

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

## **Report of the Twenty Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission**

**18 October 2018**

This meeting of the Commission and the Extended Commission was substantially funded by the CCSBT and the European Union.



## **Report of the Twenty Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission**

**18 October 2018**

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

1. Mr Asanda Njobeni (South Africa) was confirmed as the Chair of the Twenty Fifth Annual meeting of the Commission (CCSBT 25) and Mr Shingo Ota (Japan) was confirmed as the Vice Chair of CCSBT 25.
2. The Chair welcomed participants and opened the meeting.
3. The Chair advised that CCSBT 25 is being opened in Noumea, New Caledonia, but that report adoption and closing of CCSBT 25 will be conducted electronically through the intersessional decision-making process after Members have returned from the meeting.

#### ***1.1 Adoption of agenda***

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

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

6. The Commission approved the decisions taken by the Extended Commission for the Twenty Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission, which is at **Appendix 3**.

### **Agenda Item 3. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for CCSBT 26 and venue**

7. CCSBT 26 will be held in Cape Town, South Africa.
8. South Africa will provide the Chair of CCSBT 26 and Japan will provide the Vice-Chair.
9. South Africa advised that it will nominate the person to Chair CCSBT 26 soon after CCSBT 25. Japan nominated Mr Shingo Ota to be the Vice-Chair.

### **Agenda Item 4. Other business**

10. There was no other business.

### **Agenda Item 5. Adoption of report of meeting**

11. The report was adopted.

**Agenda Item 6. Close of meeting**

12. The meeting was closed on 22 October 2018 electronically through the intersessional decision-making process.

## **List of Appendices**

### Appendix

- 1    Agenda
- 2    List of Participants
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**Agenda**  
**Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of**  
**Southern Bluefin Tuna**

1. Opening of the meeting
  - 1.1. Adoption of agenda
2. Approval of decisions taken by the Extended Commission
3. Election of the Chair and Vice Chair for CCSBT 26 and venue
4. Other business
5. Adoption of report of meeting
6. Close of meeting

**List of Participants**  
**The Twenty Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission**

First name	Last name	Title	Position	Organisation	Postal address	Tel	Fax	Email
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Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



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## Appendix 3

# **Report of the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission**

**15 - 18 October 2018  
Noumea, New Caledonia**

**Report of the Extended Commission of the  
Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission  
15 - 18 October 2018  
Noumea, New Caledonia**

**Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting**

***1.1. Confirmation of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Commission***

1. Mr Kristofer du Rietz (the European Union) was confirmed as the Chair of the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Fifth Annual meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT 25), and Mr Asanda Njobeni (South Africa) was confirmed as the Vice Chair.
2. The Chair identified key issues for the meeting to discuss and welcomed participants to Noumea.
3. Members introduced their delegations and observers introduced themselves. The list of participants is provided at **Attachment 1**.

***1.2. Adoption of agenda***

4. The agenda was adopted and is included at **Attachment 2**.
5. The list of documents submitted to the meeting is provided at **Attachment 3**.
6. The Chair summarised arrangements for the timing of the meeting and for the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC).

***1.3. Opening statements***

***1.3.1. Members***

7. Opening statements by Members of the Extended Commission (EC) are provided at **Attachment 4**.

***1.3.2. Observers***

8. Opening Statements by Observers are provided at **Attachment 5**.

**Agenda Item 2. Report from the Secretariat**

9. The report from the Secretariat was provided to the meeting as paper CCSBT-EC/1810/04. The meeting noted the activities of the Secretariat as reported.

10. In relation to matters raised in the Report from the Secretariat, the EC agreed that:
- The independent Chair of the Compliance Committee (Mr Frank Meere) should be reappointed for another three-year term;
  - The EC Referred consideration of proposed changes to the Financial Regulations with respect to the independent external auditor to the FAC;
  - The Rules of Procedure will be revised in accordance with **Attachment 6** to allow the intersessional decision-making process to approve the release of meeting documents prior to the annual meeting of the EC; and
  - Meeting documents that have been declared to be publicly available at annual meetings of the CCSBT, will be placed on the public area of the CCSBT website.
11. BirdLife International (BirdLife) withdrew its request for long-term observer status to meetings of the Compliance Committee (CC). BirdLife commented that during this agenda item, a Member reserved its position on the acceptance of BirdLife as a long-term observer at the CC in relation to a paper which was presented by BirdLife at the CC 13. This paper was presented under CC 13 agenda item 4.3 in an attempt to add value to the Secretariat's paper which described IOTC's current transshipment observer protocols in relation to seabird measures. BirdLife presented this paper with the understanding that as it was publicly available on the IOTC website it would be acceptable to present to CCSBT. However, it is now apparent that there were issues presenting the paper at this time to CCSBT, so Birdlife asked to withdraw the paper from the CC 13 and apologised for any inconvenience that this has caused.
12. The meeting noted that with the withdrawal of this paper, paragraphs 51 and 52 of the CC 13 report are no longer valid and should not be referenced in the future.
13. There was some discussion concerning the Consolidated List of Authorised Vessels (CLAV) and it was noted that there had been a request at CCSBT 24 for information to be provided to CCSBT 25 on how the CLAV is utilised and the benefits of the CLAV to the CCSBT.
14. The Executive Secretary advised the meeting that the main purpose of the CLAV is to make information on authorised vessels available to help fight and deter IUU activities. The CLAV consolidates information and reduces the human burden in determining which vessels have the right to fish in which areas. The Secretariat wrote to the Common Oceans ABNJ<sup>1</sup> tuna project in April 2018 to seek information on the CLAV, but apart from a quick phone call, did not receive the formal response that was promised. Nevertheless, the ABNJ Tuna Project did advise that the main cost in maintaining the CLAV is the human cost of maintaining data quality and that if we are willing to let the data quality degrade over time, the CLAV can continue with daily automated updates for essentially no cost. The Executive Secretary further advised that maintaining the data quality of the CLAV has the important feedback effect of maintaining the data quality of each of the tuna RFMO authorised vessel databases and he suggest that this alone, is probably worth CCSBT's share of the likely cost. It was requested that

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<sup>1</sup> Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction.

the Executive Secretary continue to seek a response from the ABNJ Tuna Project on the usage of the CLAV.

15. It was noted that if CLAV maintenance is to be continued until the end of ABNJ project in September 2019, no further funding needs to be sought until 2020, and so potential funding arrangements need not be finalised until CCSBT 26.
16. One Member queried whether a funding model based on the number of authorised vessels per tuna RFMO was an appropriate model. The Secretariat noted that no decision had been taken on the funding model and that any suggestions regarding appropriate potential alternative funding models would be appreciated.

### **Agenda Item 3. Finance and Administration**

17. Mr. Dominic Vallières from New Zealand was nominated as Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC). Members nominated their participants to the FAC.
18. The Executive Secretary provided a brief presentation of the draft revised budget for 2018 (CCSBT-EC/1810/05 (Rev.1)), and the proposed budget for 2019 and indicative budget for 2020 - 2021 (CCSBT-EC/1810/06).
19. The Executive Secretary noted that the 2019 draft budget and the 2020 - 2021 indicative budget includes funding to implement the Extended Scientific Committee's three-year workplan. Detailed consideration of the two budget papers was referred to the Finance and Administration Committee.
20. The FAC was convened to consider:
  - The revised budget for 2018;
  - The proposed budget for 2019; and
  - The indicative budget for 2020 - 2021.

#### ***3.1. Report from the Finance and Administration Committee***

21. The Chair of the FAC presented the report of the FAC, which is provided at **Attachment 7**. It includes:
  - A policy regarding the treatment of resources received free of charge and in-kind contributions in the CCSBT's Annual Financial Statements;
  - A revision to the CCSBT's Financial Regulations to enable the EC to consider alternative auditors and potential cost savings;
  - A revised budget for 2018;
  - A budget for 2019; and
  - Indicative budgets for 2020 - 2021.
22. The EC thanked the FAC Chair and the FAC for its hard work.
23. The EC adopted the report of the FAC, including the policy at Annex A, the revision to the Financial Regulations at Annex B, the revised 2018 budget at



Annex C and the budget for 2019 at Annex D. The EC also noted the indicative budgets for 2020-2021 at Annex D.

24. In response to a question, the Secretariat advised that the contributions from Members shown in the approved budget for 2019 at Annex D of **Attachment 7** does not include the Advance Contributions which resulted from South Africa's accession in February 2016. The Advance Contributions for each Member are shown on page 5 of paper CCSBT-EC/1810/06. The actual amount that Members need to pay to the CCSBT in 2019 are their contributions as shown in Annex D minus the Advance Contributions shown in paper CCSBT-EC/1810/06. The Secretariat also advised that if Members wished to reduce fluctuations in contributions from year to year, they could choose to keep some of their Advance Contribution to offset their payments in 2020. This will be explained in the letter from the Secretariat that requests payment of Member contributions for 2019.
25. Some Members were disappointed that the funding for the proposed study from the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) for analysis of farm and market data had been substantially reduced and that the project would now need to be conducted with less resources than proposed by the ESC. New Zealand expressed its frustration for delays in resolving farm and market reporting issues and reiterated that it would have difficulty adopting a new MP if it does not see progress in this matter. Japan stated that if these issues are not resolved before establishing a new MP, the MP should take into account such uncertainties. The EC agreed to a Terms of Reference for discussion on farm and market analysis at the 2019 ESC meeting. The Terms of Reference is provided at **Attachment 8**.

#### **Agenda Item 4. Review of SBT Fisheries and ERS Interactions**

26. The Chair noted the deliberations of the CC and invited Members to ask questions about Members' National Reports additional to those already raised at the Thirteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC 13).
27. It was requested that Australia provide an update on its stereo-video (SV) camera technology research, and a potential timeframe within which the remaining issues with this technology might be resolved.
28. Australia confirmed that it is confident of its current sampling method but committed to adopting SV technology as soon as a fully automated, cost-effective system is available, but noted that it is unlikely to deliver cost effective or satisfactory results without agreed appropriate standards (such as for example the E-monitoring standards currently being discussed by WCPFC).
29. Some Members commented that they had not previously been informed of the link between having CCSBT e-monitoring standards and implementation of stereo video. Australia indicated that it became aware of this requirement as part of its continuing work on SV. Australia commented that it is important to have standards on the required accuracy and precision of fish measurements as these will have cost implications, and that it is also important to know the proportion of fish that should be measured and what implications there are on analyses for fish that cannot be measured.

30. Australia committed to provide a paper to CCSBT 26 outlining the work it has conducted to automate SV measurements, what it has learned through this work and what Australia needs to overcome remaining issues, including what decisions need to be made by the EC (such as on data standards) in order to resolve these issues to enable implementation of SV.

#### ***4.1. Reports on Members' projects***

31. No reports were provided in relation to Members' projects.

#### **Agenda Item 5. Report from the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group**

32. Australia, as host of the Fifth Meeting of Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG 5) presented the report of the SFMWG's March 2018 meeting, which is at **Attachment 9**.
33. New Zealand noted that one of the issues discussed by the SFMWG was whether to set up rules for allocations of the TAC, particularly in relation to non-Members and potential new Members. New Zealand remarked that the EC should plan for possible approaches from non-Members to become a Member, particularly in light of the CC's discussions as to the potential SBT catches of non-Members.
34. Japan stated that allocation to potential new Members should take into account how much allocation those Members request vis-a-vis how much allocation existing Members have and that it would be easier for Members to consider such allocation when that TAC is increased.
35. The EC approved the report of SFMWG and noted its recommendations.

#### **Agenda Item 6. Report from the Compliance Committee**

36. The independent Chair of the Compliance Committee, Mr Frank Meere, presented the report of CC 13 which is provided at **Attachment 10**.
37. The CC Chair highlighted the report's workplan (paragraph 111), recommendations to the EC (paragraph 115) and notes for the EC (paragraph 116), and thanked participants for a productive meeting.
38. The EC adopted CC 13's report and recommendations, noting that some items needed to be discussed further, these being:
  - Some Members expressed concerns regarding whether the Global Trade Atlas (GTA) could be considered an official information source of trade data and requested that the Secretariat investigate alternative sources of trade data statistics;
  - The EU advised that it has not had any catch of SBT for the past 4-5 years and that it is in a very complex situation as it has a large number of Member States. Therefore, the EU has concerns about the opportunity to undertake the QAR in the EU and if currently proposed QAR options will be representative

and produce meaningful conclusions. The EU will provide more information intersessionally during 2019 so that an informed decision can be made on the EU QAR;

- Taiwan commented that while it was positive towards encouraging new Members to join the CCSBT, care should be taken to ensure that the acceptance of any new Members does not affect the rights of existing Members; in addition, that any new Members should confirm their commitment to abide by CCSBT's Convention and its Resolutions and Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) before joining;
  - It was noted that the proposal (for enhancing the implementation of ERS measures through outreach/education and verifying compliance with measures) to be developed collaboratively between the Secretariat, BirdLife and Members, would need to be agreed by Members before it could proceed; and
  - One Member noted that while CC 13 had not identified any non-compliance issues requiring corrective actions under the Corrective Actions Policy, some issues of non-compliance had been identified and Members should work to correct these deficiencies, for example, in the reporting of attributable catch.
39. The EC approved the CC 13's report and noted its recommendations.
40. In addition:
- The EC agreed a Terms of reference for an annual Technical Compliance Working Group meeting which is provided at **Attachment 11**; and
  - New Zealand offered to lead an intersessional process to re-develop and refine the current CC/EC annual reporting template for the consideration of CCSBT 26. One Member noted that if any new reporting obligations were added to this template, then some of the existing obligations should be removed so as not to increase the burden to Members.

#### **Agenda Item 7. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee**

41. The independent Chair of the Extended Scientific Committee, Dr Kevin Stokes, presented the report of the ESC meeting which is summarised in papers CCSBT-EC/1810/10 and CCSBT-EC/1810/18. The full ESC Report is at **Attachment 12**.
42. The Humane Society International (HSI) asked the ESC Chair several questions on the nature of the advice from ESC including concern of possible evidence of overfishing from the lengths of fish on spawning grounds, how the ESC accounts for non-Member and illegal fishing, whether the ESC was constraining its focus too tightly on achieving 0.30 or 0.35 of unexploited biomass by 2035, and whether the risks of climate change have been considered by the ESC. In response to these questions, the ESC Chair advised that:
- He did not see evidence of over-fishing from the lengths of fish in the spawning grounds and that the lengths could be interpreted in many ways, including in a positive manner due to the appearance of more smaller fish coming through, but noting that this could also be a sampling issue;

- The ESC would like the best possible data on removals but has to deal with the information that it has. The Management Procedure (MP) has robustness trials to deal with uncertainties in unaccounted mortalities;
  - Given the current Operating Model (OM) and starting conditions, the focus has been on CMPs that meet the SFMWG guidance, but in 2019 the OM will be updated and wider targets may be considered; and
  - There is no direct consideration of climate change, but the MP considers a wide range of productivity as part of the robustness process, and the meta-rules and exceptional circumstances procedures allow for situations out of the scope of what is tested.
43. The meeting discussed what guidance to give the developers of the MP on the specifications and the desired behaviour for the new MP, including timeframes to reach target spawning stock biomass levels. It was agreed to maintain the guidance given by the March 2018 SFMWG meeting but allow developers the flexibility to explore and report on different scenarios where appropriate and feasible. It was noted that the Operating Model (OM) will be updated with new data in 2019 and that as a result, scenarios that exhibited undesirable behaviour in this year's trials (such as large TAC decreases or fluctuations in TACs) might have slightly different behaviour with the updated OM and could potentially be reconsidered. It was further agreed to add a new performance statistic for each Candidate Management Procedure (CMP) showing the probability of reaching 30% of the unfished spawning biomass by 2030.
  44. Extensive discussions were held on the proposal from the ESC for independent panels to determine a methodology for resolving issues regarding the possible Australian farm and Japanese market anomalies that have been unresolved for many years and whether the proposal is likely to be effective in resolving the issues in these areas. Members generally agreed that the effectiveness was not able to be determined before the studies were done, but some believed it was a step forward towards resolution of the issues. Some Members thought the cost was too high to justify, but others were accepting of the proposal if it was the only solution and if costs could be reduced. During discussions, Australia clarified that its CDS data are confidential and could not commit to providing these data to a third party for analysis until the methodology is provided and Australia can evaluate whether the methodology would be able to provide a definitive result.
  45. It was commented that the farm methodology survey would not be necessary if stereo video monitoring was implemented by Australia, which Australia is still investigating in terms of automation, cost-effectiveness and other issues. The EU offered to provide information on stereo video monitoring of bluefin that has been used by ICCAT, which the EU stated was an accurate, efficient and proven technology. Australia advised that it was happy to have discussions with the EU on this but noted that operations in Australia were different to those in the Mediterranean and it was not necessarily straightforward to transfer the technology.
  46. The meeting also discussed potential non-Member catches. It was agreed that non-Member catches were a concern and needed to be better estimated, but that they were difficult to estimate, especially without fine-scale data. Suggestions included: using WCPFC and IOTC data to obtain estimates as done in a previous

study and pursuing an MoU with IOTC for an exchange of data similar to the MoU with the WCPFC. Japan noted that provision of fine scale data could be made only for stock assessment on a case by case basis. No agreement was reached, but it was noted that there was an agenda item at ESC for this issue and that papers would be required from Members on the potential types of non-Member catches and how to estimate them.

47. The meeting discussed that examining markets was one method that could be used to identify the potential for unaccounted mortalities. The results of the TRAFFIC market survey of China was an example where some SBT catch has not been appropriately accounted for. The meeting noted that market surveys need to be carefully designed to avoid uncertainty in the conclusions (for example CCSBT is yet to resolve whether there are uncertainties associated with the Japan Market survey). One Member stated that improved fisheries monitoring would reduce potential reliance on market survey to identify unaccounted mortalities.
48. One Member stated that while non-Member catches were a problem, underestimation of Members catches was potentially a larger problem. Another Member stated that unless the problem of under-reporting of Member catches was resolved it would have difficulty in agreeing to a new MP. It was clarified that the OMs already account for uncertainty in Member catches and that the overall TAC recommendation should be robust to such uncertainty. However, this is also a potential problem as Members not involved could have their allocation of the TAC adversely impacted by this approach.
49. The EC approved the report of ESC 23 and noted the recommendations of the ESC.

## **Agenda Item 8. Total Allowable Catch and its allocation**

### ***8.1. Attributable SBT Catch***

50. The Chair commented that the EC has agreed that full implementation of the Attributable SBT Catch commences from the 2018 season and opened the floor to discussion on how each Member has accounted for its SBT mortalities.
51. Australia reported that its logbook information had improved since the implementation of electronic monitoring and asked other Members how they were able to reconcile differences in discards between logbook and observer data, particularly given that observer coverage rates were low. In response to this question:
  - Japan commented that there were no discrepancies between the Real Time Monitoring Program (RTMP) data and observer data for its fleet;
  - Korea explained that it uses observer data to estimate its discard mortality, that its vessels were obliged to record discards in logbooks and it cross-checks this against observer data; and
  - Taiwan stated that it uses daily logbook data and observer data and believes it can provide accurate data. Taiwan has been experimenting with electronic monitoring but is at the early stages and is not implemented for the SBT fleet.

52. Australia advised that the introduction of electronic monitoring had shown discrepancies that weren't evident in historical data and encouraged Members to continue to explore ways to validate their data. It stated that electronic monitoring is an effective approach and encouraged Members to consider implementing electronic monitoring in the future.
53. Australia explained that its policy has always been to discourage discards and only to allow the discarding of live and vigorous fish, with penalties if discarding is detected for fish not in that state.
54. In response to questions about its recreational fishery mortality estimates, New Zealand responded that:
  - Its recreational estimates included both charter vessel catch and catch from the general population.
  - Charter vessels are required to report SBT, while other catches have been estimated from ramp-based surveys and game-fishing records.
  - The option of a 40t allowance for recreational fishers was provided by the recreational sector as a basis for consultation. The provisional estimates for the most recent season is 12t. New Zealand is concerned about potential catch and is considering imposing bag and/or boat limits. As an outcome of this consultation, there is currently a domestic catch allowance of 20t for this sector.

### ***8.2. TAC Determination***

55. At CCSBT 23, the EC agreed to set the TAC for 2018-2020 at 17,647 tonnes per year in accordance with the recommendation from the CCSBT's Management Procedure (MP).
56. The EC confirmed there were no exceptional circumstances that required the 2019 TAC to be revised, and the TAC for 2019 was confirmed to remain at 17,647t.

### ***8.3. Research Mortality Allowance***

57. The Chair advised the meeting that the ESC had endorsed a total Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) of 4.0t to be set aside for 2019 as follows:
  - 3.0 t for the CCSBT Gene Tagging Project; and
  - 1.0 t to Japan for trolling surveys of juvenile SBT in Western Australia.
58. The EC approved these RMA requests.

### ***8.4. Allocation of TAC***

59. The Chair advised that allocations and effective catch limits to Members for 2018-2020 were agreed at CCSBT 23 and these allocations are provided on page 3 of paper CCSBT-EC/1810/11 and are repeated in Table 1 below. The EC confirmed that the allocations for 2019 would be as agreed at CCSBT 23.

**Table 1:** Allocations (tonnes of SBT) to Members for 2018-2020. Japan is providing a voluntary transfer of 21t to Indonesia and 27t to South Africa for the 2018 to 2020 quota block. This transfer is included in column “(3)” of Table 1. 6,165 will be Japan’s starting point in considering the allocation from 2021.

Member	(1) Adjusted Allocation	(2) Nominal Catch Proportion	(3) Effective Catch Limit
Japan	6165	0.355643	6117
Australia	6165	0.355643	6165
New Zealand	1088	0.062779	1088
Korea	1240.5	0.071568	1240.5
Taiwan	1240.5	0.071568	1240.5
Indonesia	1002	0.057785	1023
European Union	11	0.000628	11
South Africa	423	0.024387	450

### **Agenda Item 9. CCSBT Strategic Plan**

60. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-EC/1810/12 which provides background information on the current CCSBT Strategic Plan and its five-year Action Plan. Discussions focused on five action items specified for 2018 or for 2019 that require initial discussion at EC 25.

***Undertake Commission performance reviews periodically to routinely assess opportunities for improvements, including both self-assessment and independent reviews***

61. The EC noted that if the next performance review is conducted during 2019, the new MP will not be in place, the new management objectives for the fishery will not be available and the last stock assessment will be two years old. Conversely, if the performance review was conducted in 2021, the new MP will be in place with the new management objectives, and an up-to-date stock assessment will have been conducted in 2020. Furthermore, the UNSFA Informal Consultations to be held in 2019 will be focusing on performance reviews of RFMOs, so it may be prudent to hold off the performance review until the outcomes of those consultations are known.
62. The EC agreed that the next CCSBT Performance Review should be postponed until 2021.

***a) Review Convention text (if Member/s propose such negotiations) and, where appropriate, incorporate modern fisheries management principles and/or standards through decisions of the Commission e.g. in reviewing Management Procedure; measures to manage ERS (noting the latter option may be more efficient)***

***b) Develop mechanisms for extending full CCSBT Membership to Fishing Entities and REIOs***

63. A variety of views were expressed on the need to update the Convention text. Most Members considered revision of the Convention to be a low priority. One Member considered that there was no need to revise the Convention, while some other Members thought it was important to explore ways to extend full membership to Fishing entities and REIOs, and/or to modernise the Convention.

64. It was agreed that interested Members will communicate intersessionally and possibly prepare a paper(s), on reflections regarding the Convention including a work plan on potential revisions for discussion at CCSBT 26.

***Task the SC with incorporating modern fisheries management principles and/or standards that have not yet been included in its work***

65. It was noted that the ESC is already required to incorporate advice consistent with the precautionary approach into its advice to the EC and that it incorporates the best scientific information available in its advice, some of which is from cutting edge science.
66. The EC confirmed that it seems unnecessary to task the ESC with any further fisheries management principles and/or standards in relation to its work with southern bluefin tuna.

***Formalise 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.***

- ***Clearly define the on-going role of the SFMWG, its name, terms of reference and its chairing arrangements as part of the review at 7.1(vii)***
- ***Include provision in the terms of reference for the SFMWG for incorporating modern fisheries management standards into its advice to the Commission***

67. The EC agreed to a revised the Terms of Reference for the SFMWG, which are provided at **Attachment 13**.

***Investigate ways of providing for the participation and/or cooperation of a wider range of actors***

68. There was discussion concerning the merits of widening CCSBT's Membership to potentially allow non-Member States with CCSBT authorised carrier vessels, and/or potentially also SBT port States and/or market States to become CNMs. In addition, there was extensive discussion on whether the Flag of carrier vessels shall be restricted only to Members and CNMs.
69. In both cases, the EC could not agree on introducing changes.

**Agenda Item 10. Ecologically Related Species (ERS)**

***10.1. Consideration of the CCSBT's vision in relation to ERS***

70. Australia presented paper CCSBT-EC/1810/23 related to options for providing focus and direction to the work of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG). The paper proposed six recommendations that were discussed by the meeting.
71. The EC reached agreement on three of the recommendations, as follows:
- That ERS is to remain a standing item on the Annual Meeting agenda, and the Secretariat is to provide annual reports on Members' performance with respect to ERS;
  - To convene the ERSWG on an ad hoc basis, to address specific issues identified by the EC; and



- The Secretariat should forward the ERSWG report to the ESC and CC for their information.
72. It was clarified that the report provided by the Secretariat would be a simple report of numbers and species by Member for the past 3 years, derived from Members annual reports and submitted ERS data, and did not require additional submission from Members.

### ***10.2. Resolution on binding ERS measures for the CCSBT***

73. New Zealand presented NZ/EU joint paper CCSBT-EC/1810/19 on a draft Resolution to Align CCSBT Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs.
74. HSI suggested the inclusion of ACAP in the preamble and to include IATTC in the list of RFMOs, but these suggestions were not accepted by Members.
75. The EC adopted the Resolution to Align CCSBT Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs, which is provided at **Attachment 14**.
76. BirdLife and HSI expressed its disappointment that, in their view, the Resolution does not allow the CCSBT to consider compliance in the CC with ERS measures and that the Resolution is not compatible with taking corrective action. It commented that this is a particular problem since the CCSBT is the RFMO that has the greatest overlap with threatened seabird populations.

### ***10.3. Terms of Reference for the Ecologically Related Species Working Group***

77. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-EC/1810/13 on Terms of Reference for the ERSWG. The EC agreed on the updated Terms of Reference for the ERSWG, which are provided at **Attachment 15**.
78. The EC agreed that the report of the ERSWG would be provided to the ESC for comment, and that the ERSWG Chair would present the report to the EC including any comments made by the ESC.

## **Agenda Item 11. Relationship with Non-Members**

79. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-EC/1810/14 on CCSBT's relationship with non-Members and advised that China, Fiji, Singapore and the United States had been invited to attend the meetings of the Compliance Committee and Extended Commission, but that Singapore and the United States attended CC 13 only. Further, the Secretariat advised that there has been considerable interaction between the CCSBT Secretariat and non-Member States and other organisations during 2018, mostly in the compliance area.
80. The Secretariat noted that the CCSBT had corresponded with China twice since CCSBT 24. The first item of correspondence was a letter signed by the CCSBT Chair in December 2017 on various matters including an invitation to China to become a Member, Cooperating Non-Member or an observer of the CCSBT. The second was a letter regarding alleged IUU fishing activities by Chinese-flagged vessels that occurred in July-August 2018. No response was received to

the first letter, but a brief response was received to the second letter indicating that China would conduct an investigation.

81. It was suggested that in addition to inviting China to attend CCSBT's meetings, another approach might be to ask China to conduct a specific action. It was proposed that the Secretariat could provide a map to China setting out areas where SBT are expected to be caught and request that China ask its longliners not to fish within that area and to monitor its longliners' positions by VMS. There was general support for this type of approach. It was also noted that opportunities to follow-up with China during Members' bilateral discussions could be helpful.
82. The Secretariat noted that it wrote to the Philippines to inform it of CCSBT 24's decision that the Philippines did not qualify to retain the status of Cooperating Non-Member of the CCSBT. In addition, the Secretariat acknowledged the USA's continued cooperation with the CCSBT's CDS.
83. The EC agreed that:
  - The Secretariat should repeat its invitations to China, Fiji, Singapore, and the USA for CC 14 and CCSBT 26, as well as inviting Mauritius (an important port State) as was recommended by CC 13; and
  - The CCSBT would communicate with China, requesting that its fleet avoid fishing in areas likely to catch SBT and provide information as to the specific areas to avoid.

#### **Agenda Item 12. Kobe Process**

84. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-EC/1810/15 which provided an update on Kobe process activities.
85. The paper noted that the Chair of the Kobe Steering Committee (KSC) provided a concept note for consideration by the five tuna RFMOs. This concept note proposes that the practical work of Kobe would be arranged into the following three main categories:
  - Cooperation, exchange of information and coordination within the Steering Committee;
  - Organisation of meetings of existing or new working groups covering particular topics. (e.g. MSE, FADs, by-catch, catch documentation, external communication, best practices in science, compliance); and
  - The organisation of a new large-scale meeting will also be considered - tentative timing is for September 2019.
86. One Member noted that it was important to recognise that the BBNJ<sup>2</sup> process is in progress and that RFMOs should develop a common view and understanding on what's happening in this area.

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<sup>2</sup> Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction

87. With regard to the three categories listed in the Kobe Chair's concept note, the EC agreed that:
- It supports the first activity and the Kobe process in general;
  - It supports some suggestions for themes of small technical meetings as part of the second activity; and
  - Some Members still have reservations about supporting a large-scale Kobe IV given there is not yet any information available on the proposed main themes for such a meeting. If Kobe IV proceeds, individual Members would make their own decisions on whether to attend depending on the theme. It was noted there were mixed views between the Members as to whether Kobe IV is likely to be useful.
88. The Executive Secretary will respond to the KSC Chair noting the EC's advice, including that the proposed meeting date of September is not ideal for CCSBT Members and that initial discussion indicated July might be a better time. A Member encouraged all Members to continue participating in the Kobe Process and promote this process in other tuna RFMOs.

### **Agenda Item 13. Activities with Other Organisations**

#### ***13.1. Reports from other RFMO meetings of interest***

89. The Chair introduced this item which is summarised in the Secretariat's paper CCSBT-EC/1810/16 on activities with other organisations.
90. The following reports were provided by Members as part of their observer duties for the CCSBT.
- Korea's report (CCSBT-EC/1810/25) on the on 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC);
  - Australia's report (CCSBT-EC/1810/20) on the 36th Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR);
  - Indonesia's report (CCSBT-EC/1810/24) on the Twenty Second Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC);
  - Taiwan's report (CCSBT-EC/1810/22) on the 2018 (93<sup>rd</sup>) Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC); and
  - Japan's report (CCSBT-EC/1810/21) on the 25<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).
91. It was agreed that the following Members would act as Observers to other RFMOs on behalf of CCSBT during 2018/19:
- Korea to continue as an Observer to WCPFC;
  - Australia to continue as an Observer to CCAMLR;
  - Indonesia to continue as Observer to IOTC;
  - Japan to continue as an Observer to ICCAT; and
  - Taiwan to continue as an Observer to IATTC.

### ***13.2. Review of the “Arrangement” with CCAMLR***

92. The Secretariat presented Section 2 of paper CCSBT-EC/1810/16 on the current Arrangement between CCSBT and CCAMLR. This Arrangement is now due for review and a decision is required from both Commissions regarding whether it will be renewed. The Secretariat confirmed that it considers that the current Arrangement is suitable as an overarching agreement and that it would be acceptable to renew the arrangement in its current form.
93. Members asked about the status of the proposed implementation plan to facilitate enhanced cooperation, as well as the reciprocal meeting invitation arrangements. It was confirmed that the implementation plan is in only the very early stages of discussion. In addition, that while reciprocal meeting invitation arrangements are in place, the Executive Secretary has not attended any CCAMLR meetings. Instead, Australia participates at CCAMLR as the observer from CCSBT. A CCAMLR scientific officer has attended one CCSBT ERSWG meeting.
94. The EC agreed to renew the Arrangement between the CCSBT and CCAMLR, which is provided at **Attachment 16**.

## **Agenda Item 14. Confidentiality of Data and Documents**

### ***14.1. Confidentiality of reports and documents from 2018***

95. The Chair introduced paper CCSBT-EC/1810/17 (Rev.2) on the confidentiality of reports and documents submitted as meeting documents during 2018.
96. The meeting noted that all the reports of meetings and documents submitted to meetings under the jurisdiction of CCSBT 25 would be made publicly available with the following exceptions:
  - Attachment A of this paper (CCSBT-ESC/1809/04);
  - Paper CCSBT-ESC/1809/16 and CCSBT-CC/1810/BGD04 from Australia titled “Japan Market Update 2018”;
  - Papers CCSBT-ESC/1809/30 and CCSBT-CC/1810/BGD02 from Japan titled “Monitoring of Southern Bluefin Tuna trading in the Japanese domestic markets: 2018 update”;
  - Paper CCSBT-ESC/1809/31 from Japan titled “Summary points of market monitoring of southern bluefin tuna, based on Attachment 7 in report of ESC22”; and
  - The Secretariat’s papers CCSBT-CC/1810/20 on Potential Non-Member Fishing Activity & Trade/Emerging Markets and CCSBT-EC/1810/14 on relationships with non-Members.
97. With the exception of the last two Secretariat papers, all of the above papers were classified as being confidential because they referred to information from other confidential documents. The Secretariat’s last two papers were classified as confidential because the activity of named vessels was specified in those papers and the Flag State is still investigating those cases.

### **Agenda Item 15. Meetings for 2019**

98. The EC discussed whether to hold the next ERSWG meeting during 2019. There was general support for a suggestion that the agenda should include risk assessments of seabirds and threat assessments of sharks as well as other items relating to the Terms of Reference of the ERSWG.
99. The EC agreed that the ERSWG will be held in 2019, in Canberra, with the meeting dates to be determined intersessionally by the Executive Secretary. Initial indications suggested that a meeting date during April or May might be possible.
100. It was agreed that the following meetings and dates would apply for 2019:
- An informal Operating Model and management Procedure Technical Meeting, in Cape Town, South Africa, on 1 September 2019;
  - The Extended Scientific Committee meeting, in Cape Town, South Africa from 2 – 7 September 2019;
  - An informal Compliance Technical Working Group Meeting, in Cape Town, South Africa on 9 October 2019;
  - The Compliance Committee Meeting, in Cape Town, South Africa from 10 – 12 October 2019; and
  - The Extended Commission Meeting, in Cape Town, South Africa from 14 – 17 October 2019.
101. The Executive Secretary will determine suitable dates for a five-day intersessional OMMP meeting during June 2019 after discussion with the scientists involved, in accordance with past practise for this meeting.

### **Agenda Item 16. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the 26th Annual Meeting of the CCSBT**

102. The Chair asked Members to nominate candidates for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Extended Commission for CCSBT 26.
103. No candidates were nominated, so the Chair advised that the next Chair and Vice-Chair will be determined in accordance with past practice and the rotation of meetings. Therefore, South Africa will provide the Chair of the Extended Commission and Japan will provide the Vice-Chair.
104. South Africa advised that it will nominate the person to Chair the Extended Commission of CCSBT 26 soon after CCSBT 25. Japan nominated Mr Shingo Ota to be the Vice-Chair.

### **Agenda Item 17. Other Business**

#### ***17.1. Scientific Advisory Panel***

105. The Chair advised the meeting that Professor John Pope has retired from the Scientific Advisory Panel and that the ESC has advised that it is important to replace Professor Pope with a new expert.

106. The EC agreed that a replacement expert would be appointed to the panel and that the new expert needed to be independent and not under any potential influence from any Member government.
107. The selection criteria for the replacement panel Member was agreed and is provided at **Attachment 17**.
108. The meeting also agreed to the following selection process for the new panel Member:
- Members provide nominations to the Secretariat for candidates that meet the Selection Criteria by the end of November this year. The nominations should include CVs of the candidates. The Secretariat will then run an intersessional voting/selection process in a similar manner as it did for the Chair of the ESC. This will involve:
    - The Secretariat distributing nominees' CVs for Members to rank in order of preference;
    - Secretariat tallies the ranking;
    - Successful candidate is notified; and
    - Members notified of the successful candidate.

#### **Agenda Item 18. Close of Meeting**

##### ***18.1. Adoption of report***

109. The report of the meeting was adopted.

##### ***18.2. Close of meeting***

110. The meeting closed at 12:57pm, 18 October 2018.

## **List of Attachments**

### Attachment

1. List of Participants
2. Agenda
3. List of Documents
4. Opening Statements by Members
5. Opening Statements by Observers
6. Rules of Procedure of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (*Extract of CCSBT's Rules of Procedure showing the agreed change to Rule 10*)
7. Report of the Finance and Administration Committee
8. Terms of Reference for Discussion on Australian Farm Analysis and Japanese Market Analysis at the 2019 ESC Meeting
9. Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group
10. Report of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee
11. Terms of Reference for the Technical Compliance Working Group
12. Report of the Twenty Third Meeting of the Scientific Committee
13. Revised Terms of Reference of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group
14. Resolution to Align CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs
15. Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Ecologically Related Species
16. Arrangement between the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
17. Selection Criteria and Term for the Advisory Panel

**List of Participants**  
**The Extended Commission of the Twenty Fifth Annual Commission Meeting**

First name	Last name	Title Position		Organisation	Postal address	Tel	Fax	Email
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**Agenda**  
**Extended Commission of the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission**  
**15 - 18 October 2018**  
**Noumea, New Caledonia**

1. Opening of the Meeting
  - 1.1. Confirmation of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Commission
  - 1.2. Adoption of Agenda
  - 1.3. Opening Statements
    - 1.3.1. Members
    - 1.3.2. Observers
2. Report from the Secretariat
3. Finance and Administration
  - 3.1. Report from the Finance and Administration Committee
4. Review of SBT Fisheries and ERS Interactions
  - 4.1. Reports on Members' projects
5. Report from the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group
6. Report from the Compliance Committee
7. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee
8. Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation
  - 8.1. Attributable SBT Catch
  - 8.2. TAC Determination
  - 8.3. Research Mortality Allowance
  - 8.4. Allocation of TAC
9. CCSBT Strategic Plan
10. Ecologically Related Species (ERS)
  - 10.1. Consideration of the CCSBT's vision in relation to ERS
  - 10.2. Resolution on binding ERS measures for the CCSBT
  - 10.3. Terms of Reference for the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG)
11. Relationship with Non-members
12. Kobe Process

13. Activities with Other Organisations
  - 13.1. Reports from other RFMO meetings of interest
  - 13.2. Review of the “Arrangement” with CCAMLR
14. Confidentiality of Data and Documents
  - 14.1. Confidentiality of reports and documents from 2018
15. Meetings for 2019
16. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the CCSBT
17. Other Business
  - 17.1. Scientific Advisory Panel
18. Close of Meeting
  - 18.1. Adoption of report
  - 18.2. Close of meeting

**List of Documents**

**The Extended Commission of the Twenty Fifth Annual Commission Meeting**

**(CCSBT-EC/1810/)**

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. Draft List of Documents
4. (Secretariat) Report from the Secretariat (EC agenda item 2)
5. (Secretariat) Draft Revised 2018 Budget (Rev.1) (EC agenda item 3)
6. (Secretariat) Draft 2019 and indicative 2020 - 2021 Budgets (EC agenda item 3)
7. (Secretariat) Review of SBT Fisheries and ERS Interaction (EC agenda item 4)
8. (Secretariat) Report from the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (EC Agenda item 5)
9. (Secretariat) Report from the Compliance Committee (EC agenda item 6)
10. (Secretariat) Report from the Extended Scientific Committee (EC agenda item 7)
11. (Secretariat) Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation (EC agenda item 8)
12. (Secretariat) CCSBT Strategic Plan (EC agenda item 9)
13. (Secretariat) Terms of Reference for the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG) (EC Agenda item 10.3)
14. (Secretariat) Relationship with Non-members (EC agenda item 11)
15. (Secretariat) Kobe Process (EC agenda item 12)
16. (Secretariat) Activities with Other Organisations (EC agenda item 13)
17. (Secretariat) Confidentiality of Data and Documents (Rev.2) (EC agenda item 14)
18. (SC Chair) Presentation of the Report of the 23rd Meeting of the Scientific Committee incorporating the Extended Scientific Committee (EC agenda item 7)
19. (European Union and New Zealand) Draft Resolution to Align CCSBT Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs (EC Agenda item 10.2)
20. (Australia) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (EC Agenda item 13.1)
21. (Japan) Report from the CCSBT Report to the 25<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (EC Agenda item 13.1)
22. (Taiwan) Report from the CCSBT Observer (TAIWAN) on the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (EC Agenda item 13.1)



23. (Australia) Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna - Options for providing focus and direction to the work of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (EC Agenda item 10.1)
24. (Indonesia) Report from the CCSBT Observer to Twenty Second Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (Rev.1) (EC Agenda item 13.1)
25. (Korea) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the Fourteenth Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (EC Agenda item 13.1)

**(CCSBT-EC/1810/Rep)**

1. Report of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2018)
2. Report of the Twenty-Third Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2018)
3. Report of the Ninth Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Meeting (June 2018)
4. Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (March 2018)
5. Report of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2017)
6. Report of the Twelfth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2017)
7. Report of the Twenty-Second Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2017)
8. Report of The Twelfth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (March 2017)
9. Report of the Twenty-Third Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2016)
10. Report of the Special Meeting of the Commission (August 2011)

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**(Documents to be discussed from the Compliance Committee Meeting)<sup>1</sup>**

**(CCSBT-CC/1810/SBT Fisheries -)**

Australia	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission (Rev.1)
European Union	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission
Indonesia	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission

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<sup>1</sup> Documents from CC meeting which Members might want to discuss at the Extended Commission (EC) meeting. These documents will not be renumbered.

Japan	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission (Rev.1)
Korea	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission (Rev.2)
New Zealand	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission
South Africa	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission (Rev.1)
Taiwan	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission

**(CCSBT-CC/1810/)**

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. List of Documents
4. (Secretariat) Compliance with CCSBT Management Measures  
(CC agenda item 2.1)
5. (CCSBT) Quality Assurance Review On behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna. Member Report: South Africa  
(CC agenda item 2.2)
6. (Secretariat) Operation of CCSBT Measures (CC agenda item 3)
7. Update on the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme (and possible revisions to CCSBT's Authorised Vessel Resolution) (CC agenda item 3)
8. (Secretariat) CCSBT's Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS)  
(CC agenda item 4.1)
9. (Secretariat) Information Gaps in the CCSBT's Current VMS Arrangements  
(CC agenda item 4.2)
10. (Secretariat) Review of CCSBT's Minimum Standards for Inspection in Port Resolution (and consideration of options to effectively monitor seabird mitigation measures) (CC agenda item 4.3)
11. (Secretariat) Draft Revised CCSBT Compliance Plan and Review of Compliance Risks (CC agenda item 5.1, 6.1)
12. (Secretariat) Draft Revised Minimum Performance Requirements  
(CC agenda item 5.2)
13. (Secretariat) Draft Revised Corrective Actions Policy (CPG3)  
(CC agenda item 5.3)
14. (Secretariat) Draft Revised MCS Information Collection and Sharing Policy (CPG4) (CC agenda item 5.4)

15. (CCSBT) Final Report on the Overall 2018 QAR Programme (CC agenda item 5.5)
16. (Secretariat) Proposed Revision of the Template for the Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and Extended Commission (CC agenda item 5.6)
17. (Secretariat) Update on the Transshipment Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with the WCPFC (CC agenda item 5.7)
18. (Secretariat) Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network (IMCSN), the Tuna Compliance Network (TCN), (Inter-)Governmental Bodies and Other Organisations (CC agenda item 5.8)
- ~~19. (Secretariat) Compliance Assessment Process (CC agenda item 6.2)~~
20. (Secretariat) Potential Non-Member Fishing Activity & Trade/ Emerging Markets (Rev.1) (CC agenda item 6.3)
21. (Secretariat) Review of the Implementation of the ERS Recommendation (Rev.1) (CC agenda item 7)
22. (Secretariat) Proposal to Upgrade CCSBT's Database and Develop On-line Data Submission/Data Access Facilities for Members (CC agenda item 8)
23. (Secretariat) AIS Analysis Project Proposal (CC Agenda item 10.1)
24. (New Zealand) Review of Compliance Committee Arrangements (CC Agenda item 5.9)
25. (Australia) WCPFC's progress on the development of e-monitoring standards (CC Agenda item 6.3)

**(CCSBT-CC/1810/BGD )**

1. (Secretariat) Draft Revision of the CCSBT's Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) Resolution (Previously CCSBT-CC/1710/08 Rev.1) (CC Agenda item 4.1)
2. (Japan) Monitoring of Southern Bluefin Tuna trading in the Japanese domestic markets: 2018 update (*Previously* CCSBT- ESC/1809/30) (CC Agenda item 2.2)
3. (Secretariat) Consolidation and Revision of CCSBT's Two VMS Resolutions (Previously CCSBT-CC/1710/09) (CC Agenda item 4.2)
4. (Australia) Japan Market Update 2018 (*Previously* CCSBT-ESC/1809/16) (CC Agenda item 2.2)

**(CCSBT-CC/1810/Info )**

2. (BirdLife International) Monitoring compliance with seabird mitigation measures through port inspection- determining minimum standards (CC Agenda item 4.3)

3. (BirdLife International) A new method using AIS data to obtain independent compliance data to determine mitigation use at sea (Rev.1) (CC Agenda item 7)

### Opening Statement by Australia

Good morning / Bonjour.

On behalf of the Australian delegation, I would like to begin by thanking the European Union and the Territory of New Caledonia for hosting this meeting. We appreciate the warm welcome we have received and these excellent meeting facilities.

Thank you also to the Chair of the Extended Commission, Mr du Reitz for his participation, and the Secretariat for their work throughout the year, particularly in the lead up to these meetings.

I would also like to thank in advance our translators who I am told often have the difficult task of keeping up with complex discussions, but whom we rely on so heavily.

The Commission has a vital role managing southern bluefin tuna, and the fishery is of great importance to Australia. It is an important aspect of our work in the international community. I am honoured to have taken on the role of Australia's CCSBT Commissioner and look forward to working with each and every one of you. I was impressed to learn that some delegates at this meeting have worked on these issues since before Commission was created. I appreciate the welcome I have already received and the support offered in meeting my new responsibilities.

Australia notes the positive news that the southern bluefin tuna stock is showing some signs of recovery. We must remain cautious however, as the spawning stock biomass remains low.

A 25th annual meeting is a great milestone for any organisation. Australia sees the work of the Commission over future years as building on already solid foundations, and consolidating and refining our management arrangements. This year we continue our deliberations about the nature and objective of the new Management Procedure.

Australia considers that good progress was made at the Extended Scientific Committee and that the Commission is well placed to make a decision about the new Management Procedure this time next year. I look forward to our discussion on this over the next few days. Australia sees a need for the Commission to be forward-looking and ready to engage in emerging issues.

From our perspective this includes:

- dealing with non-Member catch;
- ensuring we account fully for attributable catch at a national level—and being transparent about the processes and assumptions we use in doing this;
- responding to ecologically related species issues—including by working closely with other Regional Fisheries Management Organisations to minimise our impact on the marine environment;

- striking the right balance between long-term sustainable financing and ensuring the Commission can continue its important work without placing an unsustainable burden on Members.

Australia is committed to working constructively with all Members to achieve the best outcomes for CCSBT.

Thank you.

### **Opening Statement by the European Union**

Mr Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of Mr. Vella, the European Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, I would like to warmly welcome you in Noumea at the 25th Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of the Southern Bluefin Tuna.

I sincerely hope that you all will enjoy your stay in New Caledonia, and hope that you find some time, despite the substantial agenda, to enjoy the local culture and way of life during your stay in this beautiful island.

The EU is very pleased to host the CCSBT Annual Meeting for the first time and in this occasion we would like to express our full committed to this organisation and desire to help strengthen CCSBT as a vital axis for tuna fisheries and contribute to the sustainable management of the Southern Bluefin Tuna.

Despite being a major fishing player and fish producer, the world's largest importer, in market value, of fish and fish products and one of the biggest consumers of fish, the EU has limited direct interests in CCSBT either in terms of catches or imports.

Notwithstanding, we are very keen to contribute to the sound management of the Southern Bluefin Tuna stock and to promote good governance and coherence amongst tuna RFMOs, notably by supporting science and compliance in CCSBT and sharing here our experiences from other sister organisations.

The European Union looks forward to benefit from the work and recommendations of science in general and particularly from the Scientific Committee in support to the adoption of conservation measures aiming at the sustainable exploitation of the natural resources. The EU is also strongly committed to ensuring and support compliance in CCSBT.

An important matter that will be discussed this year, not yet for final decision, refers to the future Operating Model and Management Procedure that will be made available in October 2020 to determinate the TAC for the next 3 year block period (2021, 2022 and 2023 fishing seasons). In this important framework, the EU aims at rebuilding of the SBT stock, as fastest as practicable, by reaching the spawning biomass level that would produce the Maximum Sustainable Yield and keep the level of fisheries also ensuring the MSY.

We are also particularly interested in contributing to endorse the recommendations made by the Compliance Committee. Globally, on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance measures the EU aligns with the situation and experiences from other tuna RFMOs.

This year one of the most important agenda points concerns the management of the Ecological Related Species in CCSBT fisheries. In fact, SBT fisheries have a high impact in ERS, particularly on endangered sea-birds. In this context, the EU support s

the reinforcement of ERS management, notably through the Ecological Related Species Working Group that so far had a very limited and undefined role.

In this same framework, we look forward the adoption of the resolution requiring members to apply ERS measures, relevant in other tuna RFMOs, when their vessels fishing SBT operate in areas overlapping with other tuna RFMO Convention's areas.

To conclude Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to invite all Contracting Parties to work together in a constructive spirit and towards joint objectives to make this CCSBT session a success.

Thank you for your attention.



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

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

On behalf of Taiwan delegation, I would like to extend our appreciation to our host European Union for choosing this beautiful city, Noumea to hold this meeting.

I would also like to thank Mr. Kennedy, the Executive Secretary and the Secretariat staffs for your excellent work in preparing the complete meeting documents and arranging this meeting.

According to the Management Procedure schedule, the new Management Procedure will guide the setting of Total Allowable Catch for 2021 to 2023. During the 23th Extended Scientific Committee, members have initially reviewed the development and the stock rebuild target of each Candidate Management Procedures. I believe that our effort on the development of the new Management Procedure is a crucial progress for the Commission toward carrying out the new Management Procedure in time.

Other than that, for the first time, the development of new Management Procedures this year incorporates data from Gene-tagging and Close-kin into the analysis models. I think it would be very helpful to simulate future stock status more effectively with abundant data input.

Meanwhile, the accidental by-catch occurs during operation of Southern Bluefin Tuna has always been our concerned issues, especially on the implementation of Seabird by-catch mitigation measures. With the conservation of Ecologically Related Species in mind, Taiwan is and has been in compliance with the Conservation and Management Measure for Ecologically Related Species of relevant tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations.

Finally, I look forward to working with all members in the following days to achieve constructive outcomes for the sustainability of SBT fishery.

Thank you.

### **Opening Statement by Indonesia**

Honorable Chairman and Executive Secretary,

Distinguished Delegates, Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic Indonesia, I would like to thank to the European Union for hosting this meeting in this beautiful island of New Caledonia. I am also taking this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Robert Kennedy and all Secretariat Staffs for their work throughout the year, and for always making excellent jobs in preparing all working papers and ensuring the meeting runs smoothly.

As we noted since last year when the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC-22) advised that the stocks assessment results gave the positive signal of earlier rebuilding of the stock than anticipated in 2011, the last Extended Scientific Committee (ESC-23) held in San Sebastian also remains providing us with good confidence on the stock recovery process. The continued positive signal of stock recovery process is expected to be able to increase our fighting spirit on the efforts to improve our conservation and management measures that have been carried out so far.

As Indonesian concern last year, on how to utilize IT system to improve our fisheries management, Indonesia has currently developed the electronic logbook system to be implemented gradually to all fishing vessels above 30 GT. The system will be integrated to all national database monitoring systems, including Fishing Permit, VMS, Fishing Port Landing, Catch Certificate, and others. With that, hopefully Indonesia can improve data quality to be submitted to the Secretariat, provide more accurate operational data as well as ERS information which are also our main concerns in managing SBT. In simultaneously, the Fisheries Improvement Programs for Tuna Fisheries and the Harvest Strategy Framework for Tropical Tuna Fisheries have been implemented by Indonesia, in which, these and all other Indonesian commitments will hopefully give directly or indirectly benefits for the improvement of conservation and management of tuna fisheries including Southern Bluefin Tuna.

To conclude my remarks, I wish all important agenda to be deliberated this week on this commission meeting will provide the fruitful results which can contribute significantly to our joint efforts to meet the CCSBT objectives. With that, I would like to underline our willingness to work constructively and co-operatively with other delegations to a success of this meeting.

Thank you

### **Opening Statement by Japan**

Good morning. On behalf of the Japanese Delegation, I would like to extend our greeting to the Chairperson and all participants.

First of all, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the European Union for hosting this meeting here in Noumea.

I would also like to extend our thanks to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Kennedy and the staff of the CCSBT Secretariat for their strenuous efforts for organizing this meeting, as well as to the interpreters who always do excellent job.

One of the issues to be discussed at this meeting is selection of candidate management objectives. This was extensively discussed at the meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group last March. Since the Scientific Committee did excellent work on this, I believe that we can make a decision easily at this meeting. We would like to continue frank discussion with other Members towards the adoption of a management procedure next year.

The second issue is IUU fisheries by non-Members. The Commission has been informed recently that Chinese longline fishing vessels allegedly caught SBT in the SBT fishing grounds and tried to transship them under the name of yellowfin tuna. IUU fishing activities by non-Members could pose a threat on sustainable use of the SBT resource and the Commission should move quickly to address them. It should be noted, however, that this case contains several sensitive issues and therefore should be handled with caution.

The third issue is ERS. The Commission has been discussing how to deal with ERS issues at every annual meeting with no conclusion. However, EU proposed a new approach at the meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group last March. A new draft resolution has been submitted in line with this. While several parts of this paper should be amended in our ideas, we could support the general direction. We would like to cooperate with other Members towards finalization of the resolution at this meeting.

Finally, I would like to conclude my remarks by hoping that we will be able to make an important step for the future development of the CCSBT and for the re-building of SBT stock, through a constructive discussion among all participants during this four-day meeting.

Thank you very much.

### Opening Statement by New Zealand

Tena koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou

*(Greetings to everyone gathered here)*

On behalf of the New Zealand delegation I would like to thank the European Union for hosting this meeting and also the local government of New Caledonia for its welcome.

I would also like to extend our thanks to the members of the Secretariat and to the Chairs of the CCSBT subsidiary bodies for their work throughout the year. We look forward to working with you all during the course of this meeting.

We are encouraged by the progress in the development of a new management procedure at the recent meeting of the Extended Scientific Committee and the willingness of members to consider more ambitious targets for final adoption. We look forward to the presentation of the ESC Chair and the subsequent discussion noting that further development will be required over the coming year.

However the management procedure review reminds us of the unfinished business of this Commission. I refer to the continued uncertainty in relation to Australian farm and Japanese market reporting. We have yet to see the introduction of stereo video in the farming operations to reflect a commitment made to this Commission in 2006. We also have ongoing suggestions that the amount of fish available on the Japanese market exceeds the authorised and reported amount. The lack of resolution of these issues obstructs open and transparent communication between members and has the potential to prejudice the interests of the members not involved.

New Zealand is committed to its role as a CCSBT member and as always is here to work constructively with other delegations to meet the objectives of the Commission. However we also wish to ensure that there is equity between members and that the interests of some members are not simply ignored. To sign up to a new Management Procedure that includes substantial levels of non-reporting as its baseline to take account of farm and market uncertainty is in our view prejudicial to the interests of New Zealand and other members of the Commission. In our view this uncertainty should be removed or accounted for within the national allocations of the members concerned as attributable catch. There are solutions available and I can again only encourage concerted action over the next year to implement them.

We are also pleased to see the potential for resolution of another ongoing and unresolved issue regarding the adoption of a binding resolution on the application of spatially based measures to mitigate the impacts of fishing on ecologically related species. This would be a significant step forward for this Commission and would have significant reputational benefits.

Thank you.

### Opening Statement by Republic of Korea

Good morning, Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen.

On behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Korea, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to EU for hosting the 25th session of the Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna in this beautiful city of Noumea with their warm hospitality. And I would also like to extend my thanks to Executive Secretary, Mr. Robert Kennedy, his staff and local organizers for preparing and supporting this meeting. And I would like to further extend our gratitude to the Chairs of subsidiary bodies for their hard works for this Commission.

Mr. Chairman, it is certainly good for us to be informed that the ESC has confirmed the SBT stock is this year again showing more positive status and recovery which would be expected to reach the interim rebuilding target about 10 year earlier than set with the MP adoption in 2011. These are supported by higher recruitments and consistent positive trend in the longline CPUE estimates in recent years. The other news is certainly the new MP development. The ESC agreed the target levels which are 30% of unfished level by 2035 and 35% unfished level by 2040, of which specified by the SFMWG meeting in March. Korea hopes that this new MP would be more robust to a range of uncertainty, including the question of unaccounted mortality and others.

I would like to note that Korea has made a progress in scientific activities such as CPUE standardization and biological study. The ESC evaluated that Korean CPUE series are very valuable as CPUE monitoring series that are completely independent of the core CPUE series used in MP work. In addition, Korean SBT otolith and ovaries collected the Atlantic Ocean would be useful for comparison with those collected in the Indian Ocean collected by other members. Korea will continue to enforce scientific activities. Korea has actively participated in seabird mitigation activities in collaboration with RFMOs and birdlife international since 2012.

With regard to the MCS, the Ministry of Oceans & Fisheries (MOF) operates an electronic reporting system to the full extent after a trial operation, applying to all Korean flagged distant water fishing vessels. It is the system that provides information including fishing efforts and catches of the vessel operating outside of Korea's jurisdiction to a designated in-land office responsible for monitoring, control and surveillance activities via a satellite-based communication device.

Mr. Chairman, this year we are assigned many important tasks under your chairmanship. First one is to confirm the TAC for 2019.

The second one is amendment of Resolution. Many proposals have been submitted this year as usual. We would like to contribute our genuine dedication in order for these agendas presented or left to be adopted by consensus.

Before closing, I look forward to productive and successful outcomes for the conservation and sustainable use of SBT stock based on our cooperation among members, cooperating non-member and stakeholders.

### Opening Statement by South Africa

Chairperson,

CCSBT Executive Secretary,

Esteemed Members, Delegates and Observers, all Protocol observed.

On behalf of the delegation of the Republic of South Africa, I would like to thank the European Union for hosting the 25th Annual Meeting of the Extended Commission of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna in this beautiful City of Nouméa. I would also like to express my deep appreciation to the CCSBT Secretariat staff for the excellent preparations and arrangements for this meeting. Lastly, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the interpreters.

South Africa is one of the few range states for the Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) and is situated close to some of this species' most productive fishing grounds. As a developing nation, South Africa is well placed in terms of its geographic location and its available infrastructure to further develop its tuna directed fisheries and in particular the fishery for SBT.

Esteemed delegates, last year South Africa concluded the allocation of new fishing rights in the Large Pelagic Longline sector, 60 fishing rights were allocated for 15 years. As reported last year, an independent law expert reviewed South Africa's fisheries legislation in relation to relevant Conservation Management Measures adopted by the various tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, which South Africa is a Contracting Party Member to. We have incorporated the recommendations that emanated from the review to our domestic policies.

Having taken this step, South Africa is committed to continuous improvement and endeavors to adhere to the all the relevant Conservation Management Measures as adopted by CCSBT. It is thus not by chance that we have increased our compliance with the relevant adopted measures in the last couple of years. We have significantly improved our reporting of all relevant data and we have increased our Observer Coverage this year in the Large Pelagic Longline Sector to 20%.

Chairperson, now that South Africa is a full member of the CCSBT with an increased SBT allocation, an allocation system for SBT has been put in place as this species has now become a viable target for South African tuna fisheries. With the revised management system, individual SBT quotas can now be monitored and controlled. We have improved data collection efforts, to this end, South Africa has developed a new Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) database to minimise data capturing errors and prevent invalid data formats and duplicates, thereby increasing data capturing efficiency. In addition, for the first time South Africa is using the CCSBT centralised tags starting this year.

We have been able to strengthen our research and scientific capacity on tuna fisheries. Over the last two years we have been an active participant at the 2017 OMMP

meeting in Seattle at the Extended Scientific Committee meetings in 2017 and 2018, which took place in Yogyakarta and San Sebastian, respectively. Through considerable research infrastructure and qualified personnel South Africa is dedicated to continuously further its contribution to the collection and analyses of data necessary to improve our understanding of SBT. Esteemed delegates, as you may probably know, South Africa has been among the pioneer nations to implement the Operational Management Procedures, OMP in short, into real-world fisheries management, with the South African hake OMP being one of the most well-known early success stories. Being a fairly new full member to the CCSBT, South Africa embraces the opportunity to fully engage in the Management Procedure development and on-going evaluation processes and thereby play its part to carry yet another success story of fisheries management into the future.

Esteemed delegates, this year Quality Assurance Review was conducted on South Africa to provide independent reviews in order to help identify as to how well our management systems function with respect to their CCSBT obligations and to provide recommendations in areas where improvement is needed. The final report was provided to South Africa in September 2018. The Department is currently studying the report and will soon be engaging with key stakeholders in order to address any identified weaknesses as well as recommendations provided.

Chairperson, as have been expressed in the previous Commission Meeting, South Africa will continue to endeavor to improve its allocation of SBT. Improved allocations within a thriving, well managed fishing industry will lead to the creation of new jobs and the improvement of the livelihoods of South African fishers and their families.

Chairperson, I am confident that the 25th Annual Meeting of the Extended Commission of the CCSBT will have constructive, fruitful discussions and good decisions that are guided by mutual respect, fairness as well as by the desire to sustainably manage the SBT population for the benefit of all and including future generations.

I thank you.



## **Opening Statement by BirdLife International and Humane Society International**

This opening statement is made on behalf of Humane Society International (HSI) and BirdLife International. We thank the Extended Commission for the opportunity to participate once again as observers to this important decision-making meeting. We hope that this meeting will see concerted and important steps forward in securing the sustainability of the SBT fishery, both in terms of SBT and in terms of the impact that SBT fishing has on non-target species.

Both our organisations have long highlighted the very high rates of albatross bycatch in CCSBT longline fisheries – of all five tuna commissions CCSBT has the highest degree of overlap between its fisheries and albatrosses, such that it is impossible for CCSBT member states to escape responsibility for seabird deaths caused by the tuna longliners they authorise. Indeed, recent technological advances in MCS, and the public nature of some of that information will make it even more difficult to escape that responsibility, and in the coming years CCSBT member states will be held more accountable for their actions relating to ERS, as both transparency and scrutiny increases.

We welcome the good news that the target stock of southern bluefin tuna seems to be showing some signs of recovery in response to strong recruitment, however we urge CCSBT members to remember that for every two tonnes increase in SBT longline catch, another albatross will be killed.

Currently, CCSBT only requires authorised vessels to use bird scaring lines and to follow the seabird bycatch mitigation requirements of other tuna RFMOs. However, the continued very high rates of albatross bycatch in some CCSBT longline fleets, their low reported compliance with use of mitigation measures, and the lack of ability of CCSBT to undertake compliance actions under the current system means improved mitigation measures are urgently required to reduce the severe impact that CCSBT fisheries continue to have on albatross populations.

HSI and BirdLife urge the CCSBT to adopt clear, binding requirements for vessels to use effective seabird bycatch mitigation measures, as a condition of access to the SBT fishery, and that these requirements must reflect best practice bycatch mitigation as recommended by the Agreement for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP).

BirdLife and HSI support the effort by the European Union and New Zealand to bring forward a binding ERS measure for CCSBT. This represents an important step forward as long as it clearly establishes the ability of the CCSBT compliance process to monitor and enforce compliance with the ERS measure under CCSBT's Corrective Actions Policy. In doing so, CCSBT must fully embed into its Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) the elements necessary to monitor and enforce this ERS Resolution, including within inspections in port, at-sea, and during transshipment.

However, it should be recognised that the existing seabird bycatch mitigation measures of WCPFC, IOTC and ICCAT fall short of ACAP best practice advice, which includes more effective line weighting specifications, the option of using of hook shielding devices, and the use of three measures, not two, in areas of highest albatross bycatch. CCSBT fisheries have some of the highest albatross bycatch in the world. If CCSBT is to fulfil its duties under current international legal frameworks to remove the threat of extinction posed by the longline fishing it authorises, the proposed seabird bycatch mitigation measure on the table must go further to fully reflect ACAP best practice.

HSI and Birdlife would like to reiterate our position and support for a stand-alone seabird bycatch mitigation measure at CCSBT, consistent with acceptance of ACAP best practice advice, reflecting the level of protection necessary and essential for seabirds through the range of SBT.

We would like to conclude by reminding member States that almost all Southern Hemisphere populations of albatrosses remain threatened with extinction, some of which are predicted to be functionally extinct within twenty years – and that longline fisheries in high risk areas, authorised by tuna RFMOs, continue to be the principal cause of the problem. It's now twenty years since CCAMLR members took effective steps to fix this same albatross bycatch problem in sub-Antarctic toothfish fisheries. We know what needs to be done and the world is growing tired of waiting for tuna fisheries to fix their problem.

Thank you Chair and Members for your time.

### Opening Statement by WWF

Thank you Mr Chair.

WWF sincerely thank the Commission for allowing WWF to participate and contribute as an observer to meeting of the Extended Commission. We would like to thank EU for hosting this meeting and the Secretariat for the wonderful preparation.

WWF recognize that the latest stock assessment by the Scientific Committee indicated that the Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) stock is estimated to 13% of its unfished spawning stock biomass, however, the stock status is still at an extremely low level, and well below the level that could produce maximum sustainable yield. As a result, WWF maintain our strong concerns regarding the health of the SBT stock and remains committed to restoring and rebuilding this ecologically and economically important fishery resource.

As the Scientific Committee mentioned, we believe that it is urgent to quantify all sources of unaccounted SBT mortality and take necessary actions on the issue. WWF strongly recommend the Commission to prioritize this matter and make every effort in quantifying estimates for all sources of unaccounted mortality.

Unaccounted mortality catch remains a crucial issue relating to potential under-reporting by Members and catch and discard by Non-Members. Last year, it was revealed that Chinese flagged unlicensed vessels to fish for SBT, and misreported over 100 tonnes of SBT as another tuna species. We are very disappointed that this year, again, there were a number of Chinese-flagged longliners situated in the Southern Indian Ocean and it was confirmed that SBT to be caught and/or taken as bycatch by those longliners without proper reporting.

Recognizing that the common definition of attributable catch is fully implemented from the 2018 quota year, WWF express our serious concerns on such IUU events that could jeopardize all good efforts made by the Commission to rebuild the SBT stock to sustainable level. Therefore, we urge the Commission to improve the monitoring, control, and surveillance to ensure that only licensed vessels are operating and subject to adequate oversight including high seas boarding and inspection. Until such pragmatic MCS system is implemented and the Commission is able to quantify the estimates, we recommend the Commission to be more precautionary to set larger reduction than 306t in the annual TAC available for allocation to Members account for IUU catch by Non-Members.

Scientific observers play an important role in ensuring the compliance of management measures and collecting information on ERS. WWF urge the Commission to increase the target level of observer coverage for longliners from 10% to 20% to ensure statistical validity for scientific/stock assessment purposes. A higher rate of coverage would be necessary for MCS purposes as well. In light of the increased number of juvenile fish, we also urge the Commission to strengthen the monitoring of SBT fisheries not limited to increasing the observer coverage on longline vessels and

coupling technologies by implementing best practice stereo video monitoring and vessel monitoring systems to implementing. In order to support human observers to conduct their duties, it is recommended to consider ensuring observer safety and security in SBT fisheries by revising the Standards as necessary.

Furthermore, WWF call for a better protection of the SBT spawning ground where known to be in the waters between Indonesia and Australia. We believe this is important step to do to accelerate the stock rebuilding at biomass level effort. We propose an effective measures to be implemented to sustain the SBT stock in the region, while incentive should also be provided to the neighboring country who will be affected by such management.

Regarding Ecologically Related Species (ERS), although the ERS Working Group has not expressed specific concerns about shark bycatch in SBT fisheries, we encourage the Commission to collect relevant data and instruct the Scientific Committee and ERS Working Group to consider the prioritisation of research and management for affected shark and ray species.

WWF strongly expect Members to make the necessary decisions, with the required sense of urgency, in order to demonstrate effective conservation of ERS, especially sharks, seabirds and marine turtles, requesting that the FAO code of conduct for responsible fisheries should be made mandatory not to keep as voluntary.

Thank you, Mr Chair and Members.

**RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE  
CONSERVATION OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA**

*(Extract of CCSBT's Rules of Procedure showing the agreed change to Rule 10)*

**RULE 10  
REPORTS**

1. The Executive Secretary shall prepare a report of every annual and special meeting of the Commission. The report of an annual meeting shall include a summary of Commission activities since the previous annual meeting of the Commission. The Executive Secretary shall provide a draft report to the Commission for its adoption, subject to amendment prior to the end of the annual or special meeting.
2. The Commission shall articulate the rationale for its decisions, including where they differ from the science advice provided to the Commission, for inclusion in the report of every annual or special meeting prepared by the Executive Secretary.
3. Where an annual or special meeting is adjourned, the Executive Secretary may be requested by the Commission to prepare a report of the meeting prior to the adjournment. In this case, the Executive Secretary shall provide a draft report to the Commission for its adoption, subject to amendment, prior to the adjournment of the meeting. Rules applying to an annual or special meeting shall also apply to an adjourned meeting.
4. Every subsidiary or advisory body shall adopt a report prior to the close of its meeting and submit its report to the Commission.
5. Subject to this paragraph, the report of a meeting of the Commission, subsidiary or advisory body shall become available for release outside the Commission following its adoption by the Commission, or a decision is made in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of Rule 6, unless a Member or Members request the report, or a specified part of the report not be made available for release. The request must be made before the adoption of the Commission report or the decision to release. In that event the Commission shall decide whether and to what extent to restrict its release including to whom.
6. Subject to paragraphs 8 and 9 and Rule 5, a document submitted to a meeting of the Commission shall become available for release outside of the Commission when the report of that meeting is adopted, unless either the author of that document, or the Member (if the author is a representative of a Member), makes a request to restrict its release. The request must be made before adoption of the report.

7. Subject to paragraphs 8 and 9 and Rule 5, a document submitted to a meeting of a subsidiary or advisory body of the Commission shall become available for release outside the Commission when the report of the meeting of the Commission to which the report of that subsidiary or advisory body is submitted, is adopted or a decision is made in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of Rule 6, unless either the author of the document, or the Member (if the author is a representative of a Member), makes a request to restrict its release. The request to restrict the release of a document must be made before adoption of the report or the decision to release.

8. If a document submitted to the Commission, or a subsidiary or advisory body of the Commission contains data from a previous document submitted to the Commission or a subsidiary or advisory body of the Commission, the release of which has been restricted, the author of the document, or the Member (if the author is a representative of a Member) must obtain the permission of the author or the Member (if the author is a representative of a Member) that requested the restriction of the previous document before granting permission for its release. The author or the Member (if the author is a representative of a Member) of the previous document may request to restrict the release of the relevant part(s) of that document.

9. If a document submitted to the Commission, or a subsidiary or advisory body of the Commission, contains data or product of data, the release of which has been restricted, the author of the document, or the Member (if the author is a representative of a Member), must obtain the permission of the Member from whom the data originated, for its release. The Member from whom the data originated may request to restrict the release of the relevant part(s) of that document.

10. Unless the Commission decides otherwise, a Member may circulate prior to a meeting of the Commission, copies of documents or reports of any subsidiary or advisory bodies that are to be considered at that meeting to individuals or organisations within the Member's country with whom a Member considers it necessary to consult. The Member shall obtain the necessary undertaking from such individuals or organisations to treat the said documents or reports as confidential and not to release them to the public or to the media until such time as they become public documents.

11. Documents submitted to a meeting of the Commission or a subsidiary or advisory body and reports of a meeting of the Commission or a subsidiary or advisory body shall be distributed at no cost to Members and observers. Printed copies of public documents and reports shall be available to the public at a price determined by the Executive Secretary to recover the cost of printing and distribution. Electronic copies of Commission reports shall be made available on the Internet.

## Report of the Finance and Administration Committee

Mr Dominic Vallières (New Zealand) agreed to chair the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC). The FAC was tasked with the following agenda:

- Policy to formalise treatment of resources received free of charge and in-kind contributions;
- Review changes to Financial Regulations to allow the use of recognised independent auditors
- Revision of the 2018 budget
- Draft 2019 budget
- Draft indicative budgets for 2020 and 2021

### *Resources received free of charge and in-kind contributions*

The most recent audit of the Commission recommend that it formalise its accounting policy regarding the treatment of resources received free of charge and in-kind contributions. The Secretariat drafted a policy based on this recommendation, which is provided at Annex A. It was noted that the policy would lead to changes in the reporting provided to auditors but would not influence the budgeting process that is conducted as part of the FAC.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission adopt the *CCSBT policy regarding the treatment of resources received free of charge and in-kind contributions in the CCSBT's Annual Financial Statements*.

### *Use of Independent Auditors*

The CCSBT's Financial Regulations currently require that the Commission appoint an "external auditor who shall be the Auditor-General or equivalent statutory authority from a Member of the Commission". Within Australia, this is the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO). To enable the CCSBT to consider alternatives, the CCSBT's Financial Regulations require amending and the Secretariat has proposed a revised draft, which is provided at Annex B.

The Chair noted that the changes proposed were in line with the approach taken across a number of other RFMOs and that the Commission was committed to the current audit provider for 2019 so that any changes agreed would only apply to audits conducted from 2020 and onwards.

The FAC supported the proposal to allow greater flexibility and asked that the Secretariat seek quotes from alternate audit service providers in 2019 and relay outcomes of this exercise to Members via Circular.

Australia supports efforts to minimise costs but expressed a preference for the services of the ANAO to be retained if quotes received from alternative providers do not allow for meaningful savings.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission endorse the proposed changes to the Financial Regulations to allow flexibility in the choice of auditors.

#### *The revised budget for 2018*

The Executive Secretary gave a summary of the 2018 revised budget outlined in CCSBT-EC/1810/06. The revision incorporates actual income and expenditure together with forecast income and expenditure for the remainder of the year. The Executive Secretary identified a further \$22,718 in cost reductions to the FAC since the figures produced for CCSBT-EC/1810/06. With these reductions, expenditure for 2018 is forecast to total \$2,783,035, which is 4.5% lower than the amount which had been budgeted. The Executive Secretary also wished to note the voluntary and in-kind contributions made by Australia, the European Union, New Zealand and the CSIRO.

The Executive Secretary provided additional details on individual items of the revised 2018 budget where significant changes had occurred from the initially planned amounts.

Members of the FAC thanked the Secretariat for its efforts to reduce costs given the budgeting constraints faced by the Commission.

Australia provided an update on the status of the Secretariat tax exemption under the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (Privileges and Immunities) Regulations 1996. Australia advised that regulatory changes were being sought to reinstate the exemption and that those changes would apply retrospectively from the time that the matter was raised with the relevant Australian Government department (19 June 2017).

FAC members expressed concern at the financial implications of this situation and the uncertainty created in terms of budgetary planning.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission note the revised budget for 2018 at Annex C.

#### *Draft budget for 2019*

The FAC considered the proposed budgets outlined in CCSBT-EC/1810/06, which includes funding for the CCSBT's usual business. The draft budget contained \$185,736 more expenditure than the interim budget, which had been previously circulated to Members. The increase in expenditure was largely driven by additional expenses related to farm and market analysis in the updated ESC work plan.

The Chair noted that the transition from the aerial survey to gene tagging technology along with the additional expenses related to the development of a new MP continue to impact on the financial position of the Commission.



In order to reduce expenses during this financially burdensome period for CCSBT, the FAC declined the ESC requests for a Webinar MP consultation. For similar reasons but also based on the doubts and constraints highlighted by the EU, a decision was made to delay the EU QAR to 2020 and remove the funding allocated to the 2019 budget.

To reflect comments made in plenary, FAC members were also asked to consider budgetary options that would allow a technical one day workshop to be held immediately prior to the Compliance Committee. South Africa agreed to extend the financial support that it is already providing to the hosting of meetings in 2019 to accommodate the additional venue costs of the one day workshop. The Chair thanked South Africa for its generosity.

Considerable discussion was had on the ESC work plan item related to the farming and market analysis. Members did not support the budgeted amount presented in the initial paper drafted by the Secretariat. Japan proposed a smaller scale alternative which would cover the funding of two experts to attend the next meeting of the ESC and provide support on farming and market issues in order to resolve the current impasse.

Members questioned whether the smaller scale project proposed could deliver on the original objectives identified by the ESC. A number of concerns were also raised relating to the uncertainty in expected outputs from the experts and any terms of reference associated with their involvement with the ESC.

Australia noted that it was confident about its current system and that the concerns about it were from some other Members. The current provisions in the assessment were there for testing robustness, not because they were factual.

Many of the issues raised were beyond the scope of the FAC and were referred to plenary for further discussion. The FAC has agreed to include a \$50,000 item in the 2019 budget for two experts to support the ESC on farming and market issues; recognising that further clarity on the specific use of the funds will need to be resolved intersessionally when drafting terms of reference.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission approve the 2019 General Budget as set out in Annex D to this document.

#### *Indicative budgets for 2020 and 2021*

The FAC was also asked to consider indicative budgets for the two years beyond the upcoming budget. Members of the FAC examined the indicative budgets and briefly looked for potential savings that could be made.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission note the proposed changes to the indicative 2020 and 2021 budgets.

### *Financial Burden on Members*

A number of Members raised concerns about the financial impact that the recent increases in contribution levels were having. The group considered whether the current target of constraining annual increases to contributions to below 10% was sustainable.

Members recognised the importance of this issue but also wished to balance the need to have an efficient Secretariat and the ability to fund significant projects in a given year. Funding pressures on Member governments is likely to be an ongoing concern for several Members.

**CCSBT policy regarding the treatment of resources received free of charge and in-kind contributions in the CCSBT's Annual Financial Statements**

Members of the Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna,

*Noting that Article 10.3 (c) of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna describes “The Secretariat functions shall be prescribed by the Commission, and shall include preparing administrative and other reports for the Commission and the Scientific Committee”,*

*Further noting that, the Secretariat submits the annual financial statement to Members of Extended Commission and the external auditor not later than 1 March every year in accordance with Regulation 10.2 and 10.5 of CCSBT's Financial Regulations,*

*Recognising that, in the audit of the 2017 financial statements, the external auditor recommended that the Commission formalises its accounting policy regarding the treatment of resources received free of charge and in-kind contributions,*

Agree as follows:

1. Subject to a threshold of financial materiality, the Commission will disclose resources received free of charge and in-kind contributions to the CCSBT in its Annual Financial Statements in accordance with paragraph 2 to 4 of this policy.
2. Resources received free of charge or in-kind contributions will be included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when:
  - (a) The dollar amounts can be reliably determined<sup>1</sup>; and
  - (b) The function or task being conducted with the resource is of a nature such that the CCSBT would have sought to conduct that function or task in the absence of these resources/services.
3. If the disclosure of a resource received free of charge or in-kind contribution is included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the nature of the gain will be clearly specified as a resource received free of charge or an in-kind contribution and the use of the resource/service will be recognised as an expense.
4. Where a resource received free of charge or an in-kind contribution is not included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the resources/contribution received will be described in a note within the Annual Financial Statements.

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<sup>1</sup> In cases where the value of a resource or contribution is specified by the Party that provided the resource/contribution, the specified value shall be considered to be the correct amount for the resource/contribution for inclusion in the Annual Financial Statements. Where precise amounts are not known, quotes or recent past costs, may be used to estimate amounts. However, in the case of meetings, past costs are not considered reliable unless they involve the same country, venue and equipment providers. If estimated amounts are believed to have a material level of error, then they should not be considered to be reliably determined for the purposes of this paragraph.

## Recommended change to Regulation 11.1 of CCSBT's Financial Regulations

### REGULATION 1

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### REGULATION 11

#### EXTERNAL AUDIT

11.1 The Commission shall appoint an external auditor who shall be the Auditor-General or equivalent statutory authority from a Member of the Commission, or if agreed by the Commission, an internationally recognised independent auditor. –  
~~and~~ The auditor shall serve for a term of two years with the possibility of re-appointment. The Commission will ensure respect for the external auditor's independence of the Commission, the Scientific Committee, any subsidiary bodies established pursuant to the Convention and the Commission's staff, fix the terms of office, appropriate funds to the external auditor and may consult him or her on the introduction or amendment of any financial regulations or detailed accounting methods as well as on all matters affecting auditing procedures and methodology.

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11.7

### REGULATION 12

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## GENERAL BUDGET - 2018

INCOME	2018 APPROVED BUDGET	2018 REVISED BUDGET	% Variation
<b>Contributions from Members</b>	<b>\$2,506,088</b>	<b>\$2,506,088</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Japan	\$717,862	\$717,862	
Australia	\$717,862	\$717,862	
New Zealand	\$204,081	\$204,081	
Korea	\$219,514	\$219,514	
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	\$219,514	\$219,514	
Indonesia	\$195,378	\$195,378	
European Union	\$95,092	\$95,092	
South Africa	\$136,785	\$136,785	
<b>Staff Assessment Levy</b>	<b>\$109,300</b>	<b>\$109,962</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
<b>Carryover from previous year</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Voluntary contributions from Members<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$105,388</b>	<b>\$120,467</b>	<b>14.3%</b>
<b>Voluntary contributions to meeting costs<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>\$158,230</b>	<b>\$147,548</b>	<b>-6.8%</b>
<b>Withdrawal from savings</b>	<b>\$17,000</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-100.0%</b>
<b>Interest on investments<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>\$19,000</b>	<b>\$36,969</b>	<b>94.6%</b>
<b>TOTAL GROSS INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,915,006</b>	<b>\$2,921,034</b>	<b>0.2%</b>

<sup>1</sup> The voluntary contributions in 2018 is a maximum of \$120,467 (80,000 euros) for stage 1 of the Long-Term Gene Tagging in 2018 from the European Union (EU), subject to invoices at the end of the project - it is expected that invoices will reach the maximum amount.

<sup>2</sup> The voluntary contributions to meeting costs for 2018 comprise: (1) a maximum of \$175,059 (113,986 euros) for meetings being hosted by the European Union in 2018, subject to invoices at the end of the project. The amount recorded in the interim draft revised budget reflect the anticipated invoices at conclusion of these meetings; and (2) \$9,825.45 provided by New Zealand for the fees, accommodation and subsistence of the consultant for the OMMP 9 meeting.

<sup>3</sup> Interest on investments does not include interest earned from the staff liability fund (which is estimated to be \$4,779 in 2018).

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2018 APPROVED BUDGET</b>	<b>2018 Expenditure to date</b>	<b>Forecast Remaining Expenditure<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2018 REVISED BUDGET</b>	<b>% variation</b>
<b>ANNUAL MEETINGS - (EC/CC)</b>	<b>\$218,900</b>	<b>\$87,621.59</b>	<b>\$103,500</b>	<b>191,122</b>	<b>-12.7</b>
Independent chairs	\$27,900	5,288	21,300	26,588	-4.7
Interpretation costs	\$55,300	13,618	41,300	54,918	-0.7
Hire of venue & catering <sup>2</sup>	\$63,800	35,491	21,300	56,791	-11.0
Hire of equipment <sup>2</sup>	\$33,800	20,240	8,200	28,440	-15.9
Translation/of meeting documents	\$10,000	0	0	0	-
Secretariat expenses	\$28,100	12,985	11,400	24,385	-13.2
<b>EXTENDED SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE</b>	<b>\$281,600</b>	<b>\$150,723.36</b>	<b>\$88,254</b>	<b>238,978</b>	<b>-15.1</b>
Interpretation costs	\$68,000	31,353	31,000	62,353	-8.3
Hire of venue & catering <sup>2</sup>	\$36,700	22,345	6,800	29,145	-20.6
Hire of equipment <sup>2</sup>	\$21,300	13,668	4,700	18,368	-13.8
Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel	\$105,200	50,020	44,554	94,575	-10.1
Translation of meeting documents	\$1,000	0	0	0	-
Secretariat expenses	\$49,400	33,337	1,200	34,537	-30.1
<b>SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>	<b>\$116,606</b>	<b>\$113,587.86</b>	<b>-\$5,072</b>	<b>108,516</b>	<b>-6.9</b>
Strategy and Fisheries Management WG Meeting <sup>3</sup>	\$59,306	63,041	-12,900	50,141	-15.5
OMMP Technical Meeting (5 day, intersessional) <sup>4</sup>	\$42,300	41,925	0	41,925	-0.9
OMMP Technical Meeting (1 day, prior to ESC) <sup>2</sup>	\$15,000	8,622	7,828	16,450	9.7
<b>SCIENCE PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$949,600</b>	<b>\$654,288.56</b>	<b>\$307,600</b>	<b>929,581</b>	<b>-2.1</b>
Intersessional OM/MP Maintenance & Development	\$7,200	\$417	2,100	2,517	-65.0
Development of the CPUE series	\$3,400	\$65	2,000	2,065	-39.3
Tagging program coordination	\$1,000	\$0	1,000	1,000	0.0
Long-Term Gene Tagging Project <sup>5,6</sup>	\$770,000	\$539,000	220,000	759,000	-1.4
Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing <sup>7</sup>	\$79,200	\$39,600	39,600	79,200	0.0
Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) <sup>7</sup>	\$33,000	\$16,500	16,500	33,000	0.0
Sampling and aging of Indonesian otoliths	\$52,800	\$26,400	26,400	52,800	0.0
Participation of ERSWG Chair in rRFMO WG meetings	\$3,000	\$0	0	0	-100.0
<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$62,600</b>	<b>\$32,307</b>	<b>26,300</b>	<b>58,607</b>	<b>-6.4</b>
Quality Assurance Review	\$52,600	\$32,307	20,300	52,607	0.0
Compliance assistance	\$10,000	\$0	6,000	6,000	-40.0
<b>SECRETARIAT COSTS</b>	<b>\$1,109,800</b>	<b>\$704,927.73</b>	<b>\$377,500</b>	<b>1,082,428</b>	<b>-2.5</b>
Secretariat staff costs	\$726,100	\$462,555	253,400	715,955	-1.4
Staff assessment levy	\$109,300	\$70,262	39,700	109,962	0.6
Employer social security	\$137,900	\$88,240	48,300	136,540	-1.0
Insurance -worker's comp/travel/contents	\$14,400	\$10,256	3,600	13,856	-3.8
Travel/transport	\$35,200	\$17,774	3,900	21,674	-38.4
Translation of meeting reports	\$21,500	\$0	19,300	19,300	-10.2
Training	\$2,000	\$3,169	0	3,169	58.5
Home leave allowance	\$8,600	\$0	8,600	8,600	0.0
Other employment expenses	\$2,300	\$173	700	873	-62.0
Recruitment expenses	\$0	\$0	0	0	-
Staff liability fund (accumulating)	\$52,500	\$52,500	0	52,500	0.0
<b>OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS</b>	<b>\$175,900</b>	<b>\$130,203.81</b>	<b>\$43,600</b>	<b>173,804</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
Office lease and storage	\$68,500	\$50,458	17,500	67,958	-0.8
Office costs	\$87,600	\$70,662	16,900	87,562	0.0
Provision for new/replacement assets	\$12,100	\$5,616	5,500	11,116	-8.1
Telephone/communications	\$7,700	\$3,468	3,700	7,168	-6.9
<b>TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$2,915,006</b>	<b>1,841,353</b>	<b>941,682</b>	<b>2,783,035</b>	<b>-4.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> These estimates are rounded up to the nearest \$100

<sup>2</sup> The EU is hosting these meetings in 2018 and it has provided a grant to the CCSBT Secretariat for the Secretariat to pay the catering, venue and equipment hire components of these costs.

<sup>3</sup> Australia (AU) and New Zealand (NZ) jointly funded the participation of two panel members. The negative forecast remaining expenditure is due to a reimbursement for the panel Members that had not been provided as at 31 August 2018 (but has since been provided). The forecast final expenditure does not include the cost of these panel members as it was an AU/NZ initiative (not a CCSBT decision) to have these panel Members at the meeting.

<sup>4</sup> New Zealand is contributing \$9,825.45 towards the consultants costs for the OMMP 9 meeting.

<sup>5</sup> The EU is contributing up to 80,000 euros for stage 1 of the 2018 long term gene tagging project.

<sup>6</sup> CSIRO is providing an "In-kind" contribution to this project of \$322,000.

<sup>7</sup> CSIRO is providing an "In-kind" contribution of up to \$61,000 for the close-kin work.

**DRAFT GENERAL BUDGET for 2019 and Indicative Budgets for 2020-2021**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>APPROVED 2019 BUDGET</b>	<b><i>Indicative 2020</i></b>	<b><i>Indicative 2021</i></b>
<b>Contributions from members</b>	<b>\$2,706,677</b>	<b><i>\$2,786,916</i></b>	<b><i>\$2,937,921</i></b>
Japan	\$775,328	<i>\$798,312</i>	<i>\$841,567</i>
Australia	\$775,328	<i>\$798,312</i>	<i>\$841,567</i>
New Zealand	\$220,446	<i>\$226,981</i>	<i>\$239,280</i>
Korea	\$237,098	<i>\$244,127</i>	<i>\$257,355</i>
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	\$237,098	<i>\$244,127</i>	<i>\$257,355</i>
Indonesia	\$210,984	<i>\$217,239</i>	<i>\$229,010</i>
European Union	\$102,690	<i>\$105,734</i>	<i>\$111,463</i>
South Africa	\$147,705	<i>\$152,084</i>	<i>\$160,324</i>
<b>Staff Assessment Levy</b>	<b>\$111,800</b>	<b><i>\$114,600</i></b>	<b><i>\$117,500</i></b>
<b>Carryover from previous year</b>	<b>\$137,999</b>	<b><i>\$50,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$50,000</i></b>
<b>Withdrawal from savings</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b><i>\$150,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$100,000</i></b>
<b>Interest on investments</b>	<b>\$29,000</b>	<b><i>\$25,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$22,500</i></b>
<b>TOTAL GROSS INCOME</b>	<b>\$3,085,476</b>	<b><i>\$3,126,516</i></b>	<b><i>\$3,227,921</i></b>



<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>APPROVED 2019 BUDGET</b>	<b><i>Indicative 2020</i></b>	<b><i>Indicative 2021</i></b>
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**ANNUAL MEETING - (CC/EC/CCSBT)** **\$208,500** ***\$365,000*** ***\$290,544***

Independent chairs	\$62,100	<i>\$42,000</i>	<i>\$68,376</i>
Interpretation costs	\$84,200	<i>\$62,000</i>	<i>\$65,528</i>
Hire of venue & catering <sup>1</sup>	\$0	<i>\$139,000</i>	<i>\$75,768</i>
Hire of equipment <sup>1</sup>	\$0	<i>\$76,000</i>	<i>\$37,752</i>
Translation of meeting documents	\$10,000	<i>\$10,000</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
Secretariat expenses	\$52,200	<i>\$36,000</i>	<i>\$33,120</i>

**ESC/SC Meeting** **\$238,400** ***\$214,000*** ***\$211,548***

Interpretation costs	\$76,300	<i>\$43,000</i>	<i>\$45,188</i>
Hire of venue & catering <sup>1</sup>	\$0	<i>\$8,000</i>	<i>\$27,984</i>
Hire of equipment <sup>1</sup>	\$0	<i>\$46,000</i>	<i>\$18,216</i>
Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel	\$124,200	<i>\$79,000</i>	<i>\$117,720</i>
Translation of meeting documents	\$1,000	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
Secretariat expenses	\$36,900	<i>\$37,000</i>	<i>\$1,440</i>

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS** **\$201,326** ***\$101,300*** ***\$174,544***

Ecologically Related Species WG Meeting	\$98,300	<i>\$0</i>	<i>103,215</i>
Strategy and Fisheries Management WG Meeting	\$0	<i>\$0</i>	<i>62,272</i>
OMMP Technical Meeting (5 day, intersessional)	\$79,600	<i>\$81,600</i>	<i>\$0</i>
OMMP Technical Meeting (1 day, prior to ESC) <sup>1</sup>	\$14,800	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Technical CC WG Meeting (1 day prior to CC) <sup>2</sup>	\$8,626	<i>\$19,700</i>	<i>9,057</i>

**SCIENCE PROGRAM** **\$1,068,500** ***\$997,100*** ***\$992,700***

Intersessional OM/MP Maintenance & Development	\$9,800	<i>\$9,800</i>	<i>\$9,800</i>
Development of the CPUE series	\$0	<i>\$4,900</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
Tagging program coordination	\$1,000	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
Long-Term Gene Tagging Project <sup>3</sup>	\$770,000	<i>\$775,500</i>	<i>\$786,500</i>
Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing <sup>3</sup>	\$80,300	<i>\$101,400</i>	<i>\$82,800</i>
Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) <sup>3</sup>	\$46,700	<i>\$47,300</i>	<i>\$49,300</i>
Sampling and aging of Indonesian Otoliths	\$55,700	<i>\$57,200</i>	<i>\$58,300</i>
Maturity study	\$55,000	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Develop methodology for analysis of farm & market data	\$50,000	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>

**SPECIAL PROJECTS** **\$68,450** ***\$107,950*** ***\$189,100***

Assistance to Developing States	\$4,700	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Quality Assurance Review	\$0	<i>\$53,300</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
Performance Review	\$0	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$115,800</i>
TCN Participation	\$6,900	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Ad-Hoc AIS Analysis	\$20,000	<i>\$20,000</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>
Database upgrade and on-line data submission/access	\$36,850	<i>\$34,650</i>	<i>\$3,300</i>

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>APPROVED 2019 BUDGET</b>	<b><i>Indicative 2020</i></b>	<b><i>Indicative 2021</i></b>
<b>SECRETARIAT COSTS</b>	<b>\$1,127,000</b>	<b><i>\$1,163,766</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,185,985</i></b>
Secretariat staff costs	\$743,000	<i>\$761,600</i>	<i>\$780,700</i>
Staff assessment levy	\$111,800	<i>\$114,600</i>	<i>\$117,500</i>
Employer social security	\$143,800	<i>\$147,400</i>	<i>\$151,100</i>
Insurance - worker's compensation/ travel/contents	\$14,200	<i>\$14,600</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
Travel/transport	\$30,700	<i>\$31,500</i>	<i>\$32,300</i>
Translation of meeting reports	\$18,000	<i>\$18,500</i>	<i>\$19,000</i>
Training	\$2,000	<i>\$2,100</i>	<i>\$2,200</i>
Home leave allowance	\$1,700	<i>\$8,815</i>	<i>\$1,785</i>
Other employment expense	\$2,300	<i>\$2,400</i>	<i>\$2,500</i>
Staff liability fund (accumulating)	\$59,500	<i>\$62,251</i>	<i>\$63,900</i>
<b>OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS</b>	<b>\$173,300</b>	<b><i>\$177,400</i></b>	<b><i>\$183,500</i></b>
Office lease and storage	\$71,400	<i>\$73,200</i>	<i>\$75,100</i>
Office costs	\$84,000	<i>\$86,100</i>	<i>\$88,300</i>
Provision for new/replacement assets	\$11,000	<i>\$11,000</i>	<i>\$12,800</i>
Telephone/communications	\$6,900	<i>\$7,100</i>	<i>\$7,300</i>
<b>TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$3,085,476</b>	<b><i>\$3,126,516</i></b>	<b><i>\$3,227,921</i></b>

<sup>1</sup> For 2019, South Africa has indicated that it will directly cover these expenses and hence the cost for this component of these meetings is shown as zero (except for miscellaneous expenses).

<sup>2</sup> South Africa has indicated that it will cover the venue and associated costs (equipment, catering) of this meeting in 2019.

<sup>3</sup> CSIRO is providing an in-kind contribution to these projects.

**Terms of Reference  
for Discussion on Australian Farm Analysis and Japanese Market Analysis  
at the 2019 ESC Meeting**

**1. Selection of external experts**

Each Member of the EC may nominate one external expert<sup>1</sup> having expertise in tuna farm analysis and one external expert having expertise in tuna market analysis to the Secretariat by the end of January 2019. The Secretariat will circulate the list of experts nominated by EC Members by the end of February 15, 2019. If more than one expert is nominated for one field, the EC will choose one expert in that field from among the candidates by voting (simple majority) as soon as possible for the farm analysis and for the market analysis. Nominations must include a current CV, declaration of conflicts of interest and demonstration of independence.

- (1) In selecting the expert for the Australian Farm Analyses preference should be given to an understanding of the operational aspects of Australian or similar tuna farming and expertise in statistical analysis and inference, including the modelling of multi-nomial distributions
- (2) In selecting the expert for the Japanese Market Analyses, preference should be given to an understanding of the structure of tuna markets and transactions of tunas.

**2. Expected outcomes at the 2019 ESC Meeting**

The 2019 ESC Meeting is expected to review the history of discussion on these two issues and develop methodologies for estimating possible unaccounted mortality.

**3. Roles of experts**

- (1) In general, the external experts are expected to:
  - Review historical reports and information;

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<sup>1</sup> The expert shall not directly or indirectly be employed by Australian and Japanese governments and/or industry for the farm analysis and market analysis respectively or have any other conflict of interest at the time of appointment nor throughout the term of the contract, or in the previous three years.

- Provide independent advice on technical matters; and
- Contribute ideas on a way forward.

(2) For Australian Farm Analyses, the external expert is expected to:

- provide advice on the appropriate methods that could be applied to the analysis of the data potentially available (including CDS data) to assist with catch estimation for the Australian Farm Fishery. The advice would also detail any assumptions that would need to be satisfied for each method to be applicable and the implication these have on statistical inference.

(3) For the Japanese Market Analyses, the external expert is expected to:

- provide advice on the range of methods that could be applied to allow connection between CDS data submitted from Members and some Non-Members, to CDS tagID and sale of fish. The advice would detail the assumptions that would need to be satisfied for each method to be applicable.
- provide advice on a methodology that takes better account of the current market conditions.

(4) The external experts will be allowed access to confidential documents subject to a confidentiality agreement, and if required, they may have access (in accordance with the Member's domestic requirements) to confidential data necessary for accomplishment of the work, subject to the agreement on data confidentiality.

#### **4. Contribution from Members**

In order to facilitate discussion at the 2019 ESC Meeting, Members are encouraged to submit papers on the development of methodologies for estimating possible unaccounted mortality.

#### **5. Future plan**

The ESC will assess the methodologies proposed by the experts and develop estimates of possible unaccounted mortality, which will be used to test the robustness of the new management procedure to possible unaccounted mortalities.

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

# **Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group**

**6 - 8 March 2018  
Canberra, Australia**

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



**みなみまぐろ保存委員会**

## **Report of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee**

**11 - 13 October 2018  
Noumea, New Caledonia**

## **Terms of Reference for the Technical Compliance Working Group**

### ***Functions***

The Technical Compliance Working Group (TCWG) will advise the Compliance Committee on compliance issues of a technical nature.

Such matters may include, for example:

- The review and revision of existing Compliance Resolutions, Compliance Policy Guidelines as well as the development of new Resolutions, including:
  - Authorised Vessel List;
  - CDS;
  - IUU List
  - Port Inspections;
  - Transshipment; and
  - VMS
- The exchange of information and intelligence on fishing operations and potential IUU fishing activities involving SBT;
- Potential coordination and/or development of compliance monitoring activities such as joint patrols amongst Members;
- Analysis of the global SBT trade data including non-Member markets;
- Advice on technical advances in MCS tools and how these could potentially be effectively integrated into existing or new measures; and
- The development of compliance research proposals.

### ***Operations***

The TCWG will meet for one day immediately prior to the Compliance Committee meeting.

### ***Membership***

The Chair of the Compliance Committee will convene the meeting.

The TCWG will be composed of Member and Cooperating Non-Member representatives invited experts and observers as appropriate<sup>1</sup>. Members and Cooperating Non-Members are encouraged to have MCS technical experts available to participate in the TCWG meeting.

### ***Matters for Consideration***

Members and Cooperating Non-Members may at any time submit to the Secretariat technical matters to be discussed at the TCWG. The Secretariat, in consultation with

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<sup>1</sup> States, entities and organisations that have been granted observer status to a Compliance Committee meeting will automatically be granted observer status to the preceding Technical Compliance Working Group unless the Extended Commission decides otherwise.

the Chair, will develop and submit a Draft Provisional Agenda 100 days before the meeting in accordance with the CCSBT's Rules of Procedure. Members may add additional items to the agenda, in accordance with the CCSBT's Rules of Procedure, before the Provisional Agenda is circulated.

### ***Reporting***

The TCWG will not produce a formal report although it may produce attachments for consideration by the CC and/or inclusion in the Compliance Committee Report and the Chair of the TCWG will provide an informal oral report of the TCWG meeting to the CC.



Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

## **Report of the Twenty Third Meeting of the Scientific Committee**

**8 September 2018**

## **Revised Terms of Reference of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group**

### **Composition and Operation**

1. The Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG) shall consist of the Commissioners from Members of the Extended Commission, the Secretariat, and as appropriate, other experts in fisheries management, compliance and fisheries science. Numbers of participants will be kept to a minimum.
2. The SFMWG shall meet on a “when needed” basis as agreed by the Extended Commission.
3. The SFMWG shall be chaired by the Chair of the Extended Commission (EC) when the EC Chair is available. If the EC Chair is not available, the SFMWG shall be chaired by the host Member unless otherwise agreed by the EC.

### **Functions**

4. The broad purpose of the SFMWG shall be to provide strategic, operational and/or fisheries management advice consistent with modern standards of international fisheries management as requested by the Extended Commission from time to time. This may include matters such as:
  - i. Revising the CCSBT Strategic Plan which sets out a common view of the strategic direction of the Extended Commission in managing the SBT fishery;
  - ii. Recommending management objectives for the SBT fishery, including consideration of interactions with ecologically related species;
  - iii. Recommending measures for managing the SBT fishery, as appropriate;
  - iv. Allocation of resources, such as funding, to competing priorities of research, compliance and management; and
  - v. Other high level operational issues of the CCSBT.
5. The SFMWG shall take into account any relevant advice from the Extended Commission and/or subsidiary bodies of the Extended Commission, recommendations from performance reviews of the CCSBT, outcomes of CCSBT Quality Assurance Reviews, and other relevant processes and international instruments, including the Kobe (joint tuna RFMOs) process.
6. The recommendations of the SFMWG will be considered by the Extended Commission.
7. The SFMWG may make decisions upon instruction from the Extended Commission.

**Resolution to Align CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species measures  
with those of other tuna RFMOs**

The Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna,

*Recalling* the decision made at the 5<sup>th</sup> Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group Meeting to develop a binding Ecological Related Species (ERS) measure for Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) Members without duplicating the effort of other tuna RFMOs by creating a CCSBT Resolution that requires CCSBT Members to follow the ERS measures of other relevant tuna RFMOs,

*Noting* the *Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks* and the need to cooperate and ensure consistency between conservation and management measures in the different tuna regional fisheries management organisations,

*Concerned* that some seabird species, notably some albatrosses and petrels, are threatened with global extinction,

*Mindful* that fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna can also cause incidental harm to other species such as sea turtles, sharks and cetaceans,

*Further recalling* the requirement in Article 5(2) of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna that the Parties shall expeditiously provide to the CCSBT data on, *inter alia*, ecologically related species,

*Determined* to mitigate incidental harm to ecologically related species caused by fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna,

*Noting* the importance of harmonising conservation and management measures with other organisations responsible for managing international fisheries, as agreed at the Kobe Meeting of Joint Tuna RFMOs on 26 January 2007,

*Reaffirming* the recommendation at the seventh meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG) held in Tokyo from 3 to 6 July 2007, that Members and Cooperating Non-Members will provide national reports on their interactions with ecologically related species in Southern Bluefin Tuna fisheries to the ERSWG,

Agrees in accordance with paragraph 3(b) of Article 8, that:

1. For the purposes of this CCSBT Resolution:

- a) the 'Area of Competence of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission' is that described in Article 2 of the *Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission*;
- b) the 'Convention Area of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission' is that described in Article 3 of the *Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean*;

- c) the ‘Convention Area of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas’ is that described in Article 1 of the *International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas*;
  - d) An Area defined in paragraphs a) – c) above is an “Area of Competence” and are collectively the “Areas of Competence”;
  - e) ‘ERS Measures’ mean all measures relating to ecologically related species in force in the *Indian Ocean Tuna Commission* (IOTC), the *Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission* (WCPFC), the *International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas* (ICCAT), as adopted and amended from time to time, as contained in Annex I;
  - f) Member or Cooperating Non-Member means a Member or Cooperating Non-Member of the Extended Commission of the CCSBT.
2. This Resolution shall apply to all vessels on the ‘CCSBT Record of fishing vessels authorised to fish for Southern Bluefin Tuna’ in the Areas of Competence. Each Member and Cooperating Non-Member shall ensure that such vessels flying its flag and fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna in an Area of Competence comply with all ERS Measures in force in that Area of Competence (whether or not the Member or Cooperating Non-Member is a member of the tuna RFMO in which the ERS Measures were adopted).
  3. Where Areas of Competence overlap, Members and Cooperating Non-Members shall elect which applicable RFMO’s ERS Measures to apply.
  4. Each Member and Cooperating Non-Member shall ensure that effective action is taken in response to a vessel flying its flag that fails to comply with the obligations contained in the ERS Measures when fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna in an Area of Competence. If a Member or Cooperating Non-Member of the Extended Commission undertakes fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna in an Area of Competence of a Convention of which it is not a Member, that Member or Cooperating Non-Member shall report, if any, such actions relating to the relevant ERS Measures to the Compliance Committee of the CCSBT, unless the compliance of that Member or Cooperating Non-Member with such ERS measures is assessed in the appropriate body of that Convention.
  5. The CCSBT secretariat will annually update the list of ERS Measures contained in Annex I before the CCSBT Extended Commission Meeting according to any decisions taken on ecologically related species at the Annual Meetings of the IOTC, WCPFC, and ICCAT.
  6. Except in the case of WCPFC, Members and Cooperating Non-Members that have formally objected to an ERS Measure in the relevant tuna RFMO, and who, by reason of that formal objection and the operation of the tuna RFMO’s decision-making rules, are not bound by that ERS Measure, are exempted from applying that ERS Measure when fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna in the applicable Area of Competence. In the case of WCPFC, Members and Cooperating Members that have sought a review of a decision on an ERS measure in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 6 of the *Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean* are exempted from applying that ERS Measure when fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna in the applicable Area of Competence until the Measure becomes binding.

7. The Secretariat shall annually present a report to the CCSBT Compliance Committee on the implementation of the ERS Measures, for the sole purpose of the provision of information for Members and Cooperating Non-Members.

## Annex I: The ERS Measures

### *Area of Competence of the IOTC*

- a) Resolution 12/04 On the conservation of marine turtles;
- b) Resolution 12/06 On reducing the incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries;
- c) Resolution 12/09 On the conservation of thresher sharks (family Alopiidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence;
- d) Resolution 13/04 On the conservation of cetaceans;
- e) Resolution 13/05 On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*);
- f) Resolution 13/06 On a scientific and management framework on the conservation of shark species caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries;
- g) Resolution 17/05 On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC.

### *Convention Area of the WCPFC*

- h) Resolution 2008/03 on the Conservation and Management of Sea Turtles;
- i) Resolution 2010/07 - Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks;
- j) Resolution 2011/04 - Conservation and Management Measure for Oceanic Whitetip Sharks;
- k) Resolution 2012/04 - Conservation and Management Measure on the protection of whale sharks from purse seine operations;
- l) Resolution 2013/08 - Conservation and Management Measure for Silky Sharks;
- m) Resolution 2014/05 - Conservation and Management Measures for Sharks;
- n) Resolution 2017/06 - Conservation and Management Measure to mitigate the impact of fishing for highly migratory fish stocks on seabirds.

### *Convention Area of the ICCAT*

- o) Resolution 95-02 on cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with regard to study on the status of stocks and by-catches of shark species;
- p) Resolution 03-10 on the shark fishery;
- q) Recommendation 04-10 concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT;
- r) Resolution 05-08 on circle hooks;
- s) Supplemental Recommendation 07-06 Concerning Sharks;
- t) Recommendation 07-07 on Reducing Incidental By-Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries;
- u) Recommendation 09-07 on the Conservation of Thresher Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries in the ICCAT Convention Area;

- v) Recommendation 10-06 on Atlantic Shortfin Mako Sharks Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries;
- w) Recommendation 10-07 by ICCAT on the Conservation of Oceanic Whitetip Sharks caught in Association with fisheries in the ICCAT Convention Area;
- x) Recommendation 10-08 on Hammerhead Sharks (family *Sphyrnidae*) caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by ICCAT;
- y) Recommendation 10-09 on the By-catch of Sea Turtles in ICCAT Fisheries;
- z) Recommendation 11-08 on the Conservation of Silky Sharks Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries;
- aa) Supplemental Recommendation 11-09 on Reducing Incidental By-Catch of Seabirds in ICCAT Longline Fisheries;
- bb) Recommendation 11-10 on Information Collection and Harmonization of Data on By-catch and Discards in ICCAT Fisheries;
- cc) Recommendation 12-05 on Compliance with Existing Measures on Shark Conservation and Management;
- dd) Recommendation 13-10 on Biological Sampling of Prohibited Shark Species by Scientific Observers;
- ee) Recommendation 13-11 Amending Recommendation 10-09 on the By-Catch of Sea Turtles in ICCAT Fisheries;
- ff) Recommendation 14-06 on Shortfin Mako Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries;
- gg) Recommendation 15-06 on Porbeagle Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries;
- hh) Recommendation 16-12 on Management Measures for the Conservation of Atlantic Blue Shark Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries;
- ii) Recommendation 16-13 on Improvement of Compliance Review of Conservation and Management Measures regarding Sharks Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE WORKING GROUP ON  
ECOLOGICALLY RELATED SPECIES (ERS)**

(adopted at the Second Annual Meeting - September 1995)  
(updated at the Twenty Fifth Annual Meeting – October 2018)



## **Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Ecologically Related Species (ERS)**

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

8. To co-operate and liaise with relevant experts, scientists (from Members of the Extended Commission and elsewhere) and inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations, in data collection and analysis on ERS subject to the provisions of the data handling criteria (Annex1).
9. To respond to requests for advice on specific matters from the Extended Commission.

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

### **1. Collection of Data and Samples**

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

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

- a) The ERSWG shall adhere to the CCSBT's "[\*Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the CCSBT\*](#)" in the use and distribution of data.
- b) Unless otherwise agreed, samples of ERS collected on the high seas will be held by the Flag Member; that Members should facilitate access by other interested scientists to the ERS samples.
- c) Participants in the ERSWG should assist each other's work by sharing data and samples on ERS.

### **3. Analyses of Data and Samples**

Analyses of the data and samples on behalf of the Extended Commission may be conducted by scientists from Members of the Extended Commission and other relevant experts designated by the ERSWG.

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

Results of analyses which use data and samples collected under these criteria will not be published without the consent of the Extended Commission Members which provided the data and samples.

**Arrangement between  
The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna  
and  
The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources**

The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (hereafter CCSBT) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (hereafter CCAMLR);

**NOTING** that the objective of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (hereafter CSBT Convention) is to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of southern bluefin tuna;

**NOTING FURTHER** that the objective of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (hereafter CAMLR Convention) is the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources, which includes rational use;

**RECOGNISING** that Article 12 of the CSBT Convention requires the CCSBT to collaborate with other inter-governmental organisations which have related objectives to, among other things, obtain the best available information including scientific information to further the attainment of the objective of the Convention and seek to avoid duplication with respect to the work of the other organisations.

**CONSIDERING** that the Preamble to the CAMLR Convention recognises that it is desirable for CCAMLR to establish suitable machinery for recommending, promoting, deciding on and co-ordinating the measures and scientific studies needed to ensure the conservation of Antarctic marine living organisms;

**NOTING** that provisions of the CAMLR Convention address the conservation of non-target, associated or dependent species which belong to the same ecosystem as the target species;

**NOTING FURTHER** that the Preamble to the 2008 CCSBT Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on Ecologically Related Species of Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna identifies that the CCSBT is determined to mitigate incidental harm to ecologically related species caused by fishing for southern bluefin tuna;

**DESIRING** to put into place arrangements and procedures to promote cooperation in order to enhance the conservation and rational use of stocks and species which are within the competence and/or mutual interest of both organisations so as to avoid duplication or conflict between the activities of the two organisations;

**NOW THEREFORE** the CCSBT and CCAMLR record the following arrangements:

## **1. OBJECTIVE OF THIS ARRANGEMENT**

The objective of this Arrangement is to facilitate, where appropriate, cooperation between the CCSBT and CCAMLR ('the Commissions') with a view to enhancing the conservation and rational use of stocks and species which are of interest to both Commissions.

## **2. AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The Commissions will establish and maintain consultation and cooperation in respect of matters of common interest to both organisations. In particular, the Commissions will:

- (i) exchange meeting reports, information, documents and publications regarding matters of mutual interest, consistent with the information sharing policies of each Commission;
- (ii) exchange data and scientific information in support of the work and objectives of both Commissions, consistent with the information sharing policies of each Commission including, but not limited to information on:
  - (a) vessels authorised to fish in accordance with the Commissions' conservation measures;
  - (b) illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing vessels;
  - (c) catch, bycatch and vessel information and/or data<sup>1</sup>;
  - (d) an annual CCSBT report to CCAMLR covering the global stock assessment of southern bluefin tuna for that year; and the latest southern bluefin tuna catch data classified by ocean, gear and catching country; and
  - (e) an annual CCAMLR report to CCSBT detailing any catches (by flag and gear) of southern bluefin tuna from vessels fishing within the CAMLR Convention area.
- (iii) cooperate to harmonise approaches in areas of mutual interest and concern, most notably on bycatch of non-target, associated and dependent species (ecologically related species);
- (iv) where appropriate, collaborate on analyses and research efforts relating to species of mutual interest;
- (v) consider methods of recognising and cooperating with each other's conservation and management measures; and
- (vi) consistent with each Commission's rules of procedure, grant permanent reciprocal observer status to representatives of the respective Commissions in relevant meetings of each Commission.

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<sup>1</sup> Noting that publicly available CCSBT bycatch data is currently limited to information provided in reports to the CCSBT; that the confidentiality classification of bycatch data exchanged between CCSBT Members prevents its release without explicit approval of the Members providing the data together with a signed confidentiality agreement; and that catch data relating to individual vessels is classified as confidential.

- (vii) encourage cooperation between the Secretariats in areas of common interest such as information management, compliance evaluation, CDS, website developments, data modelling and infrastructure, database development, data exchange protocols and secretariat-administrative matters.

### **3. CONSULTATIVE PROCESS**

To facilitate effective development, implementation and enhancement of cooperation, the Commissions may establish a consultative process between the two respective Secretariats that includes, telephone, email and similar means of communications. The consultative process may also proceed in the margins of meetings at which both Commissions' Secretariats are represented by appropriate staff.

### **4. MODIFICATION**

This Arrangement may be modified at any time by the mutual written consent of both Commissions.

### **5. LEGAL STATUS**

This Arrangement does not create legally binding rights or obligations.

This Arrangement does not alter the obligations of members of either body to comply with the management and conservation measures of those bodies.

### **6. OTHERS**

- (i) This Arrangement will commence on the date of signature.
- (ii) Either Commission may terminate this Arrangement by giving six months prior written notice to the other Commission.
- (iii) This Arrangement will continue to operate for three (3) years. At that stage the Commissions will review the operation of the Arrangement and decide whether it will be renewed.

### **7. SIGNATURE**

Signed at ..... this .....day of .....[Year]

.....  
**Chair CCSBT**

.....  
**Chair CCAMLR**

**SELECTION CRITERIA AND TERM  
FOR THE ADVISORY PANEL**

Persons to be selected for the members of the Advisory Panel:

1. Shall not directly or indirectly be employed with a CCSBT Member government or have any other conflict of interest<sup>1</sup> at the time of appointment nor throughout the term of the contract, or in the previous three years, unless otherwise agreed by the Extended Commission.
2. Must have excellent technical ability in stock assessment;
3. Must have adequate working experience as a scientist involved in stock assessment and fisheries management at the international level;
4. Should ideally have working experience with large pelagic fish resources;
5. Should ideally have familiarity with assessment procedures; harvest strategy and management procedure development and operation; and scientific procedures used in international fishery commissions;
6. Should ideally have specialist skills and experience in CPUE modelling and analysis.

Skills or experience in the following areas is advantageous:

7. Geospatial analysis;
8. Population genetics and/or mark recapture theory;
9. Incorporation of the implications of environmental change in assessments.

External scientists contracted by CCSBT in the past are eligible for selection for the Advisory Panel if they meet the above qualification.

The appointment term is three years and two reappointments are permitted.

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<sup>1</sup> For example, an employee of, or contracted by, a Member government funded agency, organisation or public company.