

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

## **Report of the Special Meeting of the Commission**

**23-27 August 2011**

**Sydney, Australia**

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### **Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting**

1. The Chair, Dr Abdul Ghofar (Indonesia) opened the Special Meeting of the Commission and welcomed all participants.
2. The list of participants is at **Appendix 1**.

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

3. The Commission endorsed all the recommendations made by the Special Meeting of the Extended Commission, which is at **Appendix 2**.

### **Agenda Item 3. Other business**

4. There was no other business.

### **Agenda Item 4. Adoption of report of meeting**

5. The report of the Special Meeting of the Commission was adopted.

### **Agenda Item 5. Closure of meeting**

6. The meeting was closed at 9:40 am, on 27 August 2011.

## **List of Appendices**

### Appendix

- 1 List of Participants
- 2 Report of the Special Meeting of the Extended Commission

## List of Participants Special Meeting of the Commission

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Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

**Appendix 2**

# **Report of the Special Meeting of the Extended Commission**

**23-27 August 2011**

**Sydney, Australia**

## Report of the Special Meeting of the Extended Commission

23-27 August 2011

Sydney, Australia

### Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting

#### *1.1. Confirmation of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Special Meeting*

1. Dr Abdul Ghofar (Indonesia) was confirmed as the Chair of the Special Meeting of the Extended Commission (EC). Mr Kenji Kagawa was confirmed as the Vice-Chair.
2. The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed delegates and observers. He noted that this meeting was originally intended to be a 3-day meeting for the very important purpose of evaluating and adopting a management procedure for the CCSBT. However, due to the disastrous earthquake and tsunami in Japan earlier this year (and he extend his deepest sympathies to Japan in relation to this disaster), the SFMWG meeting of the CCSBT had to be cancelled. Consequently, the current meeting has been lengthened by two days to enable consideration of some of the items from the cancelled meeting.

#### *1.2. Adoption of agenda*

3. The agenda was adopted and is included at **Attachment 1**.
4. Participants were introduced and the list of meeting participants is included at **Attachment 2**.
5. The list of documents submitted to the meeting is at **Attachment 3**.

#### *1.3. Opening statements*

##### *1.3.1 Members*

6. Opening statements by Members of the EC are at **Attachment 4**.

##### *1.3.2 Cooperating Non-Members*

7. Opening statements by Cooperating Non-Members (CNMs) are at **Attachment 5**.

##### *1.3.3 Observers*

8. Opening Statements by Observers are at **Attachment 6**.

9. The Chair noted that recent news in "The FishSite" highlighted the issue on a trade ban for Atlantic bluefin tuna and that while sharing the same concern, he did not want such an issue to happen for southern bluefin tuna. Therefore, to refresh this meeting, the Chair recited the poem "On Behalf of Bluefin Tuna" (**Attachment 7**).

## **Agenda Item 2. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC)**

10. The Chair of the ESC, Dr John Annala, presented the report of the 2011 ESC meeting which is at **Attachment 8**.
11. Following an extensive question and answer session relating to issues arising from the report of the ESC, the EC adopted the report of the ESC. It also noted the extensive work undertaken in developing a new recommended Management Procedure (the Bali Procedure) that combined the best elements of the two candidate Management Procedures.

## **Agenda Item 3. Evaluation and Adoption of a Management Procedure**

### ***3.1. Choice of management procedure and associated parameters***

12. The EC agreed to the "Bali Procedure" that was recommended by the ESC. The EC further agreed that:
  - An initial reduction period (IRP) was not required prior to implementation of the management procedure.
  - The Metarule process documented at Attachment 10 of the Report of the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Committee will be used to determine whether exceptional circumstances exist and to specify the process that will be used to deal with such circumstances.
  - In addition to the Metarule process, some Members expressed their support for the concept of having an emergency rule for specific circumstance(s). This issue needs to be considered further during CCSBT 18.
  - The initial TAC recommended by the management procedure will be implemented by each Member/CNM for the fishing year that commences immediately after adoption of the management procedure<sup>1</sup>. In New Zealand's case, the first TAC will apply retrospectively to the fishing year commencing on 1 October 2011. However, for subsequent TACs, there will be a one year lag between the TAC being recommended by the management procedure and

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<sup>1</sup> In other words, there will not be a 1 year lag between the **first TAC** recommended by the management procedure and the implementation of that TAC.

implementation of that TAC. Consequently, the management procedure will be recommending a TAC in about September of 2011, 2013<sup>2</sup>, 2016 and 2019 etc. for implementation in (for the example of Jan-Dec fishing years) 2012, 2015, 2018 and 2021 etc. as shown in **Attachment 9**.

- Member scientists, in conjunction with the Management Procedure Coordinator, are to provide results, comprising the specific TAC recommendations for 12 different variations of the Bali Procedure, for consideration by Members in advance of CCSBT 18. The 12 management procedures will be based on the above decisions and will have the following combinations:
  - Tuning years<sup>3</sup> of 2030 and 2035. The results from the latest ESC showed more optimistic rebuilding projections than in the past and enabled the slowest rebuilding option (tuning to 2040) to be eliminated as an option.
  - Maximum TAC changes of 3,000t and 5,000t (for both TAC increases and decreases).
  - With and without a specific rule that prevents the management procedure from allowing a TAC increase in its first TAC setting period, as well as a 1000t increase in the first TAC setting period.
- The EC will not be able to consider any further variations in the Bali Procedure options at CCSBT 18 that have not been pre-specified and for which runs and final TAC recommendations have not been produced.
- If the management procedure chosen at CCSBT 18 generates an increase in the TAC for the first period, then the EC will consider the magnitude of that increase and decide whether or not to adopt a lower TAC increase for that first period, noting the recommendations of the ESC and the current very low spawning stock biomass.

### **3.2. *Development of rules for a three year quota block***

13. A small working group considered rules for managing catch allocations over the three year period for which the management procedure generates a TAC. In relation to under-fishing provisions, further consideration is needed on the monitoring and accounting measures that would need to be in place before any carry-over of under-catches could be agreed by the EC. Items recommended in principle, subject to the considerations outlined below, include:

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<sup>2</sup> Because of the switch between no lag and a 1 year lag, the 2013 TAC recommendation is only 2 years after the previous TAC recommendation and is 3 years before the next TAC recommendation. All subsequent TAC recommendations will be 3 years apart.

<sup>3</sup> The “tuning year” is the year by which the spawning stock biomass should achieve the interim rebuilding target under the chosen management procedure.

- Catches would be maintained within an individual annual TAC set at the same level for each year in the three-year period, except for limited provision for carry-forward of under-catch.
  - Noting the potential administrative complexity of carry-forward schemes, Members can choose whether or not to implement such a scheme in their fisheries.
  - If an annual catch allocation is under-caught, up to 20% of the Member's annual allocation can be carried forward to the next quota year only.
  - Quota that has been carried forward would not in turn generate under-fishing carry-forward.
  - Consideration be given to conditional carry-forward of under-fishing from the last year of one three-year period to the first year of the next (only if the TAC remains the same or increases).
14. Recommendations from the small working group should be considered by the Compliance Committee and the EC. Further discussion is also needed on whether, and also, how carry-over could occur between three-year management procedure periods.
15. Given that agreements have been reached on the time lag in generating future TACs, there is no need for specific provisions for catch in excess of the average annual allocation (although Members still have an expectation that any over-catch will be paid back).

#### **Agenda Item 4. Total Allowable SBT Catch and its Allocation**

##### ***4.1. TAC***

16. As there will not be a one year lag between the initial TAC recommended by the management procedure and the implementation of that TAC, the management procedure will be recommending the TAC for 2012.

##### ***4.2. Allocation of TAC***

17. The EC was not able to make final decisions on allocation of the future TAC at this meeting and will continue these discussions at CCSBT 18. However, the EC agreed on the following general points relating to allocation of the future TAC:
- Members that have taken voluntary catch reductions should be able to cease taking those reductions.
  - All Members have an interest in returning to their nominal allocations as expressed in the report of CCSBT 16, and in moving all Members towards these nominal allocations as soon as the status of the stock allows.



- A process needs to be developed for returning Japan's actual allocation of the TAC to its nominal percentage. The timing, rate and achievement of status of conditions mentioned in paragraph 66 of the Report of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Commission for return are subject to further discussion.
  - South Africa's circumstances as a range State for SBT were recognised, and serious consideration to the level of allocation to South Africa is underway. Any new allocation in accordance with Article 8(4) of the Convention will be subject to South Africa acceding to the Convention.
  - In the event of a TAC increase, all Members should receive some proportion of that increase even in circumstances where part of the additional TAC may be applied on a non-proportional basis (e.g. allocation to new Members, return of past allocations etc.)
  - Unless a CNM accedes to the Convention, the allocations of CNMs will remain at status quo levels during the first TAC-setting period.
18. The EC recommended that a tool be developed before CCSBT 18 to enable viewing and evaluation of different allocation options at CCSBT 18. Australia agreed that it would attempt to develop such a tool.
  19. The European Union and South Africa noted that while they understood the effectiveness of holding much of the discussion under this agenda item in a Heads of Delegation meeting, this impedes the ability for CNMs and Observers to be involved in the discussions. The EU further noted that this makes their attendance at meetings of the CCSBT redundant, and requested that in future a more open and transparent way of running the meeting be considered.
  20. HSI and TRAFFIC supported the statements, noting that while meetings are now open to observers, it would be preferable if the discussion could be held in plenary sessions to provide opportunities to be more involved.
  21. South Africa provided a statement regarding a request for an increase in allocation pending their accession to the CCSBT and the perceived lack of transparency in consideration of such requests, which is at **Attachment 10**.
  22. The EC acknowledged South Africa's concerns, but asked for patience because the EC is attempting to obtain agreements that will achieve rebuilding of the stock. The decisions are not easy and that is why there has been debate outside plenary and the EC hoped this type of debate would not be necessary in the future. It further noted that once a level of rebuilding has been achieved there would be a greater flexibility in incorporating all interests.

#### **Agenda Item 5. Consideration of a revised draft CCSBT Strategic Plan**

23. The draft CCSBT strategic plan as outlined in CCSBT-SMEC/1108/BGD01 was discussed. The plan was revised and adopted by the EC and is at **Attachment 11**.

**Agenda Item 6. Pending issues on CCSBT Confidentiality arrangements**

24. As detailed in CCSBT-SMEC/1108/BGD02, three paragraphs of the Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the CCSBT that were not implemented at CCSBT 17 were discussed.
25. There was a proposal that these paragraphs be deleted from the rules and that the words "under these rules" be appended to the title of section 1. The Meeting will review the inclusion of these paragraphs further at CCSBT18.

**Agenda Item 7. Provision of Fisheries-Dependent Data to Support the Scientific Assessment of Southern Bluefin Tuna and Ecologically Related Species**

26. Australia submitted CCSBT-SMEC/1108/BGD04 regarding provision of fisheries dependant data. Japan and New Zealand provided papers CCSBT-SMEC/1108/BGD05 and CCSBT-SMEC/1108/BGD03 respectively which provided revisions and comments on Australia's paper. It was agreed that Australia would provide a revised version of its paper taking into account Member's comments for consideration at CCSBT 18.
27. Australia encouraged Members that had not already commented on these documents to provide comments as soon as possible so that all views can be considered.

**Agenda Item 8. Compliance Committee Working Group Session**

28. The chair of the Compliance Committee convened a Working Group to focus on issues that were to be discussed at the SFMWG and to assist in the progress of work to be completed at the 6th meeting of the Compliance Committee in October 2011. A summary of these discussions is at **Attachment 12**.

**Agenda Item 9. Other business**

***9.1. Report from Indonesia about the SBT imported from Indonesia to Japan without CDS documents and tags***

29. Indonesia provided a summary of actions taken in regard to a single case of 75 SBT exported to Japan without CDS documents and tags. The summary is provided at **Attachment 13**.

**Agenda Item 10. Close of meeting**

***10.1 Adoption of report***

30. The report of the meeting was adopted.

***10.2 Close of meeting***

31. The meeting closed at 9:32 am, 27 August 2011.

## **List of Attachments**

### **Attachment**

1. Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. List of Documents
4. Opening Statements by Members
5. Opening Statements by Cooperating Non-Members
6. Opening Statements by Observers
7. Chair's poem "On Behalf of Bluefin Tuna"
8. Report of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee
9. TAC Implementation Timetable assuming that the Management Procedure is adopted in October 2011
10. The South African delegation statement to CCSBT
11. Revised CCSBT Strategic Plan
12. Report of the Compliance Committee Working Group Session
13. Report from Indonesia about the SBT Imported from Indonesia to Japan without CDS Documents and Tags

**Agenda**  
**Special Meeting of the Extended Commission**  
**23-27 August 2011**  
**Sydney, Australia**

1. Opening of the Meeting
  - 1.1. Confirmation of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Special Meeting
  - 1.2. Adoption of Agenda
  - 1.3. Opening Statements
    - 1.3.1. Members
    - 1.3.2. Cooperating Non-members
2. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC)
3. Evaluation and Adoption of a Management Procedure (MP)
  - 3.1. Choice of MP and associated parameters
  - 3.2. Development of rules for a three year quota block
4. Total Allowable SBT Catch and its Allocation
  - 4.1. TAC
  - 4.2. Allocation of TAC
5. Consideration of a revised draft CCSBT Strategic Plan
6. Pending issues on CCSBT Confidentiality arrangements
7. Provision of Fisheries-Dependent Data to Support the Scientific Assessment of Southern Bluefin Tuna and Ecologically Related Species
8. Compliance Committee Working Group Session
9. Other Business
  - 9.1. Report from Indonesia about the SBT imported from Indonesia to Japan without CDS documents and tags
10. Close of Meeting
  - 10.1. Adoption of report
  - 10.2. Close of meeting

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**List of Documents  
Special Meeting of the Extended Commission**

**(CCSBT-SMEC/1108/ )**

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. Draft List of Documents
4. (Secretariat) Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation
5. (CC Chair, Consultant, Secretariat) Draft CCSBT Compliance Plan and Compliance Policy Statements
6. (Japan) Japan's proposal on Resolution on strengthening compliance
7. (SC Chair) Report of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee

**(CCSBT-SMEC/1108/BGD )**

1. (Secretariat) Revised draft CCSBT Strategic Plan (*previously CCSBT-SFMWG/1103/04*)
2. (Secretariat) Pending issues on CCSBT Confidentiality arrangements (*previously CCSBT-SFMWG/1103/11*)
3. (New Zealand) New Zealand comments on Australian proposal for the provision of operational data (*previously CCSBT-SFMWG/1103/12*)
4. (Australia) Attachment 16 of the CCSBT 17 Report - Australia's Proposed Draft Resolution on the Provision of Fisheries-Dependent Data to Support the Scientific Assessment of Southern Bluefin Tuna and Ecologically Related Species (*previously CCSBT-SFMWG/1103/10*)
5. (Japan) Japan's proposal on information exchange (*previously CSBT-SFMWG/1103/06*)

**(CCSBT-SMEC/1108/Info )**

1. (New Zealand) Cox, A. (2009), "Quota Allocation in International Fisheries", OECD Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Working Papers, No. 22, OECD Publishing

**(CCSBT- SMEC/1108/Rep )**

1. Report of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (July 2011)
2. Report of the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2010)
3. Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2010)
4. Report of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2010)
5. Report of the Second meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working

Group Meeting (April 2010)

6. Report of the Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2009)
7. Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2009)
8. Report of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2009)
9. Report of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group Meeting (April 2009)
10. Report of the Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2006)

**Opening Statement by Australia**

Good morning.

Let me welcome you to Australia and to Sydney. I hope you have a chance to enjoy this beautiful city during the week.

This week sees us gather as a special meeting of the Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna with our main purpose being to finalise a management procedure that will secure the rebuilding of the southern bluefin tuna stock.

For Australia, this is an extremely important week in the Commission's almost 20-year history. At the end of this week, we will know whether our collective commitment to rebuild the southern bluefin tuna spawning stock is going to translate into action.

Let me clearly set out Australia's priorities. First, and quite simply, we want to finalise and adopt a management procedure. We want a management procedure that has a low risk of driving further declines in the southern bluefin tuna spawning stock. The most recent advice from CCSBT's Scientific Committee is that the spawning stock remains very low – at around 5 per cent of its unfished levels – and that even in the absence of fishing the stock would not recover to our agreed interim rebuilding target of 20 per cent until the year 2020. Given this advice, it is Australia's view that catches should be maintained at more precautionary levels in the initial years of rebuilding. The Scientific Committee's analysis also indicated that, while the spawning stock of southern bluefin tuna remains at very low levels, the outlook for its recovery is more positive. The most recent Japanese longline data and the results of the 2011 aerial survey of juvenile southern bluefin tuna in the Great Australian Bight are encouraging; if these indicators continue to be positive there may be scope for global catch levels to increase under a management procedure.

Secondly, Australia is a significant coastal range State for southern bluefin tuna and our industry is based around the migration of the species through our southern waters. Our industry cannot relocate, it cannot change its operations to target other species, it is entirely dependent on the members of this commission working cooperatively and effectively to recover the southern bluefin tuna at the global level. We acknowledge that all members are concerned about the long-term profitability of our respective industries and recognise that, though our industries have different levels of dependence on this fishery, there will be a need to accommodate all interests in order to progress our work.

Chair, at our annual meeting last year in Taipei, commissioners discussed at some length the expectations that the international community has of regional fisheries management organisations and the prevailing view that organisations such as CCSBT have failed to meet those expectations. In Australia's view, if we do not reach agreement on a management procedure that will form the basis of setting global catch levels for 2012 and beyond, we can expect that there will be a concerted effort to take



decisions about sustainable catch and commercial trade of southern bluefin tuna away from this organisation.

Having said that, we believe that CCSBT has made significant progress over the past two years and, guided by the advice from our Scientific Committee, we are very confident that we will be able to reach consensus on the management procedure this week that we will then use to set the global TAC at our October meeting.

Thank you.

**Opening Statement by the Fishing Entity of Taiwan**

Distinguished delegates, observers, ladies and gentlemen, Good morning

On behalf of my delegation, I would like to thank to Australia for hosting this meeting and choosing this beautiful view of venue. I would also like to welcome the representatives of South Africa, and European Community as Cooperating Non-Member and observers from Human Society International and TRAFFIC.

Based on the result of full stock assessment made by the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) held in Bali, Indonesia last month, we are glad to see that the stock recruitments show significant increase after twice TAC reduction in the past five years although the current spawning stock biomass (SSB) remains very low ( $0.03-0.07 SSB_0$ ). However, it will be sometime before the recent stronger recruitments enter the spawning stock. Model results indicate that the spawning stock biomass is likely to increase after 2012.

Besides, the ESC also made a very productive result for MP after updating the statistic catch data and fisheries indicators and recommends a single MP, the Bali Procedure. We hope we can adopt MP and decide the associated parameters in this meeting.

In addition, TAC and allocation are also very important issue to be linked with MP decision. According to TAC calculations using the recommended MP, we hope we can increase TAC and allocation for the following year.

For strengthening the effectiveness of conservation and management measures adopted by the Extended Commission of CCSBT, we would like to exchange preliminary views with Members and Cooperating Non-members on the draft of CCSBT Compliance Plan and Compliance Policy Statements and the related proposal proposed by Members for the Strategy Fisheries Management Working Group.

Finally, we look forward to working together with all members and co-operating non-members in the next couple days in producing fruitful results from the meeting.

Thank you.

**Opening Statement by Indonesia**

First of all, we would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to The Government of Australia, Fisheries Agency of Australia for hosting this Special Meeting of the Extended Commission in Sydney, secondly also thank to Secretariat of CCSBT for the invitation to this meeting, and to facilitate it in a way to any preparation prior to the meeting, so that we can participate to this meeting.

Considering that this special meeting is very important to economic development for our country and development of fisheries in particular, we come with a member of delegates which are come from various institution internally among the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, however excluded tuna fishing industries realizing that they may be in hectic schedule facing The Moslem Celebration day in the coming week. And in this occasion I would like to Introduce our delegates:

I am Agus A Budhiman, as the Head of Delegation, and as a member of delegation is Erni Widjayanti, Mr Ansori Djawawi, Ms Fifi Rifiani, Mr R Adi Tejamakayasa, Mr Irwan Fakhry, Mr Rama A Kurniawan, Dr Wudianto, Mr Ferry Ananto and Mr Rifky Setiawan.

During the Extended commission meeting of CCSBT 17 in Taiwan and Narita Tokyo, The commission had agreed to assist Indonesia to introduce Management Procedure of SBT and we thank to commission and secretariat to dispatch Dr Campbell Davis of CSIRO Australia to deliver his presentation to the officer of Directorate General of Capture Fisheries and to scientist of Central Research for Capture Fisheries and Species.

In regard to management of SBT, we are fully aware and understood that there are much problem in our SBT Fisheries, such as exporting SBT to Japan without tagging and lack of capability to collect data from artisanal fisheries. Hopefully all the commission understood as Indonesia is a developing countries, perhaps only one in the member and because of too many fish landing place when tuna are landed, particularly along the coast of southern part of Java and western part of Sumatera Island. With total number of 816 landing place throughout Indonesia, data collection on tuna and other fish is still much problem. However we are not going to excuse from that situation, Indonesia will go along with all resolution of CCSBT and we are committed to support management and conservation of SBT from now and in the long run. To improve data catch, The Ministerial Decree No 18/2010 concerning obligation of Fishing Vessel to submit Logbook data has been enacted since October 2010, and has take effect to support and improve CDS data for example.

Last but not least, we are hoping that this meeting will get the best formulation and conclusion for betterment of SBT Management and Conservation.

Thank you.

**Opening Statement by Japan**

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

I am the Japanese CCSBT Commissioner, Kenji Kagawa. I replaced Japan's former Commissioner, Mr Miyahara, in January 2011.

Let me first thank the Australian government for hosting this special meeting of the Commission in this beautiful city of Sydney.

I would like to also express our sincere appreciation for your heartfelt sympathies for the huge earthquake disaster that hit Japan in March, and for a lot of assistance you have provided to us for recovering from the disaster. The north-eastern area of Japan was heavily damaged by the March 11 earthquake and the following tsunami.

Consequently, we had no choice but to cancel the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group meeting scheduled to be held in March. The earthquake itself, and the following tsunami, ruinously damaged the coastal areas and the fishers in the area, including SBT fishers. Currently, the whole of Japan, all the Japanese people and the central and local governments, are struggling together for recovery from the disaster.

Now, I would like to mention the importance of this Special Meeting. We are going to discuss the management procedure (MP), and strengthening of compliance with CCSBT measures in this meeting. We well understand that the MP is the result of the efforts and hardship of many people involved in the development of the MP.

The Extended Scientific Committee for the Sixteenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee updated the Operating Model using the data for the recent two years, and developed the MP3, or "Bali Procedure", based on the Operating Model.

Honestly, I was surprised at the positive outcome from the Scientific Meeting. I have heard from my predecessor that the current SBT stock status was very low and we need to have very strict restrictions on the SBT fishery for a long time to rebuild the stock.

Japan, as the largest tuna fishing state and tuna consuming state in the world, is in a position to promote sustainable use of the tuna resources, based on the best scientific evidence. In accordance with this basic position, Japan proposed in the last Commission meeting to introduce very strict measures, including huge TAC reduction such as the initial reduction period, in order to achieve sooner rebuilding of SBT stock.

However, the outcome of this year's scientific meeting had rather optimistic projections for the SBT stock, which are significantly different from these of previous years.

This improved outcome of the stock assessment would be a good news for CCSBT.

On the other hand, Japan still has concern with the optimistic outcomes. We fully recognise that these positive outcomes were the results of the thorough discussion among the Chair of the Scientific Committee, Dr. John Annala, independent scientific panels, and the excellent scientists from CCSBT Members. We, however, have to be careful about the fact that the projections and MP calculations from this year's scientific meeting is totally different from those of previous years.

My concern is that if there were serious errors in current projection models, stock assessment methods, and the Bali Procedure based on such models. The MP, once adopted, is going to be the most important core tool for CCSBT that provides the basis for TAC decisions for many decades. If there should be any error in the MP, it would cause a critical situation. Furthermore, if there is any error in the current stock assessment for the spawning biomass, we need to conduct an immediate comprehensive review of the current stock assessment to prepare for the CITES meeting in 2013.

In addition, Japan thinks that it is necessary for us to consider an emergency rule in this meeting, and adopt it at the same time we adopt the MP. We proposed such rules at the annual meetings in 2009 and 2010, recognising it is essential for us to immediately suspend all fisheries and/or reduce TAC significantly, when SBT stock rebuilding is not successful. It would be difficult for us to utilise the SBT stock sustainably without such a rule.

I apologise for raising a lot of pessimistic views here. I strongly hope my deep concerns will be resolved at this meeting.

Thank you again, Chairman.

**Translated by the Secretariat**

### Opening Statement by New Zealand

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou  
[Greetings, greetings, many greetings to you all]

On behalf of the New Zealand delegation I would like to extend our greetings to the Chair, members of other delegations and to observers at this meeting.

Firstly I would like to thank the Chair for his welcome and to thank Australia for hosting this special meeting of the Commission. I always enjoy the opportunity to visit Sydney which is a beautiful city that has been host to many hotly contested sporting events between our two countries.

While it is some time after the event it is the first occasion I have to publically express New Zealand's sympathy over the tragic events in Japan earlier this year. The rebuilding process will be long and arduous and our best wishes are with the people of Japan engaged in this work.

As we start the meeting it is timely to consider why we have gathered here this week. We have committed as a Commission to not only rebuilding the southern bluefin tuna stock to a safe level but also to ensuring that there are adequate monitoring control and surveillance measures in place to ensure that this goal is not undermined.

At this meeting we will be required to make progress towards agreeing the final characteristics of a management procedure and on a review of compliance arrangements in the fishery.

We await the presentation of the work of the scientific committee with interest as we have been encouraged by the positive signs for the future of the fishery. However the basis fact remains that the current spawning stock size is perilously low and while at this level the fishery remains at risk. We need to move the stock to a more certain position before we can relax.

New Zealand considers that this Extended Commission must adopt a management procedure that is precautionary. Our focus will be on management procedure rules that will move the stock from its current very low level, and the high risk associated with that, to a more certain position in the short term. It may also be opportune to reconsider the interim target we have set ourselves and the timeframe required to achieve it given the recent optimistic projections for the stock.

While there are positive indications from the recent scientific assessment, we should not be fooled into thinking that all is now well. We must bear in mind that we have not only a mutual interest in achieving a successful stock rebuild but also an international obligation to do so. As we have stated on a number of occasions in the past, we perceive that the international community is losing patience with regional organisations that fail to meet their obligations and there is some justification for this view.

Chair this is not the only issue of importance for discussion at this meeting. We continue to need engagement on compliance issues and other matters related to the administration of the fishery. Important issues such as the rules for allocation and how to provide for new entrants remain as matters to be resolved. Developing our future work programmes in the context of a strategic plan will, we believe, assist both the secretariat and the Commission in moving forward from the ad-hoc decision making of the past.

Chair in closing let me say that the New Zealand delegation is, as always, here to work cooperatively with other members to achieve positive outcomes for the southern bluefin tuna fishery and we look forward to a successful outcome from this meeting.

Thank you

**Opening Statement by the Republic of Korea**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, observers, ladies and gentlemen.

I would like to begin by thanking the Australian government for hosting the Special Meeting of the CCSBT.

As we are all aware, this special meeting is going to deal with many important issues such as MPs and relevant parameters, TAC allocations and the revision of the Strategic Plans, which we have long been discussing so far. I hope the participants will vigorously exchange views and ideas with one another and find the best ways to address the issues on the table.

Korea has been concerned about the stock status of the SBT. Before coming to this meeting, I was updated with what was discussed in the Extended Scientific Committee through the summary report and my colleagues who attended the meeting. The current stock status is not as healthy as desired but I was somewhat encouraged by the outlook, which presented rather optimistic projections regarding the recruitment and the future recovery rates of SSB of Southern Bluefin Tuna resources. However, I'm fully aware that this result doesn't mean that we can sit back and relax. Rather, I believe that it means that we need to keep our good effort in conserving and managing the stocks and find ways to use the resources optimally in a sustainable manner.

I would like to commend the work of the scientists who prepared for and participated in the meeting so that they could provide the best scientific grounds to guide the members in discussing measures to conserve and manage the resources.

I hope that this Special Meeting will lay the foundation for us to move the discussions forward, especially on MPs, so that we can produce fruitful results at the annual meeting that strike the right balance between the conservation and the optimal use of Southern Bluefin Tuna resources.

In achieving the two-pronged goals of this Commission, which are the protection of SBT and enjoying the benefit the resources can offer, there may be different and sometime conflicting views on the issues at hand among the participant. Even so, I'm convinced that at the end of the day, we will make the right choices that are consistent with the objectives of this Commission.

Thank you.



**Opening Statement by the European Union**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, observers, ladies and gentlemen.

It is my great pleasure to participate in this Special Meeting of the Extended Commission. On behalf of the European Union, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Government of Australia for hosting this meeting. I also wish to offer my gratitude to the Secretariat for its work and dedication in order to ensure the smoothest of the preparations.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the week ahead of us is rich in challenges.

First and foremost, the Extended Commission is called to finally adopt a Management Procedure which will drive us to a more predictable management of Southern Bluefin Tuna and, at the same time, shall secure the recovery of the stock. It will not be an easy task but this shall not hold us back from achieving concrete results. It is necessary for the stock that we manage and it will be useful as a model for other Regional Fisheries Organisations. I believe that we have the obligation to succeed.

Furthermore, during this week we shall give more consideration to where we want to bring this Commission in the future. Discussions on a Strategic Plan shall ensure that this Organisation is able to live up to the legitimate expectations that civil society has and to the challenges that its Members have set.

Finally, we intend to make progress on a Compliance Plan. Compliance is one of the most important milestones of an Organisation like ours. Every step towards an improved compliance is a brick in building the solid, durable and sustainable management that Southern Bluefin Tuna needs.

Ladies and Gentlemen, as you are aware, the European Union does not have a commercial interest in this stock. However, we do have commercial interests in other bluefin tuna species, therefore in learning how management decisions taken here could be successfully used somewhere else.

Furthermore, and even more important, it is an overarching interest of the European Union to promote a rational, sustainable and durable exploitation of fish stocks.

As I said at the beginning, these are huge challenges but if we keep constantly in mind that without the sound management of Southern Bluefin Tuna, there is no Southern Bluefin Tuna, then I am persuaded that we will succeed.

I wish to all of us a productive week.

Thank you.

### Opening Statement by South Africa

South Africa wishes to thank our Australian government for hosting the Special Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna in the beautiful city of Sydney. We also thank the secretariat staff for their support to Members and Co-operating Non-Members alike, and for helping us to focus on the priority issues facing this organization, such as adopting a management procedure, TAC determination, quota allocations and reviewing compliance of Parties. This is indeed an important meeting because it seeks to implement the fundamentals of sound fisheries management principles, and we hope that Member Parties can agree on what would be in best interest in rebuilding the stock to the benefit of all Parties concerned.

We are relatively new to tuna/swordfish longline fishing; with the first 44 commercial long-term longline fishing rights allocated to South African companies in 2005 and a further 6 in 2011. This fishery targets yellowfin, bigeye and swordfish in South Africa's EEZ during the winter months. Despite southern bluefin occurring in our waters during these months it is not targeted as the total country allocation (40 t) is too small for viable targeting of this species. Hence, southern bluefin is currently caught as by-catch. In order for South Africa to fully develop its domestic large pelagic longline fishery it requires greater access to a resource that is found within its EEZ. This request to CCSBT has been made clear to Member Parties in the previous two Extended Commission meetings and it is hoped that this year Member Parties would acknowledge the request by favourably considering South Africa's terms of ratification of the CCSBT Agreement.

In support of our request for an increase in quota, South Africa has demonstrated that it is responsible in managing its fisheries as it has implemented all the relevant management and conservation measures of CCSBT and exceeds many of the minimum management standards. For example South Africa monitors all landings, on board scientific observer coverage exceeds 10%, an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) has been implemented, individual quotas are strictly controlled, and all trade documents are verified and validated. As a port state, South Africa has made concerted efforts since 2007 in implementing port state measures to ensure that its ports are no longer used as "ports of convenience" by foreign flag fishing vessels. This is of particular importance to CCSBT as South African ports are adjacent to one of the important southern bluefin longline fishing grounds, and our ports are frequently utilized by many of the distant water fleets of the CCSBT Parties to the extent that approximately 20% of the global TAC passes through our ports annually.

In further demonstrating our commitment to CCSBT South Africa has participated in the last four meetings of the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission meetings, and is currently in the formal process of ratifying the CCSBT Agreement. It is hoped that South Africa's rights as a developing coastal and range state to develop a directed southern bluefin fishery would be recognized, and that considerations of future allocations would be considered in an equitable and transparent manner.

In closing, we consider ourselves as a key Party of CCSBT both as a flag state and as a port state and assures all Member Parties of our continued co-operation in managing the rebuilding of this iconic species.

**Opening Statement by Humane Society International**

HSI would like to thank the Commission for the opportunity to participate as an observer to these important discussions. HSI recognises the immediate priority that conservation of southern bluefintuna(SBT) demands and urges members to make prudent decisions on these to reach agreement at this meeting. However this task must not impede progress to urgently address the serious issue of longline fishing impacts on other ecologically related species, such as seabirds, sharks and turtles. Although CCSBT is a comparatively small tuna-RFMO, these management issues are perhaps more serious and challenging than those confronting other tuna-RFMO's, and they require decisions regarding mitigation to be made as a matter of urgency.

HSI encourages members to urgently reach a decision at this meeting regarding the adoption of a robust and precautionary management procedure (MP). The MP adopted must be consistent with the precautionary principle, and tuned to ensure that population levels of SBT are restored to 20% of pre-exploitation of spawning stock biomass (SSB<sub>0</sub>) within the shortest possible time period. Considering that SBT stocks are currently at the perilously low level of around 5% it is difficult for HSI to see an option other than a zero TAC of SBT to ensure that all members can benefit from stock recovery within an acceptable timeframe with high reliability. A pause in fishing would give the Commission the opportunity to resolve some of its longstanding management issues, including those dealing with ecologically related species, so that when fishing resumes it can be on a footing that is sustainable for both target and bycatch species. If the Commission disagrees and elects to set catches above zero, then HSI asks that you agree to a MP and TAC decisions that are calibrated to be as conservative and as precautionary as possible.

Irrespective of decisions made within this meeting of the Extended Commission, little may actually be achieved unless change can be assured at-sea where the problems exist. This is perhaps the greatest management challenge of all, yet despite the lack of progress in this area to date, HSI remains optimistic that this challenge is not insurmountable. Clear options such as practical mitigation measures already exist, and yet compliance with the few measures the Commission has previously agreed to goes unreported. HSI would like to see the Commission move to decision making processes that truly reflect ecosystem based management whereby impacts on ecologically related species, bycatch performance and compliance with bycatch mitigation measures are central to TAC setting decisions, rather than an afterthought that is rarely dealt with.

HSI urges members to ensure that their obligations to both SBT and ecologically related species are central to discussions this week, and looks forward to participating in these discussions.

## Opening Statement by TRAFFIC

Thank you Mr Chairman.

TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, and WWF thank the Commission for the opportunity to participate as observers to meetings of the Commission and the Extended Commission. We look forward to contributing to these critical deliberations and to helping to implement subsequent decisions. We earnestly hope and expect that Members will make the necessary decisions, with the required sense of urgency, to conserve effectively southern bluefin tuna and other ecologically related species, especially sharks, seabirds and marine turtles.

As we stated at the conclusion of the Commission meeting in 2010, we were particularly disappointed that a management procedure (MP) for the global stock of southern bluefin tuna (SBT) was not agreed and that there was little evidence of further progress towards binding measures to address serious bycatch issues for sharks, seabirds and marine turtles. The SBT spawning stock, despite the positive signs of increased levels of juvenile fish, remains at a historical low of around 5% and requires urgent action to establish a long term management pathway forward. The members agreed in 2009 that a MP would be in place by 2012 and for this to happen requires agreement by this year at the very latest.

The international community will be a harsh judge of the Commission if there is any further delay in taking what can only be considered the responsible course of action for the SBT stock—the introduction of a robust management procedure now that secures the return of the stock to a biologically safe level as quickly as possible, consistent with the application of the precautionary principle.

TRAFFIC and WWF remain deeply concerned about the conservation needs of ecologically related species taken in SBT fisheries. We are particularly concerned at the lack of binding measures for shark conservation including: shark catch reporting and identification and the tagging of product in trade; the retention of all sharks on board; and retention of fins naturally attached until landed. We look forward to the meeting of the Extended Commission in Bali in October and urge the commission to adopt all the recommendations for bycatch species, which recently were agreed by the meeting of the five tuna RFMOs in La Jolla, California as part of the Kobe process.

Finally, Mr Chairman, TRAFFIC and WWF remind the Commission of the words of the recently retired Secretary General of the CITES Secretariat, Mr Willem Wijnstekers, who at the conclusion of the 2010 CITES Conference of the Parties stated through a press release that “CITES will be closely watching the progress made on the adoption of conservation measures to protect marine species in other fora.” This statement was made at the end of heated debate and voting by the 173 Parties to CITES over whether international trade measures should be put in place for Atlantic Bluefin Tuna and a number of shark species caught in conjunction with tuna fisheries, often operating within RFMO jurisdictions, reflecting a lack of adequate management by the relevant RFMOs and their members.

We therefore urge the Commission to take a greater leadership role with regard to the sustainable management of tuna and ecologically related species and adopt a robust management procedure for SBT and conservation measures to protect sharks, seabirds and marine turtles.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

*On Behalf of Bluefin Tuna*

*“We were told about five oceans and thousand seas  
Bluefin tuna teach us they are One,  
One Ocean that is more than enough to fulfill our needs,  
The fish in it is sufficient to secure our food,  
but they will not be enough to satisfy our greed.  
Overfishing, climate change had occurred.  
We need to understand these limits,  
as One Ocean is more than enough to destroy  
the entire life on earth.  
Indeed, One Ocean is a Big Mirror,  
that reflects our greed and anger  
but also Love.  
And in Love we are here to learn about the Limits  
and to prevent those threats from happening”.*

This comes from a Fisheries Ethics poem “A Prayer for Our Ocean – from Fish to Humanity”

([http://www.ccsbt.org/userfiles/file/docs\\_english/APrayerForOurOcean\\_fromFishToHumanity\\_Ghofar.pdf](http://www.ccsbt.org/userfiles/file/docs_english/APrayerForOurOcean_fromFishToHumanity_Ghofar.pdf)), which I would dedicate to CCSBT, on behalf of Bluefin Tuna.

*A Ghofar, Ph.D – Chair CCSBT 18  
Sydney, 23 August 2011*

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



**Attachment 8**

**みなまぐろ保存委員会**

**Report of the Extended Scientific Committee  
for the Sixteenth Meeting of the Scientific  
Committee**

**19 – 28 July 2011**

**Bali, Indonesia**



**TAC Implementation Timetable assuming that the Management Procedure is adopted in October 2011**

TAC Implementation Dates

New Zealand: 1 October 2011

Australia: 1 December 2011

Indonesia, Philippines, South Africa, European Union: 1 January 2012

Korea, Japan, Taiwan: 1 April 2012

The next management procedure recommendation will be before the Extended Commission in October 2013 and the TAC implementation dates for that recommendation will be:

New Zealand: 1 October 2014

Australia: 1 December 2014

Indonesia, Philippines, South Africa, European Union: 1 January 2015

Korea, Japan, Taiwan: 1 April 2015

**The South African delegation statement to CCSBT**

The South African delegation wishes to thank , with appreciation, the Commission for an incredible meeting over the past few days. However, the South African delegation wishes to emphasize the fact that as a country, a non-contracting party of the CCSBT, we have kept our end of the bargain as encapsulated in a number of international laws and prescripts for an example, UNCLOS, UN Fisheries Stocks Agreement, and the Code of Conduct for Responsible fisheries. The South African opening statement bears testimony to this assertion.

Given all that we would like to draw the attention of the Commission to the fact that South Africa is a developing country, and that our request, among other things, is in line with Article 5 of the Code of Conduct for Responsible fisheries which is about the special requirements of developing countries. Furthermore, and to throw some light in the major responsibility of our country to its citizens, the commission has to look into the UN Millenium Development Goals. In particular Goal 1 which deals with the eradication of poverty. These, as the Commission would know, were adopted in 2000 and with positive results being expected in 2014.

Fisheries, and the development of capacity in fisheries, is a primary area of focus in our country, and all that within the legal framework and internationally acceptable standards, hence our presence here. The South African delegation would like to remind the Commission that our initial request was 750 tons, which after considering the state of the resource, and a difficult extensive process of persuading the South African fishing industry came to a compromise range of 300 – 400 tons which we presented here. A position which in business terms may be termed a break-even-point.

In conclusion, this was at the centre of our negotiations in this meeting, and the delegation's views are that the matter was not discussed as extensively as we would have liked it to be. Our views may be mainly precipitated by the lack of transparency in discussion, and limited information, to say the least, that has been presented to this delegation by the commission. It is therefore unfortunate that this may have an adverse effect in the ratification process that our country has embarked on, and even more seriously, South Africa's further participation in this Commission.

Thank you, Chairman.

**Strategic Plan for the Commission for the  
Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna**

**August 2011**

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# 1. Introduction

## *A strategic plan for the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna*

This strategic plan outlines a common vision for how members would like to see the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna in the future. Components of that vision include the state of the southern bluefin tuna stock; how the Commission operates to effectively manage the stock; and how members are implementing their obligations and benefiting from their successful management of the stock.

A strategic plan outlines not only a desired future state, but also specific strategies and tasks associated with achieving the desired future state (even if achieving that state is a long term goal). The strategic plan will become the basis for the Secretariat and members to compile annual operating plans.

A recent review of the Commission's performance provided many suggestions for areas in which performance may be improved. A strategic plan allows these suggested actions to be incorporated, as appropriate, into future work plans. Suggested actions are prioritised so that the overall work plan is achievable.

## *The Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna*

### **Origins**

Southern bluefin tuna (SBT) were heavily fished in the past, with annual catches reaching 80,000 tonnes in the early 1960s. Heavy fishing resulted in a significant decline in the numbers of mature fish, and the annual catch began to fall rapidly. In the mid 1980s it became apparent that a way of limiting catches was needed. To enable the SBT stocks to rebuild, the main nations fishing SBT at the time – Australia, Japan and New Zealand – began to apply strict quotas to their fishing fleets from 1985.

On 20 May 1994, the voluntary management arrangement between Australia, Japan and New Zealand was formalised when the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, which the three countries signed in May 1993, came into force.

### **The role of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna**

The objective of the Convention is to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of the global SBT fishery. The Convention created the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) and describes how it operates and functions. The functions of the CCSBT include—

- collecting information,
- deciding on a total allowable catch (TAC) and its allocation,
- deciding on additional measures including monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) measures considered necessary in order to achieve effective implementation of the Convention,
- agreeing an annual budget, and

- encouraging accession by other states.

The CCSBT meets annually. The CCSBT has six subsidiary bodies which provide advice on their areas of expertise—

- the Scientific Committee (SC)/Extended Scientific Committee (ESC),
- Stock Assessment Group (SAG),
- Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG),
- the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG),
- Compliance Committee (CC),
- the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC).

A panel of independent scientists attend SC and SAG meetings and are able to provide advice directly to the CCSBT if required.

The Convention also provided for the establishment of the CCSBT Secretariat, which supports the running of the Commission. The Secretariat is based in Canberra, Australia. Staff include an Executive Secretary, Deputy Executive Secretary, a Data Manager and other support staff.

#### **Membership of the Commission**

Membership of the CCSBT is only open to States. To facilitate the participation of fishing entities, the CCSBT established the extended CCSBT (ECCSBT) and the extended scientific committee (ESC) in 2001. Membership of the ECCSBT and the ESC includes all parties to the Convention, and fishing entities may also be admitted. The fishing entity of Taiwan was admitted in 2002.

The ECCSBT and the ESC perform the same functions as the CCSBT and the SC respectively. Each member has equal voting rights. Decisions of the ECCSBT that are reported to the CCSBT become decisions of the CCSBT unless the CCSBT agrees otherwise. Any decision of the Commission that affects the operation of the ECCSBT or the rights, obligations, or status of any individual member within the ECCSBT should not be taken without prior due deliberation of that issue by the ECCSBT.

Currently the ECCSBT consists of six members and three cooperating non-members:

#### **Members**

- Australia
- Fishing entity of Taiwan (member of the ECCSBT only)
- Indonesia
- Japan
- New Zealand
- Republic of Korea

#### **Cooperating Non-Members**

- European Union
- Philippines
- South Africa

### ***The southern bluefin tuna fishery***

#### **Characterisation of the fishery**

The primary market for SBT is the Japanese Sashimi market, where premium prices can be obtained, largely because of the high fat content of SBT flesh. The total value of the SBT global fishery is estimated to be about \$AUD1 billion.

The main methods used for catching SBT are longline fishing and purse seining.

Longlining involves using long lengths of fishing line with many hooks. The SBT caught are mainly frozen at very low temperatures (-60C) and either unloaded at intermediate ports and shipped to markets in Japan or unloaded directly at markets in Japan.

Purse seining involves using purse seine nets to enclose schools of SBT. This method is currently only used in the Australian SBT fishery. The enclosed schools of fish are towed to waters near the Australian mainland and placed in floating cages anchored to the ocean floor. The tuna are fattened for several months and sold direct to Japanese markets as frozen or chilled fish.

### **Status of the stock**

Southern bluefin tuna are recognised as being at a small fraction of their pre-exploitation biomass. The Extended Scientific Committee reported in 2008 that the scenarios analysed indicate that spawning stock biomass is still at a very low level (generally below 10% of pre-exploitation spawning stock biomass). This was recognised as a level at which recruitment may be at risk of further decline. Further, the stock is below the level that could produce maximum sustainable yield, a level that is generally recognised internationally as a benchmark for sustainably managing fishstocks. The scientific committee also noted that there is no sign of the spawning stock biomass rebuilding at present.

### ***Strategic issues***

This section highlights strategic issues facing the Commission that this plan will seek to address. These issues have been identified recently through a performance review; the first meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group; and through an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) facing the Commission. This SWOT analysis helped highlight any other areas outside the performance review that might help the Commission in developing its strategic plan (see below).

In 2008, a Performance Review Working Group made up of representatives from the Commission undertook a self assessment of the Commission's performance, using the criteria adopted at the 2006 Joint Meeting of the five Tuna RFMOs in Kobe, Japan. An independent expert, United States Ambassador David Balton, reviewed the self assessment.

The 2008 meeting of the CCSBT agreed to various initiatives in order to implement recommendations of the performance reviews (see paragraph 41 of the meeting report).

One important outcome of the performance review was to establish a Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG), to develop a strategic plan for the Commission and a fisheries management plan comprising management objectives for SBT and ecologically related species, consistent with modern fisheries management principles. The Commission tasked the SFMWG with the development of a strategic plan, as a way of creating a common vision of where members want the Commission to be heading.

## **Performance review**

The performance review highlighted areas where the Commission is doing well, including the inclusion within the Commission as members or cooperating non-members of virtually all fishing activity for SBT; recent improvements in the transparency with which the Commission operates; and the undertaking of the Commission's first performance review.

The performance review also highlighted a number of areas in which the performance of the Commission could improve, as outlined below. The recommendations of the performance review working group and the independent expert have been incorporated into the goals and strategies described later in the plan.

### *General*

- The CCSBT should examine its Convention, compare it to more modern instruments, and seriously consider the need to renegotiate it. Even if it is not amended at this time, many of the modern standards for fisheries management can be incorporated into the work of the Commission in other ways, including through adoption of additional conservation and management measures and an updated management procedure.
- A strategic plan and management plan could provide direction and common vision, and greatly improve the functioning and performance of the CCSBT.

### *Conservation and management*

#### *Status of living marine resources*

- Determine management objectives and a rebuild strategy consistent with UNFSA requirements to guide future scientific assessments.
- Develop the most accurate stock assessment possible in light of uncertainties caused by under-reported past catches, then set catches at a level that will allow the stock to rebuild, taking into account precautionary principles.
- Develop and implement a strategy to address the impacts of SBT fisheries on ecologically related species, including collection and sharing of data between CCSBT members and Secretariats of other RFMOs.

#### *Data collection and sharing*

- Focus effort on improving data collection and reporting through full and urgent implementation of the conservation and management measures adopted by the CCSBT at its annual meeting in 2006.
- Pursue opportunities to harmonise data collection and sharing with the other four tuna RFMOs.
- Ensure clear standards are set for the level of detail and type of data provided by members, so the science process has the information it requires (including provision of data that meets UNFSA minimum requirements; commercial confidentiality should no longer limit access to data within the CCSBT).

#### *Quality and provision of scientific advice*

- Maintain the structure of the Extended Scientific Committee, including the independent chairs and advisory panel, but review the number and skill sets of independent experts required in support of the scientific process.
- Consider the balance of effort between SBT and ecologically related species.



- Adopt and implement measures to minimise pollution, waste, discards or catch by lost and abandoned gear.

#### *Adoption of conservation and management measures*

- Continue to make conservation and management measures that are consistent with scientific advice from the Extended Scientific Committee.
- Develop a strategic plan and management plan to implement minimum standards for the fishery.

#### *Capacity management*

- Discuss with Indonesia the capacity for temporal and spatial closures in the SBT spawning ground.
- Implement the recommendations set forth in the FAO International Plan of Action on the management of fishing capacity.

#### *Fishing allocations and opportunities*

- Once long term allocations are finalised among members, including the CCSBT 1 MoU, consider moving to national allocations based on alternative principles, such as proportional allocations, rather than set tonnages.

#### *Compliance and enforcement*

##### *Flag state measures*

- All members and cooperating non-members should continue to take all necessary actions to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures adopted by the CCSBT.
- Institute promptly an integrated VMS system.

##### *Port state measures*

- When considering implementation of any port state measure, the CCSBT should bear in mind the need to avoid duplication of effort, and consider the 'FAO technical consultation on port state measures'.
- Adopt port state measures designed to prevent the landing and transshipment of illegal, unreported and unregulated SBT catches – including by vessels on the CCSBT authorised vessel list.

#### *Monitoring, control and surveillance*

- Cooperate with other tuna RFMOs to optimise harmonisation, improve global effectiveness, and avoid duplication of work.
- Prioritise the development of MCS in the context of a compliance plan.
- Develop effective measures relating to transshipment, a regional observer programme, and high seas boarding and inspection (as set forth in the UNFSA).

#### *Follow up on infringements*

- As a minimum, establish agreed rules on the treatment of overcatch (requirement of payback).
- Ideally, establish a range of penalties in relation to all conservation measures.

#### *Cooperative mechanisms to detect and deter non-compliance*

- All members and cooperating non-members should submit their national reports to the CCSBT.

- Allocate sufficient time to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission to allow them to complete both routine and development work each year.

*Market related measures*

- Implement a CDS as a matter of urgency.
- Pending implementation of a CDS, all members and cooperating non-members should be required to implement the TIS.
- Monitor all market and port states and encourage compliance with CCSBT monitoring and trade measures.

*Decision-making and dispute resolution*

*Decision making*

- Consider devolving some day to day operational decision making to the Chair or the Executive Secretary (by the unanimous decision of the Commission).

*Dispute settlement*

- Note the dispute settlement rules established under the UNFSA that may make it unnecessary to amend the Convention to achieve a compulsory and binding regime for the settlement of disputes.

*International cooperation*

*Transparency*

- Improve openness by better publication of the rules for observers (e.g. placing information on the CCSBT website).
- Consider revising current rules and procedures for observers, since they appear to create an unduly restrictive process that is not in line with other tuna RFMOs (or Article 12(2) of the UNFSA).

*Cooperation with other RFMOs*

- Make working more closely with and harmonising measures with other RFMOs a priority area (including on ERS mitigation, impacts of fishing on the environment, data collection, and combating IUU fishing).

*Financial and administrative issues*

*Availability of resources for RFMO activities*

- Consider establishing a position at the Secretariat to provide policy and fisheries management advice.
- Provide the necessary resources to the Commission to implement agreed measures (e.g. the CDS).

*Efficiency and cost-effectiveness*

- If the CCSBT has not always received full and timely payment of member financial contributions, discuss what could be done to prevent the problem in the future.

## **SWOT analysis**

The following SWOT analysis outlines the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats that the Commission may face in achieving its objective. In relation to the opportunities and threats, these include both potential and actual outcomes that may occur. The strategic plan allows strategies to be developed to work towards the opportunities while avoiding threats that are identified as high risk.

The SWOT analysis gives an indication of both internal and external factors that need to be addressed in the goals and strategies outlined below. The strengths, opportunities, and threats sections, in particular, have helped identify areas outside the scope of the performance review where further effort by the Commission may be beneficial.

## ***Key challenges***

Taking into account the wide range of recommendations made by the performance reviews of the CCSBT, and the other strategic issues identified above, the following key challenges can be identified:

- To provide for the rebuild of the SBT fishery to the level that can sustain maximum sustainable yields (stock re-building);
- To account for all sources of SBT mortality, and to ensure unreported catches are prevented (compliance); and
- To balance the competing demands of those who harvest SBT against the biological demands of stock rebuilding (TAC setting and allocation)

## ***Ongoing Review***

The CCSBT strategic plan will be reviewed and updated on an ongoing and regular basis to accommodate the decisions and priorities of CCSBT.

**Objective: to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of southern bluefin tuna**

<b>STRENGTHS</b>	<b>WEAKNESSES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commission already incorporates almost all fishing effort for SBT</li> <li>- well-regarded model for provision of science advice</li> <li>- decision-making components established (including compliance committee, scientific committee, annual meeting, centralised Secretariat)</li> <li>- coordination with other regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs)</li> <li>- Agreements reached on basic monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) components (e.g. catch documentation)</li> <li>- Competency for all areas in which SBT found</li> <li>- agreed mechanism for controlling fishing for SBT (global Total Allowable Catch)</li> <li>- formation of a strategy and fisheries management working group to develop fisheries management options and advice for the Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- currently SBT stock at around 10% or less of virgin spawning stock biomass</li> <li>- history of failure to decide on and implement key management measures (e.g. TACs)</li> <li>- information base for stock assessment is poor</li> <li>- objective of Convention relates only to single species (SBT)</li> <li>- approach to controlling fishery does not address potential over-capacity issues</li> <li>- Members have not always met their obligations under the Convention, including implementing agreed measures</li> <li>- application of precautionary principle not explicit</li> <li>- commercial imperatives sometimes override the obligations of member states to cooperatively manage the stock</li> <li>- no specific provisions in the Convention for developing countries</li> </ul>
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	<b>THREATS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increased value (economic, catch per unit effort, social) from stock at the biomass that supports maximum sustainable yields</li> <li>- harmonisation with other RFMOs to increase efficiencies and improve management</li> <li>- taking advantage of developing concepts of best practice for fisheries management including for tuna RFMOs</li> <li>- developing innovative measures to allow more efficient fishing</li> <li>- opportunity to incorporate modern standards of fisheries management (e.g. precautionary principle, ecosystem approach) through development and implementation of management procedure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increased illegal fishing, including by non-members</li> <li>- failure of Commission to follow scientific advice</li> <li>- disruption to industry caused by stock collapse</li> <li>- international community condemnation over failure to fulfil mandate</li> <li>- consumer resistance to poorly managed stocks</li> <li>- CITES listing (trade prohibitions)</li> <li>- continuation of catch anomalies</li> </ul>

## 2. Objective, vision, and goals

This strategic plan sets out the objective of the Commission (as outlined in the Convention text). The plan also establishes a common vision for how members would like to see the Commission in the future. Components of that vision include the state of the southern bluefin tuna stock; how the Commission operates to effectively manage the stock; and how members are implementing their obligations and benefiting from their successful management of the stock. Each of these components is associated with specific **goals** – the desired future state of the Commission – and **strategies** – the suggested approach to achieving the desired future state.

### *Convention objective*

The objective of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna is to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of southern bluefin tuna.

### *Vision and goals*

#### **A. Management of SBT**

Southern bluefin tuna stocks are managed at a biomass level that supports the maximum sustainable yield, and the risks of fishing for SBT are mitigated

This category includes strategies concerning stock rebuilding, allocation, ecologically related species.

#### **B. Operation/Administration of the Commission and Secretariat**

The Commission is operating effectively and efficiently, to responsibly manage fishing for SBT

This category includes strategies for effective and efficient operation of Commission, its subsidiary bodies and Secretariat, including harmonization with other RFMOs.

#### **C. Participation and implementation by Members, including Compliance**

Members are actively participating in management of SBT through the Commission, and implementing its decisions

This category includes strategies concerning MCS, sanctions, assistance to developing countries.

<b>A. Goals concerning management of SBT</b>	
<b>Goals</b>	<b>Strategies</b>
<b>1. Re-building SBT</b>	
<p>1.1 Stock is at a biomass level that supports the MSY</p> <p><b>Priority: Very High</b></p>	<p>(i) Adopt an interim rebuilding target reference point, with timeframe and desired probabilities</p> <p>(ii) Adopt a target biomass of achieving <math>B_{MSY}</math>, with timeframe and desired probabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Confirm Commission's target for SBT stock and adopt an interim rebuilding target reference point (e.g. 20% of the original spawning biomass) (agreed at annual meeting in October 2009)</li> <li>▪ Develop goal for timeframe for rebuilding SBT stock (at 2011 annual meeting, based on report of the SC)</li> <li>▪ Agree on desirable probability associated with meeting rebuild target (at 2010 annual meeting, based on report of the SC)</li> </ul> <p>(iii) Set limits below which stock size should not be allowed to fall, and strategies for managing if limits are breached</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limits agreed as current SSB at 2010 annual meeting</li> <li>▪ Rules to be considered in 2011 in the context of MP adoption including the metarule process</li> </ul>
<b>2. Sound scientific basis for setting TAC</b>	
<p>2.1 A management procedure is used to provide guidance on TAC setting</p> <p><b>Priority: High/Very High</b></p>	<p>(i) Task the Scientific Committee to review management procedure to ensure it will achieve rebuild targets and timeframes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review parameters and decision rules for candidate Management Procedures (MPs) to ensure they will contribute to meeting management objectives (2011)</li> <li>▪ Develop candidate MPs and adopt preferred candidate (2011)</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Use MP as input to setting global TAC (2011 onwards)</p> <p>(iii) Review of stock status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review of stock and fishery indicators (annual)</li> <li>▪ In depth stock assessment (every 3 years)</li> </ul>
<b>3. Quality and provision of scientific advice</b>	
<p>3.1 Accurate verified data is provided to the Scientific Committee and Commission in a timely manner</p> <p><b>Priority: Very High</b></p>	<p>(i) Reinforce the role of the Compliance Committee so that the Commission can obtain accurate data on all fisheries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See also goal 8 (monitoring, control and surveillance)</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Adoption and implementation of common standard/procedure for scientific data verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See also goal 8 (monitoring, control and surveillance)</li> </ul> <p>(iii) Set rules for commercially confidential scientific data (e.g. operational catch and effort data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Set confidentiality rules and other relevant rules (i.e. usage, ownership)</li> <li>▪ Agree on data provision rules that ensure Members report accurate and complete data on all sources of mortality for SBT.</li> </ul> <p>(iv) Explore the possibility of developing a regional observer program (ROP), including commenting on the ROP proposed by Australia at CCSBT 17. If appropriate, develop an ROP to be applied to all the SBT fishing and farming</p>

	activities.
<p>3.2 Science process provides best available independent advice for management decisions</p> <p><b>Priority: Medium/High</b></p>	<p>(i) Maintain the independent chairs and advisory panel for the scientific process, but periodically review the number and skill sets of independent experts required</p> <p>(ii) Develop a CCSBT research plan including Member-funded, collaborative and CCSBT-funded projects (2012)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementation of CCSBT five year research plan</li> <li>▪ Implement necessary scientific research by Commission and/or Members (e.g. CCSBT tagging program)</li> </ul>
<b>4. Ecologically related species</b>	
<p>4.1 Risks to ecologically related species caused by fishing for SBT are identified and appropriately managed</p> <p><b>Priority: High/Medium</b></p>	<p>(i) Implement the Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on ERS of fishing for SBT, including collection and reporting of data on ERS (para 3), implementation of mitigation measures (para 2) and assessment of the risks caused by fishing for SBT (para 7) in each fishery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All Members implement the Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on ERS of Fishing for SBT</li> <li>▪ Review the implementation of the Recommendation on ERS</li> <li>▪ Agree on data provision requirements for ERS that ensure full reporting of bycatch and mitigation measures used in each fishery; this could occur through other RFMOs (e.g. WCPFC, IOTC) if they have appropriate protocols in place for ERS data reporting.</li> <li>▪ Assess how well the mitigation measures adopted by other area-based RFMOs mitigate the risks caused by fishing</li> <li>▪ Where necessary, identify and adopt additional mitigation measures to manage risk taking into account the coordination and harmonization with other RFMOs</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Coordination and harmonization with area-based RFMOs, including on data reporting (see above)</p>
<p>4.2 Predator and prey species which may affect the condition of the SBT stock are monitored</p> <p><b>Priority: Medium</b></p>	<p>(i) Instruct the ERSWG to monitor predator and prey species which may affect the condition of the SBT stock and report its findings to the Commission</p>
<b>5. Allocation</b>	
<p>5.1 The global TAC is allocated amongst members, including new members, in accordance with Article 8(4) of the Convention</p> <p><b>Priority: Medium/high</b></p>	<p>(i) Implement existing decisions of the CCSBT that impact upon member allocations</p> <p>(ii) Establish principles for allocation to members, following Article 8(4) of the Convention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop options (based on Convention text) for long term allocation arrangements for all Members, including new members, and apply to TAC increases or decreases</li> </ul>

<b>6 Flexible management arrangements</b>	
<p>6.1 The SBT resource is harvested efficiently, and members and cooperating non-members have incentives to comply with TACs</p> <p><b>Priority: Low/Medium</b></p>	<p>(i) In the longer term, implement flexible management arrangements such as quota trading and under and over fishing rules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop a framework to provide for underfishing and respond to low levels of overfishing (could be considered as part of the rules for a 3 year block quota under the MP)</li> <li>▪ Develop a framework for quota trading between members and cooperating non-members; this might be contingent on stock size reaching an agreed level</li> <li>▪ Decide on and implement framework</li> </ul>
<p>6.2 SBT fishing capacity is commensurate with fishing opportunities</p> <p><b>Priority: Low/Medium</b></p>	<p>(i) Assess capacity in the fishery in relation to available catches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Flag state/fishing entity self assessment of capacity with respect to national allocations</li> <li>▪ Flag state/fishing entity to take corrective action if required</li> <li>▪ Develop proposal for a CCSBT active vessel list to be managed by the Secretariat</li> <li>▪ Assess threats to SBT from over capacity in other fleets</li> <li>▪ International advocacy for capacity constraint/ management</li> </ul>
<p>6.3 Members are able to optimise the value they obtain from harvesting SBT</p> <p><b>Priority: Low</b></p>	<p>(i) Analysis of maximum economic yield (MEY, which occurs at the catch or effort level that maximises profits for the fishery as a whole, while recognising the different harvest strategies of each member; in the context of current stock status this would be a long term goal)</p> <p>(ii) Evaluation of harvest strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Evaluate alternative harvest strategies to optimise returns from the SBT stock including the adoption of maximum economic yield as the rebuilding reference point</li> <li>▪ Distribute benefits of yield increases once stock is rebuilt</li> </ul>

<b>B. Goals concerning Operation and Administration of the Commission and Secretariat</b>	
<b>Goals</b>	<b>Strategies</b>
<b>7. Operation of the Commission</b>	
<p>7.1 The Commission is running effectively and efficiently</p> <p><b>Priority: High</b></p>	<p>(i) Streamline Commission processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify ways to streamline Commission processes (including annual and subsidiary meetings)</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Deepen the involvement of chairperson and vice-chairperson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consider appointing Chairperson and vice-chairperson for a period of two years with the opportunity for a further 2 years, but maintain the rotation of meeting venue</li> </ul> <p>(iii) Coordinate services amongst regional fisheries management organisations (e.g. transshipment management, management of ERS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Instruct the Secretariat to identify opportunities for services to be coordinated amongst regional fisheries management organisations and to provide suggestions to the Commission</li> </ul> <p>(iv) Undertake Commission performance reviews periodically to routinely assess opportunities for improvements, including both self-assessment and independent reviews</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agree on regular reviews of Commission performance (including timeframes, running and funding of the review, criteria (including any changes proposed through the joint tuna RFMO process), involvement of independent experts, and links between review outcomes and the CCSBT strategic plan)</li> </ul>
<p>7.2 The Commission is running in an open and transparent manner</p> <p><b>Priority: Medium</b></p>	<p>(i) Clearly document the reasons for decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implement a rule that the Commission must clearly document the rationale for decisions, including where they differ from the science advice provided to the Commission</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Continue with open publication of Commission documents in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of CCSBT</p> <p>(iii) Continue to allow access to observers in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of CCSBT</p>
<p>7.3 Modern fisheries management standards (e.g. precautionary principle, ecosystem management) are incorporated into the Commission's decisions</p> <p><b>Priority: Medium</b></p>	<p>(i) Review Convention text (if member/s propose such negotiations) and/or incorporate through decisions of the Commission e.g. in adopting management procedure; measures to manage ERS (noting the latter option may be more efficient)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Set parameters for the management procedure that ensure the precautionary principle is applied and ecosystem management is incorporated</li> <li>▪ Task the SC with incorporating standards (precautionary, ecosystem) into its advice to the Commission</li> <li>▪ Review decisions of the Commission to ensure standards are incorporated</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Clarify the ongoing role of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG), including to ensure modern fisheries management standards are incorporated into the Commission's decision making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clearly define the on-going role of the SFMWG</li> <li>▪ Include provision in the SFMWG's terms of reference for incorporating modern fisheries management standards into its advice to the Commission</li> </ul>

## C. Goals concerning participation and implementation by Members

Goals	Strategies
<b>8. Monitoring, control, and surveillance</b>	
<p>8.1 Integrated, targeted and cost-effective monitoring, control and surveillance measures are in place to ensure the Commission's goals are met</p> <p><b>Priority: High</b></p>	<p>(i) Implementation by Members of agreed MCS measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop a checklist of the Commission's conservation and management measures and audit members against the checklist at the compliance committee to obtain accurate data on all fisheries (2009 onwards)</li> <li>▪ Adopt standards and procedures to ensure data integrity (e.g. certain percentage of complete correct documentation accompanying landings and export/ domestic sales; certain percentage of inspection) (2009 or 2010 annual meeting)</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Develop and implement an MCS strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assess the necessity of additional MCS measures and/or improvement of agreed MCS measures to meet Commission objectives (e.g. eliminate unreported catch and have accurate verified data) (at 2010 annual meeting)</li> <li>▪ Identify any gaps between MCS measures in place and any improvements or additional measures required</li> <li>▪ Develop a plan for implementing any changes needed</li> </ul> <p>(iii) Strengthen efforts by all Members and Cooperating Non-Members to ensure sufficient compliance at each stage of SBT fisheries, from catch grounds to markets, including transshipment, farming and trade (from 2011 and onwards)</p> <p>(iv) Monitoring of any expansion of SBT markets, including through reviewing SBT trade data (2011 onwards)</p> <p>(v) Adoption an implementation of data confidentiality rules to facilitate the exchange of compliance data</p> <p>(vi) Consider appointment of a dedicated compliance officer to the staff of the Secretariat or an alternative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conduct analyses of MCS data submitted to the Secretariat, and report, on an annual basis, trends in MCS data</li> <li>• To assess the effectiveness of existing MCS measures based on data submitted to the Secretariat</li> <li>• To manage and monitor the CCSBT's compliance initiatives</li> </ul>

<b>9. Members' obligations</b>	
<p>9.1 All Members comply with rules of CCSBT</p> <p><b>Priority: High</b></p>	<p>(i) Routinely audit members' implementation, enforcement, and compliance with conservation and management measures and international obligations as they relate to CCSBT (e.g. UN Fishstocks Agreement)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See above (8.1)</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Establish fair, transparent and non-discriminatory procedures for penalties (e.g. payback of overcatch, quota reduction) and incentives to promote compliance</p>
<b>10. Supporting developing countries</b>	
<p>10.1 Developing country members and cooperating non-members are able to comply with the Commission's management measures and other requirements</p> <p><b>Priority: Medium</b></p>	<p>(i) Develop programme to assist developing countries with Commission requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Work with developing country members and cooperating non-members to identify areas where assistance would be beneficial to ensure they meet obligations under Commission decisions</li> <li>▪ Identify ways in which assistance may be provided (e.g. up-skilling, secondments, workshops etc)</li> <li>▪ Develop and implement a programme to assist developing countries with Commission requirements</li> </ul>
<b>11. Participation in the CCSBT</b>	
<p>11.1 Ensure that all states and Regional Economic Integration Organisations (REIOs) and entities catching SBT are engaged in the cooperative management of SBT.</p> <p><b>Priority: Medium</b></p>	<p>(i) Develop mechanisms for extending CCSBT Membership to REIOs, including consideration of membership to the Extended Commission.</p> <p>(ii) Define processes for those seeking cooperating non-member or membership status to the CCSBT.</p>
<p>11.2 Encourage the cooperation of port and market States with CCSBT's objectives and management arrangements</p> <p><b>Priority: High</b></p>	<p>(i) Establish a process for identifying non-member States that have, or are likely to become, important port States or market states for SBT, and seek the cooperation of such States with the implementation of CCSBT management measures.</p>

### 3. Action plan

(Items underway in 2010 are marked with “⇒”. Items completed by 2010 are marked with “✓”)

Priority			Short term		Medium term		Long term
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014++
<b>A) MANAGEMENT OF SBT</b>							
<b>1</b>	<b>Re-building SBT</b>						
1.1(i&ii)	Adopt a target ( $B_{MSY}$ ) and an interim rebuilding target reference point (20% of $SSB_0$ ) (✓), with timeframe & desired probabilities (⇒)	Very High	⇒				
1.1(iii)	Set limits below which stock size should not be allowed to fall (✓), and strategies for managing if limits are breached (⇒)	Very High	⇒				
<b>2</b>	<b>Sound scientific basis for setting TAC</b>						
2.1(i)	Review parameters & decision rules for candidate management procedures (MPs) to ensure they will contribute to meeting management objectives	High	⇒				
2.1(i)	Develop candidate MPs & adopt preferred candidate	High	⇒				
2.1(ii)	Use MP as input to setting global TAC	Very High					
2.1(iii)	Review of stock and fishery indicators (annual)	Very High					
2.1(iii)	In depth stock assessment (every 3 years)	Very High					

<b>3</b>	<b>Quality &amp; provision of scientific advice</b>		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014++</b>
3.1(i)	Reinforce the role of the Compliance Committee so that the Commission can obtain accurate data on all fisheries	Very High	✓				
3.1(ii)	Adoption & implementation of common standard/procedure for scientific data verification	Very High					
3.1(iii)	Set confidentiality rules & other relevant rules for commercially confidential scientific data	Very High	✓				
3.1(iii)	Agree on data provision rules that ensure members report accurate & complete data on all sources of mortality for SBT	Very High	⇒				
3.1(iv)	Explore the possibility of developing an ROP, and if appropriate, develop a program for all SBT fisheries	High					
3.2(i)	Maintain the independent chairs & advisory panel for the scientific process, but periodically review the number & skill sets of independent experts (as required)	Medium	⇒				
3.2(ii)	Develop a CCSBT research plan	High					
3.2(ii)	Implementation of CCSBT 5 year research plan	High					
3.2(ii)	Implement necessary scientific research by Commission and/or members	Medium	⇒				

<b>4</b>	<b>Ecologically related species</b>		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014++</b>
4.1(i)	All members implement the Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on ERS of Fishing for SBT	High	⇒				
4.1(i)	Review the implementation of the Recommendations on ERS	Medium	⇒				
4.1(i)	Agree on and implement data provision requirements for ERS that ensure full reporting of bycatch & mitigation measures used in each fishery	High					
4.1(i)	Assess how well the mitigation measures adopted by other area-based RFMOs mitigate the risks caused by fishing	Medium					
4.1(i)	Identify & adopt additional mitigation measures to manage risk taking into account the coordination & harmonization with other RFMOs (where necessary)	Medium					
4.1(ii)	Coordination & harmonization with area-based RFMOs, including on data reporting	Medium	⇒				
4.2(i)	Instruct the ERSWG to monitor predator & prey species which may affect the condition of the SBT stock & report its findings to the Commission	Medium					
<b>5</b>	<b>Allocation</b>						
5.1(i)	Implement existing decisions of the CCSBT that impact upon member allocations	Medium	✓				
5.1(ii)	Establish principles for allocation to members	Medium					
5.1(ii)	Develop options for long term allocation arrangements for all members including new Members, and apply to TAC increases or decreases	Medium					

<b>6</b>	<b>Flexible management arrangements</b>		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014++</b>
6.1(i)	Develop a framework to provide for underfishing and respond to low levels of overfishing	Low	⇒				
6.1(i)	Develop a framework for quota trading between members & cooperating non-members	Low					
6.1(i)	Decide on and implement framework	Low					
6.2(i)	Flag state/fishing entity self assessment of capacity with respect to national allocations	Low					
6.2(i)	Flag state/fishing entity to take corrective action (if required)	Low					
6.2(i)	Develop proposal for CCSBT active vessel list to be managed by the Secretariat	Low	✓				
6.2(i)	Assess threats to SBT from over-capacity in other fleets	Low					
6.2(i)	International advocacy for capacity constraint/management	Low					
6.3(i)	Analysis of MEY	Low					
6.3(ii)	Evaluate alternative harvest strategies to optimise returns from the SBT stock including the adoption of MEY as the rebuilding reference point	Low					
6.3(ii)	Distribute benefits of yield increases once stock is rebuilt						

<b>B) OPERATION &amp; ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMMISSION &amp; SECRETARIAT</b>							
<b>7</b>	<b>Operation of the Commission</b>		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014++</b>
7.1(i)	Identify ways to streamline Commission processes	High	✓				
7.1(ii)	Consider appointing Chairperson & Vice-chairperson for a period of 2 years with the opportunity for a further 2 years, but maintain the rotation of meeting venue	High	✓				
7.1(iii)	Instruct the Secretariat to identify opportunities for services to be coordinated amongst RFMOs & to provide suggestions to the Commission	High					
7.1(iv)	Agree on regular reviews of Commission performance (every 5 years)	High					
7.2(i)	Implement a rule that the Commission must clearly document the rationale for decisions, including where they differ from the science advice provided to the Commission	Medium	✓				
7.2(ii)	Continue with open publication of Commission documents in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of CCSBT	Medium	⇒				
7.2(iii)	Continue to allow access to observers in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of CCSBT	Medium	⇒				
7.3(i)	Set parameters for the management procedure that ensure the precautionary approach is applied & ecosystem management is incorporated	Medium	⇒				



7.3(i)	Task the SC with incorporating modern fisheries management standards into its advice to the Commission	Medium	✓				
7.3(i)	Review decisions of the Commission to ensure modern fisheries management standards are incorporated into the Commission's decisions	Medium					
7.3(ii)	Clearly define the ongoing role of the SFMWG	Medium					
7.3(ii)	Include provision of the SFMWG's terms of reference for incorporating modern fisheries management standards into its advice to the Commission	Medium					
<b>C) PARTICIPATION &amp; IMPLEMENTATION BY MEMBERS</b>							
<b>8</b>	<b>Monitoring, control &amp; surveillance</b>		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014++</b>
8.1(i)	Develop a checklist of the Commission's conservation & management measures	High	✓				
8.1(i)	Audit members against the checklist at the Compliance Committee to obtain accurate data on all fisheries	High	⇒				
8.1(i)	Adopt standards & procedures to ensure data integrity	High	⇒				
8.1(ii)	Assess the necessity of additional MCS measures and/or improvement of agreed MCS measures to meet Commission objectives	High	⇒				
8.1(ii)	Identify any gaps between MCS measures in place and any improvements or additional measures required	High	⇒				
8.1(ii)	Develop a plan for implementing any changes needed	High	⇒				

			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014++
8.1(ii)	Implement identified MCS measures	High	⇒				
8.1 (iii)	Strengthen efforts by all members and cooperating non-members to ensure sufficient compliance at each stage of SBT fisheries, from catch grounds to markets, including transshipment, farming and trade	High					
8.1 (iv)	Monitoring of any expansion of SBT markets, including through reviewing SBT trade data	High					
8.1 (v)	Adoption and implementation of data confidentiality rules to facilitate the exchange of compliance data	High					
8.1 (vi)	Consider appointment of a dedicated compliance officer to the Secretariat	High					
<b>9</b>	<b>Members' obligations</b>						
9.1(i)	Audit members' implementation, enforcement & compliance with conservation & management measures and international obligations as they relate to CCSBT ( <b>link 8.1(i)</b> )	High	⇒				
9.1(ii)	Establish fair, transparent & non-discriminatory procedures for penalties & incentives to promote compliance	High					

<b>10</b>	<b>Supporting developing countries</b>		<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014++</b>
10.1(i)	Work with developing country members & cooperating non-members to identify areas where assistance would be beneficial to ensure they meet obligations under Commission decisions	Medium	⇒				
10.1(i)	Identify ways in which assistance may be provided	Medium	⇒				
10.1(i)	Develop & implement a programme to assist developing countries with Commission requirements	Medium					
<b>11</b>	<b>Participation in the CCSBT</b>						
11.1	Ensure that all states and Regional Economic Integration Organisations (REIOs) and entities catching SBT are engaged in the cooperative management of SBT	Medium		Consider Membership to EC		Consider Membership to Commission	
11.2	Establish a process for identifying non-member States that have, or are likely to become, important port States or market states for SBT, and seek the cooperation of such States with the implementation of CCSBT management measures.	High					

## **Report of the Compliance Committee Working Group Session**

### **Introduction**

A Compliance Committee working group was convened in order to consider issues in advance of the 6th meeting of the Compliance Committee and to assist with deliberations at that meeting in Bali.

The Working Group discussed issues relating to the development of a Compliance Plan and associated four Compliance Policy Statements. Papers from Members were also discussed.

Members expressed thanks to the Chair of the Compliance Committee, the independent consultant and the Executive Secretary for their extensive work on the plan and policies, noting that it was very useful to have all obligations and requirements in a single document.

### **Compliance Plan**

There was a concern that there are a lot of issues contained within the Compliance Plan, and that due to resource and financial constraints the work contained within it should be prioritised. It was suggested that the adoption of the Plan may be more effective if completed in a number of stages over a period of time, and that this may alleviate some of these concerns. A revised plan taking into account Members views will be submitted for consideration at the Bali meeting.

### **Compliance Policy 1**

Compliance Policy 1 outlining minimum performance requirements to meet CCSBT obligations was discussed in detail. It was agreed that the document was very useful as a reference for planning and making Members aware of their obligations.

The European Union, while reaffirming its support and commitment to an effective compliance system, noted that compliance with some of the measures can be excessively burdensome for Cooperating Non-Members, particularly those where SBT is a non target species and is taken as by-catch, or those with a very low allocation. It requested that, while preserving the general objectives of the organisation, there be some flexibility within the obligations for CNM's to keep them proportionate to their individual circumstances.

Noting that the policy included some performance requirements that were above and beyond the currently approved obligations, it was agreed that the Appendix to Compliance Policy 1 would be revised prior to the meeting in October, to include all obligations and only the minimum requirements that are currently agreed. This could then be reviewed at the meeting in October and additional requirements in priority areas that would strengthen the obligation may be identified and added. Members identified compliance with TAC and national allocations as a priority.

## **Compliance Policy 2**

There was a general agreement that the principles of auditing as outlined in Compliance Policy 2 was a favourable idea, however there was some concern over the associated costs and resources required.

There was further agreement that utilising a single auditor (or Auditing firm) with experience in international fisheries management and associated processes would be preferable in terms of achieving consistency across audits. This was also considered to be a more financially feasible solution.

The working group agreed that the Audit policy would be revised prior to the October meeting, and that quotes for approximate costs for auditors would be provided if at all possible.

## **Compliance Policy 3**

Discussion of Compliance Policy 3 led to agreement that the document should be simplified, with priority placed on capacity building, and compliance with TAC and national allocations. It was noted that the process should be simplified around these priority areas, with some minor changes to be made to the roles and responsibilities to make it clear that the CC was a recommending body of the Commission.

## **Compliance Policy 4**

Compliance Policy 4 was discussed and it was noted that the matters of importance revolved around data confidentiality, collection of standardised data, and the role of the Compliance Committee in information sharing.

There were a number of changes requested to the Compliance Plan and associated policy documents by Members, which will be incorporated into revised version of the plan and policy documents for the Compliance Committee meeting in Bali.

## **Member's Compliance Papers**

The working group also discussed two further issues:

- A proposal by Japan for a resolution on strengthening compliance (CCSBT-SMEC/1108/06) and;
- A proposal by Australia on the development of a Regional Observer Program.
- Following extensive discussion, it was agreed that both Japan and Australia would revise their respective proposals and provide the revised documents to the Compliance Committee in October.

**Report from Indonesia about the SBT Imported from Indonesia to Japan  
without CDS Documents and Tags**

In one case of attempting export of SBT to Japan from an Indonesian fishing vessel it was found that there were 1913.1 kg of SBT (75 Individual SBT) exported to Japan without a Catch Monitoring Form and CCSBT tags (information by email from Mr. Tetsuya Kawashima on 22 November 2010).

Indonesia took action immediately to call and invite the vessel owner and Chair of the Indonesia Tuna Association to a meeting in Jakarta. The owner of the fishing vessel and the chair of the Indonesia Tuna Association attended the meeting on 30 November 2010. In the meeting, the owner of this vessel confessed that her crew had mistaken handling SBT, and also informed that her vessel crews were new and could not distinguish between SBT and Big Eye Tuna. Furthermore, she also expressed her commitment to:

1. Comply with the resolution adopted by CCSBT
2. Do her best to avoid this situation from happening again
3. In case any contradiction happens again, the company will accept any sanction to be imposed by the Government of Indonesia.
4. The company requested to assign Directorate General for Capture Fisheries' officer to Japan to attach SBT tags to the whole SBT and complete the catch monitoring form.

In accordance to that possible solution, Indonesia wrote a letter to the Secretariat asking the Commission to allow an officer to be sent to Japan. The Secretariat circulated this letter as CCSBT circular 2010-012.

As the outcome of Circular 2010-012, CCSBT published CCSBT Circular 2011-001 advising that all Members of the Commission agreed to send an Indonesian officer to Japan and accept the proposal made by Indonesia Government.

On 21 February 2011, all of 75 SBT had been tagged at Yokohama Port.

To prevent the situation happening again, Indonesia will take necessary action as follow:

1. Develop meetings with the Tuna Association more frequently
2. Ask the owner or operator of fishing vessel: a) to employ skilled crew/labour. b) conduct new training for new labour to identify SBT and other tuna and how to handle tuna onboard as well as after landing.
3. Give sanction for the vessel if any vessels are doing the similar case, including freezing or revoking their fishing license as mention in Indonesia Regulation.
4. Apply strict control in registration process of fishing vessel to the CCSBT Authorized Vessel List.

Thank You.