting make a momentum in heightening the status of the commission.

Thank you.

Meeting Time Table for 2001

Nov.17 2000

Item	Date
External provide Principles / Strategic Plan / Framework for SRP	15 Nov.2000
Member scientist provide responses to externals	22 Dec. 2000
External develop draft SRP	Jan. 2001
Externals submit draft SRP to CCSBT Secretariat	Mid Feb. 2001
Scientific Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •discussion on SRP •discussion on Stock Assessment Process •further discussion on Management Procedure/Strategy •other matters 	week of 19 th of March 2001 (6 days)
CCSBT 7	18 – 21 Apr. 2001 Sydney* (4 days)
possible meeting (ERS ,etc) to be decided in CCSBT7	
(Data exchange process commences	30 Apr. 2001 (see Appendix1))
** Stock Assessment Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stock Assessment • initiate discussion on management procedure 	late Aug. 2001 (8 days)
**Scientific Committee	early Sep. 2001 (4 days)
CCSBT 8	mid Oct. 2001 (4 days)

* depending on volume of meeting agenda

** Two meetings above will be finished within two weeks
Final meetings schedule for these meetings will be confirmed at March SC

Appendix

Timing for Exchange of Data and Documents in Normal Stock Assessment Years

Catch and Effort Data	April 30
Size Data	April 30
Catch at age*	14 weeks before (May 7 as earliest)
List of Documents (preliminary)	10 weeks before (no earlier than June 1)
Agenda	10 weeks before
CPUE index	10 weeks before
Brief Description of Modification	7 weeks before
Abstract and Conclusion	4 weeks before
Documents	4 weeks before
Abstract and Conclusion (translation)	2 weeks before
SAG Meeting begins**	0 week before

All documents should be submitted as early as possible but no later than the above-mentioned deadlines.

* Whether this should be modified will depend upon results of the Stock Assessment Process Workshop and this item should be reviewed after the SAP Workshop.

** Given these time frames, the earliest date for the SAG would be August 15.

Full implementation of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Trade Information Scheme/ Statistical Document Program

Paper by Australia

Introduction

The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (the 'Commission') introduced the Trade Information Scheme/Statistical Document Program (TIS/SDP) for SBT on 1 June 2000. The development and implementation of the TIS/SDP reflects the need for improved information about the capture of, and trade in, SBT to assist the conservation and management efforts of the Commission.

The opportunity exists for full implementation of the scheme to better meet the objectives of the TIS/SDP. Australia believes that an expanded scheme would provide tangible benefits to the Commission through providing a demonstrably nondiscriminatory application for improved non-member compliance; improved information for scientific assessment and management; and establishment of a solid foundation for meeting Member's obligations under international law.

Australia proposes that an expanded scheme be based upon all commercial catches of SBT and not just catches that are traded internationally. There would not be any great difficulty in expanding the current TIS/SDP to include all such catches of SBT. The model that exists under the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) in relation to Patagonian toothfish would be an appropriate basis to further improve the TIS/SDP.

This paper is designed to facilitate discussion on the full implementation of the TIS/SDP. In this respect, this paper (i) provides a background to the TIS/SDP and highlights a number of problems with the scheme; (ii) discusses the benefits of full implementation of the TIS/SDP; and, (iii) identifies possible models for the development of an improved scheme.

Background

At the July 1998 workshop on the TIS/SDP held in Tokyo Members engaged in wide ranging discussions on a scheme to collect more accurate and comprehensive information on SBT fishing through trade. Such a scheme was deemed necessary in light of the growing non-member catches of SBT, which diminish the capacity of the Commission to effectively manage SBT fishing. Members agreed that any TIS must be transparent, non-discriminatory, administratively efficient in its application and consistent with the Members' international obligations. The TIS developed by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) was deemed an appropriate model on which to base the TIS/SDP.

The objectives of the TIS/SDP were finalised at the July 1999 Tokyo workshop, those being being to:

- provide accurate, consistent and comprehensive information on the catch of SBT, including the volume of fish caught, where and when the fish were caught, how the fish were caught and the nation undertaking the fishing, through trade;
- provide information currently not available that can be used to improve stock assessments; and

- provide information that can be compared with and complement catch information collected from non-members by other means.

The TIS/SDP was originally conceived, in part, as a way of obtaining information on non-member fishing activities. Japan's dominance of the SBT market ensured that compliance could be enforced and therefore it was deemed appropriate that importation into Commission member countries would be an appropriate trigger for the collection of catch information. While trade is the mechanism for collecting data, the emphasis of the TIS/SDP is to collect comprehensive catch data.

Problems with the TIS/SDP

Applying a narrow definition of trade prevents the Commission from collecting "information currently not available that can be used to improve stock assessments" (TIS objective two, TIS Workshop Tokyo 1999 report). By expanding the definition of trade to include all commercial catches of SBT the information collected by the TIS/SDP will be significantly improved.

Moreover, growing non-member catches and the possibility of an expansion in non-member markets for SBT make trade an inappropriate basis for collecting comprehensive information on catches of SBT through the TIS/SDP. More importantly, if Members take the step now to improve the TIS/SDP through the voluntary provision of equivalent data on all domestic commercial catches, non-members will see the Commission as an open and transparent entity. This will improve non-members confidence in the Commission and increase the likelihood that non-members will join the Commission.

Without the application of the SBT TIS/SDP to all SBT commercial catch taken by CCSBT Members, it would be difficult to justify taking any action in respect of non-members that do not cooperate with the Commission's conservation and management measures.

As a regional fisheries management organisation (RFMO) the Commission must consider the relevant elements of international law outlined in the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* (UNCLOS) and the *United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement* (UNFSA). These define best practice for RFMOs and the Commission should aim to achieve consistency with these where possible.

- Articles 61 and 119 of UNCLOS emphasise the need for cooperation and full participation in collecting and exchanging scientific information. Article 119 also states that conservation measures must not discriminate against the fishermen of any State.
- Articles 5-7, 10-12 and 14 of UNFSA place greater emphasis on defining comparable measures for data collection and sharing. Key considerations include the need for a process to verify data and collect data at a vessel level.

An expanded TIS/SDP would ensure that Members, through the Commission, meet these obligations.

Models for an Improved TIS/SDP

Two similar schemes exist in other regional fisheries. The ICCAT scheme is the model for the current TIS/SDP scheme. The ICCAT TIS has similar aims to those adopted by the Commission, being to "improve the reliability of statistical information on catches" and "address the problems created by catches...by non-ICCAT member nations". However, as noted by the Deputy Executive Secretary of ICCAT, the ICCAT scheme supplements comprehensive obligatory data requirements placed on Members and non-members. The

CCSBT does not have the same level of obligatory data requirements even though the issues in each fishery are similar. An expanded scheme would fill this gap.

The CCAMLR scheme for Patagonian toothfish provides the best model on which to base an expanded TIS/SDP. The CCAMLR scheme monitors trade in order to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing and collect data for scientific assessment. While a trade-related scheme, it is triggered at the point of landing (including transshipment). All flag vessels of Parties fishing for toothfish are issued a form on which to provide catch details at the point of landing.

Conclusion

Currently, the TIS/SDP does not meet all of the agreed objectives as a substantial proportion of catch information is not collected at an equivalent level to catch that is traded internationally. An expanded scheme would overcome this problem, providing the Commission with additional information on which to form judgements about the management of the fishery. There would be other positive outcomes of an expanded scheme, which would likely make the Commission more attractive to non-members and thereby further improve the capacity of the Commission to manage the global SBT fishery. In addition, by expanding the TIS/SDP the Commission would move closer to complying with best practice and the obligations outlined in relevant international fisheries law through the development of a more transparent and comprehensive data collection and verification scheme.

Australia considers the issue of full implementation of the TIS/SDP as an important matter and would welcome comments from other Commission Members at the next Commission meeting.

Australia
16 November 2000

**Terms of Reference for a Database and Database Manager
for the CCSBT Secretariat**

1. At the Resumed Sixth Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, it was decided that the Secretariat will maintain a database for the purposes of information exchange with other regional fisheries management organisations, provision of data needed for the conservation and optimum utilization of SBT stock, monitoring the Commission's Trade Information Scheme and provision of information to the public.
2. The database format and requirements of the Commission shall be reviewed on a regular basis and with consideration of future stock assessment and other needs.
3. The database will comprise information and data on 1) catch, size and effort by area, month, gear, country/entity and 2) trade statistics. Other information and data required will be incorporated in the database as determined by the Commission.
4. Data on tuna species other than southern bluefin tuna and other by-catch species will be incorporated in the database as determined by the Commission in consultation with the Scientific Committee and Ecologically Related Species Working Group.
5. The principal duties of the Secretariat in relation to the database are :
 - i. Create and maintain the database;
 - ii. Facilitate submission of data from countries/entities within a time frame established by the CCSBT;
 - iii. Inform the Commission if data are not provided following the agreed formats or within the agreed time frames;
 - iv. Provide data for use in the stock assessment as agreed by the Commission;
 - v. Provide data extracts and products in approved formats for public release, exchange with other fisheries organizations and approved research;
 - vi. Maintain and provide data as required by the Trade Information Scheme Program; and,
 - vii. Handle requests for any database access in accordance with an agreed procedure and confidentiality requirements.
6. The Secretariat, in consultation with the Scientific Committee and the Commission, will employ a full-time database manager with expertise in database management, experience in fisheries statistics and knowledge of data requirements and processes involved in stock assessments. The database manager will maintain the database at the Secretariat, ensure effective communication on data issues

among Members and the Secretariat, develop data products for distribution to Members, non-members, the public and other fisheries management organizations, and liaise with the Stock Assessment Group and Scientific Committee. The data manager will meet requests from the Scientific Committee, Stock Assessment Group, fishery organizations and external scientists.

7. The Secretariat will ensure that the data confidentiality requirements established by the Commission are adhered to.
8. The Secretariat will ensure secure access to the database in accordance with generally accepted standards in the computing industry.
9. The Secretariat will produce database products in both printed and electronic form and at the appropriate level of aggregation for distribution to other regional fisheries organisations and the public, as agreed by the Commission.
10. Database formats and rules governing data confidentiality will be elaborated in a separate document.

COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA				
DRAFT BUDGET - 2000/01 - (November - 2000)				
FINAL		ESTIMATE	ESTIMATE	
1999		2000	2001	
	INCOME			
24,600	Carry over from Previous Year			
	Contributions from members			
247,314	Japan	395,396	487,845	
221,763	Australia	354,548	437,445	
67,023	New Zealand	107,156	132,210	
		857,100	1,057,500	
57,071	Staff Assessment Levy	62,000	88,000	
20,005	Interest on investments	12,400	10,000	
23,291	Funds from Reserve to meet balance of EFP meeting costs in 1999			
661,067	TOTAL GROSS INCOME	931,500	1,155,500	
	EXPENDITURE			
	ANNUAL MEETINGS - (CCSBT6 (2000); CCSBT 7&8 (2001))			
49,920	Interpretation Costs	13,000	30,000	
6,222	Hire of venue	6,000	12,000	
4,851	Hire of Equipment	7,800	22,000	
2,000	Miscellaneous Costs (Inc. Sc Cte Chair attending Annual Meeting)	3,500	8,000	
4,720	Publication and Translation	3,000	3,000	
67,713		33,300	75,000	
	SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETINGS			
0	Interpretation and other support	20,000	0	
0	Addit Sub committees, PR, SAP/MS WS in 2000; Advisory Panel (2001)	137,000	65,000	
	SRP WS, 2000 (include. 3 Advisory Panel, SAG chair attending)	110,000		
		247,000		
	ERS Working Group Meeting- to be decided at CCSBT7		15,000	
	SC Mar 01 & SAG/SC Aug/Sept 01			
0	Interpretation Costs	0	55,000	
0	Hire of venue	0	12,000	
0	Hire of equipment	0	28,000	
0	Hire of Consultants - SAG Chair, SC Chair, Advisory Panel	0	260,000	
0	Miscellaneous Costs	0	5,000	
0	Publication and translation	0	6,000	
0		0	366,000	
	SECRETARIAT COSTS			
217,521	Secretariat Staff Costs	260,000	305,000	
57,071	Staff Assessment Levy	62,000	88,000	
36,814	Employer Super/Social security	40,000	58,000	
7,042	Worker's Compensation/ travel/contents Insurance	8,500	9,000	
52,515	Travel/transport - O/seas and domestic	35,000	40,000	
0	Miscellaneous Translation of Commission and Committee Reports	8,000	8,000	
195	Training	700	1,000	
	Provision for professional staff replacements - recruitment/departure,			
10,000	home leave allowance, repatriation grant and removal costs	142,000	30,000	
381,158		556,200	539,000	
	OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS			
30,712	Office lease	31,000	31,000	
14,020	Office running costs	16,000	17,500	
10,000	Provision for new/replacement assets	10,000	25,000	
7,126	Telephone/communications	8,000	12,000	
1,712	Miscellaneous	10,000	10,000	
63,570		75,000	95,500	
148,626	EFP Workshops			
661,067		931,500	1,155,500	

Development of a Scientific Research Program for SBT

The external scientists consider that the main objective of a Scientific Research Program (SRP) is to improve the quality of the data used as input to the stock assessment and to contribute to the development of reliable indices to monitor future trends in stock size. Future trend indicators will be a critical component of a feedback rule to facilitate setting TACs.

A number of research topics have been proposed as desirable components of an SRP, namely:

- 1- Characterization of non-party catches.
- 2- Experimental fishing program to address CPUE issues.
- 3- Scientific observer program.
- 4- Conventional tagging program.
- 5- Direct ageing.
- 6- Archival and pop-up tagging.
- 7- Recruitment monitoring program.
- 8- Development of a spawning biomass index.
- 9- Fisheries oceanography for improved habitat definition.

A number of these components (items 5 through 8) represent ongoing research; the Advisory Panel fully endorses these programs and encourages their continued support. The following discussion focuses on Components 1 through 4. These components are perceived by the Panel as areas where new input would be most fruitful.

In terms of prioritizing among these four components, the initial inclination of the Panel is as follows. The Panel feels that the highest priority item is the characterization and quantification of the overall catch, in particular, the catch from non-party members. Secondly, given equal priority, the Panel recommends pursuing an experimental fishing program to address CPUE concerns and implementation of a more complete scientific observer program. Finally, the Panel feels that a conventional tagging program would be valuable as auxiliary information for improving future stock assessments. General guidelines developed by Panel members present during the November 2000 CCSBT meeting are outlined in the following sections. These Panel members anticipate that this draft will be developed further based on comments and feedback from other Panel members and CCSBT Member scientists.

These guidelines were discussed by the Panel without consideration to logistic or financial constraints. In order for these to develop into concrete research proposals, an indication about financial limitations will be needed from CCSBT so the program can be designed accordingly.

CHARACTERIZATION OF NON-PARTY CATCH

From a scientific perspective, assessments require appropriate characterization of catch levels as step 1. We recognize that the CCSBT continues to work in this area and that a number of different efforts are under way. These should be continued and enhanced. Presently, the Panel does not have specific program recommendations, but emphasizes that this should be a key component of the SRP.

EXPERIMENTAL FISHING PROGRAM

General Objective: to reduce the uncertainty in historical trend in stock size and thus the uncertainty in current assessment, and to provide a reliable index to monitor future trends in stock size to be used as a part of a decision rule to set TAC.

Rationale: Past EFPs were conceived in the context of the two extreme interpretations of past CPUE trends represented by the Constant-square (CS) and the Variable-square (VS) models. The data available indicate that the VS interpretation of CPUE trends is not valid; there are many fish in areas not now being fished by Japanese longliners. This is demonstrated, at a large spatial scale, by the distribution of effort by other parties and, at a local scale, by results of past EFPs. Similarly, there are a number of problems with the CS interpretation. In particular, there are reasons to believe that some of the CPUE rise since 1990 in younger ages may be due to the contraction of the fishing area, and not exclusively to increases in abundance. The concern is that as the number of areas fished declined, fishing effort concentrated in the best individual locations, resulting in a rise in CPUE even if abundance had stayed constant or declined. Thus, we find both the VS and CS interpretations of CPUE unsatisfactory. We feel that a more suitable working model for designing an EFP is one that assumes, as a start, that the relative distribution of biomass *within* each of the statistical areas used to construct the CPUE index has not changed over time. In this context, the primary objective of an EFP would be to determine how the spatial distribution of fish may have changed relative to years when larger areas were fished.

SCIENTIFIC OBSERVER PROGRAM

Rationale: Scientific observers are important for estimating non-retained catch, size composition of the catch, tag return/reporting rates, and a number of factors that may affect CPUE data. Scientific observers are also important for collecting biological samples (age structures, stomach contents, maturity state, etc.), and oceanographic data.

Shono and Hiramatsu (1999) presented a power analysis from a simple simulation to obtain some idea of the appropriate level of observer coverage. The goal of their study was to evaluate the accuracy of CPUE data. Based on their results, observer coverage on the order of 20-30% seemed appropriate. Given the additional information scientific technicians would normally collect, we view this as a critical program that should be equally spread among all fleets including, to the extent possible, non-party members.

The objectives of the program may require extra emphasis on the longline fishery to improve/validate CPUE trends. Scientific observer coverage extended to include non-party members will also represent a considerable step towards characterizing these previously unmonitored components of the fishery.

CONVENTIONAL TAGGING PROGRAM

Rationale: Stock assessment models are to some degree, predicated on fishing and perform best under contrast due to catches. Simulation studies have shown that the ability of depletion-type methods to correctly estimate abundance trends is particularly limited during population recovery (since catch is not a major factor explaining the increase). In other words, declining populations are estimated somewhat more accurately than increasing ones, particularly if there are questionable abundance indices and no absolute abundance estimates. Therefore, the Panel feels that a tagging program similar in scope to that executed in the mid 1990s can provide important additional information on natural and fishing mortality rates to improve the ability to estimate changes in stock size. Such age-specific information on tag-recapture rates can be important since it is relatively independent from other abundance indices.

To minimize problems on assumptions about mixing rates the Panel recommends that tagging occur over a broad geographic area. In addition, to provide good estimates of reporting rates, this component of the SRP should be linked to appropriate observer coverage.

**DEVELOPMENT OF A SBT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROGRAM
INCLUDING A SCIENTIFIC FISHING COMPONENT
BY THE CCSBT EXTERNAL SCIENTISTS**

Introduction

Commission Members have agreed to engage the External Scientific Advisory Panel to design an SBT Scientific Research Program (SRP). The SRP will complement the recent initiatives introduced in CCSBT for improving stock assessments and developing a management strategy/procedure by providing improved data and information inputs for conducting all future stock assessments. In the first instance the SRP will run for a period of two years (2001-2002) after which the effectiveness of the program will be considered in light of future research requirements.

Results of the SRP are expected to improve the Commission's ability to set future TACs in order to achieve the objectives of the Commission as outlined in the Convention, which are the conservation and optimum utilisation of SBT, and meet the currently agreed management objective of recovery of the parental biomass to 1980 levels by 2020. The overall objective of the SRP, including any scientific fishing component (SFC), is to provide statistically significant data for reducing the levels of uncertainty in stock assessments made by the Commission and to identify directions for further research.

The SRP can include a catch component of up to 1,500 tonnes in each year. The per annum tonnage used for the SRP would be catch in addition to national catch and will be managed by the Commission. The three Member countries should consider and devise an equitable means of resourcing/funding the research activities in a timely fashion.

In designing the SRP consideration should be given to where potential improvements can be made in the three basic input components to the stock assessment:

1. The basic fishery data (e.g. size and age distribution);
2. SBT biological parameters (e.g. natural mortality, age of maturity, growth rates, length/weight relationships, stock structure and spatial dynamics); and
3. Absolute and/or relative measures of abundance (e.g. CPUE, fishery independent surveys, tagging experiments).

The proposal is for a SRP to be developed by the external scientists following consultation with national scientists, managers and industries. The participating external scientists are asked to attend a meeting with the Commission's national scientists in November 2000 to discuss the SRP and receive input in relation to the design, content and potential objectives of the overall Program, as well as the scientific components of the Program. The external scientists should develop a cooperative working arrangement and, if appropriate, are encouraged to convene a separate meeting, at their convenience, in

either December 2000 or January 2001 before submitting in mid February 2001 a draft proposal to the Secretariat for dissemination among Parties and for discussion at the Scientific Committee. The external scientists can seek input from other scientists, including national scientists and other external scientists, in developing the SRP. The Secretariat will distribute any comments provided to the external scientists from other sources among the Parties. External scientists, if they desire, can submit additional information individually.

Terms of Reference

The report on the proposed SRP should address to the extent considered appropriate, but is not limited to, the following:

- Identification, and basis for selection, of key uncertainties in the Commission stock assessment to be addressed by the SRP
- Identification and evaluation of individual research sub-programs and the uncertainties they address
- Reporting requirements for each component of the SRP
- Procedures for revision based on results obtained in the first year
- Criteria and a process for evaluation of the SRP at the end of two years

Individual research projects within the SRP should address, to the extent considered appropriate, aspects such as, but not be limited to, the following:

- Research/experimental design
- The data to be collected including sample size requirements
- The proposed methods for analysing the data including, where pertinent, expected levels of precision (i.e. CVs)
- How the results would be incorporated into the stock assessment and their likely contribution to that process
- Resource and implementation requirements (including areas, time period, data collection procedures and vessel deployment requirements, etc.)
- Estimated tonnage and number of fish required, where applicable (e.g. capture and/or tagging)
- Verification procedures including level of observer coverage
- Personnel required to implement field and data collection components
- Process for analysing and review of the results (e.g. workshop)

External scientists, national scientists, managers and industry will meet at the end of each year/season to review progress and provide a report to the Commission recommending the implementation of any changes deemed necessary.

Reporting

The external scientists are to submit a draft version of their report to the CCSBT Secretariat by mid February 2001 for immediate dissemination among Parties and for discussion at the Scientific Committee (SC), which will be held in March 2001.

The external scientists in their report to the SC will make every effort to present to the SC a report agreed by consensus.

Decision Procedure

When the external scientists' report is discussed at the SC the following decision procedure regarding the report to be submitted to the Commission will apply:

- (a) If the external scientists present a consensus report to the SC or a report adopted by a majority of 4 to 1:
 - (i) The members of the SC and the external scientists shall seek to reach consensus on the report or its modification after discussion so that the report can be passed to the Commission as a report of the SC.
 - (ii) If consensus is not reached among the SC members and the external scientists, then the consensus report or majority report of the external scientists, as the case may be, will be passed to the Commission as a report of the SC with dissenting opinions attached.
- (b) If the external scientists present a report that cannot be dealt with under (a):
 - (i) The members of the SC and the external scientists shall seek to reach consensus on a report to be passed to the Commission as a report of the SC.
 - (ii) If consensus cannot be achieved at the meeting of the SC, then the Scientific Committee of the IATTC or ICCAT will be asked to examine and decide on the final content of the SRP report, in accordance with the terms of reference given to the external scientists. Nationals of a CCSBT Party who are members of the Scientific Committee carrying out the work on the SRP shall not participate in that work. The report of the relevant Scientific Committee will then be presented to the Commission as the report of the SC.

The report of the SC, presented in accordance with the procedure above, will be discussed at the Commission for the final decision on the SRP. If the Commission cannot reach a consensus, the report presented by the SC will become the decision of the Commission.

Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) within the Framework of CCSBT

It is essential for Contracting Parties to gather sufficient scientific information in order to improve knowledge on the biology, stock situation and ecology of southern bluefin tuna (SBT) for conservation and optimum utilization thereof. To facilitate gathering such information, it is appropriate to establish an “Research Mortality Allowance (RMA)”.

Criteria which designate scientific research activities which can utilize RMA will be as follows:

1. Research activities which do not include “commercial type operations,” such as:
 - (1) Larvae and juvenile sampling with scientific research vessels (e.g. Shoyo-maru)
 - (2) Fish taken for experiments such as TS measurement in a cage or pinger tracking

2. Incidental death during research activities whose objectives are not to catch SBT, such as:
 - (1) Tagging research (fish which die during dedicated tagging activity)
 - (2) Fish taken for confirmation of species during operation of acoustic survey.

3. Research feasibility studies on a limited experimental scale.

The study to assist formulation of planning of a full scale program.

The total level of RMA shall not exceed 10 tonnes each year and will comprise part of the agreed CCSBT Scientific Research Program.

Contracting Parties, which intend to use the RMA will provide a proposal of their objectives and expected level of research mortality through the Commission to all Contracting Parties for consideration prior to undertaking the research activities. The Contracting Party will provide a report to the Scientific Committee on the exact number and size of fish at the conclusion of the research activities.