

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

Report of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission

**15 October 2005
Narita, Japan**

Report of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission
15 October 2005
Narita, Japan

Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting

1.1 Welcoming address

1. The Chair (Mr Yoshimi Suenaga, Japan) welcomed participants and opened the meeting.

1.2 Adoption of agenda

2. The agenda was adopted and is included at **Appendix 1**.
3. The list of meeting participants is included at **Appendix 2**.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of decisions taken by the Extended Commission

4. The Commission approved the decisions taken by the Extended Commission for the Twelfth Meeting of the Commission, which is at **Appendix 3**.

Agenda Item 3. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for CCSBT 13 and venue

5. CCSBT 13 will be hosted and chaired by Japan. Japan indicated it would nominate a person in 2006 prior to CCSBT13.
6. The Vice Chair will be nominated by Australia.
7. CCSBT 13 will be held on 10-13 October 2006 at Miyazaki, Japan.

Agenda Item 4. Other business

8. There was no other business.

Agenda Item 5. Adoption of report of meeting

9. The report was adopted.

Agenda Item 6. Close of meeting

10. The meeting closed at 2.30 pm, 15 October 2005.

List of Appendices

Appendix

- 1 Agenda
- 2 List of Participants
- 3 Report of the Extended Commission for the Twelfth Annual Meeting of
the Commission

Agenda
Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission
15 October 2005
Narita, Japan

1. Opening of the meeting
 - 1.1 Welcoming address
 - 1.2 Adoption of agenda
2. Approval of decisions taken by the Extended Commission
3. Election of the Chair and Vice Chair for CCSBT13 and venue
4. Other business
5. Adoption of report of meeting
6. Close of meeting

List of Participants
Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission
15 October 2005
Narita, Japan

CHAIR

Mr Yoshimi SUENAGA
Councillor
Fisheries Agency of Japan
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 2045
Fax: +81 3 3502 0571
Email: yoshimi_suenaga@nm.maff.go.jp

AUSTRALIA

Mr Glenn HURRY
A/g Executive Manager
Fisheries & Forestry
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 5777
Fax: +61 2 6272 4875
Email: Glenn.Hurry@daff.gov.au

Mr Stephen ROWCLIFFE
International Fisheries
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 3871
Fax: +61 2 6272 4875
Email: Stephen.Rowcliffe@daff.gov.au

Mr Philip KIMPTON
Executive Officer
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade
R G Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Phone: +61 2 6261 3124
Fax: +61 2 6261 2144
Email: Philip.Kimpton@dfat.gov.au

JAPAN

Mr Takaaki SAKAMOTO
Assistant Director
Fisheries Agency of Japan
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 1086
Fax: +81 3 3502 0571
Email: takaaki_sakamoto@nm.maff.go.jp

Mr Hideto WATANABE
Fisheries Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8917
Phone: +81 3 5501 8338
Fax: +81 3 5501 8332
Email: hideo.watanabe@mofa.go.jp

NEW ZEALAND

Ms Emma WATERHOUSE
Senior Adviser
Ministry of Fisheries
PO Box 1020, Wellington
Phone: +64 4 470 2644
Fax: +64 4 470 2596
Email: emma.waterhouse@fish.govt.nz

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Ki Hiok BARNG
Director General
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
140-2 Gye-Dong, Jongno-Gu
Seoul 110-793
Phone: +82 2 3674 6150
Fax: +82 2 3674 6996
Email: khbarng@momaf.go.kr

Mr Oh Seung KWON
Assistant Director
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
140-2 Gye-Dong, Jongno-Gu
Seoul 110-793
Phone: +82 2 3674 6994
Fax: +82 2 3674 6996
Email: kos20@momaf.go.kr

CCSBT SECRETARIAT

PO Box 37, Deakin West ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA
Phone: +61 2 6282 8396
Fax: +61 2 6282 8407

Mr Brian MACDONALD
Executive Secretary
Email: bmacdonald@ccsbt.org

Mr Yukito NARISAWA
Deputy Executive Secretary
Email: ynarisawa@ccsbt.org

INTERPRETERS

Ms Saemi BABA

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

Appendix 3

Report of the Extended Commission of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission

**11-14 October 2005
Taipei, Taiwan**

**Report of the Extended Commission of the
Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission
11-14 October 2005
Taipei, Taiwan**

Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting

1.1 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twelfth Meeting of the Commission

1. Mr James Sha was confirmed as Chair of the Extended Commission for CCSBT 12.
2. The Chair welcomed participants to the fourth meeting of the Extended Commission and declared the meeting open. Participants were introduced and the list of meeting participants is at **Attachment 1**.

1.2 Adoption of agenda

3. A revised agenda was adopted and is included at **Attachment 2**.
4. The list of documents submitted to the meeting is at **Attachment 3**.

1.3 Opening Statements

1.3.1 Members

5. Opening statements by Members of the Extended Commission are at **Attachment 4**.

1.3.2 Cooperating Non-Members

6. The opening statement of the Philippines is at **Attachment 5**.

1.3.3 Other States and entities

7. Indonesia presented an opening statement, which is at **Attachment 6**.

Agenda Item 2. Report from the Secretariat

8. Members noted the report from the Secretariat (CCSBT-EC/0510/04) and in particular, the addendum to that report concerning an alleged breach of the privileges made available to the Commission Secretariat in Australia under the Headquarters Agreement. The Extended Commission noted the Executive Secretary's intention to write to the Australian Government expressing his concern at this alleged breach of privilege.

9. Taiwan noted that workloads were becoming an issue for the Secretariat and that the Extended Commission will have to address this matter. Taiwan also noted that the Secretariat needed to become involved in international fisheries forums and supported, in particular, attendance at the Review Conference of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement in 2006.
10. Members were pleased to note that the USA was cooperating with the operation of the CCSBT Statistical Document Program.
11. In response to a question from New Zealand as to whether any TIS documents relating to non-members catch since the start of the IUU Resolution (1 July 2005) had been received, the Executive Secretary advised that it would not expect such documents, if any, to be received until December 2005.

Agenda Item 3. Report from the Finance and Administration Committee

12. The Executive Secretary briefly introduced papers CCSBT-EC/05010/05 (2005 revised budget) and CCSBT-EC/05010/06 (2006 draft budget). Detailed consideration of these papers was referred to the Finance and Administrative Committee (FAC).
13. In response to a question from Australia, the Executive Secretary advised that the interest being earned by the Secretariat on its fixed term deposit and cash management accounts was about 5.45% and 4.75% respectively.
14. The FAC was convened to consider the revised budget for 2005 and the proposed budget for 2006. New Zealand was nominated to chair the FAC and Australia acted as rapporteur.
15. The FAC noted that the figures for the revised budget for 2005 were near final and there was confidence that the surplus of \$112,500 identified for that year was available for carry forward to the 2006 budget. The Extended Commission accepted the revised budget for 2005 as shown in **Attachment 7**.
16. The FAC considered the general budget proposed for 2006 and noted that:
 - The budget assumes no additional roles or major tasks for the Secretariat;
 - There have been major changes in specific budget outlays between 2005 and 2006;
 - Estimated expenditure has declined but cash reserves have not been applied to the budget;
 - Some decisions of the Extended Commission resulted in increased costs which were incorporated in a revised budget;
 - Further decisions of the Extended Commission at this meeting that result in increased costs will require revision of the 2006 budget proposed or funding of additional activities from reserves held by the Secretariat;
 - The general budget as proposed will result in a 5.8% increase in Member contributions;
 - The increase in contributions is within the Commission agreed guidelines of 10%; and

- The business of the Secretariat is considerably eased by early payment of Member contributions.
17. The Extended Commission accepted the general budget as proposed (noting that this will result in a 5.8% increase in Member contributions). The Extended Commission noted the FAC also recommended that contributions to the 2006 budget by Members are made as early as possible and encouraged Members to do so.
 18. The FAC considered the special budget proposed for 2006 (CCSBT SRP tagging program) and noted that:
 - There were both increases in anticipated expenditure (5.6%) and reductions in alternative funding sources to offset this expenditure;
 - An increase in Member contributions of 21% is required in the proposed draft budget to meet the 2006 program commitments;
 - Options to reduce the scale of tagging to reduce costs were not supported;
 - Cash surplus of \$70,000 is held by the Secretariat (note not cash reserves);
 - Australia agreed that revenue from tagging (\$3,661) be used to offset costs
 19. The Extended Commission agreed to a transfer of \$70,000 from the general budget to the special budget. This will reduce the requirement to increase Member contributions to 6.3% (shown in **Attachment 7**). The Extended Commission accepted the 2006 special budget as revised.

Agenda Item 4. Relationship with Non-members

20. The Executive Secretary introduced paper CCSBT-EC/0510/07, which outlined contact with non-members since CCSBT11. The countries involved included Indonesia, South Africa, China, Spain, Fiji and USA.
21. The Extended Commission was particularly concerned with the advice that Spain had reported catch of SBT and that this was from cruises exploring new fishing grounds not previously fished by Spanish fleets. Members also noted that China was not responding to correspondence from the Extended Commission.
22. It was agreed that the Executive Secretary would:
 - Write to Spain and the European Commission concerning their catch of SBT and seek advice on their intentions for developing new fisheries. The correspondence should seek information on log data or lab reports from the exploration cruises that caught the SBT. The letter would also request advice on Spanish swordfish fishing activity in the eastern Indian Ocean and between Australia and New Zealand in waters where SBT are present.
 - Write to China again seeking advice on their intentions in relation to SBT and catch information for any product caught and consumed domestically.
 - Ask Fiji for advice on fishing activity operating out of Fiji, which might involve fishing in areas where SBT were present.
23. The Executive Secretary outlined the current situation on Indonesia explaining the reasons offered for why Indonesia had decided not to apply for cooperating non-membership. Members were particularly concerned over this situation in the

light of the increasing catch of SBT by Indonesia in 2005 and the effect this would have on the spawning stock.

24. Indonesia advised the Extended Commission that it was the intention of Indonesia to fully cooperate with the CCSBT as reflected by data provision improvement in response to the CCSBT catch monitoring system and cooperation in fisheries statistical data collection with the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and the Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation (OFCF). Further, the Indonesian delegate informed the Extended Commission that Indonesia has strengthened fisheries management through the implementation of the VMS for those vessels permitted to fish in the Indonesian EEZ and to become a full member of the IOTC in the very near future. It was explained that the delay in applying for cooperating non-membership was the outcome of internal government process connected to policies for Indonesia involvement in international organizations. The Indonesian delegate recognized that the portfolio with the responsibility for international fisheries management would continue to urge the case for cooperating non-membership and was hopeful that it would have a positive impact. Members discussed using diplomatic means to support the fisheries management portfolio in this regard.
25. Indonesia was asked for information on the activities of its registered vessels fishing south of Java where the sudden increase in catch has occurred. Indonesia responded by indicating they had some doubts over the accuracy of the estimates provided by the IOTC and would report back to the Extended Commission. Indonesia also advised that they were not certain which vessels were fishing south of Java as their VMS system still did not have comprehensive coverage and was concentrated on the Arafura Sea.
26. Concern was expressed by some Members that much of the Indonesian fishing activity was by ex-Taiwanese fishing vessels, which retained Taiwanese ownership and fishing principals. New Zealand recalled that Article 15.2 of the Convention, which requires Members to take action to prevent these activities, was designed to prevent this situation and expressed its view that fishing on the spawning ground seriously undermines the objectives of the Convention. Taiwan stated that any solution on this issue required cooperation from Indonesia. The Chair encouraged Taiwan to contact Indonesia to find a solution.

Agenda Item 5. Review of SBT Fisheries

27. Reports on the SBT fisheries of Members of the Extended Commission and Cooperating Non-Members are included at **Attachment 8**.
28. Under Extended Commission rules for this item it is assumed Members will have read the Members' reports and discussion is to be confined to questions on report contents. In this context:
 - Korea asked Australia for advice on the reported discard rate (61%) in the east coast longline fishery and considered it appropriate for the fishery to be closed. Korea was advised by Australia that this is a very small proportion of the Australian fishery. However small, Australia has taken this issue seriously and it has been resolved by introducing higher mandatory quota holdings

within an exclusion zone, a rule of nil discards and requiring 100% observer coverage for longline vessels within an exclusion zone. These measures have resulted in a nil discarding rate by east coast longline vessels in 2005.

- Australia asked Taiwan and Japan about the impediments to achieving the observer coverage targets set by the Extended Commission. Each responded by indicating that they were aiming to achieve the 10% target but were finding it difficult because of the expense, nature of far seas fishing, deployment logistics and recruitment/training difficulties. Japan pointed out that performance of observers should be fully taken into account as well as observer coverage.
 - Australia asked Taiwan how it manages catch of SBT when a vessel has no quota or its quota is exhausted. Taiwan advised that when quota is exhausted the vessel must leave the fishery and there are penalties imposed on vessels that land SBT without quota.
 - Australia asked Japan for an explanation for the carry forward of a catch of 69 tonnes into 2004. Japan advised that in 2002 it had over-caught its quota and intended to recover this in 2003. However this was not possible so a further adjustment was made in 2004.
29. Australia pointed out that a number of Members have failed to meet scientific observer coverage rates specified in the CCSBT standards and this is compromising SRP outcomes.

Agenda Item 6. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee

30. The Chair of the Scientific Committee (SC), Mr Penney reported on the stock status and management advice arising from the Sixth Meeting of the Stock Assessment Group and the Tenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee. The presentation is provided in CCSBT-EC/0510/27. The report of the Tenth meeting of the Scientific Committee and its Extended Scientific Committee (SC10) is included at **Attachment 9**.
31. The SC chair made the following key points:
- Indicators reviewed by the SAG confirmed at least two years of low recruitment (2000 and 2001) and there are indications that 1999 may also have been low. Recruitment in 2004 may have slightly improved but there will need to be more time before this can be confirmed.
 - The SC and independent panel recommended that the risk of further reduction in the spawning stock below its current level should be minimised.
 - That if there are no reductions in catch and the Management Procedure (MP) is not implemented then model runs show a rapid and continuing decline in spawning stock biomass because of low recruitment. Continued annual catches at current levels (assumed as 14,930t) will result in a 50% probability that the spawning stock will decline to 0t by 2030 and only a 20% chance that the spawning stock will be at or above its current level by 2030.
 - If a MP is implemented but there is no reduction in catch in 2006 or 2007, then model runs show that while the decline will not be as rapid, there will be a 50% chance that the stock will decline by 25% before it will be able to

rebuild and the median biomass will be below the current historically lowest level for six consecutive years. There would also be a 10% chance that the stock would fall to half its current level. Further, if poor recruitment continues the MP will not be able to rebuild the stock.

- if the recommended MP at the recommended tuning level is implemented together with the proposed 5,000 tonne catch reduction in 2006 there is a 50% chance of avoiding further decline and a high probability of rebuilding biomass under the MP in the longer term.
32. The SC Chair provided the following answers to questions by the Commission.
33. Australia: Regarding the reasons for the SC's recommendation that any further decline in spawner biomass should be avoided:
- The main concern is the possibility of further years of poor recruitment. A further period of 2 or more years of low recruitment would be expected to contribute to rapid stock declines below current low levels. Although the reasons for low recruitment in 2000 and 2001 are not known, the concern is that further declines in spawner biomass might result in low future recruitment as well. The Advisory Panel and SC therefore recommended that this risk be reduced by implementing measures that have a high probability of preventing further declines in spawner biomass.
34. Australia: Regarding the SC's level of confidence in the projections by the operating model and the probability ranges around the results of various management actions:
- It was emphasized that the current OM has been specifically designed to incorporate wide ranges of variability in many factors (such as stock reproductivity (stock-recruit steepness), natural mortality, the relationship between CPUE and abundance, autocorrelation in recruitment and catchability), over which there has been past scientific disagreement. As a result, there are wide ranges of probabilities around the model fits and projections produced by the OM, to account for these sources of variability. The OM represented the best estimate by the SC.
 - The SC is confident that the OM model under the reference set is the best available model description of the SBT stock, and that the results of management actions will lie within these predicted probability ranges. As a consequence of the high variability incorporated, these ranges are wide (e.g. the envelope of probability of future biomass under status quo management ranges from zero to over double current stock size).
 - While the SC is confident of the indicated proportional probabilities of the future resource being in a particular state at a particular time, it must be remembered that this remains dependent on what actually happens with factors such as future recruitment, and the "truth" lies within the predicted range. The CCSBT needs to decide what level of risk to accept.
35. Australia: Regarding which data are most important in convincing the SC that recruitments in 1999, 2000 and 2001 had been poor:
- The reduction in catches of small fish (< 4 yrs old) in the LL fisheries had been the first data indicating poor recruitment, and are the data specifically used by the OM to track / estimate recruitment levels. However, it was not

just the LL catch of small fish which was used to determine the likelihood of poor recent recruitment. Agreement on this had resulted from growing agreement over the past three years between information on LL small fish catch, results of the acoustic recruitment surveys, results of the aerial line-transect and commercial spotting surveys and estimates of surface fishery exploitation rates from tagging data. These all now indicate at least 2 years of poor recruitment.

- Past doubts related to validity of the aerial survey indices had been addressed through review of the design of the transect surveys and re-analysis of the data.
36. Australia: Regarding why the initial imposition of a global TAC of 11,750t in the late 1980s had not resulted in rebuilding of the stock:
- The SC cannot conclude why re-building did not occur, other than to accept the OM assessments that stock productivity was lower than had been estimated or hoped in 1989. The low recruitments from 1999 - 2001 certainly indicate that the stock is susceptible to periods of low productivity.
 - However, it is difficult to dis-entangle this from any possible effects of unreported catch, as the OM is conditioned upon the catch data provided. No agreement has yet been reached at the SC on any alternate catch series to use to evaluate possible effects of unreported catch.
37. Australia: Regarding the feasibility of using the current OM to conduct retrospective analyses of predicted stock projections from various years in the past (such as 1989):
- This had not been done yet by the SAG/SC, but could certainly be done, to see what the OM would predict following the initial TAC implementation. However, it must be remembered that the OM would not have had any basis in 1989 from which to predict poor recruitments, and would be expected to give more optimistic projection than those seen at this meeting. However, the Advisory Panel could conduct such retrospective evaluations.
38. Australia requested that such evaluations be conducted, and offered to cover associated costs of these analyses.
39. Australia: Regarding what percentage of unreported catch could be tolerated before this would jeopardise recovery along the trajectories projected by the OM:
- While there has been past recognition at SAG/SC meetings of the need to conduct specific analyses to evaluate the effect of various levels of unreported catch, no agreement was reached on what levels to use, and so such analyses had not yet been conducted.
 - Some robustness testing had been conducted assuming low levels of unreported catch (5% for 1969 - 1990 and 15% from 1991 onward), which suggested that the effect of such levels of unreported catch was less than the other sources of variability incorporated in the OM.
 - However, analyses reviewed at the SC10 meeting indicated that higher levels of unreported catch (~30%) resulted in more pessimistic assessments of stock status and recruitment. So, while low levels (5%) of unreported catch might not jeopardise recovery, higher levels such as 30% would be of concern for the stock status.

- The SC had repeated its request that the Commission ensure the collection and reporting of complete and accurate global SBT catch to the SAG/SC.
40. Taiwan: Regarding the SC's reasons for recommending CMP_2, which appeared to provide lower long-term average TACs than CMP_1, the reasons for recommending such a large initial cut and why a 90% probability of preventing spawning biomass from dropping below current levels had been recommended as a tuning level (rather than the original 1.1 or 1.3 median biomass tuning levels):
- The SC had evaluated the predicted effect of initial catch reductions of 0t, 2500t and 5000t (these being the maximum cut allowed under current TAC change constraints, half of that and no cut). While a 2500t reduction had a 50% probability of stabilising the stock at current levels in the long term, there was still a 70% chance of the stock declining to lower levels in 2014. The concern that this might result in future low recruitment had prompted the SC to recommend that future decline in spawner biomass below current levels be prevented, at least with a 50% probability. This could only be achieved with a catch reduction of ~5000t. However, it must be noted that even with a 5000t catch reduction, coupled with subsequent MP implementation, median biomass recovery levels by 2022 would still be less than half of the 1980 levels.
 - It must be remembered that future TACs under any MP could lie anywhere within the ranges of probability shown, depending on future stock productivity, and would not be expected to lie on the indicated medians. The key trade-off that was considered in recommending CMP_2 over CMP_1 relates to the "early pain" vs "late pain" trade-off. While CMP_1 would be expected to increase catches more rapidly under stock recovery, and so result in larger average long-term catches, it does so by implementing large TAC cuts in early years, to promote rebuilding. In contrast, CMP_2 has lower levels of TAC cuts in early years, as well as lower increases under stock recovery. CMP_2 was recommended as a result of this lower variability in TAC changes.
 - The SC had moved away from the initial long-term recovery tuning levels (1.1 or 1.3 SB by 2022) in order to address what is perceived to be a shorter-term risk of further declines up to 2014. As a result, the recommended tuning level now equates to a medium-term objective of having a 90% probability of preventing any further declines in spawner biomass below current levels. This, coincidentally, results in 1.9 recovery in biomass by 2022, but this was not set as an objective. An alternative tuning level of 80% probability of preventing further decline in spawner biomass was also investigated, which results in about a 1.5 recovery by 2022. The Commission might want to consider such alternative tuning levels, depending upon what medium-term risk of further spawner biomass declines is considered acceptable.
 - Alternately, the Commission could have separate short- and long-term objectives, adopting a MP tuning level to prevent further stock declines up to 2014, and then re-tuning the MP to attain e.g. a 1.3 SB recovery by 2022. It is certainly expected that the MP would be reviewed, and probably revised, after 6 years or so. However, it must be remembered that the implicit 1.9 recovery in the recommended tuning would result in a doubling of median biomass from very low levels, and would still only be expected (with 50% probability) to recover the stock to less than half the 1980 level.

41. Taiwan: Regarding whether incorporation of recent catches less than the 14,930t used by the OM would result in a more optimistic assessment:
- Recent catches have only been some 1,400t lower than the 14,930t. Current projections indicate that a substantial catch reduction (~5000t) would be required to prevent further stock declines, and so the 1,400t decline in 2004 catches would only be expected to have a slightly positive effect on OM assessments. However, this is not the only new information that we have. The OM currently estimates that the 1999 recruitment level was average, whereas recent indices suggest that 1999 was also below the average recruitment in the early 1990s. Incorporation of this new information would be expected to make OM assessments more pessimistic.
42. Japan: Regarding the feasibility and possible benefits of expressing management recommendations (TAC changes) in numbers of fish, rather than weight:
- The current assumption made by the OM (as stipulated by the Commission) is that proportional allocations between fisheries, and selectivity by those fisheries, will remain as they currently are. Under this assumption, there would be no expected difference in conducting assessment and management projections in terms of fish numbers, rather than weight. At present, numbers of fish caught are determined from reported catch weights, raised using length-frequency distributions and cohort slicing, which is also not particularly accurate.
 - While it is quite possible to conduct assessments in terms of numbers, the implications of increased or reduced fishing mortality on particularly age classes could only be done in response to a specific Commission request to evaluate alternative allocations between fisheries, or to evaluate changes in selectivities of these fisheries. Both such changes would require some re-specification of the OM.
43. Japan: Regarding the recruitment levels which could be expected from various levels of spawner biomass, and the benefits of reducing fishing mortality on small fish to allow them to recruit into the spawning stock:
- The question of steepness in the stock-recruit relationship remains the main source of variability in OM assessments of stock productivity, and the OM explores a wide range of options in the stock-recruit relationship. The SC does not hold the view that recruiting cohort strengths are stable between years, and does not assume that the SBT stock is capable of producing high recruitments at low spawner biomass. It seems clear that, in the past 10-15 years, we have seen periods of strong recruitment (1990-95) with rebuilding, and a period of 2-3 poor year classes (1999-2001). The SC is concerned that recent low recruitments may be related to the current low spawner biomass levels.
 - The SAG/SC has not explored the implications of alternative fishing mortalities on different age-classes, and the OM assumes that allocations between fisheries remain in the current proportions. The SAG/SC has therefore not specifically evaluated the implications of reducing F on young or older fish. However, the SC recognises that there is high fishing mortality on all SBT age classes, and that both the surface and longline fisheries (other than the fisheries on the spawning ground) primarily exploit pre-spawning fish.

There is also fairly high uncertainty in estimates of natural mortality for young SBT.

44. Australia responded that in relation to the small fish issue, that it had a right to target fish in the surface fishery, and emphasized that this fishery would continue.
45. New Zealand: Regarding where the management measures recommended by the SC would be expected to rebuild the stock to, in comparison with 1980 or 1989 levels, and the risk of current low spawner biomass levels:
 - The OM assesses median spawner biomass to currently be at its lowest level of 51,139t, in comparison with 257,902 t in 1980 and 128,652t in 1989. The effective 1.91 recovery by 2022 under the recommended MP would be expected to produce a median spawner biomass of 105,770t by 2022 and 143,450t by 2030. Median long-term recovery would still only be 55% of the 1980 level.
 - SBT spawner biomass is currently considered to be at 10%-30% of the 1980 levels, and some 5-12% of unexploited levels. These levels are well below what would normally be considered as safe fisheries reference points. This is why the Advisory Panel, SAG & SC have recommended that spawner biomass should be prevented from declining any further.
 - New Zealand noted the SC Chair's observation that the recommendation of the SC that an MP be implemented with a proposed catch reduction in 2006 of 5000t is not based on a precautionary approach as a precautionary approach would dictate a greater than 50/50 chance spawner biomass levels will not go below current levels in future.
46. Korea noted that a CPUE level of 3.0 fish/1,000 hooks was considered to be the minimum economic CPUE level for their fleet, and that CPUE had declined as low as 1.0 fish/1,000 hooks in some Indian Ocean fishing areas. Similar CPUE declines had been experienced in the Pacific Ocean. Korea therefore concurred with the SAG/SC assessment of the state of the stock, and supported the recommended management recommendations in order to improve CPUE. Korea also expressed concern at indications of under-reported catch in market data, and noted that this would need to be addressed to facilitate recovery.

Agenda Item 7. Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation

47. All Members noted with concern the advice of the SC on stock status and management recommendations (paragraphs 65 and 68 of the SC10 Report), in particular:
 - Given all the evidence, it seems highly likely that current levels of catch will result in further declines in spawning stock and exploitable biomass, particularly because of recent low recruitments;
 - That the Commission accepts CMP_2 as its procedure, combined with a corresponding reduction in the annual assumed global catch (14,930t) specified for 2006 (by 5,000t) or 2007 (by 7,160t); and
 - That CMP_2 be tuned so that there is an estimated 90% probability that the 2022 biomass will be at or above the 2004 biomass. This means, in effect, that there is an estimated 10% chance that the stock will be below the 2004 level in

2022. This would lead to a higher estimated median biomass in 2022 than that examined at MPWS4 but lower than either the 1980 or 1989 stock levels.

48. The poor status of the stock was acknowledged and Members recognised the need for a reduction in global catch in either 2006 or 2007.
49. Members considered the reductions in catch recommended by the Extended Scientific Committee. The reductions were a cut of 5,000 tonnes in the annual assumed global catch of 14,930 tonnes if implemented in 2006 or a reduction of 7,160 tonnes if implemented in 2007.
50. The Extended Commission noted the observations and recommendations that were endorsed by the Scientific Committee that “in the event that it is determined that the global catches are higher, or the characteristics of the catch (e.g. the age, and size composition, distribution among sectors) are substantially different from those assumed in the operating model, then the total catch reduction required to achieve the same stock stabilization would need to be recalculated. It is expected that the catch reduction required would be approximately an equivalent percentage of total removals under most circumstances. Therefore, in the absence of a calculation, the SAG recommended a catch reduction equivalent in percentage of total removals”.
51. The Extended Commission also noted the advice of the Chair of the Scientific Committee that if unreported catches were 15% higher than current reported global catch then these would be considered substantially different and would trigger a recalculation.
52. Australia accepted the recommendations of the SC noted in paragraph 47 on the MP tuning level and a reduction of catch in 2007 and strongly urged other Members to do the same.
53. Australia is committed to investigating any unreported catch of SBT. The outcomes of the investigation need to be available by June 2006 so that the findings can be taken into account in determining the catch reductions required for 2007.
54. Australia expressed its strong disappointment that the Members could not reach a consensus on the 2006 TAC at this meeting.
55. New Zealand considered that the advice from the SC obliged the Extended Commission to respond as quickly as possible and to adopt the 5,000 tonne reduction (in the assumed global catch of 14,930 tonnes) recommended for 2006 in conjunction with the recommended MP and tuning level. Both elements are necessary to arrest stock decline and to begin rebuilding the stock. To avoid taking a decision on the level and timing of a TAC reduction in accordance with the SC advice at this meeting would compromise the integrity of, and reflect badly on, the Extended Commission. However, New Zealand agreed to accept a reduction in 2007 of 7,160 tonnes from the global assumed catch if all Members do so at this meeting.
56. New Zealand recalled the Extended Commission’s decisions as reported in paragraphs 42-46 of the CCSBT 11 Meeting Report and paragraphs 52-54 of the CCSBT 10 Meeting Report and confirmed its understanding that the Extended Commission will resolve the issue with respect to adjustment of national allocations in accordance with these decisions at CCSBT 13.

57. Taiwan agreed with Australia that the initial reduction in the catch should occur in 2007 and concurred that the outcomes of the investigation of any unreported catch of SBT need to be available by June 2006 so that the findings can be taken into account in determining the catch reductions required for 2007.
58. Korea indicated that its preferred position was for the catch reduction to take effect in 2006 and that even in 2007, the size of the reduction should be the 5,000 tonnes proposed for 2006. However, Korea was flexible and could agree to the position of Australia, Taiwan, and New Zealand, i.e., a reduction in 2007 of 7,160 tonnes from the global assumed catch, if that was the general view of the Extended Commission.
59. Japan seriously took note of each Member's commitment regarding the reduction of TAC in 2007. Japan expressed its view that it will work to put in place domestic procedures to seriously consider substantial TAC reduction in 2007.
60. New Zealand reiterated its position that it supported the advice of the Scientific Committee that a TAC reduction of 5,000 tonnes is required in 2006 but that it was prepared to agree to a specific reduction in the TAC in 2007 of 7,160 tonnes consistent with advice of the SC. New Zealand stated that it could not agree to simply roll over the 2005 TAC to 2006 without a clear decision on a specific reduction in 2007.
61. New Zealand requested that a Special Meeting of the Extended Commission be held early next year to resolve the issue, as waiting until CCSBT13 to address this issue could mean that the Commission finds itself at CCSBT13 in the same position as today, which would not be acceptable to New Zealand. In making this proposal, New Zealand noted that the lack of consensus at this meeting on a TAC reduction in 2006 or 2007 consistent with the advice of the SC was due to the inability of one Member to commit to a specific TAC reduction in 2007 as it needed to complete its domestic consultation process. New Zealand suggested that a Special Meeting early next year would allow time to complete this process, which would hopefully facilitate agreement on a specific TAC reduction for 2007 at CCSBT13.
62. New Zealand deeply regretted that consensus had not been reached on a TAC reduction for 2006 or 2007, which took into account the advice of the SC and that the lack of consensus on a reduced TAC as recommended by the Scientific Committee would not reflect well on the Extended Commission. It urged Members to ensure that at CCSBT13 the EC is able to demonstrate its ability to comprehensively address the very poor state of the stock, which currently threatens both the biological and economic viability of the fishery.
63. New Zealand stated that the Extended Commission could not walk away from a decision on the TAC, which took into account the advice of the SC and suggested that if the Extended Commission could work through this issue at an intersessional meeting this would send a positive message to the international community. New Zealand added that the EC had still to consider many issues associated with the TAC, which could be considered at the Special Meeting, particularly the implementation of earlier decisions of the Extended Commission on national allocations, as reflected in the CCSBT1 Mutual Understanding, the implementation of the Management Procedure, the catch monitoring and reporting and the Compliance Committee.

64. New Zealand noted that the report of this meeting does not link the independent review, referred to in paragraphs 129 to 133 of this report, to the need for a reduction in the TAC. It expressed its opinion that the review may inform the TAC decision but the key purpose of the Special Meeting would be to facilitate consensus on a TAC decision at CCSBT 13. New Zealand further noted the advice of the Chair of the Scientific Committee that if the independent review did not result in significant revisions to the information then the SC would not change its management advice, however, if the independent review did provide significant revisions or resulted in a request to evaluate alternative catch scenarios then the full SAG would be required to do the work and would be able to provide results in time for CCSBT 13 (October 2006).
65. New Zealand noted that because the Extended Commission had not been able to reach consensus on a TAC consistent with the advice of the SC, that New Zealand could not accept a simple rollover of the 2005 TAC in 2006 as such a decision, without a commitment to a specific reduction in the TAC in 2007, was totally inconsistent with the advice of the SC.
66. In the absence of agreement on a specific TAC reduction for 2006 or 2007 consistent with the SC's advice, pursuant to Article 8(3)(b) the Extended Commission agreed that Members' and Cooperating Non-Members' catch limits for 2006 would not exceed the levels agreed for 2005, as set out in paragraph 36 of CCSBT11 Meeting Report. Members reinforced their strong commitment to a reduction of SBT catch in 2007. The Extended Commission agreed that this decision constituted the 12-months lead time required for the implementation of TAC changes. These issues will be further pursued at a Special Meeting of the Extended Commission in July 2006.
67. The Extended Commission emphasised that the rebuilding of the SBT spawning stock and reducing the risk of further decline of the spawning stock is critical for the Commission. In this context and in adopting the recommendations of the Scientific Committee the Members agreed in relation to total allowable catch and its allocation to take the following actions:
- Implementation of a management procedure including adoption of CMP_2;
 - Commitment to the timely provision of accurate data to ensure effective operation of the MP;
 - Agreement to a Special Meeting of the Extended Commission in July 2006 to work towards a consensus on reduction of SBT catch for 2007;
 - Continuation of the 50 tonne catch limit for the Philippines for 2006;
 - Offering a 45 tonne catch limit to South Africa; and
 - Setting aside an 800 tonne catch limit for Indonesia should it decide to reverse its position and apply to become a Cooperating Non-Member.
68. The SC report linked the recommended catch reductions to the implementation of a management procedure. Subsequent adjustments to catch levels being determined by a management procedure were discussed under item 8.

Agenda Item 8. Management Procedure

69. Members agreed to the Management Procedure recommended by the SC (referenced in the SC10 Report as CMP_2). The draft specification of this Management Procedure is at Attachment 6 of the Report of the Tenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee. The Extended Commission agreed that resolution of the matters identified in the shaded areas of the text of the draft specification must be resolved by the Extended Scientific Committee at its next meeting.
70. The Extended Commission noted the advice of the Scientific Committee that performance of the Management Procedure was dependent on the quality of input data and their request that appropriate mechanisms be put in place to collect and validate the required data. The Commission recognised the need for a commitment by all Members to the timely provision of accurate validated data to ensure the MP performed as expected.
71. It was recognised that implementation of the selected management procedure was linked to the decision on the initial catch reduction recommended by the SC. In this context it was agreed that if an initial catch reduction was adopted for implementation in 2007, the first catch reduction required by the Management Procedure would occur in 2009, as envisaged under implementation Schedule E described in the SAG 6 report.

Agenda Item 9. Cooperating Non-Members

72. The Executive Secretary presented paper CCSBT-EC/0510/12 regarding Cooperating Non-Members and also advised the Extended Commission of a letter received from South Africa on 8 October 2005 requesting a catch allocation totalling 60t from the CCSBT and providing catch information for 2004.
73. The Extended Commission noted that the Philippines was complying with its obligations as a Cooperating Non-Member and agreed to continue the Philippines status as a Cooperating Non-Member. The Philippines made a commitment to continue to refine its reporting on the SBT activities it was undertaking and to keep its catch within the limit agreed by the Extended Commission.
74. Members discussed the allocation requested by South Africa. The discussion included South Africa's current and past catch levels, its status as a range state for SBT, the importance of its participation in the Extended Commission, the previous TAC offered to South Africa and the recent poor response from South Africa to requests from the Secretariat for catch information. The current low spawning biomass of the SBT stock and the need for catch reductions in the SBT fishery were also discussed. Following the discussion, Members agreed to make a final offer of 45 tonne catch limit to South Africa as a condition of it becoming a Cooperating Non-Member of the Extended Commission.
75. Members considered whether there was need for a resolution to extend the status of Cooperating Non-Members of the Extended Commissions to become Cooperating Non-Members of the Commission. It was agreed that there was no need to have a separate Commission Resolution on Cooperating Non-Member status.

Agenda Item 10. Indonesian Catch Monitoring

76. The Executive Secretary presented paper CCSBT-EC/0510/13 concerning catch monitoring in Indonesia.
77. Members re-iterated the view stated at CCSBT 11 that it was extremely important that the catch monitoring system in Indonesia be continued.
78. It was noted that the current arrangement of Australia funding monitoring in Benoa and Japan funding monitoring in Cilacap and Jakarta would continue till March 2007. A review of these arrangements would be conducted in late 2006.
79. Indonesia advised that:
 - It was grateful for assistance provided to catch monitoring by CCSBT Members;
 - It is serious about its commitment to tuna fisheries and has recently establish a Tuna Commission for these fisheries; and
 - There is some uncertainty over the current estimates for the 2005 catch due to transhipping of catches and the impact this may have on catch estimates from IOTC sampling. Some further discussion with the IOTC is required before finalising these catch estimates.

Agenda Item 11. Review of Regional Fisheries Management Bodies

80. The Executive Secretary presented paper CCSBT-EC/0510/14, which outlined the Extended Commission's consideration a range of options for the CCSBT's involvement in international forums that may review the effectiveness of regional fisheries management organisations (RFMO).
81. Australia apprised the Extended Commission of the background to the proposed review of RFMO effectiveness and the discussion at COFI where the process was formalised. Australia explained that a High Seas Task Force has a process underway to benchmark RFMOs against Article 10 of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement. It was emphasised that the process was not a scoring system in regard to performance but rather a methodology for encouraging continual improvement. The CCSBT should be involved in these activities.
82. Taiwan noted that the CCSBT rotation policy meant that the CCSBT needs to rely on the Secretariat to represent it intersessionally and noted that there would be a number of meetings in 2006 where such representation is important.
83. Japan advised the Extended Commission that it would host a joint meeting of the tuna RFMOs in Japan on 22-26 January 2007. A draft agenda will be circulated to interested parties in the near future.
84. New Zealand advised of its continuing support for activities that improved the transparency and effectiveness of RFMOs and agreed that the Secretariat needs to be involved because it will be able to give an operational perspective to deliberations. New Zealand noted that when representing the CCSBT, the Secretariat needed to keep Members fully informed of contributions it was giving

in the various review forums as such contributions represented the consolidated opinions and experience of Members.

85. Korea supported a role for the Secretariat, particularly as some of the CCSBT's Asian Members had not yet signed the Fish Stocks Agreement and the proposed reviews would be benchmarking against the provisions of that Agreement.
86. The Extended Commission agreed that The Secretariat should be fully involved and represent it in RFMO review activities to be held in 2006 and 2007 and, when involved, should keep Members and Cooperating Non-Members fully informed.

Agenda Item 12. Catch Monitoring System

12.1 and 12.2 Catch Documentation and Trade Information Schemes

87. Australia proposed that the Trade Information Scheme (TIS) be replaced by a Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) that would record all catches of SBT regardless of whether the SBT were traded. This would provide transparency and give assurance to all Members on the accuracy of catch data.
88. New Zealand supported the proposal to introduce a comprehensive CDS, in addition to strengthening the TIS, to catch trade with non-members, non-exported SBT and domestic consumption. It noted that the adoption of a CDS would give comprehensive coverage of catch and trade, which would improve the credibility and functionality of the Extended Commission. New Zealand urged all Members to comply with their obligations to provide accurate data to the Extended Commission.
89. The other Members noted the need to strengthen catch monitoring systems, but were concerned about the practicality, complexity and costs of such a system. They felt there needed to be a demonstrated requirement for a CDS before such a system could be implemented.
90. Members agreed that a technical working group would consider the principles that would underlie a CCSBT CDS. The group reported that the principles for a CCSBT CDS should be:
 - Provides an accurate and timely record of the catch of Member and Cooperating Non-Member States consistent with Article 5 of the Convention;
 - Provides for traceability of legitimate product flow to the point of first sale (including auction) for domestic markets or, alternatively, for product being exported;
 - Provides validation of the catch reporting regime;
 - Provides a means of identifying and quantifying the catches of non-cooperating states;
 - Provides tools to restrict the trade of non-cooperating non-members;
 - Is compatible with systems in place for other tuna RFMOs and takes into account the potential for a global catch monitoring regime;
 - Is cost effective;

- Is tested for practicality with knowledgeable and acceptable industry representatives from each sector;
- Confidentiality of information is ensured;
- Has a performance measure that the CDS must be capable of accounting for at least 95% of all sources of fishing mortality of southern bluefin tuna;
- Must be a compatible part of monthly catch reporting;
- Would include port documentation and transfer/transshipping documentation capable of trace back to catching vessels; and
- Must be introduced to all fishery sectors in an equitable manner.

12.3 International Observer Program

91. Australia proposed that an international observer program (IOP) was required to provide transparency and to demonstrate that the data are accurate and a true reflection of what is happening in the fishery. Australia advised that similar systems were operated by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the South Pacific Commission (SPC), the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the IOTC also had an IOP for transshipping vessels. Korea strongly supported the proposal for an IOP to provide greater confidence in the data provided by Members.
92. New Zealand was supportive of an IOP, but felt that scoping work was required before deciding on an IOP.
93. Taiwan noted it was difficult at this stage to have an IOP under the Extended Commission, considering the cultural and language barriers that may exist between Taiwanese crew and the assigned international observers.
94. Japan was not convinced on the need for an IOP within CCSBT and there was a need to consider cost effectiveness of an IOP and other enforcement measures. Japan noted that it was considering an observer program for transshipment vessels.
95. The Extended Commission agreed that the Secretariat would prepare a discussion paper on the issues relevant to the establishment of an IOP for the CCSBT. This document would include:
 - The necessity for an IOP;
 - An analysis of other RFMO IOPs; and
 - The logistics of implementing an IOP in CCSBT.

12.4 Monthly Catch Reporting to the CCSBT

96. Members agreed to implement monthly catch reporting for SBT. It was agreed that Members would provide catch data to the Secretariat on a monthly basis and that this data would be provided no later than one month after the month in which fishing occurred.
97. A technical working group met to agree on the details of the data to be provided as part of monthly catch reporting. The technical group agreed to the following recommendations and these were adopted by the Extended Commission:

- That the primary purpose of monthly catch reporting should be to improve the management and the compliance regimes for the fishery. While in the longer term there would be some useful scientific data that may be able to be provided, at this stage this would not be an objective of the program.
- As an initial step the monthly catch reporting system should be implemented from 1 January 2006.
- Under the monthly catch reporting system, each month each Member and Cooperating Non-Member will provide:
 - total catch for the month; and
 - total cumulative catch for the year to date.
- Reports are to be made to the Secretariat no later than the last day of the following month.
- Some members of the technical working group sought to have more information, or fine scale information provided (eg effort, discards, reporting by boat or statistical area), however, the technical working group acknowledged that not all Members are in the position to readily collect that information and some time is required to evaluate the usefulness of the data provided in addressing core objectives. Hence, the technical working group recommended that all aspects of the monthly catch reporting system be reviewed by the Commission at CCSBT13.

12.5 Reporting of Fine Scale Shot-by-Shot Data to the CCSBT

98. Australia proposed that fine scale shot-by-shot data be provided on a confidential basis to the Secretariat for the Data Manager to analyse and that these data be made available to the independent panel when appropriate. New Zealand supported the proposal for provision of these data and indicated it could provide that data under existing systems.
99. The SC Chair advised that the SC had not been able to resolve two data provision issues, these being: (1) Provision of catch information on bycatch species; and (2) Provision of data at a 1x1 degree resolution. The SC had not considered provision of fine scale shot-by-shot data for current analyses. However, data on a 1 degree resolution was important for further work to be conducted on developing an improved CPUE index for SBT and for one of the CPUE indices (ST Windows) required by the Management Procedure.
100. Japan acknowledged the importance of transparency but that it needed to be balanced against the confidentiality of data. Japan noted that there were a number of options for providing access to the necessary 1x1 data. These included someone (e.g. from the Secretariat) conducting the calculations in Japan and bringing back the results of the calculations without retaining a copy of the data. Japan stated that such a process would balance transparency and confidentiality.

Agenda Item 13. Compliance Committee

13.1 Activation of Compliance Committee

101. The Extended Commission considered the activation of the Compliance Committee agreed to at CCSBT4 in 1997. Members noted that the Compliance Committee was important in ensuring Members and Cooperating Non-Members were in compliance with Extended Commission decisions and to provide assurance to all Members, and to review activities on non-members fishing SBT.
102. The Extended Commission concurred that the existing terms of reference agreed at CCSBT 4 by the Commission applies to the Extended Commission under the terms of the resolution, which created the Extended Commission.
103. It was noted, however that because the terms of reference were agreed eight years ago and that circumstances have changed, they may require updating.
104. The appointment of a Chair for the Compliance Committee was discussed. Two options were considered – a rotation arrangement where the Vice-Chair of the Extended Commission would fill the position of Compliance Committee Chair, or an appointment of an individual for a fixed period.
105. It was agreed:
 - To activate the Compliance Committee with existing terms of reference.
 - The Compliance Committee would meet in association with the annual meeting.
 - The rules of procedure would be those for the Extended Commission but that the Compliance Committee could choose to adopt its own rules of procedure if necessary.
 - The terms of reference would be amended to reflect contemporary circumstances and that this would be undertaken intersessionally.
 - A list of work priorities would be developed intersessionally. These priorities will serve as the basis for opening the discussion of the first meeting of the Compliance Committee in association with CCSBT 13.
 - The Chair would be appointed for two years with an extension of two years if agreed by the Extended Commission. Someone with relevant background would be appointed to the position given the special nature of the Compliance Committee's work. The Chair would supervise the intersessional development of the terms of reference and work priorities.
 - That a representative from New Zealand would Chair the Compliance Committee. New Zealand would advise the Commission as soon as possible as to who the Chair would be. It noted that the person would be a senior official with considerable fisheries management and compliance experience.

Agenda Item 14. Quota Trading

106. Korea, as the Member most interested in quota trading, asked other Members for their views on trading of quota.

107. Members other than Korea were not generally disposed towards quota trading in the current situation of the SBT stock and where Members were considering a reduction in catches. Interest was expressed in developing a set of principles that might be applied in the CCSBT, which would cover all forms of fishing quota such as joint ventures, quota leasing, quota trading and chartering. However, this was not seen as a priority at this time.
108. Quota trading/chartering/joint venture arrangements, including the situation in the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), were also discussed as a guide for the development of a CCSBT policy if this course was eventually adopted by the Extended Commission.
109. The Executive Secretary advised the Extended Commission that in his opinion the independent legal advice obtained by the Extended Commission for CCSBT 11 and the terms of the Convention allowed the interpretation that:
- any quota trading or quota leasing arrangements either with Members or non-members would require a decision of the Extended Commission and a framework agreed by the Extended Commission;
 - it was possible for a Member to enter into charter arrangements or joint venture arrangements but any quota used for this purpose would have to be counted against the Member and that Member would be responsible for full compliance with the reporting, vessel register, conservation and management requirements of the Extended Commission; and
 - Members could enter into bilateral access arrangements into a Member's EEZ without requiring the approval of the Extended Commission, but these should be advised to the Extended Commission.
110. By way of example, the Executive Secretary advised that it would be possible for Korea to enter into an arrangement with Australia to fish its quota in Australia's EEZ under a chartering agreement but Korea would be fully responsible for the catch.
111. The Extended Commission decided not to respond to Korea's request by agreeing to general rules for quota trading. However, it was noted that Korea would develop a set of principles and guidelines for consideration at CCSBT 13.

Agenda Item 15. Intersessional Decisions

112. The Extended Commission considered an amendment to Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure to provide for the use of modern communication systems for intersessional decision making as set out in CCSBT-EC/0510/18.
113. It was agreed to amend the Rules of Procedure as follows recalling the criteria listed in paragraph 76 of the report of CCSBT 11, in particular, noting that intersessional decision making is intended only for exceptional circumstances:
- “5. Where necessary when the Commission is not in session, decisions of the Commission shall be taken by a unanimous vote of the Members. The vote will be organised by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chair using the post, facsimile or e-mail. The decision will be formally recorded by the Executive Secretary in a format agreed by the Commission

and circulated to Members. In circumstances where the Chair is satisfied that a Member has received a proposal, and that Member has not responded within 21 days to the proposal, the Member shall be taken to have responded to that proposal in the affirmative.”

Agenda Item 16. Executive Secretary

114. The Executive Secretary and the Deputy Executive Secretary contracts expire in February and May 2006.
115. It was agreed to extend the term of the Executive Secretary for one year (to October 2006) to allow time for recruitment of a new Executive Secretary. The process to appoint a new Executive Secretary should include advertising in the international press and a transparent selection process against agreed criteria.
116. It was further agreed that the recruitment process for the new Executive Secretary would commence immediately. In particular that the current Executive Secretary would circulate the proposed process, including a job specification as soon as possible.

Agenda Item 17. Action Plan

117. The Executive Secretary presented paper CCSBT-EC/0510/20 concerning the Action Plan.
118. With respect to Indonesia, the Extended Commission noted that the CCSBT resolution on IUU fishing and establishment of a CCSBT record of vessels has effectively imposed trade restriction measures on Indonesia, which is equivalent to that in Paragraph 6 of the Action Plan. It was agreed that the Executive Secretary would write to Indonesia explaining that Indonesia will continue to be excluded from markets because of its refusal to formally become a Cooperating Non-Member of the Extended Commission.
119. The Extended Commission agreed to invoke Paragraph 1 of the Action Plan for China. The Executive Secretary will write to China, advising China of the Action Plan and seeking its cooperation with the CCSBT.
120. Australia noted that only a small percentage of the Indonesia SBT ends up on the Japanese market and requested further information on the destination of Indonesian caught SBT. Indonesia and the Executive Secretary advised that export reject SBT is both canned and sold on the fresh fish market in Indonesia.

Agenda Item 18. Ecologically Related Species (ERS)

121. Discussion was held on the need for the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG) to provide management related advice to the Extended Commission on ERS matters. Items 4, 5 and 6 of the ERSWG terms of reference allows for the provision of such advice. It was also noted that if advice was not forthcoming from the ERSWG, then consideration would need to be given as to

whether it would be better to discuss ERS issues as part of annual meetings of the Extended Commission than as a stand alone group.

122. The SC Chair advised that SC9 noted the similarity in debates taking place at the ERSWG and the SC regarding data requirements for addressing the respective terms of reference of these groups and problems associated with providing by-catch data. SC9 agreed that “there is increasing awareness of the need for data on other species by-catch to understand important issues related to fleet behaviour patterns and their effects on SBT management”. Mr Penney also advised that:

- The most important part of the CCSBT Scientific Research Plan (Characterisation of the SBT Catch) recommends the collection of information on the catch of other tuna and other tuna like species, but that there has been no progress on agreeing to the provision of by-catch data as part of the regular data submission requirements.
- This issue on provision of data on bycatch species has been tossed back and forward between ERSWG and SC and no progress has been made. The SC had therefore referred this issue to the Commission for their attention. The SC also requested that the importance of these data be brought to the attention of the ERSWG.
- The recommended MP relies on CPUE data in making TAC recommendations. Changes in targeting that may impact on the CPUE therefore need to be well understood so that we do not incorrectly interpret changes in CPUE.

123. There was general agreement on the importance of information on bycatch species to aid with interpretation of CPUE data.

Agenda Item 19. Research Mortality Allowance

124. Members agreed to the Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) and SRP Mortality Allowance (SRPMA) proposals for 2005/06 that were specified in CCSBT-EC/0510/21. These are:

- RMA – Japan (1 tonne);
- SRPMA – CCSBT surface fishery tagging (8 tonnes);
- SRPMA – Japan’s high seas tagging (10 tonnes);
- SRPMA – Australia’s archival tagging in its east coast fishery and the eastern Indian Ocean (15 tonnes);
- SRPMA – Australia’s Global Spatial Dynamics Archival Tagging Program (12 tonnes);
- SRPMA – New Zealand’s participation in the Australia’s Global Spatial Dynamics Archival Tagging Program (5 tonnes)

Agenda Item 20. Activities with Other Organisations

125. Members endorsed the activities and interactions with other organisations proposed in CCSBT-EC/0510/22. Taiwan considered that attendance of the

Secretariat at the Review Conference of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement in 2006 and its PrepCon in New York in March and May 2006 were particularly important.

126. The Extended Commission agreed that the CCSBT should have the primary responsibility for managing SBT throughout its range when there is an overlap in responsibility between RFMO's. This principle has previously been agreed with the IOTC and ICCAT. The Extended Commission agreed that the Executive Secretary would correspond with both CCAMLR and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) on this issue seeking their agreement that CCSBT have the primary management responsibility for SBT. It was noted that the vessels approved by the CCSBT to fish for SBT are recorded on the CCSBT authorised vessel list which is publicly available on the CCSBT web site. It is therefore a simple matter for other RFMOs to identify vessels that have been approved to fish for SBT.

Agenda Item 21. Program of Work for 2006

127. The agreed program of work for 2006 is at **Attachment 10**.

Agenda Item 22. Confidentiality of Commission Documents

128. The Extended Commission agreed that all documents produced for CCSBT 12, with the exception of the national report from Korea, could be made publicly available.

Agenda Item 23. Other Business

129. The Extended Commission noted the two papers submitted by Australia (CCSBT-EC/0510/25) and Japan (CCSBT-EC/0510/29). The Extended Commission welcomed the decision of Australia and Japan that independent reviews will be undertaken of the Japanese SBT market data anomalies and the Australian SBT farming operation anomalies at Port Lincoln to determine whether or not over-catching is occurring relative to the total allowable catch, and if it is occurring, over what period the over-catch has occurred and the source of the over-catch.
130. The reviews will also include the current catch monitoring and reporting arrangements in the Australian SBT farming operation and Japanese SBT fishery, and other relevant SBT fisheries, to assess if over-catching is occurring and the suitability and accuracy of that monitoring and reporting.
131. The results from the independent reviews will be submitted to the Extended Scientific Committee and Extended Commission, including, if applicable, the size and age structure of any over-catch, so that this information can be included in a revised stock assessment.
132. The reviews will be conducted in such a way as to ensure transparency, independence and accuracy. The reviews will be undertaken by panels agreed by

Australia and Japan and to be supported by the Extended Commission. The Members of the Extended Commission stated their intention to cooperate fully with the independent review panels.

133. The Extended Commission noted that the time of the independent reviews is critical and should start as soon as practicable, and be finalised by 30 June 2006 at the latest in order that the Extended Scientific Committee can assess the results and the Extended Commission may make decisions on the results and advice at the 2006 annual meeting.

Agenda Item 24. Close of Meeting

24.1 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the 5th Meeting of the Extended Commission

134. The Extended Commission agreed that Japan should host and Chair the Fifth Meeting of the Extended Commission, and Australia will act as Vice-Chair. Japan advised it would nominate a person soon. Australia nominated Mr Glen Hurry.
135. For the Special Meeting the Extended Commission will agree on a Chair intersessionally early in 2006.

24.2 Adoption of Report

136. The report was adopted.

24.3 Close of meeting

137. The meeting closed at 5:45 pm, 14 October 2005.

List of Attachments

Attachment

- 1 List of Participants
- 2 Agenda
- 3 List of Documents
- 4 Opening Statements by Members
- 5 Opening Statements by Cooperating Non Members
- 6 Opening Statements by Other States and Entities
- 7 Revised budget for 2004 and budget for 2005
- 8 Review of SBT Fisheries – Reports from Members of the Extended Commission and Cooperating Non Members
- 9 Report of the Scientific Committee
- 10 CCSBT Workplan for 2006

List of Participants
Extended Commission of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission
11-14 October 2005
Taipei, Taiwan

CHAIR

Mr. James SHA
Deputy Director-General
Fisheries Agency
No.2, Chaochow St.
TAIPEI, TAIWAN 100
Phone: +886 2 3343 6012
Fax: +886 2 2341 1953
Email: james@msl.f.a.gov.tw

Dr James FINDLAY
A/g Program Leader
Fisheries & Marine Science Program
Bureau of Rural Science
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 5534
Fax: +61 2 6272 3882
Email: James.Findlay@brs.gov.au

SC CHAIR

Mr Andrew PENNEY
Pisces Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd
22 Forest Glade
Tokai Road, Tokai 7945
South Africa
Phone: +27 21 7154238
Fax: +27 21 7150563
Email: apenney@pisces.co.za

Mr Stephen ROWCLIFFE
International Fisheries
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 3871
Fax: +61 2 6272 4875
Email: Stephen.Rowcliffe@daff.gov.au

AUSTRALIA

Mr Glenn HURRY
(Head of Delegation)
A/g Executive Manager
Fisheries & Forestry
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6272 5777
Fax: +61 2 6272 4875
Email: Glenn.Hurry@daff.gov.au

Mr Andrew BUCKLEY
International Fisheries
Dept. of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
GPO Box 858
Canberra ACT 2602
Phone: +61 2 6272 4647
Fax: +61 2 6272 4875
Email: Andrew.Buckley@daff.gov.au

Dr John GUNN
Deputy Chief
Marine and Atmospheric Research
CSIRO
GPO Box 1538
Hobart, TAS 1538
Phone: +61 3 6232 5375
Fax: +61 3 6232 5125
Email: John.Gunn@csiro.au

Mr Richard McLOUGHLIN
Managing Director
Australian Fisheries Management Authority
PO Box 7051
Canberra Mail Centre
Canberra, ACT 2610
Phone: +61 2 6272 4668
Fax: +61 2 6272 5036
Email: Richard.McLoughlin@afma.gov.au

Ms Trysh STONE
Senior Manager
Tuna & International
Australian Fisheries Management Authority
PO Box 7051
Canberra Mail Centre
Canberra, ACT 2610
Phone: +61 2 6272 5381
Fax: +61 2 6272 4614
Email: Trysh.Stone@afma.gov.au

Mr Andrew McNEE
Assistant Secretary
Marine Environment Branch
Dept. of Environment and Heritage
GPO Box 787
Canberra, ACT 2601
Phone: +61 2 6274 2462
Fax: +61 2 6274 1542
Email: Andrew.McNee@deh.gov.au

Mr Philip KIMPTON
Executive Officer
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade
R G Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Phone: +61 2 6261 3124
Fax: +61 2 6261 2144
Email: Philip.Kimpton@dfat.gov.au

Mr Brian JEFFRIESS
President
Tuna Boat Owners Association
PO Box 416
Fullarton, SA 5063
Phone: +61 8 8373 2507
Fax: +61 8 8373 2508
Email: austuna@bigpond.com

Mr Benedict D HUR
Managing Director
Dae Young Fisheries P/L
Unit 9/240, Longueville Rd.
Lane Cove
NSW 2066
Phone: +61 2 9420 4002
Fax: +61 2 9420 3834
Email: daeyoung@bigpond.net.au

Mr Yong Man KIM
Ship Agencies Australia
PO Box 1093
Fremantle WA 6959
Phone: +61 2 9789 3577
Fax: +61 2
Email: kimsan@saa.com.au

Mr Murray KONARIK
Managing Director
MG Kalis Seafoods
50 Mews St.
Fremantle WA 6959
Phone: +61 8 9239 9217
Fax: +61 8 9239 9222
Email: murraykonarik@kalis.com.au

Mr Shane PHILLIPS
Stolt Sea Farm P/L
PO Box 1607
Port Lincoln, SA 5606
Phone: +61 8 8682 5577
Fax: +61 8 8682 6593
Email: shane.phillips@stoltseafarm.com

Mr Joe PUGLISI
Stolt Sea Farm P/L
17 Blacker Court
Port Lincoln, SA 5606
Phone: +61 8 8682 8777
Fax: +61 8 8682 8776
Email: dojopuglisi@bigpond.com

Mr Terry ROMARO
Managing Director
Ship Agencies Australia
PO Box 1093
Fremantle WA 6959
Phone: +61 8 9335 5499
Fax: +61 8 9335 5045
Email: terry@saa.com.au

Mr Tony SANTIC
Tony's Tuna International
Pine Freezer Rd
Port Lincoln, SA 5606
Phone: +61 8 8682 2266
Fax: +61 8 8683 0646
Email: tuna@tonystuna.com.au

Mr Michael THOMAS
Australian Fishing Enterprises P/L
PO Box 1073
Port Lincoln, SA 5606
Phone: +61 8 8682 5711
Fax: +61 8 8682 6987
Email: afe1@bigpond.com

Mr Mario VALCIC
Marnikol Fisheries P/L
PO Box 10
Port Lincoln, SA 5606
Phone: +61 8 8683 3900
Fax: +61 8 8683 3988
Email: marnikol@bigpond.net.au

FISHING ENTITY OF TAIWAN

Mr Hong-Yen HUANG
(Head of Delegation)
Deputy Director
Planning Division
Fisheries Agency
No.2, Chaochow St.
Taipei, TAIWAN 100
Phone: +886 2 3343 6021
Fax: +886 2 3343 6268
Email: hangyen@msl.f.gov.tw

Mr Azmi CHANG
Director on Home Assignment
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2029
Fax: +886 2 2389 6314
Email: awlchang@mofa.gov.tw

Mr Jung-Yung CHEN
Director on Home Assignment
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2544
Fax: +886 2 2361 7694
Email: jychen@mofa.gov.tw

Mr Kuo-Ching PU
Assistant Director-General
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2222
Fax: +886 2 2312 1161
Email: kcpu@mofa.gov.tw

Mr Shinn-Charng WU
Senior Specialist
Fisheries Agency
No.2, Chaochow St.
Taipei, TAIWAN 100
Phone: +886 2 3343 6113
Fax: +886 2 3343 6268
Email: shicharn@msl.f.gov.tw

Mr Cho-Jan TENG
Unit Chief
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2542
Fax: +886 2 2361 7694
Email: cjteng@mofa.gov.tw

Mr Shue-i HUANG
Section Chief
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2824
Fax: +886 2 2389 6314
Email: sihuang@mofa.gov.tw

Ms Li-Fang HUANG
Section Chief
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2526
Fax: +886 2 2361 7694
Email: lfhuang@mofa.gov.tw

Mr Yu-Yi HUANG
Section Chief
Fisheries Agency
No.2, Chaochow St.
Taipei, TAIWAN 100
Phone: +886 2 3343 6037
Fax: +886 2 3343 6268
Email: yuyi@msl.f.gov.tw

Mr Ted Tien-Hsiang TSAI
Section Chief
Fisheries Agency
No.2, Chaochow St.
Taipei, TAIWAN 100
Phone: +886 2 3343 6119
Fax: +886 2 3343 6268
Email: ted@msl.f.gov.tw

Ms Shiu-Ling LIN
Specialist
Fisheries Agency
No.2, Chaochow St.,
Taipei, TAIWAN 100
Taiwan
Phone: +886 2 3343 6129
Fax: +886 2 3343 6268
Email: shiuling@msl.f.gov.tw

Ms Catherine Ruhuei CHENG
Desk Officer
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2830
Fax: +886 2 2389 6314
Email: rhccheng@mofa.gov.tw

Mr Han-Ching LIU
Second Secretary on Home Assignment
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2268
Fax: +886 2 2361 7694
Email: hcliu@mofa.gov.tw

Ms Wenlin CHENG
Second Secretary on Home Assignment
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2545
Fax: +886 2 2361 7694
Email: wecheng@mofa.gov.tw

Mr Yu SHANG
Second Secretary on Home Assignment
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2527
Fax: +886 2 2361 7694
Email: yshang@mofa.gov.tw

Mr Samuel S.S.LIU
Second Secretary on Home Assignment
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2, Kaitakelan Blvd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2348 2528
Fax: +886 2 2361 7694
Email: sslu@mofa.gov.tw

Mr. Peter S.C. HO
President
Overseas Fisheries Development Council
19 Lane 113, Sec.4,
Roosevelt Rd, Taipei 106
TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2738 2478(EXT.100)
Fax: +886 2 2738 4329
Email: pscho@ofdc.org.tw

Professor Chin-Hwa SUN (Jenny)
Professor and Director
Institute of Applied Economics,
National Taiwan Ocean University
2 Pei-Ning Road, Keelung 20224
Taiwan
Phone: +886 2 2462 2324
Fax: +886 2 2462 7396
Email: jsun@mail.ntou.edu.tw

Dr Huang-Chih CHIANG
Associate Professor
Law School
National Taiwan University
No.1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Rd.
Taipei, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2351 9641
Fax: +886 2 2351 7301
Email: una144@sun4.cpu.edu.tw

Mr. Bryan YEN
Secretary
Overseas Fisheries Development Council
19 Lane 113, Sec.4,
Roosevelt Rd, Taipei 106
TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2738 1522(EXT.136)
Fax: +886 2 2738 4329
Email: bryanyen@ofdc.org.tw

Mr Hsin-Wei KO
Secretary
Overseas Fisheries Development Council
19 Lane 113, Sec.4,
Roosevelt Rd, Taipei 106
TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2738 1522(EXT.133)
Fax: +886 2 2738 4329
Email: hsinwei@ofdc.org.tw

Ms Lucy LIN
Fisheries Statistician
Overseas Fisheries Development Council
19 Lane 113, Sec.4,
Roosevelt Rd, Taipei 106
TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2738 1522(EXT.123)
Fax: +886 2 2738 4329
Email: lucylin@ofdc.org.tw

Mr. Shyh-Jium WANG
Fisheries Statistician
Overseas Fisheries Development Council
19 Lane 113, Sec.4,
Roosevelt Rd, Taipei 106
TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2738 1522(EXT.116)
Fax: +886 2 2738 4329
Email: shyhjium@ofdc.org.tw

Mr Wen-Jung HSIEH
Chairman of Indian Ocean Operational
Committee
Taiwan Deep Sea Tuna Boat-Owners and
Exporters Association
3F-2, No.2 Yu-Kang Middle 1st Rd.
Kaohsiung, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 7 8312151
Fax: +886 7 8417519
Email: siunion.fishery@msa.hinet.net

Mr I-Chih HUNG
Secretary
Taiwan Deep Sea Tuna Boat-Owners and
Exporters Association
3F-2, No.2 Yu-Kang Middle 1st Rd.
Kaohsiung, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 7 8419606
Fax: +886 7 8313304
Email: allen@tuna.org.tw

Mr Kuan-Ting LEE
Secretary
Taiwan Deep Sea Tuna Boat-Owners and
Exporters Association
3F-2, No.2 Yu-Kang Middle 1st Rd.
Kaohsiung, TAIWAN
Phone: +886 7 8419606(EXT.21)
Fax: +886 7 8313304
Email: simon@tuna.org.tw

JAPAN

Mr Yoshimi SUENAGA
(Head of Delegation)
Councillor
Fisheries Agency of Japan
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 2045
Fax: +81 3 3502 0571
Email: yoshimi_suenaga@nm.maff.go.jp

Mr Takaaki SAKAMOTO
Assistant Director
Fisheries Agency of Japan
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 1086
Fax: +81 3 3502 0571
Email: takaaki_sakamoto@nm.maff.go.jp

Mr Shingo KUROHAGI
Deputy Director
Fisheries Agency
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3502 8479
Fax: +81 3 3591 5824
Email: shingo_kurohagi@nm.maff.go.jp

Mr Katsumasa MIYAUCHI
Planner
Fisheries Agency of Japan
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8907
Phone: +81 3 3591 6582
Fax: +81 3 3595 7332
Email: km3120@hotmail.com

Dr Naozumi MIYABE
Section Chief
Biological Mathematics Section
National Research Institute of
Far Seas Fisheries
5-7-1 Shimizu-Orido, Shizuoka 424-8633
Phone: +81 543 36 6014
Fax: +81 543 35 9642
Email: miyabe@fra.affrc.go.jp

Dr Tomoyuki ITOH
Senior Researcher
Temperate Tuna Section
National Research Institute of
Far Seas Fisheries
5-7-1 Shimizu-Orido, Shizuoka 424-8633
Phone: +81 543 36 6043
Fax: +81 543 35 9642
Email: itou@affrc.go.jp

Mr Hideto WATANABE
Fisheries Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8917
Phone: +81 3 5501 8338
Fax: +81 3 5501 8332
Email: hideo.watanabe@mofa.go.jp

Mr Noriyuki SUZUKI
Adviser
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0073
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: gyojyo@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Tokuichi NISHIKAWA
Adviser
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0073
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: gyojyo@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Hiroshi HANEDA
Adviser
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0073
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: gyojyo@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Osamu SHIRAKAWA
Advisor
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0073
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: gyojyo@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Hiroaki KATSUKURA
Adviser
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0073
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: gyojyo@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Kimio NISHIKAWA
Adviser
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0073
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: gyojyo@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Tatsuya HAYASAKI
Adviser
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0073
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: gyojyo@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Masahiro ISHIKAWA
President
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0073
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: gyojyo@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Nozomu MIURA
Section Chief
International Division
Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries
Cooperative Associations
3-22 Kudankita 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 102-0073
Phone: +81 3 3264 6167
Fax: +81 3 3234 7455
Email: miura@japantuna.or.jp

Mr Toshiaki KANAZAWA
Director
National Ocean Tuna Fisheries Association
Coop Bldg 7F
1-1-12 Uchikanda, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 101-8503
Phone: +81 3 3294 9633
Fax: +81 3 3296 1397
Email: k-higaki@zengyoren.jf-net.ne.jp

Mr Kosuke HIGAKI
Manager
National Ocean Tuna Fisheries Association
Coop Bldg 7F
1-1-12 Uchikanda, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 101-8503
Phone: +81 3 3294 9633
Fax: +81 3 3296 1397
Email: k-higaki@zengyoren.jf-net.ne.jp

Mr Hiroaki Tomobe
Director for Agricultural Affairs
Interchange Association (JAPAN) Taipei
Office
Tong Tai Plaza., 28 Ching Cheng St.
Taipei
Phone: +886 2 2713 8000(EXT2703)
Fax: +886 2 2713 0848
Email: tomobe@mail.japan-taipei.org.tw

NEW ZEALAND

Ms Emma WATERHOUSE
(Head of Delegation)
Senior Adviser
Ministry of Fisheries
PO Box 1020, Wellington
Phone: +64 4 470 2644
Fax: +64 4 470 2596
Email: emma.waterhouse@fish.govt.nz

Mr. Arthur HORE
Senior Fisheries Manager
Ministry of Fisheries
PO Box 1020, Wellington
Phone: +64 9 820 7686
Fax: +64 9 820 1980
Email: arthur.hore@fish.govt.nz

Ms Jen MCDONALD
Deputy Director
Legal Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Private Bag 18901, Wellington
Phone: +64 4 439 8430
Fax: +64 4 439 8103
Email: jen.mcdonald@mfat.govt.nz

Ms Amy LAURENSEN
Legal Adviser
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Private Bag 18901, Wellington
Phone: +64 4 439 8340
Fax: +64 4 439 8103
Email: amy.laurenson@mfat.govt.nz

Dr Shelton HARLEY
Principal Scientist
Ministry of Fisheries
PO Box 1020, Wellington
Phone: +64 4 494 8267
Fax: +64 4 494 8261
Email: shelton.harley@fish.govt.nz

Mr Charles HUFFLETT
Chairman
Solander Group
PO Box 5041, Cross Quay
Port Nelson
Phone: +64 3 545 9652
Fax: +64 3 545 9651
Email: cch@solander.co.nz

Ms Clare FEARNLEY
Director
NZ Commerce & Industry Office
Suite 2501, 25 F
No.333 Keelung Road
Section 1, Hsinyi District
TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2757 6725
Fax: +886 2 2757 6973
Email: clare.fearnley@mfat.govt.nz

Mr Robert KAIWAI
Deputy Director
NZ Commerce & Industry Office
Suite 2501, 25 F
No.333 Keelung Road
Section 1, Hsinyi District
TAIWAN
Phone: +886 2 2757 6725
Fax: +886 2 2757 6973
Email: robert.kaiwai@mfat.govt.nz

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Ki Hiok BARNG
(Head of delegation)
Director General
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
140-2 Gye-Dong, Jongno-Gu
Seoul 110-793
Phone: +82 2 3674 6150
Fax: +82 2 3674 6996
Email: khbarng@momaf.go.kr

Mr Oh Seung KWON
Assistant Director
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
140-2 Gye-Dong, Jongno-Gu
Seoul 110-793
Phone: +82 2 3674 6994
Fax: +82 2 3674 6996
Email: kos20@momaf.go.kr

Dr Kyu Jin SEOK
Scientist
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
140-2 Gye-Dong, Jongno-Gu
Seoul 110-793
Phone: +82 2 3674 6994
Fax: +82 2 3674 6996
Email: icdmomaf@chol.com

Dr Dae Yeon MOON
Director
National Fisheries Research &
Development Institute
408-1 Shirang-ri, Gijang-Up
Gijian-Gun, Busan 619-902
Phone: +82 51 720 2310
Fax: +82 51 720 2337
Email: dymoon@nfrdi.re.kr

Mr Chi Gon KIM
General Manager
Sajo Industries Co., Ltd.
157, 2ga, Chungjeong-ro
Seodaemun-gu, Seoul
Phone: +82 2 3277 1650
Fax: +82 2 365 6079
Email: tunaone@sajo.co.kr

Mr Hudson KIM
Managing Director
Marine Plus co., LTD
Daesung B/D 37-7 Jamwon-dong,
Seocho-ku Seoul, Korea
Phone: +82 2 548 9901
Fax: +82 2 548 8802
Email: hudkim@hotmail.com

Mr Yu Seok YUN
General Manager
Dongwon Industries Co., Ltd.
275, Yangjae-dong, Seocho-gu
Seoul
Phone: +82 2 589 3306
Fax: +82 2 589 4397
Email: ysyun@dw.co.kr

Ms. Hyeon-Ai Shin
Assistant Manager
Korea Deep Sea Fisheries Association
6fl. Samho Mulsan Building "A" 275-1,
Yangjae-don, Seoul
Phone: +82 2 589 1614
Fax: +82 2 589 1630
Email: fleur@kodefa.or.kr

Cooperating non-member

PHILIPPINES

Ambassador Alberto ENCOMIENDA
(Head of Delegation)
Secretary-General
Maritime and Ocean Affairs Center
Department of Foreign Affairs
Phone: +63 2 831 3177
Fax: +63 2 831 4767
Email: moac@dfa.gov.ph

Mr Gil ADORA
Regional Director
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic
Resources
Phone: +63 2 321 1732
Fax: +63 2 321 1732
Email: bfan@yhoo.com

Mr. Augusto NATIVIDAD
Vice Chairman,
Philippine Tuna Industry Council
SR. Vice-President, Frabelle Fishing
Corporation
Nabvotas, Metro Manila
Phone: +63 2 281 3122
Fax: +63 2 282 2771
Email: gus@frabelle.net

Mr. Richard SY
President
Philippine International Longline Asso.,
Inc
Rm. 701 Dasma Corporate Center
321 Dasmarinas St. Binondo
Manila
Phone: +63 2 244 5565
Fax: +63 2 244 5566
E-mail: sunwarm@tri-isys.com

Observer

INDONESIA

Mr Nilanto PERBOWO
Secretary
Directorate General of Capture Fisheries
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Phone: +62 21 351 9113 9070
Fax: +62 21 351 9113 9070
Email: perbowon@cbn.net.id

Mr Parlin TAMBUNAN
Director of Fisheries Resources
Directorate General of Capture Fisheries
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Phone: +62 21 781 1672
Fax: +62 21 781 1672
Email: dfrmdgf@indosat.net.id

Dr Purwito Martosubroto
Chairman
Indonesia Tuna Commission
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Phone: +62 21 352 1977
Fax: +62 21 788 37808
Email: sek_ti@yahoo.com

CCSBT SECRETARIAT

PO Box 37, Deakin West ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

Phone: +61 2 6282 8396

Fax: +61 2 6282 8407

Mr Brian MACDONALD

Executive Secretary

Email: bmacdonald@ccsbt.org

Mr Yukito NARISAWA

Deputy Executive Secretary

Email: ynarisawa@ccsbt.org

Mr Robert KENNEDY

Database Manager

Email: rkennedy@ccsbt.org

INTERPRETERS

Ms Saemi BABA

Ms Kumi KOIKE

Ms Megan SHIMOJI

Agenda
Extended Commission of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission
11-14 October 2005
Taipei, Taiwan

1. Opening of the Meeting
 - 1.1 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twelfth Meeting of the Commission
 - 1.2 Adoption of Agenda
 - 1.3 Opening Statements
 - 1.3.1 Members
 - 1.3.2 Cooperating non-members
 - 1.3.3 Other States and entities
2. Report from the Secretariat
3. Report from the Finance and Administration Committee
4. Relationship with Non-members
 - 4.1 Indonesia
 - 4.2 South Africa
 - 4.3 Others
5. Review of SBT Fisheries
6. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee
7. Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation
 - 7.1 Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation
 - 7.2 Other Measures
8. Management Procedure
9. Cooperating Non-members
10. Indonesian Catch Monitoring
11. Review of Regional Fisheries Management Bodies
12. Catch Monitoring System
 - 12.1 Catch Documentation Scheme
 - 12.2 Trade Information Scheme
 - 12.3 International Observer Program
 - 12.4 Monthly Catch Reporting to the CCSBT
 - 12.5 Reporting of Fine Scale Shot by Shot Data to the CCSBT

13. Compliance Committee
 - 13.1 Activation of Compliance Committee
 - 13.2 International Boarding and Inspection Regime
 - 13.3 CCSBT Administered Vessel Monitoring System
 - 13.4 Review of CCSBT Vessel Register
 - 13.5 Other Matters
14. Quota Trading
15. Intersessional Decisions
16. Executive Secretary
17. Action Plan
18. Ecologically Related Species
19. Research Mortality Allowance
20. Activities with Other Organisations
21. Program of Work for 2006
22. Confidentiality of Commission Documents
23. Other Business
24. Close of Meeting
 - 24.1 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the 5th Meeting of the Extended Commission
 - 24.2 Adoption of Report
 - 24.3 Close of meeting

List of Documents
The Extended Commission of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Commission

(CCSBT-EC/0510/)

01. Draft Agenda and the Annotation
02. List of Participants of Extended Commission and CCSBT12
03. Draft List of Documents
04. (Secretariat) Report from the Secretariat
05. (Secretariat) Revised 2005 Budget
06. (Secretariat) Draft 2006 Budget
07. (Secretariat) Relationship with Non-members
08. (Secretariat) Review of SBT Fisheries
09. (Secretariat) Report from the Extended Scientific Committee
10. (Secretariat) Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation
11. (Secretariat) Management Procedure
12. (Secretariat) Cooperating Non-members
13. (Secretariat) Indonesian Catch Monitoring
14. (Secretariat) Review of Regional Fisheries Management Bodies
15. (Secretariat) Catch Monitoring System
16. (Secretariat) Quota Trading
17. (Secretariat) Compliance Committee
18. (Secretariat) Intersessional Decisions
19. (Secretariat) Executive Secretary
20. (Secretariat) Action Plan
21. (Secretariat) Research Mortality Allowance
22. (Secretariat) Activities with Other Organisations
23. (Secretariat) Program of Work for 2006
24. (Secretariat) Confidentiality of Commission Documents
25. (Australia) Comparison of CCSBT catch data with Japanese auction sales of frozen SBT
26. (Australia) Implementation issues for the Management Procedure
27. (SC Chair) Report of the 6th Meeting of the Stock Assessment Group and the 10th Meeting of the Scientific Committee

28. (New Zealand) Arrangements for Adjusting for Overs and Unders.:
29. (Japan) Preliminary analysis on growth rates of farmed SBT through trade data and other related information.: JFA

(CCSBT-EC/0510/SBT Fisheries-)

Australia	- Australian's Annul Review of the Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	- Review of Taiwan's SBT Fishery of 2003/2004
Japan	- Review of Japanese SBT Fisheries in the 2004 Fishing Season
New Zealand	- Review of New Zealand SBT Fisheries
Republic of Korea	- Review of Korean SBT Fishery
Republic of the Philippines	- 2005 Philippine Report to CCSBT

(CCSBT-EC/0510/Rep)

01. Report of the first Meeting of the Management Procedure Workshop (March 2002)
02. Report of the Second Meeting of the Management Procedure Workshop (April 2003)
03. Report of the Indonesian Catch Monitoring Review Workshop (April 2003)
04. Report of the Fourth Stock Assessment Group Meeting (August 2003)
05. Report of the Eighth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2003)
06. Report of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2003)
07. Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (February 2004)
08. Report of the Third Meeting of the Management Procedure Workshop (April 2004)
09. Report of the Special Meeting of the Commission (April 2004)
10. Report of the Fifth Stock Assessment Group Meeting (September 2004)
11. Report of the Ninth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2004)
12. Report of the Eleventh Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2004)
13. Report of the Special Management Procedure Technical Meeting (February 2005)
14. Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Management Procedure Workshop (May 2005)
15. Report of the Management Procedure Special Consultation (May 2005)
16. Report of the Sixth Stock Assessment Group Meeting (August-September 2005)
17. Report of the Tenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2005)

Opening Statement by Australia

Good morning Chair, delegates, Mr Penney, Secretariat and interpreters

My congratulations to you Chair and thanks to the Government and people of Taiwan for hosting this, the extended meeting of the 12th meeting of the CCSBT. This must be the 3rd of 4th time I have been to meetings in Taipei and it is always good to come back.

Recent years have seen major progress on a range of important issues for the Commission facilitated by the engagement of a group of eminent independent scientists, increased research investment and improved relationships between the parties of CCSBT. Many of the elements necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) are now in place and the foundations have been laid for a more constructive management of southern bluefin tuna (SBT) in the future.

While difficult issues will be raised at CCSBT 12 a functioning Commission is the most effective way to ensure sustainability of SBT.

The Australian Government is committed to rebuilding the southern bluefin tuna (SBT) stock to ecologically sustainable levels. This requires work within the CCSBT to obtain agreement of members to a SBT spawning stock rebuilding objective and a Candidate Management Procedure to guide decision-making toward that objective.

However to be effective the operations of the CCSBT as a Commission must be transparent and countries in accepting or endorsing decisions of the CCSBT must do so in an environment of trust, knowing that the decisions they take are supported by accurate and transparent and available data sources.

At the end of the 1980's, catch reduction decisions were taken by Australia, Japan and New Zealand to reduce the catch of SBT to rebuild the stocks. The reductions were of such a magnitude that they should have made a difference and the stock should have rebounded.

What happened? Apparently not much because on the best scientific advice available we now find ourselves in the same place, different players but facing the same decisions.

The most fundamental question that the parties must ask themselves is why this initial catch reduction did not work??

Over the last 6 months Australia has invested significant effort in analysing the SBT markets and has provided a paper that raises serious questions about the level of catch being reported as being sold against that being reported as being caught.

This is public or open source information, the internet is a great modern tool. We are making no judgement as to who may be catching these fish at this stage but they are longline caught fish.

Japan and Australia have discussed this issue and are continuing to discuss the issue and will be able to report to Commission members on a way forward by Wednesday morning. If Suenaga-san and I can not report together on a way forward then we genuinely do have a problem that will not be easy to resolve. Timing in resolving this issue is critical and the momentum must be maintained to resolve this issue within the next 6 months.

You will note that Japan has raised concerns about Australia's reporting of its Port Lincoln catch. Given that Australia is very proud of the innovation and expertise in our specialist SBT farming industry, we would in the context of resolving the market discrepancies raised above, invited an external review of our operation at Port Lincoln and if practical suggestions can be made to improve our transparency and accountability then we would be prepared to adopt them. This is real accountability and we expect no less from anyone else in this Commission.

The key issues for Australia at this meeting include.

- ensuring the membership of the CCSBT includes all nations taking SBT that have a legitimate historical association with the fishery;
- dealing with the recommendations of the CCSBT Scientific Committee regarding TAC including the setting of a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the 2005/06 fishing season
- agreement on a rebuilding objective for the SBT global fishery and interim objectives.
- the adoption of a suitable MP and the framework needed for that adoption.
- pursuing the protection of SBT spawning stock and spawning grounds from unregulated fishing pressures;
- ensuring all take of SBT is monitored through a comprehensive catch documentation scheme (CDS); and

Requirements for an effectively managed SBT fishery that can eliminate the unreported catch issue and assure the effective implementation of a management procedure requires significant progress towards implementing the following:

- An effective Catch Documentation System (CDS).
- A CCSBT Compliance Committee becomes operational including the provision of compliance reports with estimates of IUU and discards.
- Implementation of a centralised vessel monitoring system.
- The introduction of monthly catch and effort reporting to the CCSBT Secretariat at a 1x1 level for all gear and the provision of fine scale historical catch and effort data for SBT and non target species. This data should be provided to the CCSBT Secretariat.
- That an international observer programme for all CCSBT members is established in 2006.
- That a vessel register review occurs and that the current vessel register is amended to ensure all vessels fishing and freighting vessels for SBT are included in the scheme.

Other issues include the issue of quota trading between CCSBT members.

- Managing the SBT catch in the Indonesian spawning grounds.
- The design of the scientific research program.

Glenn Hurry

Opening Statement by the Fishing Entity of Taiwan

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen

Good Morning. It is a historical moment that an annual meeting of the Extended Commission of CCSBT is for the first time being held here in Taipei. It is our pleasure to host this meeting, which is important for Taiwan to have the opportunity to tell the international community our efforts in contributing to conservation of global marine resources. I would also like to extend our thanks to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Brian Macdonald and his staff for their hard work in arranging this meeting.

First of all, on behalf of my delegation, I would like to take this opportunity to extend our warmest welcome to all members of the Extended Commission, cooperating non-member the Republic of Philippines and observer from the Republic of Indonesia to attend this meeting. We will do the best we can to make your stay like at home, and enjoy the Taiwanese hospitality.

Mr. Chairman, given highly sensitive alerts on some indicators with low recruitment, CCSBT has been placing high priority on the research of management procedure to avoid possible collapse of stock of southern bluefin tuna since 2001. With the combined efforts from all over the past few years, we have achieved significant progress in this regard, with affirmative recommendation on the management of SBT by the Extended Scientific Committee last month together with some relevant associated comments from the 6th meeting of the Stock Assessment Group. We are very much concerned about the concluded outcome, which stands as an astonishing warning. We have to seriously considerate whether to take immediate reduction of allocations among members. Facing the undesirable circumstance, we are confident that all members of the Extended Commission can make the best decisions on TAC in this meeting to avoid the nightmare of stock collapse. Taking the same attitude as before, the Extended Commission shall take into account the benefits of all stakeholders when making decisions, but we also believe the management objectives in terms of the resources conservation of southern bluefin tuna shall be always at the top of our agenda.

In refining the management procedure, there is no doubt that the data arising from the global dynamics- tagging program project, discerning the spatial distribution and movement of SBT juveniles would be very valuable in supporting the management objectives. One of the critical components is the collaboration among members and cooperating non-members. We hope a more flexible compromising arrangement could be come up in this meeting.

Mr. Chairman, in our efforts to consolidate our management role on the conservation of southern bluefin tuna, we are concerned about that there remain some important range coastal states, which are still outside the management regime of the Commission. We hope all members could continue to convince all those fishing SBT to cooperate with the Commission in the conservation of SBT.

Finally, we look forward to working together with all members over the next few days in producing fruitful results from the meeting.

Thank you.

Opening Statement by Japan
(Translated by the Secretariat)

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude as a representative of the Japanese delegation to Taiwan and the people concerned for the arrangements made for this meeting. Regarding the holding this meeting, we appreciate the financial support provided by Taiwan. Also, I would like to express our appreciation to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Brian Macdonald and his staff for their effort in preparing and circulating the various meeting documents and logistics for the meeting.

The Scientific Committee, in September 2005, again recognized the low recruitment of SBT stock and it has been estimated that the stock will decline further if current levels of catch are maintained. CCSBT has been working towards the sustainable use of SBT stock, and we have endured considerable TAC reductions since the CCSBT was established. Because of this, it was regrettable for us to learn of the current status of the stock.

However, the choice of management procedure, which the Scientific Committee has developed to manage SBT stock, was narrowed to one at the Scientific Committee in September. We would like to express our high regard to the independent panel and national scientists for their continual efforts. We would like to express our opinion that the management procedure will be selected according to recommendation of the Scientific Committee at this meeting.

Recently, southern bluefin tuna fisheries have suffered very difficult economic circumstances. This is not only our country, but also all other countries in the world because of the rise in oil prices and the fall in all tuna prices. And, at the same time our Convention requires us to secure optimum utilisation and conservation of the stock through proper management.

In this context, CCSBT member countries should act to improve the status of our common SBT stock and take responsibility for the sustainable use and more stable management of SBT fishery industries. We think that members should work tirelessly and take steps together for the improvement of the SBT stock.

Japan would like to restate its determination, as the traditional fishing nation and the biggest market country, to contribute positively with every method available to the conservation and management for SBT stock.

Thank you.

Opening Statement by New Zealand

Good morning and thank you to our hosts, Taiwan, for welcoming us so warmly to Taipei.

Mr Chair, there can be no doubt that this Commission is at a cross roads. At a time when the international community is placing regional fisheries management organisations under increasing scrutiny, we are faced, at this meeting, with some very hard decisions.

For the first time in the Commission's history, our own Scientific Committee has recommended specific reductions in the total allowable catch for the southern bluefin tuna fishery. Their advice is very clear. It is very disturbing. Take a substantial immediate reduction in the global TAC to provide any chance of keeping the biomass at the current levels, let alone rebuilding the fishery into the future. Mr Chair, if such advice on a New Zealand fishery were brought before us in New Zealand, we would close the fishery. We have done so in the past, we may in the future. Such action is fully consistent with our obligations under the Law of the Sea Convention and the UN Fish Stocks Agreement.

Mr Chair, the same principles apply here. We will have before us the best scientific advice available. That advice is unequivocal. We must act. We must act now. To hide behind uncertainties in that science is not a valid excuse to delay taking firm and effective management action. If we wait, it will be too late. And if we fail at this hurdle, the international community will judge us poorly. Let me remind this meeting of a fundamental principle of natural resource management – the precautionary principle. This principle has been enshrined in international law and represents best practice in fisheries management, and requires that more caution is needed when information is uncertain, unreliable or inadequate. The absence of adequate scientific information shall not be used as a reason for postponing or failing to take conservation and management measures.

New Zealand strongly urges all members to heed the advice of the Scientific Committee. To act in a manner consistent with the precautionary principle and as responsible fishing states to work within this Commission to address the perilous state of the SBT stock. Mr Chair, New Zealand supports an immediate reduction in the global TAC as recommended by the Scientific Committee. We support the adoption of the management procedure and tuning levels recommended by the Scientific Committee. New Zealand also sees a very clear need to review our catch reporting and monitoring systems and to stop procrastinating in our dealings with non-members. We see a pressing need to review the governance and management arrangements within this Commission, to bring it into the 21st Century and ensure consistency with the provisions of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement.

New Zealand is firmly of the view that to not heed the advice of our Scientific Committee would be irresponsible. We ignore it at our peril. This Commission must demonstrate to the international community, at this meeting, that it has the ability to address this crisis. The integrity of CCSBT, and each of its members, is at stake. New Zealand expects that the members of this Commission will show real leadership over the course of this week. We expect that Commissioners will put aside vested self interests and that we will do the right thing, consistent with the collective obligation we all signed on to in becoming members of CCSBT. We are obliged to act in a manner consistent with ensuring the sustainability of this fishery and the long-term economic and social benefits that accrue from it.

Mr Chair, New Zealand is firmly committed to rebuilding the SBT stock over the long term. We are committed to taking the very hard management decision to reduce the global TAC for 2006. We will not shy away from this responsibility. This is the critical sustainability decision that the Commission must address at this meeting. An important, and very separate, decision is the allocation of the TAC. New Zealand cannot accept decisions on the allocation of any revised TAC that further compounds the inequity in our allocation. It is our expectation that the Commission will honour the commitments it gave in both Christchurch and Pusan to resolving this outstanding issue.

New Zealand has demonstrated its willingness to act collectively within this Commission. We have compromised our own national interests in order to improve the effectiveness of CCSBT and the management of the SBT fishery. We have done so in the firm belief that an inclusive Commission, which involves all those fishing for SBT, makes for a stronger Commission.

As for own fishery, it has always been open to scrutiny, it always will be. Our fisheries management systems are world leading. We are deeply concerned therefore about any suggestion that others do not take their responsibilities seriously. If this is indeed the case, then New Zealand's compromises have been for nothing.

Our commitment Mr Chair to resolving our allocation issue has never been so strong. We expect resolution of this issue at this meeting.

Finally, Mr Chair, New Zealand does not anticipate that this will be an easy meeting. We are however in your capable hands. We will be seeking a robust discussion. A discussion that does not hide behind uncertainties in the science, a discussion that demonstrates that we are responsible fishing nations, a discussion that will be subject to the closest international scrutiny. My delegation and I will be engaging in this meeting with these principles firmly in mind. We urge others to do so too.

Thank you.

Opening Statement by the Republic of Korea

Good morning!

Honorable Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen!

This is a great pleasure to attend the 12th Annual Meeting of the CCSBT in Taipei.

First, let me extend my sincere gratitude to the Secretariat for its hard works for the last one year. We, member countries also have been closely cooperated over many issues of the Commission. But I still consider that we should commit to making concerted efforts for the conservation and management of SBT.

Korea hopes that the SBT stock should be managed through the adoption of management procedure to achieve the goal of restoring SBT resources. Korea would do its best in adopting MP at this plenary, for promoting the scientific management and early restoration of the stock.

It is expected that the TAC reduction would bring negative effect on the SBT industries for some time. But Korea supports that the TAC reduction should be implemented as early as possible, as it is essential to the stock restoration.

In Korea's view, it is reasonable that quota transfer also be allowed as early as possible, since the quota is within the sustainable range of resources. Furthermore, as the MP may be adopted at this meeting, there is no proper reason to delay in introducing quota transfer. So Korea insists that the MP and quota transfer system be introduced at the same time.

For those important agenda items of this meeting, my delegation will fully cooperate with other delegations during the course of meetings so that we can produce tangible results.

Finally, I would like to express my warm appreciation to the government of Taiwan for their hard works and financial contributions in preparing this productive meeting.

Thank you very much.

Opening Statement by the Philippines

This meeting of the Extended Commission of the CCSBT marks the second year of the participation of the Philippines in the CCSBT as a cooperating non-member. My delegation is pleased to be here in Taiwan for the 12th meeting and the opportunity to interact with the Extended Commission on the many concerns relating to the conservation and management of the Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT).

As a new participant in the CCSBT, my delegation considers itself still in the learning stage of the work program and processes, and concerns of the CCSBT. It welcomes the agenda of this meeting and especially looks forward our discussions on the review of SBT fisheries, the report of the Extended Scientific Committee, total allowable catch and its allocation, management procedure, cooperating non-members, catch monitoring, and quota trading. It anticipates active involvement in the future work of the Ecological Committee.

As the only cooperating non-member of the CCSBT Commission as of date, the Philippines is pleased to note the proposed association of the cooperating non-member of the Extended Commission with that of the Commission as well. It looks forward to a favorable resolution in this question at this meeting.

As regards the undertaking the Philippines made in applying for a cooperating non-member status in the Extended Commission, the Philippines has not exceeded its annual quota allocation of 50 tonnes. Nonetheless, the Philippines wishes to reiterate its application for an increased quota to match its current SBT fishing capability. In expressing this desire, my delegation wishes to clarify that it does not in any way allude to increasing the total allowable catch given the bleak assessment of the Extended Scientific Committee as regard the status of SBT stocks. Rather, it reiterates its earlier suggestion for quota trading which at the moment seems to be the only acceptable equitable solution consistent with the sustainability objective of the SBT fisheries.

Finally, as a cooperating Non-Member Party the Philippines reaffirm its commitments contained in the Exchange of Letters between the Philippines and the Commission. The Philippine delegation wishes to reiterate its suggestions on the inclusion of the topic of “considerations and concessions granted to developing countries by various Regional Fisheries Management Organizations” in the agenda on the annual meeting of the Extended Commission. The Philippines has forwarded its suggestion on this beginning the 10th Meeting of the Extended Commission and looks forward to the inclusion of this item in the future meetings.

Opening Statement by Indonesia

Chairman,
Distinguished ladies and gentlemen.

First of all, on behalf of the Indonesian delegate, I would like to thank to the Executive Secretary for the Commission (for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna) for inviting us as an observer to the Annual Meeting of the Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna and the Taiwanese for hosting this important meeting.

Referring to the CCSBT Executive Secretary letter of 29 June and the reply of the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 30 September 2005, may I reiterate that we are still need some preparation and assistance to meet the requirement of cooperating non-member.

In this regard, I would like to inform the Extended Commission that Indonesia has been working to improve the fisheries statistical data collection in collaboration with the IOTC, CSIRO and OFCF. In the mean time Indonesia has established a Tuna Commission with the mandate to assist the government in the formulation of policy with regard to tuna fisheries. It is clear that Indonesia would like to work together with CCSBT in the management of the southern bluefin tuna even we are still not part of the commission yet.

However, we would be happy to cooperate with all Commission member countries in strengthening our capabilities to fulfil the requirement to become a cooperating non-member in the near future.

Meanwhile, our commitment to the regional tuna fisheries management as advocated by UNCLOS, is reflected by our participation at the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission as a non-contracting party and it will be a full member party very soon.

To conclude this remarks, Indonesia would like to reiterate again that the process to become any regional or international organization will normally take sometimes and wish this meeting will consider our willingness to cooperate with all Commission member counties in managing the SBT fisheries in the region.

Thank you.

<p>COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA</p>
--

<p>REVISED 2005 SPECIAL BUDGET - SRP TAGGING PROGRAM (Surface Fishery)</p>

INCOME	<u>2005</u>
Contributions from member	498,027
Japan	180,586
Australia	160,707
Korea	58,208
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	58,208
New Zealand	40,318
Carry over from 2004 Special Fund for CCSBT surface fishery tagging program	25,750
Proceeds from Special Fund for pilot east coast tagging program	50,223
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	574,000
EXPENDITURE	
Tag Deployment	
vessel charter	329,000
tag application	242,006
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	571,006
Carryover to 2006	2,994

COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA

GENERAL BUDGET - 2006 (CCSBT13)

INCOME

	<u>2007 Indicative</u>	<u>2,006</u>	<u>2005 Revised</u>	<u>Variation</u>
<u>Contributions from members</u>	<u>1,386,870</u>	<u>1,378,200</u>	<u>1,302,082</u>	76,118
Japan	502,881	499,738	472,137	27,601
Australia	447,525	444,728	420,165	24,563
New Zealand	112,274	111,572	105,410	6,162
Korea	162,095	161,081	152,185	8,896
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	162,095	161,081	152,185	8,896
<u>Staff Assessment Levy</u>	<u>93,000</u>	<u>92,000</u>	<u>88,000</u>	4,000
<u>Carry over from 2005</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>112,500</u>	<u>166,412</u>	-53,912
<u>Interest on investments</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>45,000</u>	-5,000
<u>Cash Reserve</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>83,986</u>	-83,986
<u>Special Contribution from Taiwan</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>29,200</u>	<u>23,000</u>	6,200
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	1,519,870	1,651,900	1,708,480	-56,580

EXPENDITURE

<u>ANNUAL MEETINGS (CCSBT13) & Compliance Committee</u>	<u>134,700</u>	<u>97,000</u>	37,700	
Interpretation Costs	33,500	25,000	8,500	
Hire of venue	44,100	25,500	18,600	
Hire of Equipment	47,000	16,000	31,000	
Miscellaneous Costs (Inc. Sc Cte Chair attending Annual Meeting)	19,600	22,000	-2,400	
Publication and Translation	7,000	3,000	4,000	
Indonesian Participants costs	3,500	2,500	1,000	
Financial support from Miyazaki Pref	-20,000			
Small Meeting in Narita	0	3,000		
<u>11th SC & 7th SAG</u>	<u>293,000</u>	<u>290,500</u>	2,500	
Interpretation Costs	48,900	38,000	10,900	
Hire of venue	0	50,000	-50,000	
Hire of equipment	41,600	28,000	13,600	
Hire of Consultants - SAG Chair, SC Chair, Advisory Panel	178,000	153,000	25,000	
Miscellaneous Costs	14,000	9,000	5,000	
Publication and translation	7,000	7,000	0	
Indonesian participants costs	3,500	2,500	1,000	
Small Meeting in Narita	0	3,000		
<u>SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS</u>	<u>71,200</u>	<u>192,000</u>	-120,800	
4th MP & Special Consultation	0	192,000		
6th ERS Working Group	71,200	0	71,200	
<u>Special Project</u>	<u>118,000</u>	<u>195,500</u>	-77,500	
Management Procedure Technical Workshop	0	47,500	-47,500	
Management Strategy Development	8,000	48,000	-40,000	
Tagging program coordination	110,000	100,000	10,000	
<u>SECRETARIAT COSTS</u>	<u>940,000</u>	<u>734,000</u>	206,000	
Secretariat Staff Costs	431,000	420,000	11,000	
Staff Assessment Levy	92,000	88,000	4,000	
Employer Super/Social security	78,000	80,000	-2,000	
Worker's Compensation/ travel/contents Insurance	21,000	22,000	-1,000	
Travel/transport - O/seas and domestic	81,000	90,000	-9,000	
Miscellaneous Translation of Commission and Committee Reports	20,000	10,000	10,000	
Training	2,000	2,000	0	
Home leave allowance, repatriation grant and removal costs	205,000	12,000	193,000	
Other employment expense	10,000	10,000	0	
<u>OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>87,000</u>	8,000	
Office lease	38,000	32,000	6,000	
Office running costs	32,000	32,000	0	
Provision for new/replacement assets	10,000	10,000	0	
Telephone/communications	10,000	9,000	1,000	
Miscellaneous	5,000	4,000	1,000	
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	1,519,870	1,651,900	1,596,000	55,900

COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA

2006 SPECIAL BUDGET - SRP TAGGING PROGRAM (Surface Fishery)

INCOME	<u>2006</u>
<u>Contributions from member</u>	<u>529,406</u>
Japan	191,963
Australia	170,833
Korea	61,876
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	61,876
New Zealand	42,858
<u>Trasfer from General Budget Account</u>	70,000
<u>Proceeds from Special Fund for pilot east coast tagging program</u>	3,600
<u>Carryover from 2005</u>	2,994
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	606,000
EXPENDITURE	
<u>Tag Deployment</u>	<u>606,000</u>
vessel charter	360,000
tag application	246,000
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	606,000



Australian Government
Bureau of Rural Sciences

AUSTRALIA'S ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA FISHERY

by

P.I. Hobsbawn, J.D. Findlay, S. Rowcliffe and A. Bodsworth

*Working Paper CCSBT-EC/0510/SBT Fisheries-Australia
presented at the Second Meeting of the Extended Commission of the
Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna*

Taipei,
October 2005

Contents

Contents	2
1. Introduction	3
2. Operational Constraints on Effort	4
Regulatory Measures	4
3. Catch and Effort	4
Discards	7
4. Historical Catch and Effort	7
5. Annual Fleet Size and Distribution	10
South Australia.....	10
Western Australia.....	10
New South Wales.....	10
Tasmania	10
Queensland	10
6. Historical Fleet Size and Distribution.....	10
7. Fisheries Monitoring	11
Catch Disposal Records	11
Australian Daily Fishing Log and Farm Transit Log.....	11
Farm Disposal Record	11
Observer Program	12
8. Other Factors	12
Import/Export Statistics	12
Markets	12
Observer Coverage	12
Appendix 1: SBT Season Dates 1988–89 to 2004–05	13

1. Introduction

This report summarises catches and fishing activities in the 2003–04 quota year¹ of the Australian Southern Bluefin Tuna (*Thunnus maccoyii*; SBT) Fishery. It also provides preliminary data on the 2004–05 surface fishery.

The Australian domestic SBT catches for the 2003 and 2004 calendar years were 5827 t and 5062 t, respectively. The 2003 calendar year catch is larger than the previously agreed national allocation to Australia of 5265 t because it represents the aggregation of catches from periods in two quota years. The 2002–03 quota year catch was 5391 t while the catch for the 2003–04 quota year was 5120 t. A catch above quota occurred in the 2002–03 year. This overcatch was paid back during the 2003–04 quota year. In August 2005 there was a prosecution for the illegal take of 5764 kg of SBT in the 2003–04 season. Adding this amount to the total reported for that season gives 5126 t, which is still under the agreed national allocation to Australia. Note that this amount has not been included in any of the other statistics reported in this paper.

Table 1: Total domestic catch of SBT for calendar years and quota years

Calendar Year	Catch (t)	Quota Year	Catch (t)
1990	4586	1989–90	4849
1991	4489	1990–91	4316
1992	5248	1991–92	4894
1993	5373	1992–93	5212
1994	4700	1993–94	4937
1995	4508	1994–95	5080
1996	5128	1995–96	5188
1997	5316	1996–97	4978
1998	4897	1997–98	5097
1999	5552	1998–99	5232
2000	5257	1999–00	5257
2001	4853	2000–01	5247
2002	4711	2001–02	5262
2003	5827	2002–03	5391
2004	5062	2003–04	5120

¹ Various time periods, such as ‘calendar years’, ‘fishing seasons’ and ‘quota years’, can be used when describing Australia’s SBT fishery. Unless otherwise indicated, we have used quota years in this report, but note that fishing seasons of the various fishery components often span quota years. The start and end dates of Australian quota years have varied and are presented in Appendix 1.

2. Operational Constraints on Effort

Regulatory Measures

Domestic operations are managed through individual transferable quotas (ITQs) granted as Statutory Fishing Rights (SFRs) under the Southern Bluefin Tuna Management Plan 1995.

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) uses a risk based compliance strategy in the SBT purse seine and longline fisheries. This includes targeted compliance operations to check fishing vessels at sea, and at landing ports; a comprehensive audit trail from the time SBT are caught to the time they are exported, including random audits of fishing companies and export establishments; and then an annual review of compliance risks leading to refined strategies for the following season.

Australia has continued to use a combination of area restrictions, minimum quota holdings, fishery observers, and mandatory Vessel Monitoring Systems to reduce the incidental catch and mortality of SBT caught in the domestic longline fishery. A SBT habitat model incorporating archival tag and observer data with sea surface and sub-surface temperatures, is used to predict likely areas of high SBT abundance and hence the location of restricted access zones. For the 2004–05 season, the areas with a high probability of SBT interactions were subject to 100% observer coverage, and mandatory minimum quota requirements. This has eliminated the non quota mortality of longline caught SBT.

To improve compliance and management outcomes for its domestic fishery, and to better meet international management obligations, Australia implemented a range of amendments to its SBT Fishery statutory management plan on 1 December 2004. These included:

- revised objectives, management measures, and performance criteria;
- incorporation of the Commission's current stock-specific reference point;
- the development of a by-catch action plan and strategies to reduce broader environmental impacts;
- amendments to enhance the accountability of SBT Statutory Fishing Right holders against their allocated quota; and,
- daily at sea reporting of SBT taken and transferred into tow cages, provisional deduction of SBT quota based on at sea estimates of catch, and daily VMS or manual reporting of catch and tow vessel locations.

3. Catch and Effort

In 2003–04, 95.2% of the Australian catch of SBT was taken by purse seine with the remainder taken by longline (Table 2). The Australian catch of SBT for the calendar years 2003 and 2004 is mapped in Figure 1 and Figure 2 respectively. The nominal catch per unit of effort (CPUE) for the Australian longline fishery for the 2003 calendar year is shown in Figure 3, and for the 2004 calendar year in Figure 4.

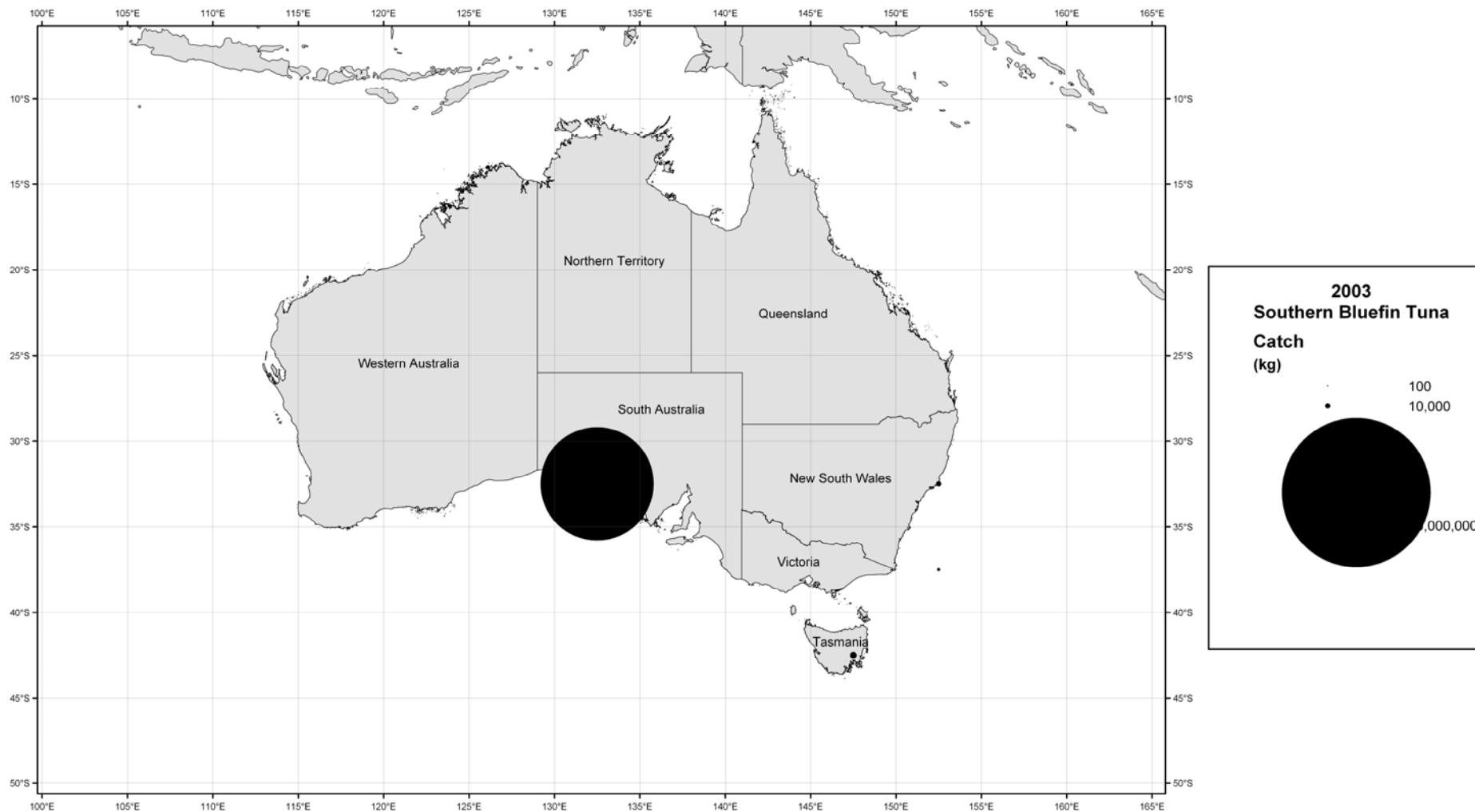


Figure 1: Australian SBT catch in 2003

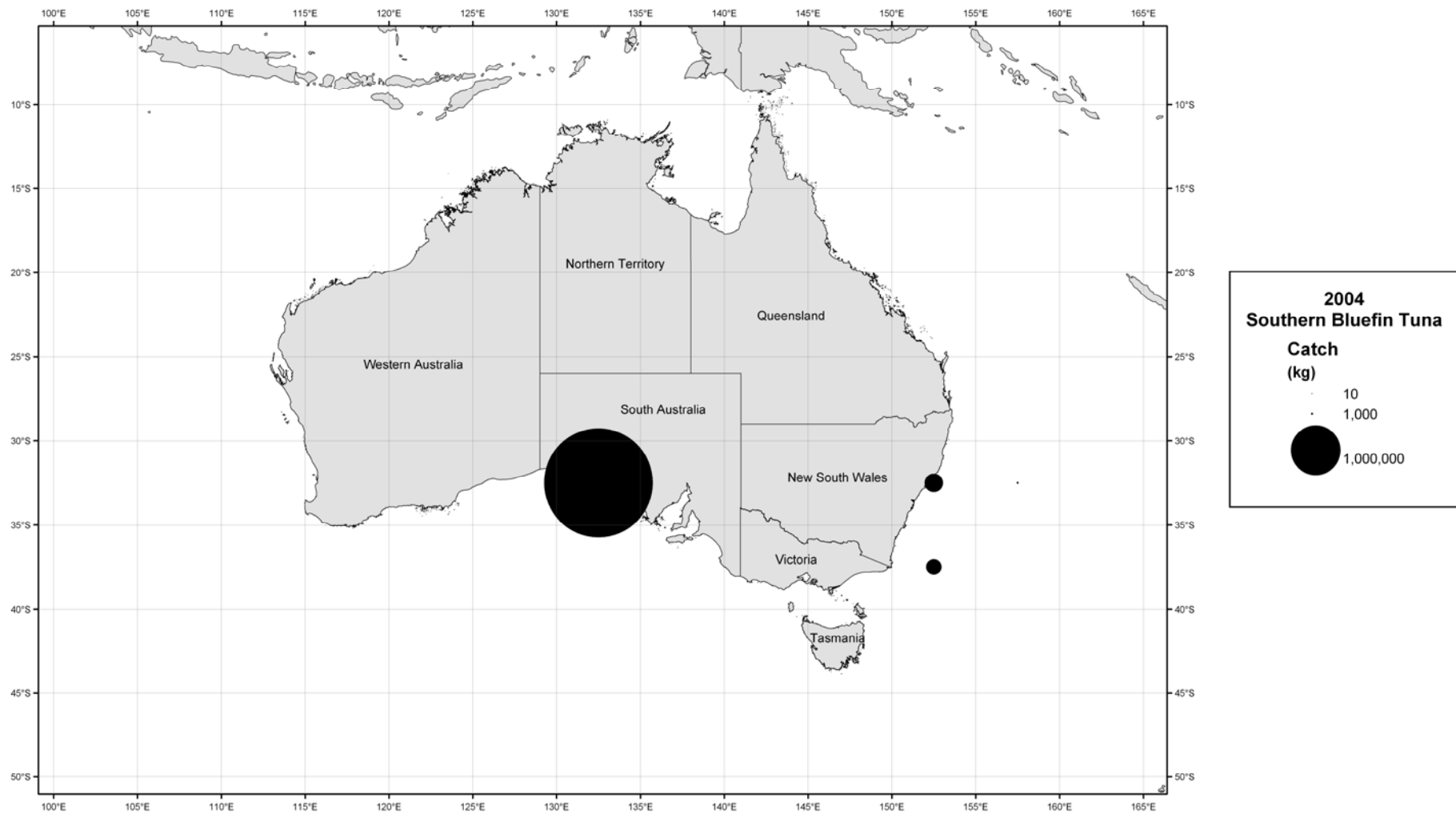


Figure 2: Australian SBT catch in 2004

Table 2: Catch of SBT by fishing method in 2002–03 and 2003–04 Seasons

2002–03		
Purse seine	South Australia	5375 t
Longline	Western Australia and New South Wales	17 t
2003–04		
Purse seine	South Australia	4874 t (small percentage for direct export, remainder for farms)
Longline	Western Australia, South Australia, New South Wales and Queensland	247 t

Insufficient data were available to provide an estimate of the recreational catch in 2004.

Discards

During the 2003–04 and 2004–05 seasons, no discarding of SBT was reported in logbooks collected in the purse seine fishery in the Great Australian Bight. Note that for the purse seine fishery, mortalities during tow operations are recorded in logbooks and included in the count for total number of fish caught. These fish are included in the results for total catch by purse seining. There were some escapes, releases and discards of SBT noted in observer reports.

In the 2003–04 season, a total of 366 fish were reported on logbooks as discarded in the longline fishery.

In 2004, AFMA observers monitored longline operations in the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery during the months and areas in which SBT are most likely to be taken incidentally (i.e. south of 30°S from May to September). Observer data showed that 61% of longlined SBT were discarded during the observed operations. In contrast, the level of SBT discards recorded in logbooks from other vessels fishing during the same period south of 30°S was only 10%. In response to this new information the Australian Fisheries Management Authority has implemented tighter access controls and implemented 100% observer coverage for the 2005 season.

Over 2004 and 2005, observers monitored longline operations in the Southern and Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery. 100% of all SBT hooked were discarded during observed operations but it should be noted that levels of effort in this fishery are very low at present (i.e. only one or two vessels are operating). New arrangements are being developed for this fishery.

4. Historical Catch and Effort

Australian catch by gear and State for the quota years 1988–89 to 2003–04 is shown in Table 3. Catch and effort (number of search hours and number of vessels) by season, for seasons 1994–95 to 2004–05, in the purse seine fishery are shown in Table 4.

Table 3: Australian catch by gear and State for quota years 1988–89 to 2003–04

Quota Year	Western Australia				South Australia				New South Wales			Tasmania			Large Longliners			Australia Total				Total
	Albany Pole	Esperance Pole	Long-line	Total	Pole & Purse Seine	Farm Cages	Long-line	Total	Pole & Purse Seine	Long-line	Total	Troll	Long-line	Total	Aust. Charter	Joint-venture	Total	Domestic Surface	Domestic Long-line	Total Long-line	RTMP	All Gears
1988–89	204	221	0	425	4872	0	0	4872	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	684	684	5299	1	685	0	5984
1989–90	133	97	0	230	4199	0	0	4199	0	6	6	14	0	14	0	400	400	4443	6	406	0	4849
1990–91	175	45	0	220	2588	0	0	2588	0	15	15	57	0	57	255	881	1136	2865	15	1151	#300	4316
1991–92	17	0	0	17	1629	138	14	1781	34	90	124	36	20	56	59	2057	2116	1854	124	2240	800	4894
1992–93	0	0	0	0	716	722	68	1506	16	238	254	23	44	67	0	2735	2735	1477	350	3085	650	5212
1993–94	0	0	0	0	621	1294	55	1970	0	286	286	7	105	112	0	2299	2299	1922	446	2745	270	4937
1994–95	0	0	0	0	908	1954	2	2864	0	157	157	4	109	113	0	1295	1295	2866	268	1563	650	5080
1995–96	0	0	0	0	1447	3362	0	4809	28	89	117	0	262	262	0	0	0	4837	351	351	0	5188
1996–97	0	0	0	0	2000	2498	0	4497	7	229	236	2	242	244	0	0	0	4507	472	472	0	4978
1997–98	0	0	^0	0	916	3488	^0	4403	~0	475	475	!0	219	219	0	0	0	4433	664	664	0	5097
1998–99	0	0	^0	0	28	4991	^0	5018	~0	97	97	!0	116	116	0	0	0	5016	216	216	0	5232
1999–00	0	0	^0	0	0	5130	13	5143	0	114	114	0	!0	0	0	0	0	5130	127	127	0	5257
2000–01	0	0	^0	0	0	5162	6	5168	0	32	32	0	!0	0	0	0	0	5162	38	38	0	5247
2001–02	0	0	7	7	0	5234	0	5234	0	*22	*22	0	!0	0	0	0	0	5234	29	29	0	5262
2002–03	0	0	≈0	0	0	5375	0	5375	0	17	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	5375	17	17	0	5391
2003–04	0	0	≈0	0	‡0	4874	†0	4874	0	*226	*226	0	20	0	0	0	0	4874	247	247	0	5120

Note that a further 700t of Australian quota was ‘frozen’ (not allocated) in 1990–91.

^ 1997-98 and 1998-99 WA and SA non-farm catches are included in SA pole and purse seine catch, and in 1999–00 and 2000–01 WA longline catch is included in SA longline due to confidentiality guidelines.

~ 1997-98 to 1998-99 NSW pole and purse seine catches are included in NSW longline catch due to confidentiality guidelines.

! 1997-98 and 1998-99 Tas troll catches are included in Tas longline, and in 1999–00, 2000-01 and 2001-02 Tas longline catch is included in NSW longline due to confidentiality guidelines.

* 2001-02 and 2003-04 NSW longline catch also includes QLD longline catch due to confidentiality guidelines.

≈ 2002-03 and 2003-04 WA longline catch is included in NSW longline due to confidentiality guidelines.

† 2003-04 SA longline catch is included in NSW longline due to confidentiality guidelines.

‡ 2003-04 additional SA purse seine catch that did not go into farm cages is included in SA farm cages catch due to confidentiality guidelines.

Table 4: Purse seine catch and effort for seasons 1994–95 to 2004–05

Season	Estimated Catch (t)	Actual Catch (t)	No. Boats	Vessel Search Hours	No. Sets	1° Squares Fished
1994–95	2179	2009	5	526	104	5
1995–96	2859	3442	6	631	89	11
1996–97	3134	2505	7	769	118	13
1997–98	3916	3629	7	671	143	8
1998–99	4418	4991	7	972	129	3
1999–00	4746	5131	8	764	107	5
2000–01	5100	5162	8	799	129	2
2001–02	5400	5234	7	1309	159	3
2002–03	5188	5375	7	1276	150	5
2003–04	5299	4874	6	1202	160	4
2004–05	5225	5215	8	1168	139	4

Overall the data available on recreational catch of SBT is poor but an initial review revealed high year-to-year variability in catches and the locations in which SBT were taken. For the past ten years, indicative estimates of annual recreational catches ranged between 3 and 85 tonnes (Table 5) with the highest catches occurring around Tasmania (Table 4). These data are indicative estimates only and are based on a range of different data sources. Over the next twelve months Australia will work to improve these estimates including estimates for the period prior to 1994.

While there are insufficient data at present to quantify the total recreational catches of SBT for 2003–04 and 2004–05, high spatial catch variability was evident from anecdotal reports. 2003–04 was a good season for recreational SBT catches, especially around Pedra Branca, south of Tasmania. 2004–05 was a good season in South Australia but poor elsewhere, especially in Tasmania where the annual southern bluefin tuna tournament produced very disappointing catches of SBT (i.e. no SBT were caught) .

Table 5: Indicative estimates of recreational catch (tonnes) by Australian recreational fishers, 1994 to 2004 (Source: NSW Fisheries).

Year	Recreational Catch (t)
1994	16
1995	insufficient data
1996	insufficient data
1997	insufficient data
1998	38
1999	3
2000	10
2001	60
2002	85
2003	insufficient data
2004	insufficient data

5. Annual Fleet Size and Distribution

In 2003–04, a total of 55 commercial fishing vessels landed SBT in Australian waters.

South Australia

The one- to five-year-old SBT, which school from late spring to autumn in surface waters of the eastern Great Australian Bight, South Australia, were fished by six purse seiners during the 2003–04 quota year, but various live bait, pontoon-towing and feeding vessels were also involved. Some older fish were also caught. Fishing commenced in early December 2003 and finished in late March 2004.

Western Australia

Two longliners caught SBT off the WA coastline in 2003–04. For confidentiality reasons all catches are incorporated in the NSW longline catch. Longline fishing in WA commenced in March 2004 and finished in December 2004.

New South Wales

During 2003–04, 40 domestic longliners participated at some time in the area of the fishery for older juveniles and adults in deeper waters off NSW. Longline fishing off NSW commenced in May 2004 and finished in September 2004.

Tasmania

Nine longliners caught SBT off south-eastern Tasmania between late November 2003 and early January 2004.

Queensland

Four longliners caught SBT off the coast of south-eastern Queensland between July and September 2004. For confidentiality reasons, Queensland catches are incorporated in the NSW longline catch.

6. Historical Fleet Size and Distribution

Troll catches of SBT were reported as early as the 1920s off the east coast of Australia but significant commercial fishing for SBT commenced in the early 1950s with the establishment of a pole-and-live-bait fishery off New South Wales, South Australia and, later (1970), Western Australia. Purse seine gear overtook pole as the predominant method and catches peaked at 21 500 t in 1982. The bulk of this early Australian catch of SBT was canned. Following quota reductions in 1983–84, the Western Australian pole fishery for very small juveniles closed down and the south-eastern fishery began to target larger juveniles to supply the Japanese sashimi market. Surface catches were further reduced between 1989 and 1995 when about half of the Australian total allowable catch (TAC) was taken by Australia–Japan joint venture longliners in the Australian Fishing Zone (AFZ). The joint venture ceased in late 1995. From 1992 to 1998, domestic longliners operating off Tasmania and New South Wales also took around 5–10% of the total Australian catch.

In 1990–91 about 20 t of SBT tuna were transferred to fattening cages in Port Lincoln, South Australia, to enhance their value. Utilisation of the Australian SBT TAC in ‘farming’ operations increased from 3% of the TAC in 1991–92 to 98% in 1999–00 and it has remained at similar high levels since.

Following declaration of the Australian Fishing Zone (AFZ) in 1979, Japanese longliners fished under a range of bilateral conditions, real time monitoring program and joint-venture arrangements until 1997 when Japanese longliners were excluded from all AFZ fishing operations following failure to reach agreement on global TAC within the CCSBT. Caton and Ward (1996) provide copies of annual subsidiary agreements for the operations of bilateral-licensed longliners in the AFZ from 1979–80 to 1994–95.

7. Fisheries Monitoring

There are a series of logbooks and associated catch records that are required by law to be completed by fishers and fish receivers and sent to AFMA for the purposes of monitoring, compliance and research. The type of form used is dependent on the type of method used to catch SBT in the fishery. All of the data provided from Logbooks and Catch Disposal Records must be supplied to AFMA within specified time periods specific to each record.

Catch Disposal Records

Catch disposal records for SBT are for recording SBT taken by fishers for the purposes other than farming and are signed by the fishing concession holder and the first receiver immediately after unloading the catch. Catch disposal records provide a means to verify logbook data.

Australian Daily Fishing Log and Farm Transit Log

A logbook form is required to be completed by fishers when using pelagic longlining or when fishing with minor line methods. The Australian Pelagic Longline Daily Fishing Log is required to be completed for longline fishing. In the purse seine fishery the Master of the catcher vessel (with quota assigned) is required to complete the Australian Purse Seine and Pole Daily Fishing Log – for farmed SBT only. A specific permit called the Farm Transit Log is completed by the holder of the SBT carrier boat permit or representative, and provided to the monitoring company which undertakes the fish count when fish are transferred from tow cages to farm cages.

Farm Disposal Record

A specific process has been designed to obtain data to allow for research and monitoring from farming operations. An independent company is contracted annually by AFMA to monitor the farming operations. All mortalities that occur during the capture and towing operations must be recorded on the appropriate form and must be available for inspection if requested by an AFMA officer.

When SBT are transferred from tow cages to the fish farms, a video record must be carried out by the AFMA contracted monitoring company. The video recording is then used to undertake a count of the fish that are

transferred into the fish farm. This count of captured fish will be multiplied by the average fish weight (derived from a 40 fish sample) and decremented from quota using the Farm Disposal Record. AFMA Compliance Officers observed at sea operations during both the 2003–04 and the 2004–05 seasons.

Observer Program

Observer programmes for the purse seine fishery have been in place since the 2002–03 season, and for the longline fishery (south-eastern part of the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery) since the middle of 2002.

The monitoring arrangements in the SBT fishery continue to be reviewed and refined in order to improve monitoring and compliance. To minimise the risk of non-quota take of SBT by longliners off New South Wales, since 2000, access to the waters through which SBT migrate has been restricted to vessels holding SBT quota.

8. Other Factors

Import/Export Statistics

The Trade Information Scheme that records all exported Australian fish has been implemented and refined. A Trade Information Scheme (TIS) form is completed by an authorised signatory from the export-registered establishment that is the last to handle the consignment before the product leaves Australia and validated by a Government officer. The form is used for both farmed and non-farmed SBT. This program provides a complete record of SBT exports that can be compared with the Japanese Import Statistics.

Markets

In the 2003–04, in order of 30 t of SBT is retained for the domestic market; approximately 80 t was exported to the USA; and the remainder of the Australian catch was exported to Japan.

Observer Coverage

The purse seine observer programme for the 2004–05 Australian SBT fishing season monitored fishing and tow operations between 33 and 34°S and 132 and 133°E in January and February 2005. One Australian and one American observer monitored 15 purse seine sets representing 11% of the total sets in which fish were taken in that season.

The 2004 observer programme for the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery south of 30°S commenced in May and concluded in September, the months in which SBT are usually caught. In those months 11 observers monitored 183 thousand hooks of a season total of 1.57 million (May-Sept, south of 30°S), representing 11.7% observer coverage of longline effort in this fishery.

In the Southern and Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery, eight voyages and 59 sets out of a season total of 1321 were observed. Observer coverage of hook sets for the whole season was 4.5% in this fishery.

Appendix 1: SBT Season Dates 1988–89 to 2004–05

Quota Year	Start Date	End Date
1988–89	1 October 1988	30 September 1989
1989–90	1 October 1989	30 September 1990
1990–91	1 October 1990	30 September 1991
1991–92	1 October 1991	31 October 1992
1992–93	1 November 1992	31 October 1993
1993–94	1 November 1993	31 October 1994
1994–95	1 November 1994	15 December 1995
1995–96	16 December 1995	15 December 1996
1996–97	16 December 1996	30 November 1997
1997–98	1 December 1997	30 November 1998
1998–99	1 December 1998	30 November 1999
1999–00	1 December 1999	30 November 2000
2000–01	1 December 2000	30 November 2001
2001–02	1 December 2001	30 November 2002
2002–03	1 December 2002	30 November 2003
2003–04	1 December 2003	30 November 2004
2004–05	1 December 2004	30 November 2005

Review of Taiwan's SBT Fishery of 2003/2004

1. INTRODUCTION

Taiwan has traditionally been fishing for southern bluefin tuna (SBT) since 1970s. The SBT was caught partly by seasonal target fishery and partly by albacore/bigeye fisheries as a by-catch. Seasonal target fishery was conducted mainly by longliners equipped with super cold freezers, fishing in two seasons, i.e. one from June to September and the other from October to February of the following year, in the waters around 30°S-35°S. However, no year-round target fishing has yet been conducted. The total annual catch in 2004 was preliminarily estimated to be 1,298 mt, an increase of 170 mt compared to the previous year 2003. The annual catch in 2004 was outreached to 1,140 mt, the catch limit allocated by CCSBT. Therefore, the outreaching amount of over catch 158 mt will be deducted from the quota in 2005.

2. OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS ON EFFORT

Regulatory Measures

Taiwan has become a member of the Extended Commission of CCSBT in 2002, and agreed to its national catch limit of 1,140 mt. Two groups of fishing vessels for seasonal target fishery and by-catch on SBT are differentiated and each of those authorized vessel is allocated with individual quota. Each vessel is required to register with the Taiwan Tuna Association either for target or by-catch fishery. Besides, those vessels have to be reviewed and approved by the government before catching SBT. About 99% of the annual catch was allocated to the seasonal target vessels, while the remaining 1% to the by-catch vessels in 2004.

In order to collect SBT catch information in a timely basis and to manage the total SBT catch not exceeding the catch limit, every vessel that catches SBT has been required to submit weekly report on it's catches of SBT in weight and fishing location to the fisheries authorities since 1996. This system has been refined in 2002 to obtain more accurate catch information including the length measurement of each fish caught. Taiwan has undertaken issuing of SBT Statistical Document for exportation of SBT from June 2000 to be in line with the requirement of Trade Information Scheme (TIS). All vessels fishing for SBT have also been required to be equipped with Vessel Monitoring System's (VMS) equipment for transmitting the vessel location in real time to the monitoring center since 2002. Fishing in spawning area of SBT suggested by Scientific Committee is prohibited and document of TIS will not be issued to any catch from this area to protect the spawning stock.

3. CATCH AND EFFORT

In the 2004 fishing season, SBT catch limit of Taiwan maintained at 1,140 mt, and the actual catch was 1,298 mt caught by 107 vessels including seasonal target and by-catch fishery. About 91% of the Taiwanese SBT catch was caught in the southern and central Indian Ocean, 9% was caught in the southern and western Indian Ocean extending to the

eastern boundary of the Atlantic Ocean. There were 76 vessels in total approved as seasonal target or by-catch fishery in 2005.

4. HISTORICAL CATCH AND EFFORT

In early 1980s, annual catch of SBT was relatively small as less than 250 mt. With continuously expanding of tuna long-line fleet and fishing grounds, increase in annual catches was prominent afterwards. Between 1989 and 1992, there was significant increase of SBT annual catch exceeding 1,100 mt, of which drift net fishery accounted for about 1/4 of the catches. With the prohibition of drift net fishery on the high seas since 1993 for compliance with the United Nations Gillnet Moratorium, the annual catch of SBT decreased to a stable level fluctuating between 800 and 1,600 mt during the last decade (Table 1). The discard amount of SBT in 2004 was preliminarily estimated from weekly reports to be 2 mt. Since 2004, the discard information was added in logbook, the preliminarily discard amount need to be crosschecked with the logbooks which will be recovered in 2005.

5. ANNUAL FLEET SIZE AND DISTRIBUTION

In 2004, 107 longline vessels were approved for catching SBT, of which most vessels operated in the Indian Ocean. Their fishing grounds were mainly in the waters of 20°S - 40°S, seasonally distributed in the southern and central Indian Ocean from June to September, and in the southern and western Indian Ocean extending to the eastern boundary of the Atlantic Ocean from October to February of the following year.

6. HISTORICAL FLEET SIZE AND DISTRIBUTION

SBT was caught only by longline fishery after 1992 in the three oceans, but mainly in the Indian Ocean. According to the weekly reports from the fishing vessels and trader's information, about 140 Taiwanese deep-sea longliners landed SBT each year during 1998-2002, and most of them operated in the Indian Ocean.

7. FISHERIES MONITORING

Intensive efforts have been continuously exerted for better understanding and monitoring the fishery through the following measures:

1. The weekly report for SBT catch is required through Taiwan Tuna Association to submit to Fishery Agency. Provision of daily records, including catch, fishing location and discards in the weekly report has been required while applying for SBT statistical document since 2002.
2. From April 2002, it is mandatory for the vessels that catch SBT shall be equipped with VMS's equipment in order to monitor location of the vessels.
3. The experimental scientific observer program has been launched since 2001. The coverage was 4% by catch in number in 2004.
4. TIS program has been implemented to collect more updated and detailed catch

information. While applying for TIS document, the applicant is required to submit the transshipment document issued by the cargo carriers. After unloading catch in Japan, the applicant is required to submit to Fisheries Agency the unloading documents issued by the Japanese Customs for further verification of catch statistics.

8. OTHER FACTORS

Markets

Currently, all SBT caught by Taiwanese vessels are exported to Japan for sashimi market. Domestic consumption is negligible.

Table 1. Annual SBT catches by Taiwanese deep-sea longline and drift net fisheries during 1971-2004. (Data of 2004 is preliminary.)

Unit: metric ton

Year	Deep Sea Longline	Drift Net	Total
1971	30		30
1972	70		70
1973	90		90
1974	100		100
1975	15		15
1976	15		15
1977	5		5
1978	80		80
1979	53		53
1980	64		64
1981	92		92
1982	171	11	182
1983	149	12	161
1984	244	0	244
1985	174	67	241
1986	433	81	514
1987	623	87	710
1988	622	234	856
1989	1,076	319	1,395
1990	872	305	1,177
1991	1,353	107	1,460
1992	1,219	3	1,222
1993	958		958
1994	1,020		1,020
1995	1,431		1,431
1996	1,467		1,467
1997	872		872
1998	1,446		1,446
1999	1,513		1,513
2000	1,448		1,448
2001	1,580		1,580
2002	1,137		1,137
2003	1,128		1,128
2004*	1,298		1,298

Review of Japanese SBT Fisheries in the 2004 Fishing Season

1. Introduction

Japanese far-seas tuna longline fisheries industry has suffered a severe economic situation due to the fall in tuna price caused by oversupply of tuna, most of which are imported from all over the world. To make the situation worse, the industry has been severely damaged by rise in oil price.

2. Operational Constrains on Effort

Fishing operations in the 2004 fishing season have been started with 6,007 MT as a substantial national allocation, which is subtracted 127 MT (the figure was overcaught in 2002) and added 69 MT (the figure was unused in 2003) from 6,065 MT as agreed at the 2003 CCSBT Commission.

The Japanese fishing industry has voluntary set starting days for three sub-fishing areas (high seas area off Tasmania/Sydney, off Cape Town and in Southern Indian Ocean) and limited the total number of vessels for each sub-fishing area.

To monitor Japanese tuna vessels, GOJ dispatched its fishing patrol vessels for the three sub-fishing areas before and after the areas were closed.

Landing inspection was randomly conducted by landing inspectors of Fisheries Agency to check whether or not reported SBT catch was exactly same as landed SBT. No violation was found in the year 2004.

3. Catch and Effort

In the 2004 fishing season, total SBT caught by Japanese tuna vessels was 5,982 MT.

The fishing operations for the three sub-fishing grounds on high seas were closed on 31 July of 2004 with the catch of 1,134 MT by 46 vessels off Tasmania/Sydney, closed on 9 August with the catch of 3,174 MT by 123 vessels off Cape Town and closed on 23 December of 2004 with the catch of 1,667 MT in Southern Indian Ocean, respectively. 7 MT of SBT was reported as bycatch.

No discards by Japanese tuna vessels were reported. No SBT catch by recreational fishing was reported. All SBT caught by Japanese tuna vessels were presumed to be consumed domestically.

4. Historical Catch and Effort

(1) In the 1999 fishing season, GOJ originally took the same voluntary measures as for the 1998 fishing season, in the absence of a decision on TAC by the Commission. However, following the prescription of provisional measures by ITLOS concerning the

experimental fishing conducted by Japan, the actual catch for the 1999 season was 5,354 MT reduced by 711 MT.

- (2) In the 2000 fishing season, GOJ set the voluntary catch limit as 4,578MT, 1,487MT less than 6,065MT, which was the national allocation to Japan agreed in 1997. However, since the provisional measures prescribed by ITLOS was revoked in August 2000, the voluntary catch limit was changed to 6,065MT in September 2000. The actual catch in the 2000 season was 6,027MT.
- (3) In the 2001 fishing season, fishing operations were started with a tentative catch limit of 6,065MT, and GOJ set the voluntary catch limit of 6,421MT after the consultation with the relevant Members. The actual catch in the 2001 season was 6,647MT.
- (4) In the 2002 fishing season, fishing operations were started with a tentative catch limit of 6,065MT, and the actual catch was 6,192MT.
- (5) In the 2003 fishing season, GOJ set the voluntary catch limit as 5,839 MT, which were subtracted 226 MT from 6,065MT, and the actual catch was 5,770 MT.

5. Annual Fleet Size and Distribution

The number of fishing vessels selected for targeting SBT in the 2004 fishing season was 236. The number of vessels on the high seas off Tasmania/Sydney was 46, the number of vessels on the high seas off Cape Town was 123, and the number of vessels in Southern Indian Ocean was 67 respectively.

6. Historical Fleet Size and Distribution

- (1) In the 1999 fishing season, 227 fishing vessels (30 vessels less than the 1998 fishing seasons) operated, since Japan cut the number of far-seas tuna longliners following the Plan of Action agreed by FAO.
- (2) In the 2000 fishing season, the number of vessels for SBT was reduced to 172 in accordance with the reduction of the catch limit based on the provisional measures prescribed by ITLOS. However, since the provisional measures were revoked, 27 vessels were added to the original, and, consequently 199 vessels operated for SBT based on the increase of the catch limit in September.
- (3) In the 2001, 2002 and 2003 fishing season, the number of vessels for SBT was 227, 224 and 221 respectively.

7. Fisheries Monitoring

- (1) GOJ issued a notification to the industry that every vessel targeting SBT must submit catch and effort report to GOJ every 10 days for the management of the catch limit.
- (2) GOJ took necessary measures to control and monitor the fishery, which include dispatching enforcement vessels to the fishing areas, dispatching scientific observers

onboard randomly selected from SBT operating vessels, and requesting to install VMS for all the SBT targeting vessels and to report their positions to GOJ on daily basis.

- (3) In the 2004 fishing season, 2 enforcement vessels were dispatched to the SBT fishing grounds.
- (4) In the 2004 fishing season, 16 scientific observers were dispatched, and 14 observers conducted research onboard. 2 observers could not embark on fishing vessels because schedule was unfit between reefer and fishing vessels and consequently they failed to conduct research. Observer coverage of Japanese SBT tuna vessels were: 8.3% in the number of vessels, 5.0 % in the number of hooks used and 4.0% in the number of SBT caught.

8. Others factors

Import/Export Statistics

The amount of imported SBT in 2004 was 11,373 MT (product weight), more than 3,000 MT compared with the year 2003. Most of SBT imported to Japan was from CCSBT members (1: Australia, 2: Taiwan, 3: Republic of Korea, 4: New Zealand). In particular, SBT imported from Australia was 9,749 MT, which accounted for 85.7% of the total SBT imported to Japan.

Trend in catch and fishing effort in Japanese SBT fisheries

			total	vessels selected for targeting SBT			others
				high seas off Tasmania/Sydney	high seas off Cape Town	high seas in Southern Indian Ocean	by-catch only
1999	allocation of catch by area		6,065mt	1,720mt	3,000mt	1,345mt	-
	actual catch		5,354mt	1,539mt	2,513mt	1,113mt	189mt
	numbers of vessels		227vessels	69vessels	99vessels	59vessels	-
	fishing period		-	from April 15 to May 31 from July 1 to August 10	from May 1 to August 10	from September 1 to December 1	from March 1 to February 29
2000	allocation of catch by area (**1)	original	4,578mt	1,298mt	2,265mt	1,015mt	-
		revised	6,065mt	1,298mt	2,265mt	2,502mt	-
	actual catch		6,027mt	1,260mt	2,235mt	2,400mt	132mt
	numbers of vessels (**2)	original	172vessels	52vessels	75vessels	45vessels	-
		revised	199vessels	52vessels	75vessels	72vessels	-
	fishing period		-	from April 15 to August 1	from May 1 to August 1	from September 1 to December 27	from March 1 to February 28
2001	allocation of catch by area (**3)	original	6,065mt	1,720mt	3,000mt	1,345mt	-
		revised	6,421mt	1,850mt	3,226mt	1,345mt	-
	actual catch		6,647mt	1,816mt	3,212mt	1,594mt	25mt
	numbers of vessels		227vessels	69vessels	99vessels	59vessels	-
	fishing period		-	from April 15 to July 16	from May 1 to August 2	from September 1 to November 29	from March 1 to February 28
2002	allocation of catch by area		6,065mt	1,720mt	3,000mt	1,345mt	-
	actual catch		6,192mt	1,960mt	3,312mt	854mt	66mt
	numbers of vessels		224vessels	69vessels	96vessels	59vessels	-
	fishing period		-	from April 15 to July 19	from May 1 to July 5	from September 1 to November 30	from March 1 to February 28
2003	allocation of catch by area		5,839mt	1,392mt	3,056mt	1,391mt	
	actual catch		5,770mt	1,556mt	2,884mt	1,074mt	257mt
	numbers of vessels		221vessels	53vessels	105vessels	63vessels	-
	fishing period		-	from April 15 to July 30	from May 1 to July 8	from September 1 to Dec 16	from March 1 to February 29
2004	allocation of catch by area		6,007mt	1,191mt	3,118mt	1,698mt	
	actual catch		5,982mt	1,134mt	3,174mt	1,667mt	7mt
	numbers of vessels		236vessels	46vessels	123vessels	67vessels	-
	fishing period		-	from April 15 to July 31	from May 1 to August 9	from September 1 to Dec 23	from March 1 to February 28

Note: Japanese Fishing season of SBT is from March to February.

(**1) Original allocation of catch was revised because of the provisional measures prescribed by ITOLS were revoked by the arbitral tribunal.

(**2) Original numbers of vessels were revised because of the provisional measures prescribed by ITOLS were revoked by the arbitral tribunal.

(**3) Original allocation of catch was revised after consultations with the relevant members

SBT Import Statistics of Japan

Japanese Import of SBT by Country/Area (Fresh • Chilled and Frozen)

(unit: kg)

	1995 from January to December	1996 from January to December	1997 from January to December	1998 from January to December	1999 from January to December	2000 from January to December	2001 from January to December	2002 from January to December	2003 from January to December	2004 from January to December
Australia	3,272,990	3,195,903	6,125,027	6,256,201	6,987,421	7,831,621	8,185,820	8,237,206	6,368,352	9,748,627
Taiwan	1,276,474	1,396,915	516,055	1,481,378	1,611,250	1,357,906	1,478,751	1,005,656	991,599	1,089,597
Korea	75,836	562,573	671,497	1,649,851	1,056,953	785,426	932,889	954,285	491,446	138,277
New Zealand	202,636	128,249	88,640	120,176	213,576	212,316	199,813	240,338	260,731	228,905
Indonesia	207,758	317,687	368,634	282,265	310,552	127,012	77,528	181,322	48,825	23,899
Seychel					1,129		32,435	176,740		
Philippines		182		4,415	69,170	15,041	16,197	54,828	44,678	84,897
China *	9,183				373	3,738	3,172	15,173	35,004	1,508
South Africa									4,201	
Honduras	146,574	179,918	55,286	144,138	244,423	17,048				
Singapore	1,968	43,835	17,199	18,936	21,827	3,423				
Guam		680	454	3,673	2,429	1,900				
Fiji	445		396	181	972	526				
EQ Guinea				130,846	32,258	446				
Palau		569	690		1,073	166				
Thailand		333	376		645	125				
Belize	3,380	9,534	278	91,849	39,580					
Combodia				17,301	4,374					
Malaysia				271	836					
Greece					502					
Uruguay	342	102	1,028		186					
Tonga	138				162					
USA	1,320			2,062						
Panama			212,632							
Croatia			729							9,980 ¹
F.S of Micronesia			195							
Maldives			163							
New Caledonia			119							
Portugal			93							
Vanuatu		17,855								
France		2,995								
Chile		334								
Cook Islands		140								
Spain	11,061									
Tunisia	124									47,144 ¹
Toral	5,210,229	5,857,804	8,059,491	10,203,543	10,599,691	10,356,694	10,926,605	10,865,548	8,244,836	11,372,834

Source: Japan Trade Statistics, Ministry of Finance

¹ These figures are believed to be northern bluefin tuna so they should not be considered part of the global SBT catch.

Review of New Zealand SBT Fisheries

1. Introduction

Since the start of the domestic southern bluefin tuna (SBT) fishery handline, trolling and longline have been used to target SBT in the EEZ. In recent years nearly all of the SBT catch has been by surface longline with occasional small catches by trolling and a small bycatch in the mid-water trawl fishery for hoki. The domestic fishery is composed of a wide range of vessel types including many small owner-operated boats, a few large low temperature longliners purchased overseas and 4–5 large low temperature Japanese operated distant water longliners chartered by a New Zealand company. Both the chartered vessels and the New Zealand owner-operated vessels fish competitively against New Zealand's SBT catch allocation.

New Zealand's fishing year starts 1 October and finishes 30 September of the following year. SBT is seasonally present from March/April to August-September. Fishing takes place in two areas, off the east coast of the North Island north of 42°S and off the west coast of the South Island south of 42°S. The distribution of SBT catches by month and latitude in 2003/04 is shown in Figure 1. Figure 1 indicates that the season was somewhat earlier and larger catches were taken off the west coast than off the east coast in 2003/04.

In 2003/04 the New Zealand southern bluefin tuna season was closed 12 July 2004 (midnight) in anticipation of realising the national catch limit. Only 397 tonnes was taken by the time the season closed.

2. Operational Constraints on Effort

Voluntary measures

Since 1994 the New Zealand fishing industry has implemented voluntary measures with respect to longline fishing that are detailed in a "Code of Practice". Specific measures include gear specifications, environmental standards, operational practices and closed areas. The intent of the measures is to minimize:

- bycatch (eg of seabirds and marine mammals);
- catch of SBT smaller than 20 kg;
- impacts on other domestic tuna fisheries, and
- gear conflict among SBT longline vessels.

Other voluntary measures that are used but not part of the "Code of Practice" include catch limits by area, changing areas when bird bycatch reaches a specific level, using multiple "tori" lines and longer lines than specified in regulations, night-setting, and the use of pneumatic "bird-scaring" cannons.

Regulatory measures

New Zealand continues to impose the previously agreed national catch limit of 420 t (whole weight). This catch limit has been a competitive limit among all license holders. Regulations specified the annual catch limit and made it an offence to take SBT once the catch limit had been reached. The catch limit applied within and outside New Zealand fisheries waters for the "fishing year" which extends from 1 October to 30 September. In the few years when the catch limit had been exceeded, it was reduced in the following year by an equivalent amount.

Until midway through the 2000/01 fishing season the SBT quota has applied to the catch of both southern bluefin tuna (*Thunnus maccoyii*) and Pacific bluefin tunas (formerly *Thunnus thynnus*, now recognized as *Thunnus orientalis*). The quota restriction on Pacific bluefin tuna was removed

late in the 2000/01 SBT season when Pacific bluefin tuna was identified as a separate species and it was demonstrated that Pacific bluefin could be readily distinguished from SBT in catches based on morphological characteristics and DNA analysis. SBT landings reported prior to June 2001 distinguished between northern and southern bluefin despite the fact the catches of both were counted against the SBT quota. Catches reported as northern bluefin were most likely Pacific bluefin. The quota restriction on northern bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) was removed in 2002.

Southern bluefin tuna was introduced into the New Zealand Quota Management System (QMS) effective 1 October 2004. The combination of a small national allocation and the large number of longline vessels operating in the EEZ had resulted in the traditional New Zealand SBT fishery becoming an “Olympic” fishery. The entry of SBT into the QMS provides a framework where recognised SBT quota holders can maximise the economic efficiency of their longline operations. New Zealand’s allocation applies to all fishing and fishing related mortality caused by New Zealand nationals and for the 2004/05 fishing year has been allocated as follows:

	Tonnes (whole weight)
Recreational take	4
Customary take	1
Other fisheries related sources of mortality	2
Total allowable commercial catch	<u>413</u>
Total	420

NZ anticipates a number of improvements in the management of its southern bluefin tuna fishery as a result of a move to QMS management. Three forms of catch reporting are required (catch, effort and landing, catch against quota and reports by receivers of fish) to improve the monitoring of catches. Significant financial penalties will apply to fishers who do not cover catch of SBT with quota thereby limiting the potential for over catch. Further, a rationalisation of fishing effort for SBT is anticipated in conjunction with an extension of the fishing season to focus on periods when SBT are in the best possible condition for capture. Pacific bluefin tuna were also introduced into the QMS on 1 October 2004 with a total allowable commercial catch of 116 t.

3. Historical Catch and Effort

Table 1 gives the total estimated SBT catch by gear type since 1999 and shows that the New Zealand SBT fishery, initially a handline and troll fishery, has essentially become a longline fishery. With the advent of domestic longline fishing (starting in 1990) longline effort has almost completely replaced fishing effort by trolling and handline. However, small amounts of SBT continue to be caught by trolling, with a small SBT bycatch in the mid-water trawl fishery (1.1 to 5.8 t per year). Total SBT catches are summarised by calendar year and fishing year (1 October to 30 September) in Table 2.

The charter fleet primarily operates off the west coast of the South Island while smaller domestic owned and operated vessels primarily operate off the east coast of the North Island. The fishing season for SBT is essentially the same for both areas and begins in March/April and finishes when the quota is reached usually in June/July. Figure 2 shows the effort trend (in thousands of hooks) for the longline fishery from 1999 to 2004 for the two primary fishing areas for SBT target sets. Longline effort in the northeast area (mostly domestic owned and operated vessels) dramatically increasing since 1999, declined by about 35% in 2004. In contrast SBT fishing effort in the southwest area (chiefly by the charter fleet) has been relatively constant but increased by nearly the same amount in 2004. Total longline effort (charter and domestic combined) targeting SBT between 1999 and 2003 increased from 1.9 to 3.5 million hooks targeting SBT before declining slightly (about 8% overall) in 2004. Despite generally increasing longline effort since 1999, CPUE has declined in the core fishing areas and months by about 50%.

4. Annual Fleet Size and Distribution

Longline fishing targeting SBT primarily occurs off the west coast of the South Island south of 42° S and along the east coast of the North Island north of 42° S. SBT also comprises a bycatch in the bigeye target fishery in the Bay of Plenty. Figure 3 shows the position of all longline sets targeting SBT in 2003/04 (charter and owner-operator vessels combined). In 2003/04 longline fishing was generally more broadly spread than in most years with target fishing spread south along the Wairarapa coast, north into the Bay of Plenty, and the North Taranaki Bight off the west coast of the North Island.

The total number of longliners fishing in 2004 was 82 vessels, most of which were small longliners (< 50 GRT). Figure 4 shows the catch of SBT by vessel size. The five large longliners caught nearly half of the total SBT catch in 2004 with the remaining domestic owned and operated vessels catching the remainder.

5. Historical Fleet Size and Distribution

The New Zealand SBT fishery began off the west coast of the South Island as a winter small boat handline and troll fishery in the early 1980s. Most fishing by these vessels was in July and August. Since 1990, however, these methods have comprised only a minor component of the fishery as the SBT quota has generally been caught by longline vessels by the time the handline fishery started. During the 1980s to mid-1990s most longlining was conducted by foreign licensed longliners from Japan. However, declining catch rates, shortened seasons of availability and reports of increased operating costs in the EEZ resulted in the foreign licensed fleet ceasing operations in 1995. Domestic longlining began in 1991 and steadily increased to over 150 vessels in 2002 before declining again in 2003 (132 vessels) and again in 2004 (82 vessels).

6. Fisheries Monitoring

Observer coverage

Observer coverage has been nearly 100% in the charter fleet for several years. However, the small size of domestic owned and operated vessels and short trips has made it difficult for the Ministry of Fisheries (MFish) to realise the 10% target for observer coverage in this fleet. Observer deployments during the 2003/04 fishing year resulted in 20% of all longline hooks targeting SBT being observed (97% of hooks in the Charter fleet and 6% of hooks on domestic owner-operator vessels). This level of observer coverage resulted in 100% of the charter catch and 16% of the domestic catch (in number) being observed. Realignment of MFish observer allocation is expected to result in continued improvements in coverage of domestic owned and operated longline vessels. Observer coverage on vessels using handline or trolling is not done because the contribution of these methods to the total catch is negligible.

RTMP coverage

To date MFish has operated an in-season catch monitoring system for SBT. This system required that on-shore processing companies and freezer vessels (including all of the chartered fleet) report their catch by e-mail or fax during the season to MFish. Weekly reporting was required once 25% of the catch allocation was reached and daily reporting required when 50% of the catch allocation had been reached. Reports were collated and analysed by MFish with the season being closed as close as possible to reaching our national allocation. All SBT permit holders were then notified that the season was closed and that it would be an offence to take southern bluefin tuna for the remainder of the fishing year.

From 1 October 2004 the catch monitoring and catch balancing systems in place for all other NZ quota species will apply to southern bluefin tuna. All fishers are required to furnish monthly returns of catch and these are then matched to individual holdings of quota entitlement. Financial penalties will apply to fishers (on a monthly basis) who catch southern bluefin tuna other than under the authority of quota. Fishers have the opportunity to reconcile their catch and quota entitlements up until the end of the fishing year and if they do not do so the financial penalties

increase. The total fishery catches will be assessed annually and any adjustment made to future years to balance the catch from the fishery and the NZ national allocation as required.

Biological information

Observers from the MFish Scientific Observer Programme are responsible for collecting biological data on SBT and bycatch data for catch characterisation. In 2003/04, 2007 SBT were measured for length (out of 2063 observed), otoliths were collected from 1140 SBT and observers recovered 5 tags (3 CSIRO dart tags, 1 CSIRO archival tag, and 1 CCSBT dart tag). In addition, observers tagged six SBT with Mk9 archival tags. Tag recovery data was provided to each tagging agency. Otoliths are stored at NIWA and this year nearly 200 SBT otoliths collected in 2001 through 2004 were aged. Length, weight (both processed and whole weights) and sex are recorded regularly for SBT and all major fish bycatch species.

7. Other Factors

Import/export statistics

Statistics on the export of SBT are compiled by Customs and summarized by the Department of Statistics. Export statistics are further summarized by the New Zealand Seafood Industry Council and maintained as a database for economic evaluations of New Zealand fisheries.

Markets

The only market for SBT caught in the EEZ is the Japanese sashimi market and domestic consumption is negligible.

Mitigation

New Zealand regulations specify that all tuna longline vessels shall use seabird-scaring devices (“tori-lines”). The minimum standard for “tori lines” is the same as initially specified by CCAMLR. The domestic fishing industry has a voluntary code of practice advocating night setting for all tuna longlining and for the large tuna longline vessels a limit on total incidental mortality of “at risk” seabirds has been set. New Zealand is currently implementing an approved National Plan of Action for Seabirds in response to the FAO International Plan of Action for Seabirds.

Recreational and Customary Catches of SBT

Recreational fishing for SBT in New Zealand waters is limited. There are records of recreational catch from both the North and South Islands. There are no estimates of SBT catches by Maori non-commercial fishing. However, a nominal allowance is made that is expected to be sufficient to cover both recreational and customary catches within New Zealand’s national allocation.

Resolution on IUU fishing and establishment of CCSBT Vessel record

New Zealand has provided a list of authorised vessels to the CCSBT Secretariat and has put in place routine systems to update the record as required. The list includes all New Zealand flagged and registered fishing vessels all of which are technically authorised to fish for southern bluefin tuna in New Zealand fisheries waters. Any catch of southern bluefin tuna is recorded and monitored by routine systems established as part of the New Zealand Quota Management System and New Zealand has no information to suggest that any of its registered fishing vessels have an involvement in IUU fishing. Procedures have been put in place to ensure that foreign owned vessels fishing under charter to New Zealand companies may only fish for southern bluefin tuna if they are from a member state of the Extended CCSBT. Individual assessments of the compliance history of foreign owned vessels are required prior to the approval of their registration as New Zealand fishing vessels.

Prepared by: Shelton Harley, Talbot Murray¹, Terese Kendrick² and Arthur Hore³

¹ Ministry of Fisheries, Wellington, NZ

² Trophia Ltd., Kaikoura, NZ

³ Ministry of Fisheries, Auckland, NZ

Table 1. The annual southern bluefin tuna catch (tonnes whole weight) for calendar years 1999 to 2004, by fishing method. Annual total catch estimates are scaled to Licensed Fish Receiver returns for 1999 to 2001, and to Monthly Harvest Returns since 2002, 0.0 = less than 100 kg.

Fishing method	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Longline	453.3	375.6	355.8	460.0	387.2	384.4
Troll	4.3	2.2	0.1	0.5	0.1	1.7
Handline	2.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3
Other	1.1	2.3	2.5	2.1	1.4	5.8
Total (t)	460.6	380.3	358.5	462.6	388.7	393.3

Table 2. New Zealand southern bluefin tuna catches by calendar year and fishing year (1 October to 30 September).

Calendar year	t.	Fishing year	t.
1980	130		
1981	173		
1982	305		
1983	132		
1984	93		
1985	94		
1986	82		
1987	59	1986/87	60
1988	94	1987/88	94
1989	437	1988/89	437
1990	529	1989/90	529
1991	164	1990/91	165
1992	279	1991/92	279
1993	217	1992/93	216
1994	277	1993/94	277
1995	436	1994/95	435
1996	139	1995/96	140
1997	334	1996/97	333
1998	337	1997/98	331
1999	461	1998/99	458
2000	380	1999/00	381
2001	358	2000/01	362
2002	463	2001/02	452
2003	389	2002/03	388
2004	393	2003/04	397

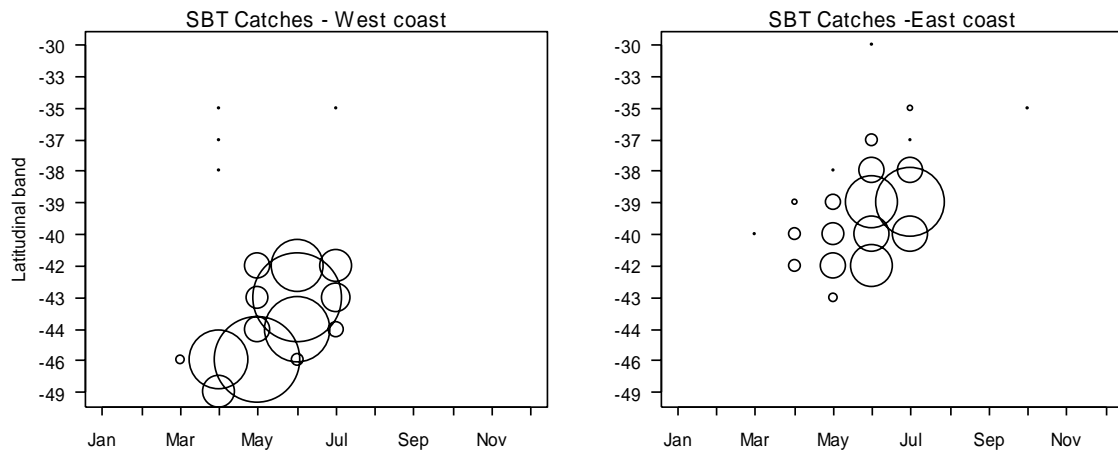


Figure 1: The spatial and seasonal distribution of southern bluefin tuna catches (whole weight) in 2003/04, off the west coast of the South Island and off the east coast of the North Island, New Zealand. The largest circle, (west coast in June) represents 64 t of SBT.

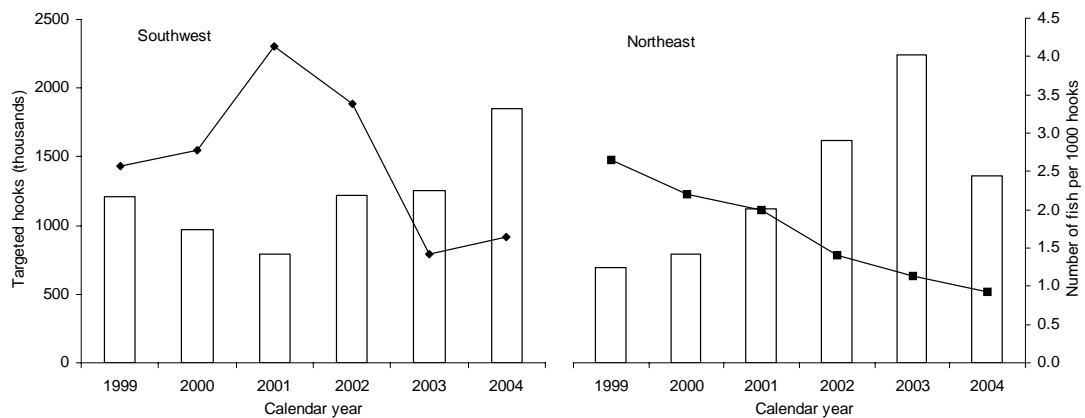


Figure 2. Longline effort (number of hooks set) (vertical bars) and nominal CPUE (number of SBT per 1000 hooks) (solid line) when targeting southern bluefin tuna for calendar years 1999 to 2004.

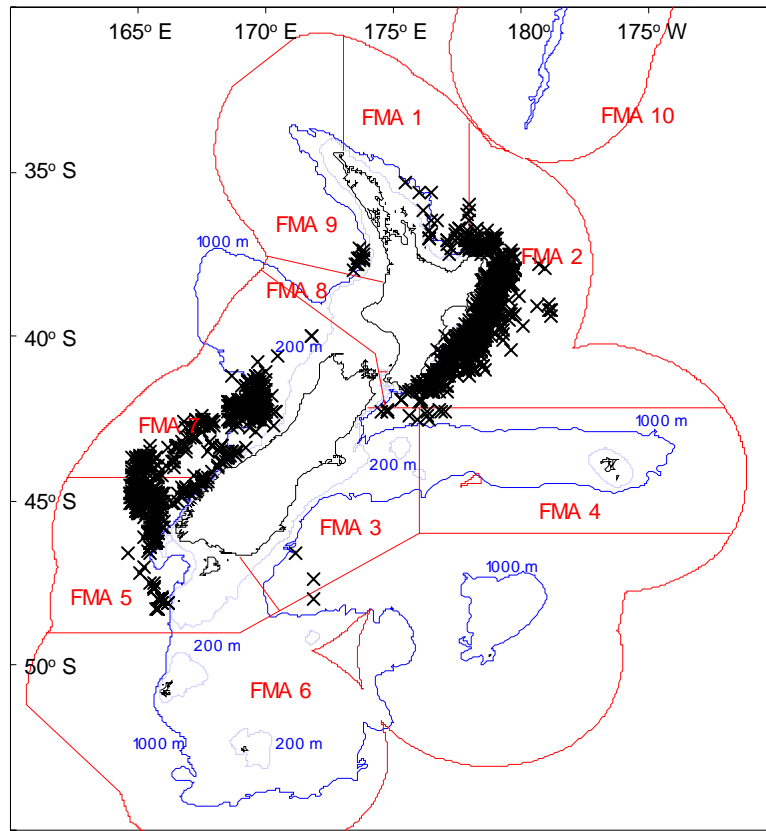


Figure 3. Distribution of longline sets targeting SBT in fishing year 2003/04 (Charter and owner-operated vessels combined).

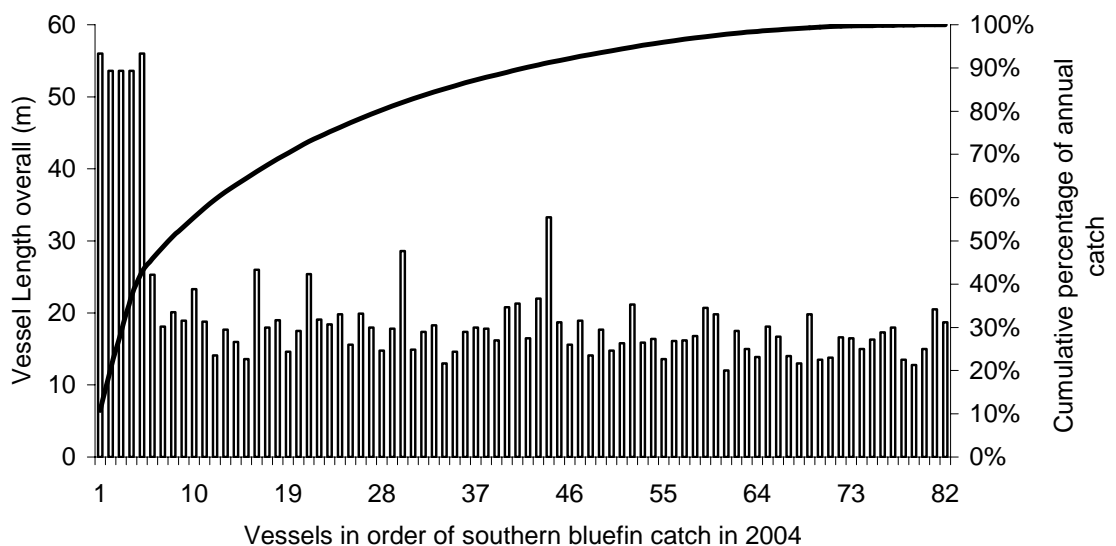


Figure 4. Longline fleet composition (LOA of each vessel) catching southern bluefin tuna in 2004 in order of SBT catch (by weight), together with the cumulative percentage of the total catch.

2005 PHILIPPINE REPORT TO CCSBT

This report will contain the number of vessels that have caught southern bluefin tuna and the volume of catch as well as those exported to Japan in 2005.

As reported last year, large purse seiners from the Philippines have fished in adjacent neighboring countries under access, joint venture agreements or as local companies, with most of their catch being landed in Philippine ports for processing. Catches are also taken in high seas by purse seiners and longlines. With the passage of the 1998 Philippine Fisheries Code providing incentives for Philippine fishing vessel operators to fish further in the Philippine EEZ and beyond have encouraged them to venture in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans to catch tunas like yellowfin, bigeye with incidental catch of southern bluefin tuna.

At present while the Philippines reported about 25 Philippine flagged fishing vessels authorized to fish southern blue fin tuna however from January to June 2005 only 3 fishing vessels among others caught SBT. About 24.5 tons were exported to Japan.

In the implementation of relevant CCSBT conservation and management measures, Philippine flagged fishing vessels are required under the Fisheries Code that before they can fish outside Philippine waters they should first secure an International Fishing Permit from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) in addition to their Commercial Fishing Vessel and Gear License (CFVGL). They are also required to keep a daily record of fish catch and spoilage, landing points, quantity and value of fish caught. To have a uniform reporting system for the Philippine flagged fishing vessels, the Philippine Tuna Industry Council have approved for implementation a log sheet system which improve tuna catch statistics in the country in consonance with the requirement of Regional Fisheries Management Commissions. Moreover, the BFAR since October 2004 have implemented a moratorium in the licensing of new fishing vessels except when they operate outside Philippine waters. However, before a fishing company can import a fishing vessel for licensing in the Philippines it is required that an equivalent GRT must be scrapped from its fleet.

In a recent meeting of the Tuna Council, it also approved the Philippine Tuna Management Plan for the sustainable management of the tuna resources. Also, an agreement has been entered into between a Philippine company and BFAR for the provision of a Monitoring, Control and surveillance system for the Philippines.

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Attachment 9

Report of the Tenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee

**9 September 2005
Narita, Japan**

CCSBT WORKPLAN 2006

This workplan does not include ongoing routine work of the Secretariat such as processing of TIS and tag recapture data, or promotion of the tagging program etc.

	STOCK ASSESSMENT	REVIEW OF SRP	DATABASE ACTIVITY	TAGGING PROGRAM	TUNA MARKET & FARMING REVIEW	CATCH MONITORING SYSTEM	REVIEW OF RFMOs	COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE	AUTHORISED VESSEL LIST	COOPERATING NON-MEMBERS
2005										
Nov	Data Exchange		Ongoing development of database, loading of updated and new data (from members, other providers, TIS scheme, tagging project), and production of necessary data extracts/reports	Commence 5th year of tag placements					Maintain vessel list including admission of vessels from cooperating non-members	As directed by CCSBT correspond with potential new cooperating non-members
Dec										
2006										
Jan										
Feb		Members to consider needs			Undertake review of Japanese market information and Australian SBT farming operations	Operate monthly catch monitoring system	Undertake any work directed by CCSBT to contribute to review activities	Develop new terms of reference and priorities		
Mar										
Apr				Tagging completed						
May				Interseasonal progress report				Arrange interseasonal agreement		Advise members of any responses
Jun	Analysis by member scientists									
Jul					Special Meeting					
Aug										
Sep	Stock assessment by SAG / SC	Consideration by SC		SC review of program	SC Assessment					
Oct	CCSBT consideration	CCSBT consideration		CCSBT consideration	CCSBT consideration		CCSBT consideration	1st meeting		CCSBT consideration