

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

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

**17 October 2019  
Cape Town, South Africa**

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

**17 October 2019**

**Cape Town, South Africa**

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

1. Mr Saasa Pheeha (South Africa) was confirmed as the Chair of the Twenty Sixth Annual meeting of the Commission (CCSBT 26) and Mr Shingo Ota (Japan) was confirmed as the Vice Chair of CCSBT 26.
2. The Chair welcomed participants and opened the meeting.

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

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

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

5. The Commission approved the decisions taken by the Extended Commission (EC) for the Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Commission, which is at **Appendix 3**.

### **Agenda Item 3. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for CCSBT 27 and venue**

6. Japan will provide the Chair of CCSBT 27 and Australia will provide the Vice-Chair.
7. Japan and Australia advised that they will nominate the Chair and Vice-Chair respectively for CCSBT 27 as soon as possible, and advise the Secretariat of those nominations.

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

8. The Commission considered the deliberations of the Extended Commission with respect to the contract of the Executive Secretary. The Commission agreed to renew the Executive Secretary's contract for another term to 30 October 2023, and to continue past practise with respect to signing of the Executive Secretary's renewed contract.

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

9. The report was adopted.

### **Agenda Item 6. Close of meeting**

10. The meeting was closed at 2:23 pm, on 17 October 2019.

## **List of Appendices**

### Appendix

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



## Appendix 1

### **Provisional Agenda Twenty-Sixth 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 27 and venue
4. Other business
5. Adoption of report of meeting
6. Close of meeting

**List of Participants**  
**The Twenty Sixth 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



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Appendix 3

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

**14 - 17 October 2019  
Cape Town, South Africa**

**Report of the Extended Commission of the  
Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Commission  
14 - 17 October 2019  
Cape Town, South Africa**

**Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting**

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

1. Mr Saasa Pheeha (South Africa) was confirmed as the Chair of the Extended Commission (EC) of the Twenty-Sixth meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT 26), and Mr Shingo Ota (Japan) was confirmed as the Vice Chair.
2. The Chair welcomed participants to Cape Town and identified the important issues for the meeting to deal with.
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 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/1910/04. The meeting noted the activities of the Secretariat as reported.
10. The EC agreed to the Secretariat's proposed changes to the Chairing arrangements for CCSBT subsidiary bodies, to reflect the existence of the Technical Compliance Working Group that was created at CCSBT 25. The revised Chairing arrangements are at **Attachment 6**.

11. The EC accepted an offer from Mr Robert Kennedy to continue as Executive Secretary for another term, which would finish in October 2023. Mr Kennedy committed to providing substantial notification to the EC, to allow recruitment of a replacement Executive Secretary, if he was not able to continue for the full term.
12. The EC deferred consideration of whether to modernise the CCSBT's formal annual financial statements to the Finance and Administration Committee.

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

13. Mr. Dominic Vallières from New Zealand was nominated as Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC).
14. The Executive Secretary provided a brief presentation of the draft revised budget for 2019 (CCSBT-EC/1910/05), and the proposed budget for 2020 and indicative budget for 2021 - 2022 (CCSBT-EC/1910/06).
15. The Executive Secretary noted that the 2020 draft budget and 2021 - 2022 indicative budget includes funding to implement the Extended Scientific Committee's (ESC) three-year workplan. Detailed consideration of the two budget papers was referred to the Finance and Administration Committee.
16. Australia advised that work on its regulations to restore the GST exemption for the CCSBT is progressing and is expected to be completed in the next few months. Once implemented, Australia expects that the Secretariat will be able to claim GST paid back to June 2017.
17. The FAC was convened to consider:
  - The revised budget for 2019;
  - The proposed budget for 2020; and
  - The indicative budget for 2021 - 2022.

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

18. The Chair of the FAC presented the report of the FAC, which is provided at **Attachment 7**. It includes:
  - A revised budget for 2019;
  - A budget for 2020;
  - Indicative budgets for 2021-2022; and
  - Consideration of changes to formal financial statements format.
19. The Meeting thanked the FAC Chair and the FAC for its hard work.
20. The EC adopted the report of the FAC, including the revised 2019 budget at Annex A and the budget for 2020 at Annex B. The EC also noted the indicative budgets for 2021-2022 at Annex B.
21. The EC agreed to the FAC recommendation that it retain the current format for the CCSBT's Annual Financial Statements.

22. The EC agreed with the comment by FAC in its report that the endorsement of the additional expenses relating to close-kin genetics analysis should not be considered a precedent for increased budget in response to future increases in sample size based on stock size, and that the ESC should be encouraged to constrain costs in this area.

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

23. The Chair noted the deliberations of the Compliance Committee (CC) on Members' National Reports and invited Members to ask any questions regarding Members' National Reports additional to those already raised at the Fourteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC 14).
24. Australia clarified that at this time it has not considered future recreational fishing surveys.
25. No additional questions were asked in relation to Members' National Reports.

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

26. Australia presented paper CCSBT-EC/1910/26 on Australia's progress towards implementation of stereo video.
27. Some Members were disappointed with the progress and noted that stereo video monitoring is the best technology, as recommended by ESC, for measuring fish during farm transfers and provides good results in the Mediterranean, where it is mandatory. Some Members sought clarification from Australia as to why it can't implement stereo video monitoring when countries in the Mediterranean are able to do so.
28. Australia stated that it will adopt stereo video technology when it is able to satisfy its pre-conditions, being that it needs to be automated, in real-time, and the costs are comparable to current costs. Australia clarified that it is not planning to review the pre-conditions at this stage and has not currently committed to any pilot studies with stereo video or setting implementation timeframes until these pre-conditions are met.
29. There was also some discussion of electronic monitoring (EM), noting that this can be a very useful technique, but that CCSBT's scientific observer program standards requires human observers and that EM does not replace this requirement. Australia noted the need for EM to be allowed under CCSBT rules, the WCPFC process to develop EM standards, and the need to wait for this process to conclude.

#### **Agenda Item 5. Report from the Ecologically Related Species Working Group**

30. The independent Chair of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG), Mr Alexander Morison, presented the report of the Thirteenth meeting of the ERSWG (ERSWG 13) which is summarised in papers CCSBT-

EC/1910/08 and CCSBT-EC/1910/19. The full ERSWG 13 Report is at **Attachment 8**.

31. The EC adopted the:
  - Proposed revisions to the ERSWG Data Exchange, which is provided at Attachment 4 of the CC 14 Report;
  - Proposed revisions to the ERSWG Annual Report template, which is provided at Attachment 5 of the report of ERSWG 13. Footnote 10 of the template, for the Human Observer / EM column, will be changed to match footnote 10 of the ERSWG Data Exchange; and
  - Proposed overall objective and five specific objectives for a CCSBT Multi-year Seabird Strategy, which is provided at attachment 7 of the report of ERSWG 13.
32. The Meeting discussed the three options that were considered by the ERSWG for the definition of high-risk areas for seabirds. During discussions, it was noted that:
  - The ERSWG has previously wished to advise that best practice mitigation, as referred to in the 2012 ERSWG report, should be applied in high risk areas;
  - Fishing vessels may find operations difficult if the required mitigation measures are different depending on the area fished; and
  - A revision to the risk assessment is planned for the next ERSWG meeting, which is provisionally planned for 2021.
33. The meeting did not agree to a definition of high-risk areas and the mitigation measures that should be used while operating in such areas. It was agreed to reconsider the matter at the next EC meeting.
34. It was noted that the ERSWG had not amended its previous advice that the level of interaction between seabirds and SBT fisheries is still a significant concern. This risk assessment, applied to data from 2016, found that for nine of the 25 albatross and petrel species the estimated annual incidental bycatch in surface longline fisheries exceeded the population productivity. One Member commented that the CCSBT needed to go beyond using the measures of other tuna RFMOs and introduce additional measures. One Member stated that this should be achieved by working with the other tuna RFMOs to seek strengthening of their measures, which would then apply to the CCSBT.
35. It was noted that the ERSWG confirmed its previous advice that there were currently no specific concerns about shark bycatch that warranted additional mitigation requirements.
36. The EC approved the ERSWG's updated workplan, as presented in the report of ERSWG 13.

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

37. The independent Chair of the CC, Mr Frank Meere, presented the report of CC 14, outlining key points. It is provided at **Attachment 9**.

38. The CC Chair highlighted the report's workplan (paragraph 101) and combined notes/recommendations to the EC (paragraph 104), and thanked participants for a productive meeting.
39. The European Union (EU) noted that it is satisfied with the use of the COMTRADE database to annually review trade statistics, but that the same issues of miscoding that have been discussed previously will likely remain, and that it would be more accurate to use the export/import information provided in its annual reports to the CC/EC or from CDS.
40. Regarding a Quality Assurance Review (QAR) of the EU, the EU explained that it was amenable to a desktop review being conducted by the Secretariat at no cost, potentially based on the EU's annual report to the CC/EC. Contracting a consultant to conduct the QAR would involve additional cost. It was agreed that the CC Chair and the Compliance Manager should work together with input from interested Members to draft a Terms of Reference (ToR) for an EU QAR for consideration by the EC.
41. The meeting agreed to the ToR for conducting an EU QAR with the provision that, based on the results of this initial QAR, the EC will determine whether any additional QAR assessments are necessary. The agreed ToR is provided at **Attachment 10**.
42. With regard to potentially developing an electronic CDS (eCDS), NZ noted that there is currently no line item included within the draft budget for this work to proceed. There was also some discussion about additional costs that would be involved in supporting an eCDS including general maintenance and training costs as well as allowing for system amendments due to future revisions of the Resolution.
43. Members supported developing a trial eCDS based on the current (2014) CDS Resolution, although Japan emphasised that there were still issues with the 2014 CDS Resolution that would need to be resolved before it could agree to formalising any eCDS system that may be developed. There were further discussions that CCSBT should consider other RFMOs' CDS systems while developing its own, including consideration of whether a CCSBT system should be completely different to other systems, for example, the eBCD system used by ICCAT.
44. The EC adopted CC 14's recommendations with the exception of items (b) and (j) which are contingent on the necessary funding being available, noting that:
  - Recommendation (b), "*That the EC considers the lack of progress on the revised CDS resolution and decides if it wishes to move to an eCDS*", was agreed with an amendment that a trial eCDS should be developed based on the current 2014 CDS and its operational practices;
  - With respect to recommendation (g), the Executive Secretary confirmed that it is not necessary to amend the Rules of Procedure to permit intersessional decisions to be made regarding invitations – this is already permitted under current Rule 3(5);
  - Some items referred to under the paragraph 104 ('Items to Note') sub-header were considered to be recommendations (rather than items to note) and so require endorsement by the EC, these being:

- (j): “*The CC continues to support the \$20,000 contingency fund to access Trygg Mat Tracking services if and when needed*”, and needs to first be considered by the FAC as it has budget implications;
  - (m): “*The CC agreed that it would be useful to have a review mechanism for papers from external parties, so that Members can make comments prior to these papers being formally submitted*”; and
  - (o): “*That three electronic intersessional groups have been established to progress further consideration of ....*”, three matters.
- Regarding (m) above it was agreed that the details of a review process for papers from external parties be drafted. The meeting agreed a review process which is provided at **Attachment 11**.
45. EC endorsed the CC 14’s report.
46. The EC discussed whether to hold a one-day Informal Technical Compliance Working Group (TCWG) immediately before CC15 in 2020. The CC Chair advised that the TCWG is only convened on an ‘as-needed’ basis on technical compliance issues and that no items have arisen to date that would warrant discussion in 2020. The EC agreed that it would not be necessary to convene a TCWG in 2020.

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

47. The independent Chair of the ESC, Dr Kevin Stokes, presented the report of the ESC for the Twenty-Fourth meeting of the Scientific Committee (ESC 24), which is summarised in papers CCSBT-EC/1910/10 and CCSBT-EC/1910/20, and provided in full at **Attachment 12**. Presentation and discussion of the part of the ESC report relating to the development of a new Management Procedure (MP) was deferred to agenda item 9.
48. The EU noted that the objective of reaching 30% initial biomass by 2030 had not been assessed, which had been agreed at last year’s annual meeting and the EU considered this to be important as it thought that the CCSBT should be ambitious with respect to stock recovery. The ESC Chair later noted that the agreement at ESC 25 was to provide a performance statistic related to EU’s request. This has been done and is shown in Attachment 10 (Table 3) of ESC 25 report but was not adopted as a tuning criterion.
49. Members had lengthy discussions concerning the recommendations from the farm and market experts and on actions to take in relation to the farm and market issues.
50. Japan proposed that:
- It would prepare, in consultation with the Secretariat, a proposal for an analysis of the Japanese market to present to the EC in 2020 and implement in 2021, that would compare Japanese market data with catch data from all Members; and
  - Australia present an outlook for the implementation of stereo video to the EC in 2020, and if it can be developed then it can implement it in 2021.

51. Japan commented that its decision on whether to proceed with the market analysis would be dependent on Australia's progress with stereo video.
52. Some Members agreed that there was a need for Australia to define timeframes and commit to milestones for its plans to meet its pre-conditions and implement stereo video.
53. New Zealand referred to its position outlined in its Opening Statement and stated that the pre-conditions appear to be unachievable.
54. Australia re-stated that it was committed to stereo video but that it must also satisfy its pre-conditions for stereo video before it can proceed and that it could not commit to a timeframe to implement stereo video. Australia also commented that it has reservations on the market analysis since an important data source from the Tokyo market was not being made available.
55. Further discussion on the farm and market issues was deferred to Agenda Item 9, on the adoption of a new MP.
56. Members noted that shortfin mako has been listed on CITES Appendix II but agreed that it was not necessary for the ESC or ERSWG to conduct work in relation to this, since it would be conducted by other RFMOs.
57. Members also noted that SBT is currently classified by the IUCN as being critically endangered, and that this classification is due for review in 2019. It was agreed that the Secretariat should contact IUCN and provide information, with assistance from experts if required, to IUCN for its review of SBT's classification.
58. The meeting noted that Australia submitted two papers for this agenda item (papers CCSBT-EC/1910/27 and 28) relating to farms and markets.
59. One Member queried whether "industry" papers could be presented by Members and the EC agreed that papers should either be Member papers, or could be submitted separately through the meeting observer mechanism.

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

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

60. The Chair noted that the EC has agreed to implementation of the Attributable SBT Catch from the 2018 season and opened the floor to discussion on how each Member has begun to account for its SBT mortalities.
61. Members reported the amount of their 2018 national allocation set aside to account for recreational catch, customary catch, and discard mortalities:
  - Australia allocated 250t to account for its recreational catch;
  - The Fishing Entity of Taiwan (Taiwan) allocated 10t to account for discard mortalities;
  - South Africa allocated 5t to account for its recreational catch;
  - Korea allocated 5t to account for its discard mortalities;

- New Zealand allocated 20t for its recreational fishery, 2t for customary catch, and 20t for discard mortalities; and
  - Japan allocated 20t for discard mortalities
62. Australia reported that its national survey for recreational SBT catches began on 1-Dec-2018 and would finish on 30-Nov-2019, with results expected during mid-2020. Australia has made efforts to reduce mortalities in its recreational fishery with a communication and educational program for recreational fishers to promote catch and release fishing and release methods to increase SBT survival rates.
  63. Australia clarified that its longline vessels can only fish in an SBT zone when it has uncaught quota remaining. Discarded SBT must be live and vigorous and if not, such as when a fish is gaffed, then it is deducted from the fisher's quota.
  64. The EU clarified that observer coverage of its Members fleets was varied and was 7-8% overall, but coverage for one of the fishing fleet segments in the Indian Ocean was only 1-2%. It intends to address this issue as the coverage should be at least 5%.
  65. Indonesia reported that its reported catches include small-scale fisheries catch, and it has investigated other fisheries but so far found no other source of SBT mortalities.
  66. South Africa advised that the rights of SBT right holders not active before or on the 31-May are transferred to other right holders that have been active in that season, and that if its TAC is reached or exceeded then the fishery is closed and SBT should be released.
  67. New Zealand presented paper CCSBT-EC/1810/21 regarding a proposal to amend the "Resolution on Limited Carry-forward of Unfished Annual Total Allowable Catch" to clearly specify how all components of the SBT Attributable Catch should be taken into consideration when determining carry-forward.
  68. The EC discussed New Zealand's proposal and agreed to the revised Resolution at **Attachment 13**.

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

69. The Chair noted that 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 MP.
70. The EC accepted the ESC's advice there were no exceptional circumstances that required the 2020 TAC to be revised, and the TAC for 2020 was confirmed at 17,647t.
71. The EC also accepted the ESC's advice that there is no requirement for the EC to change the amount of the TAC that it has set aside to account for IUU catch by Non-Members. Consequently, 306t will be set aside to account for IUU catch by Non-Members in 2020.
72. The ESC Chair confirmed that the existing MP is robust to uncertainties relating to unaccounted mortalities including those from farms.

### 8.3. Research Mortality Allowance

73. The Chair advised the meeting that the ESC had endorsed a total Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) of 3.1t to be set aside for 2020 as follows:
- 2.0t for the CCSBT Gene Tagging Project; and
  - 1.1t to Japan for the projects listed in paper CCSBT-EC/1910/11 from the Secretariat.
74. The EC approved these RMA requests.

### 8.4. Allocation of TAC

75. The Chair advised that the 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/1910/11 and are repeated in Table 1 below. The EC confirmed that the allocations for 2020 would be as agreed at CCSBT 23.

**Table 1:** Allocations (tonnes of SBT) to Members for 2018-2020.

Member	(1) Adjusted Allocation	(2) Nominal Catch Proportion	(3) Effective Catch Limit
Japan	6165	0.355643	6117 <sup>1</sup>
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 <sup>1</sup>
European Union	11	0.000628	11
South Africa	423	0.024387	450 <sup>1</sup>

### **Agenda Item 9. Adoption of a new Management Procedure**

76. The Chair advised that the new CCSBT MP needs to be adopted by the EC if the ESC is to run that MP in 2020 and recommend the global Total Allowable Catch for 2021 to 2023 inclusive. This means that, in his view, a new MP should be adopted at this meeting (CCSBT 26).
77. The ESC Chair presented ESC's recommendations regarding the selection of a new MP, noting that the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG 5) provided valuable guidance on long-term goals and desirable features of a new MP such as tuning biomass levels which form the basis for the ESC's recommendations.
78. In response to questions, the ESC Chair noted that:

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<sup>1</sup> These figures reflect the voluntary transfers of 21t that Japan is providing to Indonesia and 27t that Japan is providing to South Africa for the 2018 to 2020 quota block. The starting point for Japan, Indonesia and South Africa in considering the allocation from 2021 will be 6165t, 1002t, and 423t respectively.

- The uncertainty in unreported catches is incorporated in the Operating Model (OM) (baseline grid) by including an assumed over-catch of 20% for the purse seine fishery as well as 1000t each of small and large fish which gives the OM a lot of buffering with respect to potential unreported catch;
  - The ESC decided to recommend only a single candidate MP (RH13) to reach a target biomass of 30% of  $SSB_0$  by 2035 with a 50% probability, and to allow a maximum 3000t TAC change;
  - If the maximum TAC change was decreased from 3000t to 2000t there would be no overall improvement in conservation performance but there would be slightly lower TACs overall;
  - If the maximum TAC change was increased to 4000t there would be no overall improvement in conservation performance but average annual variation in catch and the probability of a TAC decrease following increases would be slightly increased; and
  - To change the objectives of the MP now would mean re-doing all the work already conducted by ESC and there wouldn't be a scientific basis upon which to set the TAC at next year's meeting; in addition there would be implications to the ESC's WorkPlan and its associated budget.
79. One Member noted it preferred that the objective should be to reach spawning stock associated MSY as soon as possible and that any possible increase in TAC should be moderate.
  80. Another Member noted that if the recommended MP is not agreed, then it understands that the EC can still set a TAC without guidance from a MP. The ESC Chair noted that in the absence of an MP the ESC would need a framework for providing advice based on stock assessment and that this might require intersessional work. Further, the ESC would require a framework that could lead to advice on TAC decreases as well as increases if incoming data so suggest.
  81. The meeting discussed how the farm and market experts' recommendations could be taken into account to reduce uncertainties in the MP. New Zealand noted it was concerned that an over-catch of 20% in the farm sector was accepted as a component of the MP. Australia commented that the assumed over-catch has not been verified.
  82. New Zealand reiterated its concern relating to the lack of resolution of uncertainties noting the large number of papers exchanged on potential unreported catch and in particular the views of the independent scientific experts on the farm analysis.
  83. Members noted that the MP is a tool to assist the EC to make decisions on the TAC. Therefore, the decision on whether to adopt the ESC's recommended candidate MP (RH13) will be separated from the TAC setting decision which will occur in 2020. However, some Members highlighted that the MP is not completely disassociated from factors leading to uncertainty that could influence the results of the MP.
  84. Australia advised its preference to move towards resolving uncertainties in the farm sector is to continue to work on the introduction of Stereo Video (SV) monitoring technology and that it had been working hard to progress SV's implementation. Australia further advised that any introduction of SV

technology would need to occur over a two to three-year period to ensure the necessary regulations and technology could be implemented.

85. Australia committed to submit a paper at least 4 weeks prior to CCSBT 27 providing a plan on its efforts to implement SV. An alternative outlook could be provided to improve confidence in the sampling system (currently the 100 fish greater than or equal to 10kg sample), seeking advice on protocols to avoid sampling bias from ESC 25.
86. Japan committed to submit a paper to the ESC and CCSBT 27, which will include a proposal to compare Japanese market data with catch data from all Members to identify any anomalies or discrepancies.
87. Members agreed to adopt the recommended MP, noting that the TAC that will be recommended by the MP will be considered separately at CCSBT 27. The decision on the TAC should also consider other information such as the sustainability of the SBT stock and fisheries as well as the papers and proposals that Australia will provide on SV and Japan will provide on markets.
88. New Zealand and the EU advised that at CCSBT 27, they would need to see that there had been real and measurable progress towards resolving current farm uncertainties and satisfactory progress on the market study proposal to investigate uncertainties before they could agree to any increased TAC that may be recommended by the MP.
89. The EC requested that the ESC provide advice on the timeframe that would be needed to reach  $SSB_{MSY}$  if the TAC is maintained at its current level.
90. The EC agreed to a modified Resolution on the Adoption of a Management Procedure. The adopted Resolution is at **Attachment 14**.

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

91. The Chair referred to the Secretariat's paper CCSBT-EC/1910/13, which has three components:
  - A draft update to the ERS measures in the new ERS Resolution<sup>2</sup> to take account of recent decisions taken on ERS at the Annual Meetings of the IOTC, WCPFC, and ICCAT.
  - A recommendation to end the CCSBT's 1997 requirement to use Tori pole/lines south of 30°S and to discontinue the CCSBT's 1999 guidelines for the design and deployment. The recommendation included incorporating the Tori pole/lines requirement within the new ERS Resolution for when fishing outside Areas of Competence as defined in that Resolution.
  - A proposal for some changes to the CCSBT's ERS Recommendation<sup>3</sup> to update that recommendation to take into account the new ERS Resolution.
92. The EC agreed to:
  - Adopt the revised ERS Resolution at **Attachment 15**;

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<sup>2</sup> Resolution to Align CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs.

<sup>3</sup> Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on Ecologically Related Species of Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna.

- Discontinue the CCSBT's 1997 requirement to use Tori pole/lines south of 30°S and discontinue the CCSBT's 1999 guidelines for the design and deployment of Tori pole/lines; and
  - Adopt the revised ERS Recommendation at **Attachment 16**.
93. The Chair advised that the Secretariat had presented a paper (CCSBT-CC/1910/05) to the CC on Members' implementation of ERS measures, and Members' performance with respect to ERS. The EC agreed that, as the paper had already been considered by the CC, it did not require further consideration by the EC.

**Agenda Item 11. Terms of Reference and Panel for the Performance Review of the CCSBT**

94. The EC considered the Secretariat's paper CCSBT-EC/1910/14 on a Terms of Reference for the 2021 Performance Review of the CCSBT.
95. The EC agreed to the Terms of Reference for the Performance Review at **Attachment 17**. These Terms of Reference include:
- Composition, operation, selection and funding of the Performance Review Panel;
  - Criteria for evaluating the CCSBT's performance;
  - Resources available to the Panel;
  - Report of the Performance Review; and
  - Process for consideration and follow-up of Performance Review recommendations
96. The meeting noted that the report of the performance review panel would be provided to the EC as a finalised report and that there would not be formal process where Members could review the report and suggest changes. However, it was further noted that the EC would review the final recommendations and decide which recommendations would be accepted for implementation.
97. One Member considered that the report should identify any divergent views amongst the review panel.

**Agenda Item 12. Review of Convention text**

98. The Chair advised that a variety of views were expressed at CCSBT 25 on the need to update the Convention text. Most Members at CCSBT 25 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<sup>4</sup>, and/or to modernise the Convention. CCSBT 25 agreed that interested Members would communicate intersessionally and possibly prepare a

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<sup>4</sup> Regional Economic Integration Organisations.

paper(s), on reflections regarding the Convention including a work plan on potential revisions for discussion at CCSBT 26.

99. The Chair further advised that in January 2019, a letter from the EU was distributed in CCSBT Circular #2019/006, which amongst other things, advised that internal EU discussions concluded that *“at this stage, the revision of the Convention should be postponed in favour of other pressing CCSBT priorities until better opportunities emerge, notable in terms of time planning and definition of priorities to relaunch these discussions.”*.
100. The EC agreed that a review of the Convention text was not considered to be a high priority at the present time, but that this will be reconsidered at a future meeting if requested by any Member.

### **Agenda Item 13. Relationship with Non-Members**

101. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-EC/1910/15 on CCSBT’s relationship with non-Members and advised that the China, Fiji, Mauritius, Singapore and the USA had been invited to attend the meetings of the CC and EC. Singapore and the USA responded that they would not be able to attend, but hoped to be able to attend future meetings. The Secretariat also advised that there has been considerable interaction between the CCSBT Secretariat and non-Member States and other organisations during 2019, mostly in the compliance area.
102. It was clarified that Tristan da Cunha has no active SBT fishery at this point in time, but that SBT is occurring around its waters.
103. In relation to the People’s Republic of China (China), the Secretariat advised the EC that:
- In January 2019, China issued a Notification that specifies no retention, transshipping and landing of SBT, releasing of incidentally caught SBT, and recording of SBT in log books. China’s Notification also prohibits fishing in some SBT areas at some times, but not all SBT areas at all times.
  - The outcome of China’s investigation, including DNA sampling, concerning alleged illegal fishing activities in 2018 by vessels registered to China was that: *“According to the information available at present, there is no evidence indicating that the Ping Tai Rong Leng 2 has conducted illegal transshipment at sea of southern bluefin tuna.”*.
104. It was agreed that the CCSBT should write a letter to China asking for confirmation of the implementation of its regulations concerning SBT area closures and non-retention of SBT, including whether China is using VMS to monitor compliance of its vessels with the closures and China’s level of SBT discarding.
105. One Member commented that when a new Member joins the CCSBT, the new Member should not affect or diminish the rights of equal participation, status and nomenclature of existing Members. However, it was noted that States can accede to the Convention without permission of any existing Member. One Member noted that the process of providing an allocation to a new Member would likely impact on existing Members’ allocations.

106. The meeting was advised that the USA has continued its cooperation with the CCSBT's Catch Documentation Scheme, and the EC expressed appreciation for the USA's continued cooperation.
107. The EC agreed that the Secretariat should repeat its invitations to China, Fiji, Mauritius, Singapore and the USA for CC 15 and CCSBT 27, and also invite Namibia. The Secretariat will provide drafts of the invitation letters to non-Members to Members for comment before they are sent.

#### **Agenda Item 14. Kobe Process**

108. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-EC/1910/16 which provided an update in relation to Kobe process and joint tuna RFMO activities, as well as a link to reports from projects conduct through the Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project.
109. In relation to the report from the second meeting of the joint tuna RFMO FAD working group, the EC advised that FADs are not used in SBT fisheries and that CCSBT representation at FAD meetings is not a priority for the CCSBT.
110. Japan provided a detailed summary of the outcomes of the joint tuna RFMO meeting on the Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries that was held in September 2019.
111. The EC noted that an Australian participant of the ESC would participate at the upcoming Joint Tuna RFMO Bycatch Working Group meeting on sharks for the CCSBT.
112. It was suggested that a CCSBT representative participates in the joint tRFMO Bycatch Working group. Furthermore, ACAP commented that it would be useful for the Joint Tuna RFMO Bycatch Working Group to consider holding a meeting in relation to seabird bycatch and effectiveness of mitigation.
113. The EC also noted that if a meeting of the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) Working Group is held then the CCSBT should be actively involved since it is a front-runner in MSE.

#### **Agenda Item 15. Activities with Other Organisations**

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

114. The Chair introduced this item which is summarised in the Secretariat's paper CCSBT-EC/1610/17 on activities with other organisations.
115. The following reports were provided by Members as part of their Observer duties for the CCSBT.
- A verbal report by Korea on the on 15<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC);
  - Australia's report (CCSBT-EC/1910/25) on the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR);

- Indonesia's report (CCSBT-EC/1910/24) on the Twenty Third Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC);
- Japan's report (CCSBT-EC/1910/23) on the 21<sup>st</sup> Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT); and
- Taiwan's report (CCSBT-EC/1910/22) on the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC).

116. Indonesia informed to Members that Indonesia will organise 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the IOTC Commission from 31 May to 12 June 2020 following the 4<sup>th</sup> Bali Tuna Conference (BTC) and the 7<sup>th</sup> International Coastal Tuna Business Forum (ICTBF) as back to back meetings in Bali. Furthermore, Indonesia intends to invite Executive Secretary of CCSBT and one Member of CCSBT to be keynote speakers in BTC/ICTBF 2020.

117. It was agreed that the following Members would act as Observers to other RFMOs on behalf of CCSBT during 2019/20:

- Korea to continue as Observer to WCPFC;
- New Zealand would become the 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.

### ***15.2. Arrangement with CCAMLR***

118. The Secretariat advised the meeting that the renewed Arrangement with CCAMLR was signed in January 2019. The Secretariat further advised that CCSBT and CCAMLR Secretariats had planned to develop an implementation plan for the renewed arrangement to facilitate enhanced cooperation. However, the plan is not a priority and has not been progressed. Nevertheless, regular communication and cooperation continues between the CCSBT and CCAMLR Secretariats.

## **Agenda Item 16. Confidentiality of Data and Documents**

### ***16.1. Confidentiality of reports and documents from 2019***

119. The Chair introduced paper CCSBT-EC/1910/18 on the confidentiality of reports and documents submitted as meeting documents during 2019.

120. The meeting noted that all the reports of meetings and documents submitted to meetings under the jurisdiction of CCSBT 26 would be made publicly available with the following exceptions:

- Attachment A of paper CCSBT-ESC/1909/04 from the Secretariat titled "Secretariat Review of Catches";
- Paper CCSBT-ESC/1909/20 from Japan titled "Update of estimation for the unaccounted catch mortality in Australian SBT farming in the 2018 fishing season";

- Paper CCSBT-ESC/1909/21 from Japan titled “Monitoring of Southern Bluefin Tuna trading in the Japanese domestic markets: 2019 update”;
- Paper CCSBT-ESC/1909/23 from Japan titled “Approach to the verification of reported catch of southern bluefin tuna by all CCSBT member countries using the market and Catch Document Scheme data”;
- Paper CCSBT-ESC/1909/44 from the independent expert on market analysis for a presentation titled “Reconciling Japan market data and catch data for SBT”; and
- Paper CCSBT-EC/1910/28 from Australia titled “Japan Market Update and Comments on the 2019 Advice of the CCSBT expert”.

121. The meeting also noted that fifteen “BGD” papers submitted to the ESC this year have been previously classified as confidential by the EC and that the re-submitted versions of these papers should also be classified as being confidential. These papers are CCSBT-ESC/1909/BGD 08, 17, 21, 23 and 25-35.

### **Agenda Item 17. Meetings for 2020**

122. It was agreed that the following meetings and dates would apply for 2020:

- The 25<sup>th</sup> Extended Scientific Committee meeting, in Tokyo, Japan from 31 August to 5 September 2020;
- The 15<sup>th</sup> Compliance Committee Meeting, in Sapporo, Japan from 8 to 10 October 2020; and
- The 27<sup>th</sup> Extended Commission Meeting, in Sapporo, Japan from 12 to 15 October 2020.

123. The Executive Secretary will determine suitable dates for a five-day intersessional OMMP meeting during June 2020 after discussion with the scientists involved, in accordance with past practise for this meeting.

### **Agenda Item 18. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the CCSBT**

124. The Chair advised that there were no nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the EC, and that consequently, the Chair and Vice-Chair will be determined in accordance with past practice and the rotation of meetings. Therefore, Japan will be Chair of the EC and Australia will be Vice-Chair.

125. Japan advised that it will nominate the person to Chair the EC of CCSBT 27 soon after CCSBT 26. Australia advised that it, too, will nominate the Vice-Chair soon after CCSBT 26.

### **Agenda Item 19. Other Business**

126. There was no other business.

**Agenda Item 20. Close of Meeting**

***20.1. Adoption of report***

127. The report of the meeting was adopted.

***20.2. Close of meeting***

128. The meeting closed at 2:10 pm, 17 October 2019.

## **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. Chairing Arrangements for CCSBT Subsidiary Bodies
7. Report of the Finance and Administration Committee
8. Report of The Thirteenth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group
9. Report of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee
10. Terms of Reference for the 2020 Quality Assurance Review of the European Union for the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna
11. Process for Review of external Document including possible non-compliances of Members
12. Report of the Twenty Fourth Meeting of the Scientific Committee
13. Resolution on Limited Carry-forward of Unfished Annual Total Available Catch of Southern Bluefin Tuna
14. Resolution on the Adoption of a Management Procedure
15. Resolution to Align CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs
16. Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on Ecologically Related Species of Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna
17. Terms of Reference for the 2021 Performance Review of the CCSBT

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

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**Agenda**  
**Extended Commission of the Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Commission**  
**14 - 17 October 2019**  
**Cape Town, South Africa**

1. Opening of the Meeting
  - 1.1. Confirmation of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Sixth 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 Ecologically Related Species 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. Adoption of a new Management Procedure
10. Ecologically Related Species (ERS)
11. Terms of Reference and Panel for the Performance Review of the CCSBT
12. Review of Convention text
13. Relationship with Non-members
14. Kobe Process

15. Activities with Other Organisations
  - 15.1. Reports from other RFMO meetings of interest
16. Confidentiality of Data and Documents
  - 16.1. Confidentiality of reports and documents from 2019
17. Meetings for 2020
18. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting of the CCSBT
19. Other Business
20. Close of Meeting
  - 20.1. Adoption of report
  - 20.2. Close of meeting

**List of Documents**

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

**(CCSBT-EC/1910/)**

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 2019 Budget (EC agenda item 3)
6. (Secretariat) Draft 2020 and indicative 2021 - 2022 Budgets (EC agenda item 3)
7. (Secretariat) Review of SBT Fisheries and ERS Interaction (EC agenda item 4)
8. (Secretariat) Report from the Thirteenth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species 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) Adoption of a new Management Procedure (EC Agenda item 9)
13. (Secretariat) Potential changes to CCSBT's measures for Ecologically Related Species (ERS) (EC Agenda item 10)
14. (Secretariat) Terms of Reference for the 2021 Performance Review of the CCSBT (EC Agenda item 11)
15. (Secretariat) Relationship with Non-members (EC agenda item 13)
16. (Secretariat) Kobe Process (EC agenda item 14)
17. (Secretariat) Activities with Other Organisations (EC agenda item 15)
18. (Secretariat) Confidentiality of Data and Documents (Rev.1) (EC agenda item 16)
19. (ERSWG Chair) Presentation of the Report of the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (EC Agenda item 5)
20. (SC Chair) Presentation of the Report of the 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Committee incorporating the Extended Scientific Committee (EC agenda item 7)
21. (New Zealand) Proposal to amend the Resolution on Limited Carry-forward of Unfished Annual Total Allowable Catch (EC agenda item 8.1)
22. (Taiwan) Report from the CCSBT Observer (Taiwan) on the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (EC agenda item 15.1)
23. (Japan) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the 21st Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) (EC agenda item 15.1)

24. (Indonesia) Report from the CCSBT Observer to Twenty Third Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (EC agenda item 15.1)
25. (Australia) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (EC agenda item 15.1)
26. (Australia) Progress towards implementation of stereo video (EC agenda item 4)
27. (Australia) A further Review of Tuna Growth performance in Ranching and Farming Operations, and of the CCSBT expert advice (EC agenda item 7)
28. (Australia) Japan Market Update and Comments on the 2019 Advice of the CCSBT expert (Rev.1) (EC agenda item 7)

**(CCSBT-EC/1910/Info)**

1. (Pew Charitable Trusts) Ensuring safe and decent working and living conditions for fishers in the Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery

**(CCSBT-EC/1910/Rep)**

1. Report of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2019)
2. Report of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2019)
3. Report of the Tenth Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Meeting (June 2019)
4. Report of The Thirteenth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (May 2019)
5. Report of the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2018)
6. Report of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2018)
7. Report of the Twenty-Third Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2018)
8. Report of the Ninth Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Meeting (June 2018)
9. Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (March 2018)
10. Report of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2017)
11. Report of the Twenty-Third Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2016)
12. 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/1910/SBT Fisheries -)**

Australia	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission
European Union	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission
Indonesia	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission
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.1)
New Zealand	Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission (Rev.1)
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 (Rev.2)

**(CCSBT-CC/1910/)**

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. List of Documents
4. (Secretariat) Compliance with CCSBT Management Measures (Rev.1) (CC agenda item 2.1)
5. (Secretariat) Annual Report on Members' implementation of ERS measures and performance with respect to ERS (Rev.2) (CC agenda item 2.1)
6. (Secretariat) Operation of CCSBT Measures (Rev.1) (CC agenda item 5)
7. (Secretariat) The IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme and Proposed Revisions to CCSBT's Authorised Vessel Resolution (CC agenda item 5)
8. (Secretariat) Information Gaps in the CCSBT's Current VMS Arrangements - Update (CC agenda item 6.2)
9. (Secretariat) Review of the Cross-Listing Provision in CCSBT's IUU Vessel List Resolution (CC agenda item 6.3)

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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.

10. (Secretariat) Potential Non-Member Fishing Activity & Trade/ Emerging Markets (CC agenda item 6.5)
11. (Secretariat) A Review of Compliance Risks and Preliminary Consideration of a Compliance Action Plan from 2021 Onwards (CC agenda item 8.1)
12. (Secretariat) Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with Other Bodies and Organisations (CC agenda item 8.4)
13. (Secretariat) Progress Update on the CCSBT's On-line Data Submission/Data Access Facilities for Members (CC agenda item 9)
14. (Trygg Mat Tracking) Southern Bluefin Tuna IUU Risk Assessment (Rev.1) (CC agenda item 7)
15. (BirdLife International) Project proposal for enhancing education on and implementation of Ecologically Related Species seabird measures within CCSBT fisheries (CC agenda item 10)
16. (Australia) Considerations on a Compliance Assessment Process for the Commission (CC agenda item 6.4)
17. (Taiwan) In Respond to CCSBT-CC/1910/14(a) & 14(b) Submitted by TMT on Southern Bluefin Tuna IUU Risk Assessment: A Pilot Study Conducted for CCSBT (CC agenda item 7)
18. (Taiwan) In Respond to CCSBT-CC/1910/Info01 Submitted by PEW on Analysis of AIS Indicates Possible At-Sea Transfers of Southern Bluefin Tuna went Unreported in 2017 (CC agenda item 7 (CC Agenda item 2.2))

**(CCSBT-CC/1910/BGD )**

1. (Secretariat) Information Gaps in the CCSBT's Current VMS Arrangements (Previously CCSBT-CC/1810/09) (CC Agenda item 6.2)

**(CCSBT- CC/1910/Info)**

1. (Pew Charitable Trusts) Analysis of AIS Indicates Possible At-Sea Transfers of Southern Bluefin Tuna went Unreported in 2017 (CC Agenda item 5 and 7)
2. (Pew Charitable Trusts) A Comparative Analysis of Reported Carrier Vessel Activity and Transshipments in the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) Statistical Areas in 2017 using AIS Data (CC Agenda item 5 and 7)

**(CCSBT-TCWG/1910/)**

4. (Secretariat) Proposed Revised CCSBT Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) Resolution (CC agenda item 6.1)
5. (Secretariat) Indicative Costs for an eCDS using the TUFMAN 2 Platform (CC agenda item 6.1)
6. (Secretariat) Proposed Revision of the CCSBT Catch Documentation Scheme Resolution (2014) (CC agenda item 6.1)
8. (New Zealand) Proposed changes to the template for the annual review report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission (CC agenda item 8.3)

**Opening Statement by Australia**

On behalf of the Australian delegation, I would like to begin by thanking South Africa and the wonderful city of Cape Town for hosting this meeting. I understand this is the first time the Extended Commission has met in South Africa, after South Africa joined the Commission in 2016. I am looking forward to a fruitful and effective meeting over the next four days.

Thank you also to the Chair of the meeting, Mr Saasa Pheeha, for his participation, and the Secretariat, as always, for their work in preparing for the meeting and throughout the year. I would also like to acknowledge the presence of the independent chairs of our subcommittees, Dr Stokes, Mr Meere and Mr Morison.

This year we are tasked with agreeing a new management procedure. I am told there has been some excellent cooperation in creating candidate management procedures and narrowing the range of options down to one. I am conscious of the vital role of the management procedure in recovering the stock and providing certainty for Members and stakeholders and am keen for us to move to the new procedure as quickly and seamlessly as possible.

A focus for Australia again this year will be on how we collectively address wildlife interactions in the fishery. I understand these issues were discussed last week and some good progress has been made. As the fishery rebuilds, it should be our goal that the number of fishing related ecologically related species mortalities declines both as a percentage of fishing but also in real terms.

I would like to thank in advance our translators who have the difficult task of keeping up with complex discussions and sometimes very enthusiastic presenters. I hope none of us on our side set off the red light during the meeting.

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

Thank you.

### Opening Statement by the European Union

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

The EU Delegation is very pleased to be present at the 26th Annual Meeting of CCSBT. I would like first of all to thank South Africa for the very warm welcome, for hosting the annual meeting in Cape Town and for the conditions provided. We would also like to thank the Secretariat for the preparatory work.

The EU is 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. However in CCSBT, the EU has limited direct interest either in terms of catches or imports. Notwithstanding, the EU continues to be strongly committed to ensuring compliance with conservation and management measures and contribute to the sound management of the Southern Bluefin Tuna stock and to promote good governance and coherence amongst tuna RFMOs, namely by sharing experiences from other RFMOs.

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

We have an extensive agenda full of important points but, not being exclusive, I would like to highlight a couple of topics.

The new Management Procedure that will be made available in October 2020 to determinate the TAC for the next 3-year block period is an essential matter that will be addressed this year. The EU aims at rebuilding 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.

Another agenda point concerns the analysis of farming and market data and the related recommendations made by the Scientific Committee. In this regard, the EU looks for the adoption of practical measures leading to the sound management of the SBT fisheries, particularly contributing to solve remaining doubts on SBT mortalities.

Once again, we will also contribute to endorse the recommendations made by the Compliance Committee. On Monitoring, Control and Surveillance measures the EU globally aligns with the situation and experiences from other tuna RFMOs.

To conclude, I would like to underline our willingness to work constructively and co-operatively with all CCSBT Contracting Parties this week, in order to finish on a successful and positive note on Thursday.

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 the Republic of South Africa for hosting this event in beautiful Cape Town.

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

Taiwan pays considerable attention to the development of a proper management procedure for sustainable utilization of Southern Bluefin Tuna resource. We understand the new MP development that resulted in sharing of knowledge, data, code and learning. The new MP advised by ESC for determining the Total Allowable Catch for 2021 to 2023 and the performance is well across wide range of attributes. Thanks to the excellent work done by the Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Group and Extended Scientific Committee, equip the Extended Commission with adequate information to select a new MP. In order to set the global TAC on schedule, Taiwan sincerely hopes that the Extended Commission can adopt a robust new MP this year.

Regarding to Ecologically Related Species, we believe that the mitigation and conservation of such species is an important subject for SBT fisheries management. To this end, Taiwan has made its effort to comply with the Conservation and Management Measure for Ecologically Related Species of relevant tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations. We appreciate the good progress made in the ERSWG this year.

To conclude my remark, I look forward to working with all members in the following days to achieve constructive outcomes. With the cooperation of every member, I believe that we can make further contributions to the sustainability and proper management of SBT fishery.

Thank you.

### Opening Statement by Indonesia

Honorable Chairman and Executive Secretary of the Commission,  
Distinguished Delegates, Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, I would like to thank to the Government of the Republic of South Africa, particularly the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for rendering your hospitality and hosting this meeting in this beautiful city of Cape Town. I am also taking this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Chair of the Extended Commission, Mr. Saasa Pheeha, Executive Secretary, Mr. Robert Kennedy and all Chairs of the Committees and Working Group as well as Secretariat Staffs for their work throughout the year, and for always making excellent jobs in arranging all preparatory works to this meeting.

To begin the Opening Statement, I would like to share our sympathy and deepest condolence to the Government and People of Japan who are currently experiencing a typhoon disaster. I wish there is no victims and your people are able to recover very soon.

Honorable chairman and distinguished delegates, as we noted in the past few years, the Extended Scientific Committee continued to provide empirical evidences that the rebuilding stock of SBT still remains gave us the positive signal with the level of rebuilding spawning biomass will be achieved faster than expected by Bali Tuna Management Plan. Having this scientific background, Indonesia would like to express our high expectation that all CCSBT Members in this 26th Annual Meeting will agree to select the new Management Procedures (MP) to replace the Bali Management Procedure which has been implemented since 2011. In this conjunction, the selection of the new MP should consider socio-economic fairness among the Members, while ensuring sustainability of SBT in the future. The new MP should ensure inevitability for the conducive and prospective investment of SBT fisheries in the long term basis, certainty of increasing cumulative TAC is along with the stability of the premium price of SBT in the future.

In this good opportunity, I would also like to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has taken several MCS improvement related to the conservation and management of SBT Fisheries, among others to address the IMO number issues, Indonesia now agreed to move forward to revise the CCSBT Authorized Vessel List Resolution. Indonesia also concerns with the issues of the development of new e-CDS to assist particularly for developing countries to improved their MCS, however e-CDS has been established in Indonesia therefore the transition to the new system should consider compatibility aspects with the existing national system among the member.

As the pioneer state in relation to the campaign against IUU Fishing Activities in the global level, Indonesia is persistent to commit and support any measures for

combating IUU fishing practices particularly in the CCSBT, such utilization of AIS and VMS Data for detection of suspected illegal activities as well as market information for tracking of unreported/untagged SBT should highly be considerable.

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

On behalf of the Japanese Delegation, I would like to make an opening statement.

First of all, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to South Africa for hosting this meeting here in Cape Town. I would also like to extend our thanks to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Kennedy and the staff of the CCSBT Secretariat for their tireless efforts for organizing this meeting, as well as to the interpreters who always do excellent job.

The most important issue at this meeting is the adoption of a new management procedure (MP). The Scientific Committee (SC) extensively discussed this issue this September, following the substantive discussion at the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group and the Commission meeting last year. The conservation and management utilizing the MP is one of the most unique features of the CCSBT, enabling it to make proper management decisions even under some uncertainties. We believe that adoption of the new MP at this meeting would add further credibility to CCSBT and at the same time demonstrate that CCSBT is the front runner in this area among tuna RFMOs. We look forward to working with other Members toward this goal.

Even with the MP, it is important to minimize uncertainties relating to catch of Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT), whether it is attributable to Members or non-Members. The SC agreed that implementation of stereo-video cameras is the only direct methodology for addressing the uncertainty relating to Australian SBT farming. The SC also agreed that the recent Japanese market data shows no clear signal of anomaly of SBT catch by Japanese vessels and recommended updating the estimation for catch verification of all Members. To further strengthen the robustness of the MP, we once again request Australia to take positive actions on stereo-video cameras and would like to engage in frank and constructive discussion with the Secretariat and other Members on the Commission-wide catch verification scheme using Japan's market data. In this process, it is essential to address uncertainties attributable to Non-members through various available approaches, with proper cautions.

Finally, I would like to conclude my remark by expressing my hope that we will be able to make an important step forward for the future development of the CCSBT and 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 katoa

(Hello everybody)

Firstly may I express our thanks to South Africa for hosting this 26th meeting of CCSBT. Cape Town is certainly a spectacular city and members of our delegation have enjoyed their time here so far.

Secondly our thanks to the members of the Secretariat and the members and Chairs of our subsidiary bodies for their work during the course of the year.

I will be brief. The issues before us are well known. We have been lucky. Nature has given us a significant helping hand in rebuilding the southern Bluefin tuna stock. This gives us the opportunity to be more ambitious in setting targets for a new management procedure and New Zealand is a strong advocate of that approach.

However, it is a fact that New Zealand's interests as a range state have been undermined by past unreported catches of southern Bluefin tuna. We also believe that the continued failure to resolve uncertainty in farm and market reporting further undermines our and other Members' interests.

Despite raising these concerns regarding farm and market uncertainties over a number of years this Commission has yet to see a clear path to their resolution. It is our position that real and measurable progress is a precursor to the adoption of a new management procedure for this commission and any future increases in the global total allowable catch.

It is the complacency that we have observed on these issues that has driven us to this position. It is not in our interest to hold up the implementation of a new management procedure so we have not reached this position lightly. We have considered the outcome of the recent meeting of the scientific committee and note the initiatives proposed by Japan and the advice of the farm and market experts. We have also considered the Australian paper on progress towards implementation of stereo video. There is clearly more work to be done and concrete milestones need to be set. We look forward to hearing proposals from other members on how we can move forward to resolve these long standing issues.

That's all I have to say about that for now.

Thank you

### Opening Statement by Republic of Korea

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

To begin with, on behalf of the Korean delegation, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Government of South Africa for hosting the 26th annual meeting of the Commission in this beautiful and dynamic city of Cape Town. Also, Korea thanks the Executive Secretary and Secretariat staff very much for their usual excellent meeting arrangements, especially for their professional work and enthusiasm in preparing the meeting documents.

Mr. Chairman,

This delegation believes that the Southern Bluefin Tuna resources gradually recovered over the last ten years or so and consequently, we were able to increase the global TAC continuously. Korea believes this is a good example of an effective management of marine resources and therefore, would like to commend all Members and the Secretariat for their dedication and hard work done so far.

However, we believe there is still much work to do in front of us to strengthen and further refine the scientific work of the Commission in a manner that minimizes uncertainties and increases robustness in the stock assessment, as is always the case in the other RFMOs as well.

To this end, as Members may be aware, Korea has conducted various scientific research activities including otolith analysis and pop-up tagging program, in addition to its improved reporting and MCS systems which ensure more organized data collection. In this context, we would like to reassure the Members that Korea will remain committed to making its utmost effort to contribute to the work of the Commission and the subsidiary Committees in future years.

In this meeting, we have many important issues to discuss and agree upon including the allocation of TAC and the adoption of a new Management Procedure. Although the respective positions of Members may differ in each agenda item, I think our common and ultimate goal is the same and we have no doubt that the Commission will be able to reach consensus on any issues if Members work constructively in the spirit of cooperation and compromise.

Having said that, we very much look forward to working with the Chairman, all Members, NGOs and the Secretariat this week, bearing in mind the objective of the Convention which is the conservation and optimum utilization of Southern Bluefin Tuna.

Thank you very much.

## Opening Statement by South Africa

Chairperson,

CCSBT Executive Secretary,

Esteemed Members, Delegates and Observers, all Protocol observed.

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Republic of South Africa, to welcome you to the 26th Annual Meeting of the Extended Commission of the CCSBT in South Africa, and to our beautiful, water scarce city of Cape Town, also affectionately known as the Mother City. Looking at actual data, you will understand that Cape Town water levels have improved significantly over the past few months, following the worst droughts in centuries. I hope that you will take note of the existing water restrictions and keep your showers short, and drink wine instead of water!

South Africa's commitment to Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO's) is unquestionable. South Africa is a Contracting Party to a number of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) including three tuna RFMO's, the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). In addition, South Africa is a founding member of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR). Very recently, we have acceded to The Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing. As such, South Africa is obligated to comply with all relevant Conservation Management Measures adopted by the aforesaid RFMOs.

South Africa had to establish sound institutional arrangements and most importantly participate in the existing platforms that provide robust engagements on fisheries and sustainable management thereof and optimize the social and economic benefits from our oceans. Fisheries stimulates local economic activity and job creation for fishers, who enjoy longer and more sustained employment, and through the grading, packing, processing and value adding of the fish. Similarly, economic activity is enjoyed by local Airfreight companies who are tasked to transport and export the fresh produce to the international markets. The local fresh operations create further extensive onshore support services for supplies, food, fuel, bait food, gear, etc. Repair and maintenance of these operations are extensive and offer extensive employment on shore. 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 and consequently deriving maximum economic benefit for its citizens.

Chairperson, I am confident that the 26th 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.

Excellences,

Management and compliance with best national and international instruments so as conserve fish resources for future generations is important. I wish you all successful deliberations and I hope that you will have some time to go around and explore Cape Town during your spare times and enjoy its beauty and hospitality on offer.

Thank you.

**Opening Statement by  
the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP)**

Bycatch in pelagic longline fisheries is one of the greatest threats to seabirds, particularly albatrosses and petrels. The Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP <https://acap.aq/>) through its 13 Parties strives to conserve albatrosses and petrels by coordinating international activities to mitigate threats to their populations.

This year ACAP's Advisory Committee declared that a conservation crisis continues to be faced by its 31 listed species, with thousands of albatrosses, petrels and shearwaters dying every year as a result of fisheries operations. Despite efforts that have been put into researching and recommending effective bycatch mitigation measures to address seabird bycatch in fisheries by ACAP and other bodies, in many instances these were not being implemented or were not being fully implemented. A lack of compliance with seabird bycatch mitigation measures adopted by those Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) responsible for high-seas tuna fisheries, including the CCSBT, was identified as a critical issue. Within jurisdictions where implementation of effective mitigation measures and appropriate enforcement has occurred, reductions in seabird bycatch have been demonstrated, sometimes dramatically so and without perceived detrimental consequences arising.

Given the conservation crisis facing albatrosses, petrels and shearwaters, ACAP is in the process of developing new and augmented areas of focus and activities for the immediate and longer term, and would like to work with RFMOs and others to enhance implementation of strategies and actions to reduce bycatch of seabirds in fishing operations, acknowledging that this needs to be done at a range of different scales. In addition, ACAP is working to communicate more effectively the conservation crisis facing albatrosses and petrels, and its advice regarding how best to address the threats that these seabirds face.

### Opening Statement by BirdLife International

Thank you for the opportunity for BirdLife to attend this meeting as an observer.

This year there have been a few positive steps in relation to SBT fisheries and threatened albatross populations. In particular, drafting is planned for the new CCSBT multi-year seabird strategy which we believe is highly important for future CCSBT progress. In addition, a project funding concept has been developed for actions to enhance implementation of seabird bycatch measures, which we hope this Extended Commission will endorse. We also appreciate the efforts made by some Members to enhance their robustness of reporting on seabird bycatch and mitigation measure use.

However, the urgent and continuing conservation crisis facing albatrosses as a result of bycatch is unabated, as expressed this year by the Agreement for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels. In 2019, the CCSBT ERSWG once again expressed its serious concern regarding the continuing level of albatross bycatch in SBT fisheries.

With twenty years past now since CCAMLR members already fixed the same problem in sub-Antarctic toothfish fisheries, it's past time that CCSBT Members find ways to turn the current reputational risk into the conservation success story that it can become.

We believe the single most important action that can reverse current bycatch is increasing compliance with existing seabird bycatch regulations. At this meeting, in addition to endorsing the seabird project concept, we call on the Extended Commission to make firm commitments to accelerate and strengthen CCSBT compliance with seabird measures, and to set seabird strategy objectives with clear timeframes. It is also important that the overall objective of the new multi-year seabird strategy fully reflects duties set out in the UN Fish Stocks Agreement and FAO Code of Conduct, namely to minimise bycatch as well as minimising impacts on populations.

Thank you Chair and Members for your time.

**Opening Statement by Pew Charitable Trusts**

The Pew Charitable Trusts thanks the secretariat and members for the opportunity to be here and observe the proceedings of this Commission. We would also like to thank the government of South Africa for hosting the meetings and to the translators for their hard work over the current meetings.

Pew's International Fisheries program engages as an observer in most of the worlds RFMO's with the objective of contributing to discussions to improve the management of the fisheries under their jurisdiction, and we look forward to doing so for the case of Southern Bluefin Tuna.

Thank you Chair.

### Opening Statement by TRAFFIC

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

TRAFFIC thanks the Commission for the opportunity to participate as an observer to meetings of the Extended Commission and its other subsidiary bodies. We thank South Africa for hosting this meeting and the Secretariat for the preparation. We look forward to contributing to these critical deliberations.

TRAFFIC welcomes the continued signs the Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) stock is showing of recovery and will meet with 70% probability the interim rebuilding target of 20% of the initial spawning stock biomass by 2035. TRAFFIC, ever since the adoption of an interim target, has been requesting the Commission adopt a suitably precautionary long-term rebuilding target. We note the recommendation by the Extended Scientific Committee to this meeting that the 30% of initial spawning stock biomass by 2035 tuning be used for the selection of a new MP. We would support the development of a new MP using this tuning level but ask Commissioners to articulate clearly at this meeting what the long-term rebuilding target is for the spawning stock at a level representative of a precautionary target reference point.

TRAFFIC notes the continued action of the Commission to address unaccounted SBT mortality and that specifically in this regard a CCSBT Non-Member, China, advised its fleet in 2019 to avoid catching and landing SBT, with prohibitions on SBT retention, area closures, transshipment and reporting requirements. To have confidence in the implementation of such requirements, this Commission should take steps for their verification and look to address other unaccounted mortalities, for example by acting on the recommendations made by the Farm and Market Experts to the Scientific Committee. As we move to a new MP, we need to have confidence the setting aside of 306 tonnes to account for IUU catch by Non-Members is adequate.

Regarding Ecologically Related Species (ERS), we are concerned that some Members are not meeting targets for observer coverage or not reporting their ERS catches. TRAFFIC is concerned by the reported level of shark catch by Members that it is generally based on little information, while the estimates of catch, mortality and discard by some Members is extremely high for Blue Sharks. While we welcome the CCSBT Resolution on the use of ERS measures adopted by other RFMOs, we feel those measures are not specific enough to the sharks being caught by CCSBT Members and will not address or identify any issues of overfishing for the species until it is too late. TRAFFIC encourages the Commission to direct the Scientific Committee as a priority to assess status and management needs for sharks caught as part of CCSBT activities.

TRAFFIC also notes the number of shark and ray species included within the appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and encourages the Commission to request the Compliance and Scientific Committees provide Members with adequate advice to meet their

obligations when catching and trading in CITES-listed species. This will require advice on what constitutes a sustainable catch level of such species.

Chair, we cannot emphasise enough that CCSBT needs to deal now with ensuring the catch of all ERS are at sustainable levels under the current SBT Total Allowable Catch (TAC). Unless this takes place, we may witness an unacceptable dramatic decrease in the conservation status of ERS given the potential increases in TAC and therefore fishing effort as the stock recovers.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

## Chairing Arrangements for CCSBT Subsidiary Bodies

(Revised at the Twenty Sixth Annual Meeting: 17 October 2019)

### Introduction

The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) has a number of Subsidiary Bodies, see Annex 1. By nature of the roles, the Chairing arrangements for each body vary. At CCSBT 26, the Extended Commission agreed to the following arrangements for Chairing of CCSBT subsidiary bodies.

The agreed Chairing arrangements for CCSBT subsidiary bodies and technical working groups are provided below together with the general process for selection and appointments of Chairs.

It is expected that the chair of subsidiary bodies will act with independence at all times, regardless of employment or nationality. The following tables present the agreed Chairing arrangements for CCSBT subsidiary bodies.

### Subsidiary bodies

#### *Scientific Committee and Extended Scientific Committee*

Responsibility for appointment	Extended Commission appoints the Chair
Appointment term	Three years
Reappointments	Twice
Independence	The chair shall not be an officer or official of a CCSBT Member government at the time of appointment nor throughout the term of the contract, except where Members reach a consensus to choose an individual, but can be a national of a Member country.

#### *Compliance Committee*

Responsibility for appointment	Extended Commission appoints the Chair
Appointment term	Three years
Reappointments	Twice
Independence	The chair shall not be an officer or official of a CCSBT Member government at the time of appointment nor throughout the term of the contract, except where Members reach a consensus to choose an individual, but can be a national of a Member country.

#### *Ecologically Related Species Working Group*

Responsibility for appointment	Extended Commission appoints the Chair
Appointment term	At least two ERSWG meetings (note meetings are usually held every 18-24 months)
Reappointments	Twice
Independence	The chair shall not be an officer or official of a CCSBT Member government at the time of appointment nor throughout the term of the contract, except where Members reach a consensus to choose an individual, but can be a national of a Member country.

#### *Compliance Committee Working Group and Technical Compliance Working Group*

Responsibility for appointment	The Chair of the Compliance Committee chairs the Compliance Committee Working Group and the Technical Compliance Working Group where available, as per Compliance Committee Chair's contract.
Appointment term	As per Compliance Committee Chair
Reappointments	As per Compliance Committee Chair
Independence	As per Compliance Committee Chair

#### *Finance and Administration Committee*

Responsibility for appointment	Extended Commission elects the Chair prior to the Finance and Administration Committee meeting.
Appointment term	Year by year
Reappointments	Yes – no limit, noting the Extended Commission agrees the Chair for each meeting.
Independence	Can be a Member country delegate.

#### *Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group*

Responsibility for appointment	Host country appoints the Chair unless the Extended Commission agrees otherwise.
Appointment term	Meeting by meeting
Reappointments	Yes – no limit, noting the Extended Commission may agree otherwise.
Independence	Can be a Member country delegate.

### **Technical Working Groups**

The Catch Per Unit Effort Working Group and Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Working Group, chaired by Independent Scientific Panel members, are highly technical working groups of the Extended Scientific Committee. They are not established under the CCSBT convention nor created by the Extended Commission. The Independent Scientific Panel's engagement in leading these working groups has been critical to the Extended Scientific Committee's processes.

#### *Catch per Unit Effort Working Group*

Chair	Chaired by an Independent Scientific Panel member
Appointment term	Not defined
Reappointments	Not defined
Independence	Chaired by a member of the Independent Scientific Panel

*Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Meeting*

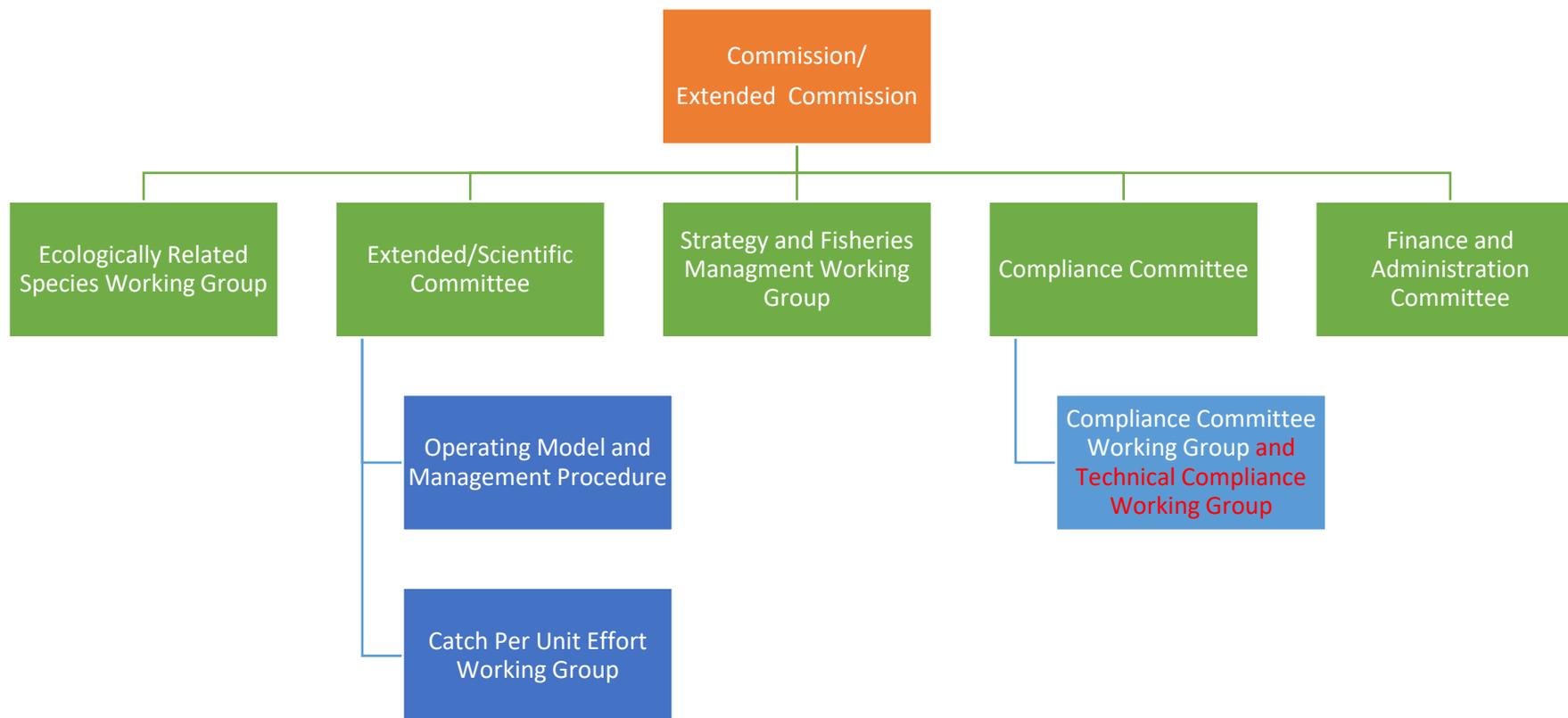
Chair	Chaired by an Independent Scientific Panel member
Appointment term	Not defined
Reappointments	Not defined
Independence	Chaired by a member of the Independent scientific panel

**Process for Selection and Appointment of Chairs**

The general process for selection and appointment of Chairs of Subsidiary bodies is:

1. Secretariat confirms process and timing of process by Circular (or at meeting as required)
2. Secretariat calls for nominations by Circular (and advertises as appropriate)
3. Secretariat distributes nominees' applications to members to rank
4. Secretariat tallies votes
5. Successful candidate is notified
6. Members notified of successful candidate

### CCSBT Subsidiary Body Structure



## 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:

- Revision of the 2019 budget
- Draft 2020 budget
- Draft indicative budgets for 2021 and 2022
- Consider changes to a more modern reporting format for the formal financial statements

### *Consideration of changes to formal financial statements format*

The FAC was invited to consider whether it wished to update the CCSBT's Financial Statements into a more contemporary format. Such a change may make the statements easier to read for external audiences but would come at a cost of approximately \$4,000.

Members of the FAC did not consider that such a change was necessary and that the current reporting format was meeting the needs of this Commission.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission retain the current format for the *CCSBT's Annual Financial Statements*.

### *The revised budget for 2019*

The Executive Secretary gave a summary of the 2019 revised budget outlined in CCSBT-EC/1910/05. The revision incorporates actual income and expenditure together with forecast income and expenditure for the remainder of the year.

Expenditures for 2019 are forecast to total \$2,929,800, which is a 5% decrease on the amount approved for 2019. The Secretariat was able to realise savings from a variety of sources including the use of Secretariat staff for the translation of meeting documents rather than an external translation services. Members of the FAC expressed their gratitude to the Deputy Executive Secretary in relation to the latter.

The Executive Secretary provided additional details on individual items of the revised 2019 budget where significant changes had occurred from the initially planned amounts.

Following advice from the Chair of the ESC, changes were made to the expenses related to OM/MP given that no additional work is planned for the current financial year. The FAC also transferred funds from the statistical analysis associated with the maturity study from 2019 to 2020 as this work is not likely to be conducted until 2020.

Members of the FAC thanked the Secretariat for the revised budget and its efforts to reduce costs throughout the year.

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 apologised for the delays in amending the regulations and explained that these were due to the Australian regulatory process and the recent federal election.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission note the revised budget for 2019 at Annex A.

### *Draft budget for 2020*

The FAC considered the proposed budgets outlined in CCSBT-EC/1910/06, which includes funding for the CCSBT's usual business.

The draft budget for 2020 contained \$39,000 more expenditure than the interim draft budget for 2020 that was provided in Circular #2019/051. This increased expenditure was related to the following two items from the updated Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) workplan

- An additional \$28,100 to enable 1,100 more tissue samples in the close-kin genetics work for estimating the abundance of the SBT spawning population; and;
- An additional \$10,400 for the Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Meeting (OMMP) meeting to include consideration of the Scientific Research Plan, which will require attendance of the ESC Chair in addition to the full advisory panel and consultant.

In discussion with the Chair of the ESC, the FAC considered the two additional requests from the ESC and endorsed their inclusion in the 2020 budget. It was noted however that the current endorsement of the additional expenses relating to close-kin analysis should not be considered as setting a precedent for increased budget in response to future increases in sample size based on stock size. The ESC should be encouraged to constrain costs in this area.

In addition, decisions made at the EC carried financial ramifications and the FAC was asked to accommodate these decisions within the budgeting process. These include:

- The development of a trial electronic Catch Documentation Scheme (eCDS) at a cost of \$150,000;
- A smaller scale Quality Assurance Review (QAR) for the European Union at a cost of \$10,000;
- A decision to transition to using the United Nations Pensionable Remuneration Table for the calculation of superannuation for Secretariat professional staff;
- Continued contingency funding for ad-hoc AIS analysis;
- The extension of the current Executive Secretary's contract; and

- Inclusion of an IOTC Contracting Party as a member of the CCSBT performance review panel.

The FAC discussed how best to incorporate the changes within the 2020 budget given the sums involved. The additional costs associated with the proposed changes, with the exception of the eCDS trial, were endorsed without the need for budget cuts.

The funding requirements for the trial eCDS could not also be met with the current annual income or through cost savings in other areas. Two options were considered by the FAC: to withdraw from existing cash reserves and fund the trial immediately; or to delay the trial until such time that the anticipated Australian tax refund is received. The recommended option of the FAC is to draw from existing Secretariat reserves to fund the development of a trial eCDS and the FAC believes this best reflects the decisions of the EC.

The FAC notes that the CCSBT anticipates a tax refund from the Australian Taxation Office in the coming year and recommends that, once received, these funds be put back into cash reserves to offset this additional withdrawal. In reaching this decision, the FAC considered that the operating risks to the Secretariat from the reduction in cash reserves were limited and could be managed.

The FAC also shifted the recruitment expenses assigned to the 2020 budget to the indicative 2022 budget to partially reflect the Executive Secretary's contract extension.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission approve the 2020 General Budget as set out in Annex B to this document.

#### *Indicative budgets for 2021 and 2022*

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 diligently looked for potential savings that could be made.

The Executive Secretary also noted that there are some financial risks associated with the current in-kind contribution from CSIRO towards gene tagging. Those in-kind contributions may decrease in future years as the work becomes a monitoring exercise rather than development of a new methodology.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission note the proposed changes to the indicative 2021 and 2022 budgets.

## GENERAL BUDGET - 2019

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2019 APPROVED BUDGET</b>	<b>2019 REVISED BUDGET</b>	<b>% Variation</b>
<b>Contributions from Members</b>	<b>\$2,706,677</b>	<b>\$2,706,677</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Japan	\$775,328	\$775,328	
Australia	\$775,328	\$775,328	
New Zealand	\$220,446	\$220,446	
Korea	\$237,098	\$237,098	
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	\$237,098	\$237,098	
Indonesia	\$210,984	\$210,984	
European Union	\$102,690	\$102,690	
South Africa	\$147,705	\$147,705	
<b>Staff Assessment Levy</b>	<b>\$111,800</b>	<b>\$125,330</b>	<b>12.1%</b>
<b>Carryover from previous year</b>	<b>\$137,999</b>	<b>\$137,999</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Withdrawal from savings</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100.0%</b>
<b>Interest on investments<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$29,000</b>	<b>\$47,831</b>	<b>64.9%</b>
<b>TOTAL GROSS INCOME</b>	<b>\$3,085,476</b>	<b>\$3,017,837</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Interest on investments does not include interest earned from the staff liability fund (which is estimated to be \$4,224 in 2019).

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2019 APPROVED BUDGET</b>	<b>2019 Expenditure to date</b>	<b>Forecast Remaining Expenditure<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2019 REVISED BUDGET</b>	<b>% variation</b>
<b>ANNUAL MEETINGS - (EC/CC)</b>	<b>\$208,500</b>	<b>\$91,025</b>	<b>\$84,000</b>	<b>\$175,025</b>	<b>-16.1</b>
Independent chairs	62,100	23,441	33,500	56,941	-8.3
Interpretation costs	84,200	35,076	43,900	78,976	-6.2
Hire of venue & catering <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	-
Hire of equipment <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	-
Translation/of meeting documents	10,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Secretariat expenses	52,200	32,508	6,600	39,108	-25.1
<b>EXTENDED SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE</b>	<b>\$238,400</b>	<b>\$162,850</b>	<b>\$25,300</b>	<b>\$188,150</b>	<b>-21.1</b>
Interpretation costs	76,300	52,684	12,100	64,784	-15.1
Hire of venue & catering <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	-
Hire of equipment <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	-
Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel	124,200	83,250	13,200	96,450	-22.3
Translation of meeting documents	1,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Secretariat expenses	36,900	26,916	0	26,916	-27.1
<b>SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>	<b>\$201,326</b>	<b>\$141,200</b>	<b>\$9,400</b>	<b>\$150,600</b>	<b>-25.2</b>
Ecologically Related Species WG Meeting	98,300	70,236	0	70,236	-28.5
OMMP Technical Meeting (5 day, intersessional)	79,600	62,307	0	62,307	-21.7
OMMP Technical Meeting (1 day, prior to ESC) <sup>2</sup>	14,800	7,820	2,400	10,220	-30.9
Technical CC WG Meeting (1 day, prior to CC) <sup>2</sup>	8,626	837	7,000	7,837	-9.1
<b>SCIENCE PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$1,068,500</b>	<b>\$515,857</b>	<b>\$488,500</b>	<b>\$1,004,357</b>	<b>-6.0</b>
Intersessional OM/MP Maintenance & Development	9,800	445	200	645	-93.4
Development of the CPUE series	0	0	0	0	-
Tagging program coordination	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0.0
Long-Term Gene Tagging Project <sup>3</sup>	770,000	374,000	396,000	770,000	0.0
Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing <sup>3</sup>	80,300	40,150	40,150	80,300	0.0
Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) <sup>3</sup>	46,700	23,320	23,320	46,640	-0.1
Sampling and aging of Indonesian otoliths	55,700	27,830	27,830	55,660	-0.1
Maturity study	55,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Develop methodology for analysis of farm & market data	50,000	50,112	0	50,112	0.2
<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$68,450</b>	<b>\$44,309</b>	<b>\$9,515</b>	<b>\$53,824</b>	<b>-21.4</b>
Assistance to Developing States	4,700	0	0	0	-100.0
TCN Participation	6,900	7,005	0	7,005	1.5
Ad-Hoc AIS Analysis	20,000	9,969	0	9,969	-50.2
Database upgrade and on-line data submission/access	36,850	27,335	9,515	36,850	0.0
<b>SECRETARIAT COSTS</b>	<b>\$1,127,000</b>	<b>\$865,583</b>	<b>\$320,000</b>	<b>\$1,185,583</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Secretariat staff costs	743,000	544,963	216,300	761,263	2.5
Staff assessment levy	111,800	90,630	34,700	125,330	12.1
Employer social security	143,800	107,225	42,300	149,525	4.0
Insurance -worker's comp/travel/contents	14,200	11,283	3,500	14,783	4.1
Travel/transport	30,700	5,181	1,900	7,081	-76.9
Translation of meeting reports	18,000	0	18,000	18,000	0.0
Training	2,000	538	1,000	1,538	-23.1
Home leave allowance	1,700	0	1,700	1,700	0.0
Other employment expenses	2,300	1,669	600	2,269	-1.3
Recruitment expenses	0	0	0	0	-
Staff liability fund (accumulating)	59,500	104,094	0	104,094	74.9

<b>OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS</b>	<b>\$173,300</b>	<b>\$143,261</b>	<b>\$29,000</b>	<b>\$172,261</b>	<b>-0.6</b>
Office lease and storage	71,400	70,712	900	71,612	0.3
Office costs	84,000	66,807	14,900	81,707	-2.7
Provision for new/replacement assets	11,000	2,071	10,800	12,871	17.0
Telephone/communications	6,900	3,671	2,400	6,071	-12.0
<b>TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$3,085,476</b>	<b>\$1,964,085</b>	<b>\$965,715</b>	<b>\$2,929,800</b>	<b>-5.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Most of these estimates are rounded up to the nearest \$100

<sup>2</sup> South Africa is paying 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.

## GENERAL BUDGET for 2020 and Indicative Budgets for 2021-2022

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>APPROVED 2020 BUDGET</b>	<i>Indicative 2021</i>	<i>Indicative 2022</i>
<b>Contributions from members</b>	<b>\$2,840,163</b>	<i><b>\$2,981,100</b></i>	<i><b>\$3,129,900</b></i>
Japan	\$813,564	<i>\$853,936</i>	<i>\$896,560</i>
Australia	\$813,564	<i>\$853,936</i>	<i>\$896,560</i>
New Zealand	\$231,318	<i>\$242,796</i>	<i>\$254,916</i>
Korea	\$248,791	<i>\$261,137</i>	<i>\$274,172</i>
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	\$248,791	<i>\$261,137</i>	<i>\$274,172</i>
Indonesia	\$221,389	<i>\$232,375</i>	<i>\$243,974</i>
European Union	\$107,754	<i>\$113,101</i>	<i>\$118,747</i>
South Africa	\$154,989	<i>\$162,680</i>	<i>\$170,800</i>
<b>Staff Assessment Levy</b>	<b>\$129,300</b>	<i><b>\$132,000</b></i>	<i><b>\$135,000</b></i>
<b>Carryover from previous year</b>	<b>\$88,037</b>	<i><b>\$50,000</b></i>	<i><b>\$50,000</b></i>
<b>Withdrawal from savings</b>	<b>\$310,000</b>	<i><b>\$85,000</b></i>	<i><b>\$80,000</b></i>
<b>Interest on investments<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<i><b>\$20,000</b></i>	<i><b>\$20,000</b></i>
<b>TOTAL GROSS INCOME</b>	<b>\$3,387,500</b>	<i><b>\$3,268,100</b></i>	<i><b>\$3,414,900</b></i>

<sup>1</sup> Interest on investments does not include interest earned from the staff liability fund.

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>APPROVED 2020 BUDGET</b>	<i>Indicative 2021</i>	<i>Indicative 2022</i>
<b>ANNUAL MEETING - (CC/EC/CCSBT)</b>	<b>\$370,400</b>	<b>\$291,000</b>	<b>\$270,000</b>
Independent chairs	\$37,000	\$68,000	\$34,000
Interpretation costs	\$56,700	\$66,000	\$73,000
Hire of venue & catering	\$155,700	\$76,000	\$87,000
Hire of equipment	\$65,100	\$38,000	\$33,000
Translation of meeting documents	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Secretariat expenses	\$45,900	\$33,000	\$33,000
<b>ESC/SC Meeting</b>	<b>\$245,500</b>	<b>\$211,000</b>	<b>\$270,000</b>
Interpretation costs	\$39,900	\$45,000	\$59,000
Hire of venue & catering	\$9,800	\$28,000	\$33,000
Hire of equipment	\$45,100	\$18,000	\$24,000
Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel	\$114,000	\$118,000	\$133,000
Translation of meeting documents	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Secretariat expenses	\$35,700	\$1,000	\$20,000
<b>SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>	<b>\$92,800</b>	<b>\$113,000</b>	<b>\$133,000</b>
Ecologically Related Species WG Meeting	\$0	\$78,000	0
OMMP Technical Meeting (5 day, intersessional)	\$92,800	\$0	\$97,000
OMMP Technical Meeting (1 day, prior to ESC)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Technical CWG Meeting (1 day prior to CC)	\$0	\$35,000	36,000
<b>SCIENCE PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$1,059,200</b>	<b>\$1,018,800</b>	<b>\$1,062,000</b>
Intersessional OM/MP Maintenance & Development	\$9,300	\$9,000	\$9,000
Development of the CPUE series	\$3,900	\$4,000	\$4,000
Tagging program coordination	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Long-Term Gene Tagging Project <sup>1</sup>	\$775,500	\$786,500	\$803,000
Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing <sup>1</sup>	\$109,500	\$111,400	\$134,800
Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) <sup>1</sup>	\$47,800	\$48,600	\$49,700
Sampling and aging of Indonesian Otoliths	\$57,200	\$58,300	\$60,500
Maturity study	\$55,000	\$0	\$0
Develop methodology for analysis of farm & market data	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$214,700</b>	<b>\$217,300</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>
Assistance to Developing States	\$0	\$0	\$0
Quality Assurance Review	\$10,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Performance Review	\$0	\$144,000	\$0
TCN Participation by CC Chair	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ad-Hoc AIS Analysis	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Database upgrade and on-line data submission/access	\$34,700	\$3,300	\$0
Trial eCDS developmet	\$150,000	\$0	\$0
<b>SECRETARIAT COSTS</b>	<b>\$1,245,700</b>	<b>\$1,252,000</b>	<b>\$1,442,900</b>
Secretariat staff costs	\$785,800	\$802,000	\$818,000
Staff assessment levy	\$129,300	\$132,000	\$135,000
Employer social security	\$188,400	\$192,000	\$196,000
Insurance -worker's compensation/ travel/contents	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000
Travel/transport	\$27,600	\$28,000	\$29,000
Translation of meeting reports	\$14,500	\$15,000	\$15,000
Training	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Home leave allowance	\$9,500	\$1,700	\$9,900
Other employment expense	\$3,200	\$3,300	\$3,400
Recruitment / discharge expenses	\$0	\$0	\$144,600
Staff liability fund (accumulating)	\$69,400	\$60,000	\$74,000

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>APPROVED 2020 BUDGET</b>	<i>Indicative 2021</i>	<i>Indicative 2022</i>
<b>OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS</b>	<b>\$159,200</b>	<b><i>\$165,000</i></b>	<b><i>\$167,000</i></b>
Office lease and storage	\$73,400	<i>\$75,000</i>	<i>\$77,000</i>
Office costs	\$72,200	<i>\$74,000</i>	<i>\$75,000</i>
Provision for new/replacement assets	\$8,300	<i>\$11,000</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
Telephone/communications	\$5,300	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
<b>TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$3,387,500</b>	<b><i>\$3,268,100</i></b>	<b><i>\$3,414,900</i></b>

<sup>1</sup> CSIRO is providing an in-kind contribution to these projects.

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

**Report of  
The Thirteenth Meeting of the Ecologically  
Related Species Working Group**

**28 - 31 May 2019  
Canberra, Australia**

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

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

**10 - 12 October 2019  
Cape Town, South Africa**

**Terms of Reference for the 2020 Quality Assurance Review of the European Union (EU)  
for the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) is an intergovernmental organisation responsible for the management of southern bluefin tuna throughout its distribution. Members of the Extended Commission (EC) comprise: Australia, the European Union (EU), the Fishing Entity of Taiwan, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand and South Africa.

The CCSBT's objective is to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of southern bluefin tuna.

The purpose of the CCSBT's Quality Assurance Review (QAR) process is to provide an independent review to assist Members to identify how well their management systems function with respect to their CCSBT obligations and to provide recommendations on areas where improvement may be needed.

**EU – Background Information**

The EU is a Regional Economic Integration Organisation (REIO) comprising 28 Member States. While EU Member States transferred their competences on fisheries to the EU, Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) capabilities generally remain the responsibility of the specific EU Member State.

The EU has a very specific profile as Member of the CCSBT Extended Commission. Unlike other CCSBT Members, the EU does not have a SBT fisheries. It does prohibit its vessels to target SBT and, the limited EU SBT quota (11t) is permitted exclusively for bycatch<sup>1</sup>. In this regard, the most recently recorded SBT bycatches were in 2012 (4.4 tonnes).

The EU has also a negligible trade in SBT.

There is no specific department dealing with SBT in the EU or its Member States. Instead, the EU has dedicated human and administrative resources to other tuna RFMOs in areas where SBT could potentially be by-caught. The assessment of the EU management of those RFMO's fisheries does not fall within the remit of the CCSBT.

**2. SCOPE**

This QAR will review the suitability of the EU's systems and processes for ensuring compliance with the following two key CCSBT measures:

- i) National allocations (i.e., by-catch of SBT); and

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<sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2019/124 of 30 January 2019 fixing for 2019 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters. .

- ii) The Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS).

In particular, this QAR will determine whether the EU's systems and processes meet CCSBT's minimum performance requirements<sup>2</sup> with respect to these two measures.

The consultation is to take place with the European Commission Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries.

In assessing the suitability of systems, the QAR will take into account the particular circumstances and characteristics of the EU (i.e., absence of a SBT fisheries) and will provide a high-level review of the EU's MCS systems on the following two areas:

- i) **Distant Water Bycatch Fishery** – emphasis will be placed on the systems and processes in place for the accurate reporting and verification of any bycatch and discards, as well as for recording and verifying any landings of SBT; and
- ii) **Market State** – emphasis will be placed on the systems and processes in place to support requirements for the importation of SBT products including effective implementation of CDS requirements.

### 3. LANGUAGE

The review will be conducted in English.

### 4. REVIEW PROCESS

#### Desktop Review

The purpose of this QAR is to independently document and evaluate whether the EU's systems and processes, and taking into account that the EU has no SBT fisheries and the other elements mentioned in the background information, meet the relevant minimum performance requirements of CCSBT's measures.

The reviewer must evaluate the EU's current MCS systems and processes with respect to the two key measures identified, and assess the following matters:

- What systems and supporting processes are in place for ensuring:
  - Compliance with the EU's national allocation of the SBT Total Allowable Catch (TAC), in particular with respect to attributing mortalities from any SBT bycatch and discards, and for recording and verifying any catches any landings of SBT; and
  - The requirements for the importation of SBT products including effective implementation of the CDS are met?

It is expected that the review will involve the following general steps:

- 1) Analysis of existing documentation, in particular the most recent National Report submitted to the CCSBT by the EU;
- 2) Determination of whether the EU's selected pertinent internal documentation adequately describes and reflects the relevant CCSBT systems and processes that are actually in place?

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<sup>2</sup> These can be found on the CCSBT website

- 3) Verification of the existence of relevant EU data capture and information documents including:
  - Documents to provide information on processes for the appropriate implementation of CCSBT's CDS including for receipt of imports, submission, validation and certification requirements and the use of CCSBT tags;
  - Documents to record any SBT bycatch and discards at sea, including information on observers' responsibilities; and
  - Documents to record any SBT landings, exports, imports, CDS tags issued and CDS validators authorised (if required).
- 4) Determination of whether existing systems and processes are effective to ensure that the EU meets its CCSBT obligations?

Following the above steps the reviewer should:

- Undertake a SWOT (strength, weakness, opportunities, threat/risk) analysis;
- Develop recommendations including whether there is any possible further improvement of the EU's compliance systems and processes, taking into account the results of the assessments listed above; and
- Prepare a draft report.

## 5. QAR REPORT

The report should describe the findings of the review of the EU's systems, analysis of the suitability of the systems and recommendations for improvements.

The following process and timeline should be followed in preparing the QAR report<sup>3</sup>:

- The reviewer will provide the draft report to the EU by xxxx<sup>4</sup>;
- The EU may seek clarification from the reviewer concerning the draft report and may provide comments to the reviewer on any aspect of the draft report, particularly in relation to factual errors and omissions. The EU's comments should be provided to the reviewer within 8 weeks of receiving the draft report and no later than xxxx;
- The reviewer will correct any factual errors reported by the EU. The reviewer will also consider other comments provided by the EU and make modifications to the report as the reviewer considers appropriate;
- The reviewer will provide the finalised report to the EU and to the CCSBT Executive Secretary no later than six weeks before the commencement of the Compliance Committee meeting. The table of contents of the finalised individual QAR Report will include provision for an attachment at the end of the report to be provided by the EU containing comments it wishes to make in relation to the outcomes of the QAR; and
- The Secretariat will provide a feedback form in relation to the reviewer's performance to Members.

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<sup>3</sup> These timeframes are necessary in order for the finalised individual QAR Reports to be commented on and distributed in time for consideration by the Annual Meeting of the CCSBT Compliance Committee.

<sup>4</sup> It should be re-iterated that the QAR is intended to be for the benefit of the Member and that discussion and feedback between the Member and reviewer during the review period is encouraged. Consequently, the Member should be aware of any significant outcomes before receiving the draft report.

## **6. CONFIDENTIALITY, DATA PROTECTION, COPYRIGHT and INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP)**

In carrying out this review the reviewer will have access to confidential and commercially sensitive information.

With the exception of the final QAR report, all information and material obtained or produced by the reviewer during the course of conducting a QAR is confidential between the reviewer and the EU and shall not be released by the reviewer to any other party either during or after conducting the QARs. The reviewer will be required to make a declaration to this effect.

The final QAR report will be subject to the CCSBT confidentiality requirements for documents submitted to a meeting of a subsidiary or advisory body of the Commission as described in Rule 10<sup>5</sup> of the CCSBT's Rules of Procedure.

Where the QAR auditors would come into contact with personal data it is necessary to refer to the full applicability of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. Under this regulation, protected personal data is transferable outside of the EU under exceptional circumstances and only if the third country or the international organisation provides appropriate safeguards, and on condition that enforceable data subject rights and effective legal remedies for data subjects are available.

## **7. QUALIFICATIONS OF REVIEWER**

The reviewer will be expected to have sound knowledge of fisheries management and fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance systems. The reviewer will also have relevant experience of auditing/reviewing such systems and be independent (i.e. no conflict of interest) of the agencies being reviewed.

The name and qualifications of the reviewer will be advised to the EU and CCSBT Members prior to the review taking place.

## **8. MANAGEMENT OF QAR PROGRAMME**

The following roles and responsibilities for the effective implementation of this QAR programme have been identified:

- i) **Executive Secretary** – to manage the QAR contract;
  - ii) **Executive Secretary and Chair of the Compliance Committee** – approve review methodology in consultation with the EU, provide technical advice to the reviewer and peer review the final overall report;
  - iii) **QAR Coordinator** – the EU is responsible for appointing a suitably qualified official to coordinate the QAR activities, including providing technical support and advice;
  - iv) **Reviewer** – must complete this QAR based on these Terms of Reference, the established methodology and the direction of the Executive Secretariat; and
  - v) **EU** – to provide advice and access to systems, processes and information to the reviewer, provide the reviewer with feedback on the draft QAR Report and provide feedback on the performance of the reviewer to the Executive Secretary.
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**Process for Review of external Document  
including possible non-compliances of Members**

In order to provide Members with an opportunity to review external papers which include possible non-compliances of Members prior to CCSBT meetings and to correct errors of fact, the following processes shall be applied:

1. Any external papers which include possible non-compliances of Members to be considered by CCSBT meetings must so indicate and be received by the Secretariat at least 45 days prior to the meeting to which such papers are submitted.
2. Such paper(s) shall be developed based on reasonable ground for believing that those potential non compliances have reasonable and reliable evidence without relying on mere speculation or anecdotal information.
3. When a paper is received by the Secretariat it will be circulated to Members at least 45 days prior to the CCSBT meetings.
4. Once the paper(s) are circulated, Members will have 20 days to consider the paper(s) and provide the Secretariat with their initial response to the paper(s). That response should consider any errors of fact, and any other matters they wish the meeting to be aware of. If the compliance case refers to a vessel, the vessel information shall not become public if a Member so requests until the EC decides on how to deal with it.
5. Should Members identify errors of fact, these will need to be detailed and depending on the number of Members identifying errors of fact, either dealt with bilaterally (between that Member and the authors), or if needed, multilaterally with the Secretariat being the liaison point between Members and the author(s) of the report. The author(s) will be required to return the revised paper(s) no later than 15 days prior to the meeting to the Secretariat for circulation among Members.
6. The revised paper(s) will be discussed at the CCSBT meetings. During discussions at CCSBT meetings, if a Member demonstrates that the revised paper(s) still contain errors of fact, and if consensus is reached, the paper(s) shall be withdrawn, unless those errors are corrected.

External paper means any paper other than that submitted and endorsed by a Member, CNM, or the Secretariat.

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



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

**7 September 2019  
Cape Town, South Africa**

**Resolution on Limited Carry-forward of Unfished Annual Total Available Catch of Southern Bluefin Tuna**

*(Revised at the Twenty Sixth Annual Meeting: 17 October 2019)*

The Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna,

*Noting* the “Resolution on the Adoption of a Management Procedure” was adopted at the eighteenth annual meeting in 2011;

*Further noting* that the above resolution adopted a management procedure that sets the global total allowable catch (TAC) for southern bluefin tuna in three year blocks;

*Considering* the need for Members to effectively manage their total available catch within each quota year and to allow limited carry-forward of Member’s annual total available catch;

*Recognising* that a provision to carry-forward undercatch can benefit the fishery by providing catch flexibility between quota years;

*Informed* that such a provision will not have a negative effect on the operation of the current Management Procedure and the setting of global TACs;

*Mindful* that this carry-forward provision may present administrative complexities for some Members, and that it should therefore be up to each Member whether it wishes to implement the provision for its vessels;

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

**Section 1: Establishment of a Carry-forward Procedure**

1. The Extended Commission hereby establishes a procedure for limited carry forward of Members’ un-fished annual total available catch<sup>1</sup>.
2. Members shall decide whether or not to carry-forward un-fished total available catch. However, if a Member decides to carry-forward unfished quota, such carry-forward shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures defined in sections 2 – 4 below.

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<sup>1</sup> Total available catch means a Member’s Effective Catch Limit allocation for that quota year plus any amount of unfished allocation carried forward to that quota year.

## **Section 2: Carry-Forward Procedure**

3. If a Member's annual total available catch is under-caught, that Member may carry forward the unfished quota to the following quota year. However, the total quota carried forward from one year to the next shall not exceed 20% of that Member's Effective Catch Limit<sup>2</sup> for the year from which the quota is being carried forward.
4. A Member's unfished annual total available catch is equal to the Member's annual total available catch minus the total of all mortalities attributed to that Member for that quota year. The total of all mortalities attributed to that Member shall include the:
  - a) Mortality resulting from commercial fishing operations, whether primarily targeting SBT or not; and
  - b) The Member's full allowances set aside within their national allocations for:
    - Releases and/or discards;
    - Recreational fishing;
    - Customary and/or traditional fishing; and
    - Artisanal fishing.
5. Members shall make efforts to obtain best estimates of the actual catch amount for the quota year for each element outlined at paragraph 4(b) above. If available, this shall be included in the total of the mortalities attributed to that Member instead of the Member's full allowance.
6. A Member's total available catch for a quota year shall not exceed the sum of its national allocation for that year plus an amount equal to 20% of its national allocation for the previous quota year.

## **Section 3: Notification and Reporting of Carry-Forward Procedure**

7. The Secretariat shall seek confirmation from Members at the end of the quota year as to whether they intend to carry forward unfished quota to the next quota year. Members that have elected to carry forward unfished quota shall provide

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<sup>2</sup> This is the Member's allocation plus any adjustments for agreed short term changes to the National Allocation.

confirmation to the Secretariat within 90 days of receipt of the request and shall include a revised total available catch limit for the new quota year.

8. Members shall report on their use of the procedure in their annual reports to the Extended Commission, regardless of whether the procedure was in fact used by the Member during that quota year.

#### **Section 4: Circumstances When Carry-Forward Is Not Applicable**

9. If, on the basis of advice from the Extended Scientific Committee that exceptional circumstances exist that necessitate additional management action, the Extended Commission agrees to reduce the global total allowable catch within a three year quota block, the carry-forward procedures provided in this resolution shall not be applied by any Member.
10. If the Extended Commission agrees within a three year quota block to reduce the national allocation of one or more Members, that Member or those members shall not apply the carry-forward procedures provided in this resolution unless decided otherwise by the Extended Commission taking into account the circumstances of the reduction.
11. If either the Management Procedure recommends, or the Extended Commission decides on a lower Global TAC, then the carry-forward procedures provided for in this Resolution shall not be applied by any Member unless decided otherwise by the Extended Commission.
12. If a Member exceeds its national allocation for the 2017 fishing season or later without paying back its excess catch for those seasons, the carry-forward procedures provided in this resolution shall not be applied by that Member until those catches have been paid back, unless otherwise agreed by the Extended Commission.

#### **Section 5: General Provisions**

13. The procedures in this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.
14. Following the adoption of a new Management Procedure the Extended Commission shall review and amend, if necessary, this Resolution taking into account the advice of the Extended Scientific Committee.

15. This Resolution replaces and supersedes the “Resolution on Limited Carry-forward of Unfished Annual Total Allowable Catch of Southern Bluefin Tuna” that was adopted at the Twenty-First Annual Meeting.

**Resolution on the Adoption of a Management Procedure**

*(updated at the Twenty Sixth Annual Meeting – 14-17 October 2019)*

The Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna

*Seized* by the need to ensure the conservation and optimum utilisation of southern bluefin tuna based on the best available scientific advice,

*Taking account* of the current status of the stock and, in particular, the most recent stock assessment from the Extended Scientific Committee advising that the spawning stock biomass for 2016 was between 11% and 17% of the original spawning stock biomass and there are indications from the 2019 Extended Scientific Committee that the stock continues to rebuild,

*Determined* to rebuild the status of spawning stock to an interim rebuilding target reference point of 20% of the original spawning stock biomass by 2035,

*Noting* that the CCSBT's original management procedure presided over the rebuilding of the stock from approximately 5% in 2010 of the original spawning biomass to approximately 13% in 2016 and that there are indications that the stock reached approximately 17% of the original spawning biomass in 2018,

*Targeting* to further rebuild the stock to 30% of the original spawning biomass by 2035,

*Taking account* of the management procedure developed by the Extended Scientific Committee at its annual meeting in September 2019,

*Further to* the Resolution on the Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch updated by the Extended Commission at its annual meeting in 2017,

*Recognising* the obligations of each Member and Co-operating Non-Member to take the necessary steps to ensure that the level of its catch complies with its national allocation and to give effect to the Resolutions adopted by the Extended Commission,

In accordance with paragraph 3(a) of Article 8 of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, the Extended Commission decides as follows:

1. The Extended Commission adopts the Management Procedure (MP), to be known as the 'Cape Town Procedure', recommended by the Extended Scientific Committee at its annual meeting in 2019 and incorporating the meta-rule process described in Attachment 10 of the 18<sup>th</sup> Report of the Scientific Committee, incorporating the Extended Scientific Committee. The meta-rule process will be tailored for the Cape Town Procedure by the Extended Scientific Committee and will take effect once it has been endorsed by the EC.

2. The MP shall be used to guide the setting of the global total allowable catch (TAC) for 2021 and beyond.
3. The MP will recommend the TAC for 2021-2023 inclusive (i.e. no lag), but after that, there will be a one-year lag between TAC calculation by the MP and implementation of that TAC (i.e. the 2024-2026 TAC would be calculated in 2022).
4. The parameters of the MP shall be as follows:
  - (i) The MP shall have at least a 70% probability of rebuilding the stock to an interim building target reference point of 20% of the original spawning stock biomass by 2035;
  - (ii) The MP shall have a 50% probability of achieving a biomass level of 30% of the original spawning stock biomass by 2035;
  - (iii) The minimum increase or decrease TAC change shall be 100 tonnes;
  - (iv) The maximum increase or decrease TAC change shall be 3000 tonnes; and
  - (v) The TAC shall be set for three-year periods.
5. The national allocation of the TAC within each three-year period will be apportioned according to the Resolution on the Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Updated by the Extended Commission at its annual meeting in 2017.

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

*(Adopted at the Twenty Sixth Annual Meeting – 14-17 October 2019)*

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. When fishing outside Areas of Competence, Members and Cooperating Non-Members shall use Tori lines in all long-line SBT fisheries below 30 degrees south.
  4. Where Areas of Competence overlap, Members and Cooperating Non-Members shall elect which applicable RFMO’s ERS Measures to apply.
  5. 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.
  6. 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.

7. 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.
8. 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;
- h) Resolution 18/02 On management measures for the conservation of blue shark caught in association with IOTC fisheries;
- i) Resolution 19/03 On the conservation of mobulid rays caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence (*comes into force on 29 October 2019*);

### *Convention Area of the WCPFC*

- j) Resolution 2008/03 on the Conservation and Management of Sea Turtles (*to be replaced by CMM 2018/04 on 1 January 2020*);
- k) Resolution 2010/07 - Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks;
- l) Resolution 2011/04 - Conservation and Management Measure for Oceanic Whitetip Sharks;
- m) Resolution 2012/04 - Conservation and Management Measure on the protection of whale sharks from purse seine operations;
- n) Resolution 2013/08 - Conservation and Management Measure for Silky Sharks;
- o) Resolution 2014/05 - Conservation and Management Measures for Sharks;
- p) Resolution 2018/03 - Conservation and Management Measure to mitigate the impact of fishing for highly migratory fish stocks on seabirds;
- q) Resolution 2018/04 - Conservation and Management Measure of Sea Turtles (*takes effect on 1 January 2020, when it replaces CMM 2008-03*);

### *Convention Area of the ICCAT*

- r) 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;
- s) Resolution 03-10 on the shark fishery;
- t) Recommendation 04-10 concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT;

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

**Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on Ecologically Related Species of Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna**

*(Updated at the Twenty Sixth Annual Meeting – 14-17 October 2019)*

The Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna,

*Concerned* that some seabird species, notably 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 and sharks,

*Recalling* the definition of ecologically related species in Article 2 of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna,

*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 Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna 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,

*Recommends* that:

1. Members and Cooperating Non-Members will, to the extent possible, implement the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (IPOA-Seabirds), the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks), and the FAO Guidelines to reduce sea turtle mortality in fishing operations (FAO-Sea turtles), if they have not already done so.
2. Members and Cooperating Non-Members will collect and report data on ecologically related species to the Extended Commission and/or its subsidiary bodies as appropriate, including the Ecologically Related Species Working Group.
3. Members and Cooperating Non-Members will report annually to the Compliance Committee of the Extended Commission on the action they have taken pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of this recommendation.

4. The Secretariat of the CCSBT is authorised to collect and exchange relevant data concerning ecologically related species with the Secretariat of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, the Secretariat of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and the Secretariat of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

5. The Extended Commission will review the operation of this Recommendation and the “Resolution to Align CCSBT Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs” with a view to enhancing the protection of ecologically related species from the impacts of fishing for southern bluefin tuna.

6. The Extended Commission and/or its subsidiary bodies as appropriate will undertake an assessment of the risks to ecologically related species posed by fishing for southern bluefin tuna. The Extended Commission will consider how these risks are mitigated by the adoption of the “Resolution to Align CCSBT Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs”, and will consider whether any additional measures to mitigate risk are required.

## **Terms of Reference for the 2021 Performance Review of the CCSBT**

### **Composition of the Performance Review Panel**

The independent performance review panel will be comprised of between four and seven people as described below:

- Between two and four experts from different Members of the Extended Commission (EC). The Member experts should have extensive experience with the CCSBT and include a Member with distant water fisheries, a coastal State and a developing State. As a group, the Panel should have expertise in fisheries management, fisheries science, compliance and legal governance at the international level.
- Two independent external internationally recognised experts with expertise, as a group, in the best practices for international fisheries management (including compliance) and fisheries science. The external experts shall not be officers or officials of the CCSBT or of a CCSBT Member government at the time of appointment nor throughout the term of the contract to conduct the performance review.
- One expert from an IOTC Member country that is not also a CCSBT Member.

### **Chair and operation of the Performance Review Panel**

- The Chair of the Performance Review Panel will be chosen by the EC from one of the independent external experts. The Chair will present the report of the Performance Review Panel to the annual meeting of the CCSBT.
- It is envisaged that there will be one or two physical meetings of the Panel as determined by the Panel.
- The Panel will determine its own mode of operation for conducting the performance review and for preparing its report.
- The Panel may invite submissions from stakeholders in relation to the agreed criteria. The Secretariat will provide support to the panel by answering queries and providing background material requested by the Panel and assisting in the organisation of Panel meetings. The Executive Secretary will attend meeting(s) of the Panel if requested by the Chair of the Panel.
- All work of the review panel will be conducted in English. However, the Secretariat will translate the final report into both official languages of the CCSBT.

### **Selection Process**

The process for selecting the panel for the performance review panel is outlined below:

- Experts from Members of the EC will be nominated and elected at the annual meeting prior to commencement of the Performance Review (i.e. CCSBT 27).
- The two independent external experts will be selected intersessionally, preferably prior to CCSBT 27. This will involve:
  - Members providing a list of potential independent external experts, together with background information on those candidates, to the Secretariat;

- The Secretariat circulating the lists of candidates, together with the background information on those candidates, to all Members;
- Members ranking candidates as well as their preference for the Chair of the Panel and advise the Secretariat; and
- The Secretariat contacting the suitable candidates in order of rankings and engaging two candidates to conduct the review.

### **Funding**

- The participation and attendance of meetings by CCSBT Member experts will be funded by the relevant Member.
- Consultancy fees, travel and associated costs of the two independent experts will be funded by the CCSBT.
- Hire of any necessary meeting venue(s), equipment and catering will be funded by the CCSBT.

### **Criteria for evaluating the CCSBT's performance**

The criteria to be used to evaluate the performance of the CCSBT are at **Annex A**. The criteria are based on the Kobe criteria with modification to include relevant criteria from ICCAT's 2016 Performance Review and to also exclude criteria that were considered to be of less relevance to the CCSBT.

### **Resources available to the Panel**

The following resources will be provided to the Performance Review Panel:

- The [Report of the Performance Review Working Group \(2008\)](#)
- The [Report of the Independent Expert \(David Balton\) on the Performance Review \(2008\)](#)
- The [Performance of the CCSBT 2009-2013: Independent Review](#).
- All other publicly available CCSBT meeting reports, documents and data requested by the Panel; and
- Access<sup>1</sup> to Secretariat staff, independent Chairs (including Compliance Committee, Extended Scientific Committee and Ecologically Related Species Working Group) and Members to respond to questions from the Panel.

### **Report of the Performance Review**

The final report of the Performance Review Panel should be a concise, well-structured and easy to read document that:

- Describes the process and steps taken to conduct the review (e.g. documents examined, individuals that were consulted etc.);
- Presents the outcomes of the review;
- Provides recommendations from the Panel for the CCSBT on how to improve its performance with respect to the review criteria; and
- Prioritises the recommendations from the perspective of the Panel.

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<sup>1</sup> By email, telephone, and direct person to person contact where this is practical and cost effective.

The Chair of the Performance Review Panel will present the report to the annual meeting of the EC in October 2021 and respond to questions from Members concerning the report. The finalised report will be published on the public area of the CCSBT's website and the joint tuna RFMO website ([www.tuna-org.org](http://www.tuna-org.org)) after the annual meeting.

### **Process for consideration and follow-up of Performance Review recommendations**

The EC will initially consider the recommendations of the Performance Review at its October 2021 meeting. At that meeting, the EC will decide whether there are any urgent recommendations that need early implementation.

The Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) and Compliance Committee (CC) will consider aspects of the Performance Review report relevant to them at their 2022 meetings. The EC meeting that year will consider their advice and provide direction to the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG) in relation to development of an implementation plan for the Performance Review recommendations.

The Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG) will consider aspects of the Performance Review report that are relevant to it when the ERSWG next meets, which could be early 2023.

Approximately mid 2023, the SFMWG will consider the advice from all the subsidiary bodies together with any direction from the EC and develop an implementation plan for the Performance Review recommendations. The 2023 EC meeting would consider and adopt an implementation plan for the recommendation of the Performance Review.

A standing item will be placed on the agenda of future EC meetings to follow up on progress made against the implementation plan.

## Criteria for Evaluating the CCSBT's Performance

Area	General Criteria	Detailed Criteria
<i>1. Conservation and management</i>	Status of living marine resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of major fish stocks under the purview of the RFMO in relation to maximum sustainable yield or other relevant biological standards.</li> <li>• Trends in the status of those stocks.</li> <li>• Status of species that belong to the same ecosystems as, or are associated with or dependent upon, the major target stocks (hereinafter “non-target species”).</li> <li>• Trends in the status of those species.</li> </ul>
	Data collection and sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO has agreed formats, specifications and timeframes for data submission, taking into account UNFSA Annex I.</li> <li>• Extent to which RFMO members and cooperating non-members, individually or through the RFMO, collect and share complete and accurate fisheries data concerning target stocks and non-target species and other relevant data in a timely manner.</li> <li>• Extent to which fishing data and fishing vessel data are gathered by the RFMO and shared among members and other RFMOs.</li> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO is addressing any gaps in the collection and sharing of data as required, particularly possible unaccounted fishing mortalities.</li> <li>• Extent to which capacity building initiatives are put in place to improve data collection in developing States.</li> </ul>
	Quality and provision of scientific advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO receives and/or produces the best scientific advice relevant to the fish stocks and other living marine resources under its purview, as well as to the effects of fishing on the marine environment.</li> <li>• Extent to which the structure, processes, procedures, and expertise of the Scientific Committee and of the RFMO Secretariat meet the needs and resources of the RFMO as well as the highly demanding data and technical requirements of the most recent modelling platforms.</li> </ul>
	Participation and capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which RFMO Members and cooperating non-members participate actively in the provision of the scientific advice.</li> <li>• Extent to which capacity building initiatives are put in place to facilitate the effective participation of developing States in Scientific Committee activities.</li> </ul>
	Long-term planning and research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which RFMO adopts and regularly reviews a long-term strategy for the Scientific Committee to implement.</li> <li>• Extent to which the research coordinated or undertaken directly by RFMO is aligned with the needs of the Commission to fulfil its mandate.</li> </ul>
	Adoption of conservation and management measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO has implemented conservation and management measures for both target stocks and non-target species that ensures the long-term sustainability of such stocks and species and are based on the best scientific evidence available.</li> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO has applied the precautionary approach as set forth in UNFSA Article 6 and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Article 7.5, including the application of precautionary reference points.</li> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO has adopted and is implementing effective rebuilding plans for depleted or overfished stocks.</li> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO has taken due account of the need to conserve marine biological diversity and minimize harmful impacts of fisheries on living marine resources and marine ecosystems.</li> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO has implemented measures to minimize pollution, waste, discards, catch by lost or abandoned gear, catch of non-target species, both fish and non-fish species, and impacts on associated or dependent species, in particular endangered species, through measures including, to the extent practicable, the development and use of selective, environmentally safe and cost-effective fishing gear and techniques.</li> </ul>

Area	General Criteria	Detailed Criteria
	Compatibility of management measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which measures have been adopted as reflected in UNFSA Article 7.</li> </ul>
	Fishing allocations and opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the RFMO agrees on the allocation of allowable catch or levels of fishing effort, including taking into account requests for participation from new members or participants as reflected in UNFSA Article 11.</li> </ul>
	Reporting Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis of RFMO reporting requirements to improve efficiency, avoid redundancy and reduce unnecessary burden to Members.</li> </ul>
<i>2. Compliance and enforcement</i>	Flag State duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which RFMO members are fulfilling their duties as flag States under the treaty establishing the RFMO, pursuant to measures adopted by the RFMO, and under other international instruments, including, inter alia, the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention, the UNFSA and the 1993 FAO Compliance Agreement, as applicable.</li> </ul>
	Port State measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the RFMO has adopted measures relating to the exercise of the rights and duties of its members as port States, as reflected in UNFSA Article 23 and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Article 8.3.</li> <li>Extent to which RFMO has adopted Port State Measures pursuant to the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.</li> <li>Extent to which these measures are effectively implemented.</li> </ul>
	Monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the RFMO has adopted integrated MCS measures (e.g., required use of VMS, observers, catch documentation and trade tracking schemes, restrictions on transshipment, boarding and inspection schemes).</li> <li>Extent to which these measures are effectively implemented.</li> </ul>
	Follow-up on infringements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the RFMO, its members and cooperating non-members follow up on infringements to management measures.</li> </ul>
	Cooperative mechanisms to detect and deter non-compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the RFMO has established adequate cooperative mechanisms to both monitor compliance and detect and deter non-compliance (e.g., compliance committees, vessel lists, sharing of information about non-compliance).</li> <li>Extent to which these mechanisms are being effectively utilized.</li> </ul>
	Market-related measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the RFMO has adopted measures relating to the exercise of the rights and duties of its members as market States.</li> <li>Extent to which these market-related measures are effectively implemented.</li> </ul>
		Reporting Requirements
<i>3. Decision-making and dispute settlement</i>	Decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which RFMO has transparent and consistent decision-making procedures that facilitate the adoption of conservation and management measures in a timely and effective manner.</li> <li></li> </ul>
	Dispute settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the RFMO has established adequate mechanisms for resolving disputes.</li> </ul>
<i>4. International cooperation</i>	Transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the RFMO is operating in a transparent manner, as reflected in UNFSA Article 12 and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries Article 7.1.9.</li> <li>Extent to which RFMO decisions, meeting reports, scientific advice upon which decisions are made, and other relevant materials are made publicly available in a timely fashion.</li> </ul>
	Confidentiality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which RFMO has set security and confidentiality standards and rules for sharing sensitive information and data.</li> </ul>
	Relationship to cooperating non-members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which the RFMO facilitates cooperation between members and non-members, including through the adoption and implementation of procedures for granting cooperating status.</li> </ul>
	Relationship to non-cooperating non-members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent of fishing activity by vessels of non-members that are not cooperating with the RFMO, as well as measures to deter such activities.</li> </ul>

Area	General Criteria	Detailed Criteria
	Cooperation with other RFMOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO cooperates with other RFMOs, including through the network of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats, as well as with other relevant international organizations.</li> </ul>
	Participation and capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which RFMO members and cooperating non-members participate actively and meaningfully in the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.</li> <li>• Extent to which capacity building initiatives and institutional arrangements are in place to facilitate the effective participation of developing States in the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, including in positions of leadership.</li> </ul>
	Special requirements of developing States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO recognizes the special needs of developing States and pursues forms of cooperation with developing States, including with respect to fishing allocations or opportunities, taking into account UNFSA Articles 24 and 25, and the Code of Conduct of Responsible Fisheries Article 5.</li> <li>• Extent to which RFMO members, individually or through the RFMO, provide relevant assistance to developing States, as reflected in UNFSA Article 26.</li> </ul>
<i>5. Comparison with other RFMOs</i>	Best practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To the extent possible, evaluate the extent to which RFMO's performance is comparable to other tuna RFMOs in relation to the adoption and/or implementation of conservation and management measures for target and non-target species, status of the resources under its purview, scientific processes and procedures, and adoption and implementation of MCS measures and compliance review procedures.</li> <li>• Identification of areas/best practices that would allow RFMO to enhance its performance.</li> </ul>
	Kobe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which RFMO implemented the Kobe III recommendations and comparison to the degree of implementation in other tuna RFMOs.</li> </ul>
<i>6. Financial and administrative issues</i>	Availability of resources for RFMO activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which financial and other resources are made available to achieve the aims of the RFMO and to implement the RFMO's decisions.</li> </ul>
	Efficiency and cost-effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent to which the RFMO is efficiently and effectively managing its human and financial resources, including those of the Secretariat, to support Commission objectives and ensure continuity of operations, including through establishment of clear and transparent office policies, structures, roles and responsibilities, and lines of authority; effective internal and external communication; and other aspects of office planning and operations.</li> </ul>