

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

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

**16 October 2020  
Online**

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

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

1. Mr Ichiro Nomura (Japan) was confirmed as the Chair of the Twenty Seventh Annual meeting of the Commission (CCSBT 27) and Ms Melissa Brown (Australia) was confirmed as the Vice Chair of CCSBT 27.
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 Seventh Meeting of the Commission, which is at **Appendix 3**.

### **Agenda Item 3. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for CCSBT 28 and venue**

6. Australia and New Zealand advised that they will nominate the Chair and Vice-Chair respectively for CCSBT 28 as soon as possible, and advise the Secretariat of those nominations.
7. CCSBT 28 will be held in Fremantle, Australia.

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

8. There was no other business.

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

9. The report was adopted.

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

10. The meeting was closed at 16:09 pm (Tokyo time), on 16 October 2020.

## **List of Appendices**

### Appendix

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



## Appendix 1

### **Agenda** **Twenty-Seventh 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 28 and venue
4. Other business
5. Adoption of report of meeting
6. Close of meeting

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**The Twenty Seventh Annual Meeting of the Commision**

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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-Seventh Annual Meeting of the Commission**

**12 –16 October 2020**

**Online**

**Report of the Extended Commission of the  
Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting of the Commission  
12 –16 October 2020  
Online**

**Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting**

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

1. Mr Ichiro Nomura (Japan) was confirmed as the Chair of the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Seventh meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT 27), and Ms Melissa Brown (Australia) was confirmed as the Vice Chair.
2. The Chair welcomed Members and observers and opened the meeting. The Chair advised that the meeting this year is being held as a video conference (VC) due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and that discussion for some agenda items had commenced in advance of the meeting by correspondence.
3. 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**.

***1.3. Opening statements***

6. Opening statements from most delegations were circulated in advance of the meeting and were taken as having been read.

***1.3.1. Members***

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

***1.3.2. Observers***

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

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

9. The Report from the Secretariat was provided to the meeting as paper CCSBT-EC/2010/04 (Rev.1) and was considered during the pre-meeting discussion process. There were no substantive questions on the report itself, although the

resolution of the GST issue was noted together with the return to the budget of a significant amount.

10. The meeting noted the activities of the Secretariat as reported.
11. The Chair advised that Heads of Delegations have agreed to renew the appointment of the Scientific Committee (SC) and Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) Chair for another three year term and congratulated Dr Stokes for his reappointment.

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

12. Members' participants for the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) and the Chair of the FAC were announced intersessionally in Circular #2020/077. The Chair thanked Mr Vallières for agreeing to Chair the FAC again.
13. The Executive Secretary provided a brief presentation of the draft revised budget for 2020 (CCSBT-EC/2010/05), the proposed budget for 2021 and the indicative budget for 2022 - 2023 (CCSBT-EC/2010/06).
14. For the revised 2020 budget, the Executive Secretariat noted that South Africa had not yet provided its contribution to the CCSBT for 2020 and that the large reductions in expenditure during 2020 were due to a combination of:
  - Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;
  - Restoring of certain Australian GST exemptions;
  - Reduced expenditure on trial eCDS development during 2020; and
  - Deferral of the maturity study to 2021.
15. The Executive Secretary noted that the 2021 draft budget and 2022 - 2023 indicative budget includes the funding required for the CCSBT's usual business, including the Extended Scientific Committee's three-year workplan. It also includes the cost for Japan's proposal (CCSBT-ESC/2008/23) aimed at improving the existing methodology for monitoring of SBT product distribution in Japan. The paper also proposed that a contributions stabilisation fund be established to smooth out fluctuations in contributions that would otherwise occur over the next few years.
16. Detailed consideration of the two budget papers was referred to the Finance and Administration Committee.
17. The FAC was convened to consider:
  - The revised budget for 2020;
  - The proposed budget for 2021; and
  - The indicative budget for 2022 - 2023.

#### ***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 6**. It includes:



- A revised budget for 2020;
  - A budget for 2021; and
  - Indicative budgets for 2022-2023.
19. The Meeting thanked the FAC Chair and the FAC for its hard work.
  20. The EC adopted the report of the FAC, noting the revised 2020 budget at Annex A, approving the budget for 2021 at Annex B and noting the indicative budgets for 2022-2023 at Annex C.

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

21. 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 Fifteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC 15).
22. No additional questions were asked in relation to Members' National Reports.

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

###### ***4.1.1 Farm uncertainties***

23. Australia submitted paper CCSBT-EC/2010/22 on its progress toward implementation of stereo video (SV).
24. Australia advised that it had undertaken considerable work towards implementation of SV and reiterated its commitment to implementing SV monitoring once a technology was found that was fully automated and cost effective. It noted that regulatory processes and legislation changes would take time and could delay the implementation of SV by 2-3 years.
25. Australia will trial the cost effectiveness and accuracy of fully automated stereo video systems in situ in Australia's tuna farms and will endeavour to start the trial in early 2021. It will test the market to see what systems are available and the likelihood that they will meet its preconditions for implementation. It is mindful of COVID-19 restrictions but wants to be able to consider all systems from all companies worldwide. Australia will meet the cost of the trial. If the market testing or trialled technologies do not satisfy its preconditions then it will continue to investigate alternative systems.
26. The meeting noted that the COVID-19 pandemic had hampered Australia's progress and prevented it from visiting Japan to see its new AI technology developed by NEC. It was hoped that COVID-19 would not prevent its planned trial of SV from being successful.
27. Members noted that Australia's intentions were good but that there had been no tangible progress toward the implementation of SV in its SBT farms. Members stated that they wanted to see more and faster progress by Australia, with tangible progress by next year and SV implementation by the next TAC block.

28. Japan submitted paper CCSBT-EC/2010/18, titled “A pilot study on catch estimates with AI technology”, on an automated SV technology for measuring the lengths of tuna that has been developed by NEC.
29. It was noted that:
- AI measurement accuracy is good enough comparing to the manual measurement. Japan believes that this is more than acceptable, given that AI excludes any arbitrary bias by human measurement;
  - The technology used in the trial is proprietary to NEC and has been operationalised in a commercial basis, such as for growth monitoring in aquaculture cages of bluefin tuna, yellowtail and salmons with its feature to automatically measure length and estimate weight of fish. A trial is underway in Japan to estimate the catch of Pacific Bluefin Tuna during the transfer to farming cages. Currently, the scope of trial includes the AI counting of the number of fish during the transfer; and
  - The effectiveness of the technology was improved with better video quality.
30. Some Members noted that the technology was very promising. Members welcomed Australia’s commitment to trial it in its SBT farms in early 2021.

#### *4.1.2 Market uncertainties*

31. Japan presented paper CCSBT-EC/2010/19, which suggests actions to implement Japan’s market proposal in Appendix A of the paper, taking account of discussion at the 2020 ESC meeting. The objective of this proposal is to verify the catch of all Members (not only Japan) by primarily using information obtained from Japanese markets. The details of the proposal are included in Appendix B of the paper, and relevant excerpts from ESC25’s report are provided in Appendix C. Initial comments and questions on the paper were raised during the pre-meeting discussion. Japan explained that the proposed tasks included verification of all Members’ catch against both Japanese market data and SBT international trade and domestic distribution data by utilising Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) information, as well as verification of reported catches using tag data. Japan commented that according to Attachment C of CCSBT-CC/2020/04, approximately 1,000 t of SBT is going to markets other than Japan.
32. Japan recognised that reservations had previously been expressed by some Members regarding the proposal to draft a Resolution to seek the cooperation of Non-Cooperating Non-Members (NCNMs), and that it had suggested deferring discussions on this item until the next CC/EC meetings in 2021. Japan noted that the proposed intersessional discussion of future improvement of tag specifications could potentially be considered at a Technical Compliance Working Group (TCWG) meeting with relevant technical experts present.
33. The Chair summarised that pre-meeting discussions had confirmed that Toyosu is owned by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG). In addition, Japan confirmed that Indonesia’s concerns about the use of COMTRADE data had already been addressed by CC15, which had agreed that Indonesia and the EU would provide its best available national annual trade data summaries to the Secretariat prior to CC16. In addition, Taiwan’s concerns about potential 2021

costs for an external consultant (AU \$50,000 consultancy fee plus approximately AU \$6,000 for potential travel in year 1) had been answered by Japan in the pre-meeting discussion. Japan added that it suggested that the proposed tag monitoring cost (AU \$71,800) could be postponed for further discussion in EC/FAC in 2021 and so not included in the 2021 budget.

34. Members appreciated the progress made in Japan's proposal toward verification of all Members' catch and it was agreed that the proposal's budgetary implications should be considered by the 2020 Finance and Administration Committee. As a result, the suggested actions in Appendix A of CCSBT-EC/2010/19 were accepted.

#### **Agenda Item 5. Report from the Compliance Committee**

35. The independent Chair of the CC, Mr Frank Meere, presented the report of CC15, outlining key points. The report is provided at **Attachment 7**.
36. The CC Chair noted that South Africa had not attended the substantive part of CC15 (it only attended the report adoption) and had not responded to any pre-meeting questions that had been directed to it. South Africa apologised for its absence citing challenges due to resourcing during the COVID-19 pandemic. It undertook to submit responses to the pre-meeting discussion documents immediately and did so prior to the close of the meeting.
37. The CC Chair highlighted the key compliance issues discussed by CC15 which were:
  - Over-catches by both Australia and Indonesia, noting that Australia had already taken action to repay its 2018-19 over-catch of 40.291 t;
  - A very significant over-catch by Indonesia in both 2019 and 2020 (the over-catch for 2019 and 2020 combined was 232.76 t for catch figures received up until August 2020);
  - CDS issues - significant issues remain with South Africa's implementation of the CDS, and there are more minor ongoing issues for both Australia and Korea; and
  - Port inspection reports being submitted very late by two Members.
38. The CC Chair referred to the CC15 meeting report including the report's workplan (paragraph 132) and summarised the recommendations (and notes) to the EC which are provided in paragraph 135 of the report, including the recommendation that a TCWG meeting be held prior to CC16.
39. The CC Chair elaborated on the matter of Indonesia's over-catch, summarising CC15's key recommendations with regard to this item – firstly that:  
*“.... considers Indonesia is non-compliant with respect to its Total Available Catch which it significantly over-caught in both 2019 and 2020 - there is a total over-catch of 232.76 t for 2019 and 2020 combined as at 10/10/2020. Indonesia has indicated that it does not intend to reduce its fishing capacity to address this over-catch and does not intend to use the payback mechanism outlined in the Corrective Actions Policy. Indonesia advises that it is currently expecting to catch between 1,600 and 1,800 tonnes of SBT in 2020 which could*

*potentially result in an over-catch of approximately 950 tonnes of SBT for 2019 and 2020 combined.”*

40. Further that CC15 advised the EC to consider the following CC discussion:
  - “Indonesia has been non-compliant in relation to abiding by its allocation of the TAC in 2019 and 2020;
  - The EC should be flexible in deciding the timeframe for the over-catch payback (Indonesia has advised that it is willing to gradually pay back its over-catch following an increase in the global TAC in the future);
  - Indonesia’s current management measures need to be improved in respect to controlling its catch; and
  - Indonesia agreed to provide a plan to CCSBT 27 to ensure that its catch in 2021 is within its allocation of the TAC”.
41. CC15 discussed and agreed that remaining within a Member’s allocation of the SBT TAC is a key CCSBT obligation, especially in the context that the SBT stock is being rebuilt. While Members were sympathetic to Indonesia’s economic problems, CC15 was unable to resolve the issue of Indonesia’s payback of over-catch and application of the Corrective Actions Policy, and therefore this matter was referred for the EC’s consideration.
42. The CC Chair thanked participants for their efforts in responding to questions in the pre-meeting discussion documents and for participating in a productive video conference meeting.
43. The EC Chair advised that the EC endorsed all the CC recommendations and notes. The EC Chair also noted that Indonesia’s over-catch needed to be discussed further and the meeting had some preliminary discussions on this matter.
44. While Members appreciated that Indonesia is a developing coastal State, it was agreed that not paying back its over-catch is not an option and not a precedent to be opened, especially given that the SBT stock needs rebuilding and that over-catches may affect CCSBT’s Management Procedure (MP) and projections of the future stock status of SBT. Members agreed that it was not appropriate for Indonesia to wait for a TAC increase to start paying back its over-catch, and noted that the maximum increase Indonesia could hope to gain from a TAC increase would be approximately 170 t if the current nominal percentages are applied to 3,000 t, a maximum TAC increase under the CTP.
45. Several observers also stated that it would be inappropriate for Indonesia not to pay back the over-catch as it potentially undermines the basis for the Management Procedure.
46. The EC requested that Indonesia prepare a payback plan for its consideration. The plan should set out how much over-catch Indonesia will pay back for each year over a specific time period.
47. Indonesia agreed to payback its over-catch of 2019 in 2020 period.
48. Indonesia prepared and submitted a payback plan for its over-catch in 2020 which is provided at **Attachment 8**. This payback plan is based on the assumption that Indonesia will catch no more than 1300 t of SBT during 2020 and that its 2021 SBT catch will remain within its allocation, resulting in a total

estimated over-catch of 459 t for the 2020 period. Indonesia agreed to pay back 91.8 t of this estimated 459 t over-catch each year from 2022 to 2026 inclusive.

49. In addition to the payback plan, Indonesia submitted a second plan describing measures that will ensure that its 2021 catch of SBT remains within its allocation. Indonesia committed to implement this plan which is provided at **Attachment 9**. Members expressed some concerns that the plan does not contain specific controls and requested more concrete measures be added to control capacity.

#### **Agenda Item 6. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee**

50. The independent Chair of the ESC, Dr Kevin Stokes, presented the report of the ESC for the Twenty Fifth meeting of the Scientific Committee (ESC 25), which is summarised in papers CCSBT-EC/2010/09 and CCSBT-EC/2010/17, and provided in full at **Attachment 10**.
51. In response to questions from Members, the ESC Chair clarified that:
  - The possible unaccounted catch from non-Members, previously 306 t, no longer needs to be deducted from the global TAC since the new MP, the Cape Town Procedure (CTP), takes this into account within the MP itself, unlike the previous Bali Procedure;
  - The SBT stock is generally on course to rebuild but is slightly behind the target;
  - The CTP had not suggested a TAC increase because the main inputs to the MP, Gene Tagging (GT), Close Kin Mark Recapture (CKMR), and catch per unit effort (CPUE) were within the ranges defined for rebuilding and were not above the threshold values where the MP would suggest a TAC increase. The 2017 and 2018 GT estimates were half of the 2016 estimate but the 2016 estimate was very high, CPUE was good but in the steady range, CKMR was slightly below the rebuild target. The ESC Chair pointed out that the rebuild target of the CTP was different to that of the Bali Procedure; and
  - The MP recommendation of no change to the TAC was not unexpected. MP projections in the past had shown a very large range of results with the most likely specific TAC recommendation being the current TAC, as shown in figure 23 of the report of ESC 25.
52. New Zealand stated its concern that possible non-Member catch may now be conflated with Member UAM, when previously they were separate. It also stated that it was difficult to see from the ESC report the process that has been followed and how it relates to the amounts of non-Member catch that were considered plausible.
53. Members asked how the over-catch by Indonesia in 2019 and 2020 would affect the MP and the rebuilding of the stock. The ESC Chair explained that the over-catch in 2019 was already accounted for since the data for 2019 were used for the current stock assessment, but the assumptions were that the 2020 global catch would be equal to the global TAC. For the 2020 over-catch, he did not expect one year of over-catch to have a large impact but could not say how it

would affect future TAC recommendations, and any further years of over-catch would be a different matter.

54. Indonesia asked the ESC chair whether reducing the catch of juveniles by farming Members will improve the stock status and whether it is possible to run a simulation of this within the OM. It requested the ESC to study the impact of the juvenile catch of SBT. The ESC Chair's response was:
- Any reduction in fishing, juveniles or adults, will increase the rate of stock rebuilding. For juveniles, the effect would take some time since SBT are only fully mature around age 11, so it would take approximately 8 years for any effect on rebuilding to be seen and would take many cohorts to make a measurable difference;
  - Most fishing for SBT is on juveniles, with LL fishing also for juveniles from age 4 upwards and with the highest catch rates for fish yet to reach spawning age. Reduced fishing on juveniles, whether in purse seine or longline fisheries, could improve stock status as those fish age and mature. Depending on the age of juveniles not caught, the time for any impact on the spawning stock would vary. Reducing the catch of adult fish would have an immediate impact on Total Reproductive Output (TRO), especially older, more reproductively successful fish;
  - It is possible to run the simulation requested. When the OMs are run for stock assessment work or MP testing it is always necessary to tell the models how fishing will be distributed. In principle it is straightforward to look at changes in rebuild time under the current CTP under different fishing distribution scenarios. If, however, a request was made to re-tune the CTP to meet the 30% TRO by 2035 target under different fishing distributions, that would be a much bigger undertaking; and
  - If the ESC was to do a study on this then it would be important to have a clear set of well-specified scenarios to consider. For example, what specific components of the fishing on juveniles should be changed, what reductions in catch should be considered for each fishing component, is the interest in short or long-term distribution changes, what are the long-term objectives? Anything is possible but it needs to be clearly specified.
55. The Chair noted that the EC was not in a position to give a specific request to the ESC on this matter, and that Indonesia's scientists need to be more actively involved in the ESC forum to progress this. Indonesia advised that it had contributed actively to the ESC process however the ESC decided that input data from Indonesia is considered as a non-direct input for the Bali MP and Cape Town MP. Indonesia committed to provide more data in the future ESC Meeting.
56. Some Members commented that they had expected the MP to recommend a TAC increase, due to positive information on the recovery of the stock in previous years, and they were disappointed that it had not. The ESC Chair noted that a short presentation at the EC may not be sufficient to explain complex issues and that Members national scientific advisors have a major role in the explanation of the details. The ESC Chair also pointed out that advice for the next quota block, 2024-2026, would be given in 2022, so there would be a one year advance warning.

57. Japan further commented that while Japan felt that it should respect the outcome of the CTP, there is a gap between Japan's expectation and the outcome, which Japan believes are due to insufficient communication between scientists and managers in the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process. If the ESC stops making efforts to let managers understand the details of the MP, it would negate the MSE process itself since the involvement of managers in the process is a key feature of an MSE. In Japan's view, the ESC should have provided EC last year with information on possible risks (e.g., under what circumstances the TAC may not be increased). Japan requested the ESC to consider how to improve communication with managers, taking into account the experiences and comments from Members for a better MSE process.
58. The EC agreed that better communication between the ESC and EC was needed to help prevent misunderstanding in the future. The EC instructed the ESC to consider how this could be achieved.
59. The EC endorsed the report of the ESC and the ESC's work program with the exception of the e-tagging project proposal which Members did not support for budgetary implications at this time.

## **Agenda Item 7. Total Allowable Catch and its allocation**

### ***7.1. Attributable SBT Catch***

60. The Chair noted that full implementation of the agreed CCSBT definition of Attributable SBT Catch commenced during the 2018 season and opened the floor for discussion on how each Member has accounted for its SBT mortalities.
61. Australia's current national allocation of the global SBT TAC is 6,165 t and it currently sets aside 250 t for recreational catch. Australia reported that it funded a [recreational catch survey](#) which was conducted by the University of Tasmania during December 2018 to November 2019. The survey was peer-reviewed by Mr. B. Hartill of NIWA, New Zealand. It estimated a total recreational SBT harvest of 270 t during the 12 months of the survey. Australia advised that in future, 5% (308 t) of its national allocation will be set aside for the recreational sector. The amount set aside for Australia's recreational sector (308 t) is 38 t greater than the total annual recreational catch estimated by the survey (270 t), therefore this 38 t can be considered as a buffer to allow for some growth and fluctuation in recreational catch and cover any recreational release/discard mortality that may occur<sup>1</sup>. Australia further advised that the survival rate of any recreational releases is not included in the University of Tasmania report, but that scientific estimates suggest a maximum 16 t release mortality based on a previously published post-release mortality of estimate of 16.7%. However, Australian considers that due to better handling of released fish, a more likely post-release mortality estimate might be 5% which would equate to 4.8 tonnes.
62. The European Union confirmed it has a small bycatch-only allocation for SBT and no recent reported catches or mortalities of SBT to report. It has longline

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<sup>1</sup> Noting that the actual estimated mortalities resulting from recreational releases reported in the study are well below 38 t.

fleets in the S. Atlantic, S. Indian Ocean and Western and S. Central Pacific area that only intermittently fish in SBT distribution areas. The longline fleets target swordfish and sharks using fishing techniques to try to avoid SBT encounters. The EU reports by logbook but other sources of information are also utilised. Discards are not permitted.

63. Indonesia advised that it has declared its over-catch and that all mortalities are recorded in its CDS.
64. Japan advised that its Attributable Catch is described in its National Report to the CC/EC (page 3). Retained commercial catch in 2019/20 was 5,950 t and 33 t was allocated for discard mortalities, giving a total of 5,983 t of Attributable Catch. Paragraph 48 of CC15's report provides a description of how the 33 t is calculated using three body weight categories and an assumed post-release mortality rate.
65. Korea advised that for 2019/20 its total Attributable Catch was 1238.3 t plus an additional 5 t set aside to account for its discard/release mortalities, *i.e.* a total of 1,243.3t. Korea noted it was taking the same approach this season and next with regard to the 5 t set aside for discards/releases and that it was also examining if there could be additional or alternative methodologies to better estimate discards/releases and will report back to the EC and the next CC meeting in due course if it decides to apply any such methodologies in future.
66. New Zealand noted that its national allocation is 1,088 t. Of this 1,088 t it allows 20 t for recreational catch, 2 t for customary catch, and 20 t for release/discard mortalities, with the remainder allocated to commercial fishing.
67. South Africa advised its legislation does not permit discards of tuna and tuna-like species. It further advised that recreational fishing occurs near areas where SBT are found but that no SBT have been recorded in recreational fishing competitions since the year 2000. However, it has set aside 5 t to account for potential recreational catch mortality.
68. Taiwan reported that for 2019/20 its national allocation of the global TAC was 1,240.5 t and that with its carry-forward of 34.726 t, its total available catch for 2019/20 was 1,275.226 t. It sets aside 10 t to account for commercial discard mortalities.
69. The EC noted this information on Attributable Catch.

## **7.2. TAC Determination**

70. The Chair noted that the CCSBT adopted a new MP last year at CCSBT 26 to guide the setting of the global total allowable catch for 2021 and beyond. The MP has recommended a TAC of 17,647 tonnes per year for 2021 to 2023, which is the same as the TAC for 2018 to 2020. The ESC has recommended the adoption of this TAC
71. The Chair further advised that last year's annual meeting noted that "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 Stereo Video and Japan will provide on markets.", and that "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”.

72. One Member was keen to have a higher TAC. However, after getting an explanation by the ESC Chair that the stock is generally on course to rebuild but is slightly behind the target, it finally agreed with other Members on the recommended TAC based on the consideration of having faster recovery of the stock and the precautionary approach.
73. The EC agreed to adopt the global SBT TAC of 17,647 tonnes per year from 2021 to 2023 inclusive as calculated by the MP and recommended by the ESC.

### ***7.3. Research Mortality Allowance***

74. The Chair advised that the EC needs to make two decisions in relation to research mortality allowance (RMA): Firstly, the amount of RMA to be deducted from the TAC each year from 2021 to 2023; and Secondly, whether to approve RMA requested for research projects in 2021.
75. The EC agreed to continue a 6 tonne fixed deduction from the TAC from 2021 to 2023 for RMA.
76. The EC also approved a total of 3 tonnes of RMA requested for the following research projects in 2021, which were endorsed by the ESC:
  - 2 t for the CCSBT Gene Tagging Project;
  - 0.1 t by Japan for a trolling survey of age-0 SBT in North West Australia; and
  - 0.9 t by Japan for a trolling survey of age-1 SBT in South West Australia.

### ***7.4. Allocation of TAC***

77. The Chair advised that Section 4 of the Secretariat’s paper CCSBT-EC/2010/10 provides two options for allocation of the TAC. The Secretariat’s paper stated that the new MP incorporates plausible IUU catches and providing that unreported catch is no more than these amounts<sup>2</sup>, the EC should no longer need to set aside 306 t of the TAC to account for IUU catch.
78. The paper proposes two options for allocating each Members’ TAC for the next quota block taking into account that only the agreed 6 t of research mortality needs to be deducted from the TAC<sup>3</sup>:
  - Option 1: In accordance with paragraphs 2 and 7 of the Allocation Resolution, allocate 17,641 t (17,647 t minus 6 t) between the Members based on Members’ nominal catch percentage levels, or

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<sup>2</sup> 1,000 t of small SBT, 1,000 t of large SBT and 20% of the surface fishery.

<sup>3</sup> The 306 t no longer needs to be deducted from the TAC before allocation to Members.

- Option 2: Leave Members' allocations unchanged in accordance with paragraph 3 of the Allocation Resolution, which states that *"If there is no change to the TAC, each Member's allocation will remain unchanged"*.
79. There was extensive discussion on allocation of the TAC with Australia, Japan, Korea, South Africa and Taiwan expressing their support for Option 1 above.
  80. One Member emphasised that only option 2 is consistent with paragraph 3 of the CCSBT's Resolution on the Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch.
  81. Indonesia acknowledged its current over-catch and explained that it does not believe its current SBT allocation is sufficient to meet its aspirations as a developing coastal State. Therefore, Indonesia requested that Members consider accommodating its request for additional SBT quota. It emphasised that SBT spawning grounds fall within its waters. Indonesia asked Members to consider making the whole 306 t of quota previously set aside for IUU catch available to it for the next quota block.
  82. Indonesia advised that an additional allocation of 306 t should be fully utilised by Indonesia, and it considers that there has been an inequality in the allocation to Indonesia, as justified below:
    - Indonesian waters are an SBT spawning ground, but the allocation for Indonesia is less than developed coastal states like Australia and New Zealand, and even less compared with distant water fishing nations like Japan, Korea, and Taiwan.
    - On a historical catch basis, Taiwan and Korea never caught beyond 2,000 t, while Indonesia had a catch recorded in 1997 of 2,210 t and 2,504 tons in 1999.
    - Even though the SBT spawns in Indonesian waters, when it reaches the juvenile phase, SBT migrates to Australian waters and is caught for farming by Australia. This leads to unfairness where the quota for Australia is much larger than other coastal states, including Indonesia, this is proven by the 6,165 t allocation to Australia.
  83. Members were generally understanding Indonesia's situation. However, some Members indicated that they did not have any flexibility to consider alternative options to Options 1 and 2 at this time, but that they would be willing to discuss Indonesia's situation again in the future.
  84. To try to assist Indonesia, several additional options regarding the potential distribution of the 306 t were raised during further discussion. These included:
    - While still retaining their current nominal percentage levels (for allocation), Members could consider an arrangement to voluntarily give Indonesia a greater share of the 306 t than calculated using Members' nominal percentages (refer to the table on page 4 of paper CCSBT-EC/2010/10); and
    - As an interim solution, Members could retain their current allocations unchanged for the next fishing season, but then re-visit options regarding if and how to distribute the 306 t at CCSBT 28.
  85. Another possibility discussed was that Members could independently enter into bilateral arrangements with Indonesia to temporarily transfer some additional quota to it for the upcoming fishing season(s).

86. Indonesia proposed that CCSBT reform and reformulate its TAC distribution to be more fair, equitable, and participatory. Furthermore, Indonesia proposed that CCSBT also acknowledges the nature of respective fishing practices, i.e. small scale fisheries so that the distribution of TAC not only benefits big countries but also coastal developing countries. Indonesia also considers that the EC should evaluate the current TAC distribution, which is based heavily on historical data.
87. Extensive discussions were held in order to find a solution that was acceptable to all Members at this meeting. Complicating factors included:
- The other Members had received no warning prior to the CC and EC meetings that Indonesia was going to seek an additional allocation outside of that in the CCSBT's Resolution on the Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch. Consequently, most Members did not have a mandate to discuss and agree allocation.
  - The recommended and adopted TAC for 2021-2023 is the same as that for 2018-2020 (as opposed to an increase), which provided little opportunity for increased allocations.
  - Concern with increasing Indonesia's allocation at a time when it had substantially over caught its allocation two-years in a row (2019 and 2020) and had not yet paid back that amount.
88. It was decided that any increase for Indonesia at this meeting would come from the 306 t that had previously been set aside to account for IUU catch of non-Members<sup>4</sup>.
89. In consideration of COVID-19 impacts on Indonesia, the EC agreed that 80 t of the 306 t that was previously deducted from the TAC for unaccounted mortalities would be provided to Indonesia for 2021<sup>5</sup>. This special temporary allowance may also be provided to Indonesia for 2022 and 2023, based on an annual review, if Indonesia complies with its payback plan starting from 2022 and no further over-catch occurs each year. This is a temporary arrangement that does not affect the nominal catch level or nominal catch percentage levels within the Annex of the Resolution on the Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch. The remaining 226 t of the 306 t will be distributed to all Members in accordance with the Nominal Catch Percentage levels for the quota block from 2021 to 2023. Again, this distribution will not affect nominal catch levels or nominal catch percentage levels and is only for this quota block.
90. In addition, Japan has voluntarily agreed to providing a transfer of 21 t to Indonesia and 27 t to South Africa each year for 2021 to 2023. Australia has also agreed to provide a voluntary transfer of 7 t to Indonesia each year for 2021 to 2023.
91. Column "3" of Table 1 provides the Effective Catch Limit for each Member in 2021 taking the above figures (from paragraphs 89 and 90) into account.

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<sup>4</sup> There is no longer a requirement to set aside 306 t to account for IUU catch by non-Members (see paragraph 77).

<sup>5</sup> This arrangement does not set any precedent for future allocation decisions.

**Table 1:** Allocations (tonnes of SBT) to Members for 2021.

Member	(1) Nominal Allocation	(2) Nominal Catch Proportion	(3) Effective Catch Limit
Japan	6165.068	0.355643	6197.4 <sup>6</sup>
Australia	6165.068	0.355643	6238.4 <sup>7</sup>
New Zealand	1088.273	0.062779	1102.5
Korea	1240.631	0.071568	1256.8
Taiwan	1240.631	0.071568	1256.8
Indonesia	1001.705	0.057785	1122.8 <sup>8</sup>
European Union	10.883	0.000628	11
South Africa	422.741	0.024387	455.3 <sup>9</sup>

92. The EC accepted the pay back plan and management measures which Indonesia submitted (paragraphs 48 and 49) subject to the review to be conducted at CC16 and CCSBT28.

#### **Agenda Item 8. Ecologically Related Species (ERS)**

93. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC, and at CC.
94. The meeting noted continued high levels of seabird and shark bycatch and concerns about continuing seabird bycatch, despite adherence by some Members to agreed mitigation methods.
95. The meeting further noted steps proposed by some Members to improve compliance with existing ERS bycatch mitigation measures.
96. The meeting agreed to adopt the changes to the CCSBT's ERS Resolution<sup>10</sup> that were proposed in paper CCSBT-EC/2010/11 from the Secretariat. The revised ERS Resolution adopted by the EC is shown at **Attachment 11**.
97. It was noted that the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2019-04 referred to in CCSBT's updated ERS Resolution does not apply to Indonesia before 1 November 2021, and that this is stated at footnote 4 of that Measure.
98. The EC agreed that when it considers the agenda for the 2022 Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG) meeting, it would discuss whether to include ERS issues raised in the pre-meeting documents prepared for the meetings of the CC and EC including the following topics that were suggested by NGOs:

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<sup>6</sup> Includes a deduction of 21 t for Japan's voluntary transfer to Indonesia and a further 27 t for Japan's voluntary transfer to South Africa.

<sup>7</sup> Includes a deduction of 7 t for Australia's voluntary transfer to Indonesia.

<sup>8</sup> Includes voluntary transfers to Indonesia of 21 t from Japan, 7 t from Australia and the special temporary allowance of 80 t.

<sup>9</sup> Includes a voluntary transfer of 27 t to South Africa from Japan.

<sup>10</sup> Resolution to Align CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs.

- Consideration of the recommendations from the December 2019 meeting of the joint tuna RFMO by-catch working group meeting for any required action by the CCSBT;
  - Consideration of what implications there may be for interpreting catch of ERS species due to the CPUE alternative standardisation adopted at the ESC and what that means for ERS; and
  - Improvements to ERS reporting.
99. Japan commented that its industry has not undertaken all stipulated seabird mitigation measures, but that there has been engagement with industry and strong instructions for industry to implement the measures. This will improve compliance, which is expected to reduce Japan's seabird bycatch mortality. Japan further commented that suggestions from NGOs to deduct SBT allocation for non-compliance with mitigation measures could not be considered from just an ERS perspective, which will invite very complex discussion.

#### **Agenda Item 9. Selection of the Panel for the Performance Review of the CCSBT**

100. CCSBT 26 agreed the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the performance review of the CCSBT that will be conducted in 2021. The two independent experts for the Performance Review and the IOTC expert were decided by the EC intersessionally as follows:
- The Chair of the panel is Mr. William Gibbons-Fly (based in the USA);
  - The second independent expert is Dr. Fábio Hazin (based in Brazil); and
  - The expert from an IOTC Member country is Mr. Hussain Sinan (from the Maldives, but currently based in Canada).
101. In accordance with the ToR, the Member experts are to be nominated and elected at CCSBT 27. The Chair advised that Heads of Delegations have nominated and agreed the following three CCSBT experts for the Panel:
- Mr. Hong-Yen Huang (Taiwan) as an expert from a distant water far seas fishing Member;
  - Prof. Indra Jaya (Indonesia) as an expert from a coastal State developing Member; and
  - Mr. Dominic Vallières (New Zealand) as an expert from a developed coastal Member.
102. The Chair congratulated these experts and thanked them in advance for their hard work in the performance review. The outcomes of the performance review will be reported to the next annual meeting of the EC.

#### **Agenda Item 10. Relationship with Non-Members**

103. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.

104. The Secretariat submitted paper CCSBT-EC/2010/13 which summarised the Secretariat's interactions with non-Members since CCSBT 26. China, Fiji, Mauritius, Namibia, Singapore and the USA were invited to attend this meeting and CC 15. The EC agreed that the Secretariat should invite these non-Members to CC 16 and CCSBT 28.
105. Discussion also noted that:
- A reminder should be sent to China with regard to the CCSBT's query on implementation of China's regulations concerning SBT and China's monitoring of the compliance of its vessels.
  - For Namibia, reference could be made of its report to ICCAT that its longline vessels operating in the South Atlantic occasionally bycaught Atlantic bluefin tuna when targeting albacore. It was noted that the Chair of the ICCAT scientific committee pointed out that these fish were likely to be southern bluefin tuna.
  - Given the declining relative importance of Japan as the SBT market, more attention and focus should be given to other SBT markets under this agenda item.
106. The Chair thanked the United States for its continued cooperation with the CCSBT's Catch Documentation Scheme.
107. Japan expressed its appreciation that the USA has been monitoring imports of SBT and hopes that the USA's cooperation with the CCSBT's CDS continues. It added that Members should be reconciling their records of SBT exports to the USA with USA import figures and that it would like the CCSBT to have a process in place for that. Japan also referred to CC15 information which suggests that the USA's SBT import statistics may more accurately reflect direct SBT exports/imports but it may not fully reflect shipments where Members (re-)export SBT to the USA using REEFs, and that it would be useful to raise this issue with the USA
108. Japan also advised that it will contact China to seek information regarding the implementation of China's regulations concerning SBT and will provide the response to the Secretariat for circulation to Members.

### **Agenda Item 11. Kobe Process**

109. The Secretariat submitted paper CCSBT-EC/2010/14 (Rev.1) for this agenda item, which outlined the lack of specific Kobe Process activity during 2020<sup>11</sup>. Part of the limited Kobe Process activity was a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic.
110. Due to the declining Kobe Process activity over the past few years, the EC agreed to remove the Kobe Process standing agenda item from meetings of the Extended Commission. Instead, an agenda item will be included for the Kobe Process when there are matters of substance to report.

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<sup>11</sup> Although there was a joint tuna RFMO by-catch working group meeting, focused on sharks, in December 2019.

## **Agenda Item 12. Activities with Other Organisations**

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

111. The Chair advised that CCSBT Members act as CCSBT observers at RFMO meetings of interest and these Members have provided reports back to the CCSBT on matters of relevance in order to improve coordination with other RFMOs. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC meeting.
112. The following reports were provided by Members as part of their Observer duties for the CCSBT.
  - Korea's report (CCSBT-EC/2010/23) on the 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC);
  - New Zealand's report (CCSBT-EC/2010/24) on the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR);
  - Indonesia's report (CCSBT-EC/2010/25) in relation to the Twenty Fourth session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission;
  - Japan's report (CCSBT-EC/2010/20) on the 26<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).
113. Taiwan's report for the Commission meetings of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) was not available as this meeting has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Chair advised that Taiwan will observe the IATTC meeting if it is held and report back to the EC on relevant outcomes.
114. It was agreed that the following Members would act as Observers to other RFMOs on behalf of CCSBT during 2020/21:
  - Korea to continue as Observer to WCPFC;
  - New Zealand to continue as an Observer to CCAMLR;
  - Indonesia to continue as an Observer to IOTC;
  - Japan to continue as an Observer to ICCAT; and
  - Taiwan to continue as an Observer to IATTC.

## **Agenda Item 13. Confidentiality of Data and Documents**

### ***13.1. Confidentiality of reports and documents from 2020***

115. This agenda item was considered during the pre-meeting discussion.
116. The meeting agreed that all the reports of meetings and documents submitted to meetings under the jurisdiction of CCSBT 27 would be made publicly available with the following exceptions that were listed in the Secretariat's paper CCSBT-EC/2010/16 (Rev.1):

- Attachment A of paper CCSBT-ESC/2008/04 (Rev.1) from the Secretariat titled “Secretariat Review of Catches”;
- Paper CCSBT-ESC/2008/22 from Japan titled “Monitoring of Southern Bluefin Tuna trading in the Japanese domestic markets: 2020 update”; and
- Paper CCSBT-EC/2010/18 from Japan titled “A pilot study on catch estimates with AI technology”.

#### **Agenda Item 14. Meetings for 2021**

117. It was agreed that the following meetings and dates would apply for 2021:
- The 26<sup>th</sup> Extended Scientific Committee meeting, in Brisbane, Australia from 30 August to 4 September 2021;
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Compliance Working Group Meeting, in Fremantle, Australia on 6 October 2021;
  - The 16<sup>th</sup> Compliance Committee Meeting, in Fremantle, Australia from 7 to 9 October 2021; and
  - The 28<sup>th</sup> Extended Commission Meeting, in Fremantle, Australia from 11 to 14 October 2021.
118. The Chair advised that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is no guarantee that the CCSBT’s 2021 meetings will be able to proceed as physical meetings. In relation to the pandemic, it was generally agreed that:
- The Secretariat would liaise with the host Member to monitor the likelihood of the physical meetings being able to proceed during 2021 and that if necessary, the Secretariat in conjunction with the host Member and relevant Chairs, develop contingency arrangements for holding virtual meetings in a similar manner as was conducted this year.
  - Members should reserve additional dates in 2021 around the ESC, CC and EC meetings in case virtual meetings are again required. These dates would be 6 & 7 September, 5, 10 & 15 October.
  - It is preferable to avoid scheduling meetings over the entire weekend, so the 10 October contingency day would be avoided if possible.

#### **Agenda Item 15. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the CCSBT**

119. The Chair advised that there were no nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Extended Commission, and that consequently, the Chair and Vice-Chair will be determined in accordance with past practice and the rotation of meetings. Therefore, Australia will be Chair of the Extended Commission and New Zealand will be Vice-Chair.
120. The Chair requested that Australia and New Zealand provide their nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair to the Secretariat as soon as possible.



#### **Agenda Item 16. Other Business**

121. Discussion for this agenda item was opened for discussion by correspondence in advance of the EC meeting. There was no other business.

#### **Agenda Item 17. Close of Meeting**

##### ***17.1. Adoption of report***

122. The report of the meeting was adopted.

##### ***17.2. Close of meeting***

123. The meeting closed at 16:03 pm (Tokyo time), 16 October 2020.

## **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. Report of the Finance and Administration Committee
7. Report of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee
8. Indonesia's Plan of Gradually Pay Back of Over-catch 2020
9. Indonesia's work plan to remain within TAC for 2021
10. Report of the Twenty Fifth Meeting of the Scientific Committee
11. Resolution to Align CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs

**List of Participants**  
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**Agenda**  
**Extended Commission of the Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting of the Commission**  
**12 - 16 October 2020**  
**Online**

1. Opening of the Meeting
  - 1.1. Confirmation of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Seventh 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
    - 4.1.1. Farm uncertainties
    - 4.1.2. Market uncertainties
5. Report from the Compliance Committee
6. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee
7. Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation
  - 7.1. Attributable SBT Catch
  - 7.2. TAC Determination
  - 7.3. Research Mortality Allowance
  - 7.4. Allocation of TAC
8. Ecologically Related Species (ERS)
9. Selection of the Panel for the Performance Review of the CCSBT
10. Relationship with non-Members
11. Kobe Process
12. Activities with Other Organisations
  - 12.1. Reports from other RFMO meetings of interest
13. Confidentiality of Data and Documents
  - 13.1. Confidentiality of reports and documents from 2020

14. Meetings for 2021
15. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the CCSBT
16. Other Business
17. Close of Meeting
  - 17.1. Adoption of report
  - 17.2. Close of meeting

**List of Documents**

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

**(CCSBT-EC/2010/)**

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. Draft List of Documents
4. (Secretariat) Report from the Secretariat (Rev.1) (EC agenda item 2)
5. (Secretariat) Draft Revised 2020 Budget (EC agenda item 3)
6. (Secretariat) Draft 2021 and indicative 2022 - 2023 Budgets (EC agenda item 3)
7. (Secretariat) Review of SBT Fisheries and ERS Interaction (EC agenda item 4)
8. (Secretariat) Report from the Compliance Committee (EC agenda item 5)
9. (Secretariat) Report from the Extended Scientific Committee (EC agenda item 6)
10. (Secretariat) Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation (EC agenda item 7)
11. (Secretariat) Update to CCSBT's Resolution on Ecologically Related Species (ERS) (EC Agenda item 8)
12. (Secretariat) Finalising the Composition of the Panel of experts for the 2021 Performance Review of the CCSBT (EC Agenda item 9)
13. (Secretariat) Relationship with Non-members (EC agenda item 10)
14. (Secretariat) Kobe Process (Rev.1) (EC agenda item 11)
15. (Secretariat) Activities with Other Organisations (EC agenda item 12)
16. (Secretariat) Confidentiality of Data and Documents (Rev.1) (EC agenda item 13)
17. (SC Chair) Presentation of the Report of the 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Committee incorporating the Extended Scientific Committee (EC agenda item 6)
18. (Japan) A pilot study on catch estimates with AI technology - **CONFIDENTIAL** (EC agenda item 4.1.1)
19. (Japan) Suggested actions to implement "Japan's market proposal (CCSBT-SC/2008/23)" (EC agenda item 4.1.2)
20. (Japan) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the 26th Regular Meeting of the Commission of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) (EC agenda item 12.1)
- ~~21. (Taiwan) Report from the CCSBT Observer (TAIWAN) on the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (EC agenda item 12.1)~~
22. (Australia) Australia's progress toward implementation of stereo video (EC Agenda item 4.1.1)

23. (Korea) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the Sixteenth Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 5-11 December, 2019) - Republic of Korea (EC Agenda item 12.1)
24. (New Zealand) Report from the CCSBT observer (New Zealand) to the 38th Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) (EC Agenda item 12.1)
25. (Indonesia) Report from the CCSBT Observer to Twenty Fourth Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) (Rev.1) (EC Agenda item 12.1)

**(CCSBT-EC/2010/Rep)**

1. Report of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2020)
2. Report of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2020)
3. Report of the Eleventh Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Meeting (June 2020)
4. Report of the Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2019)
5. Report of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2019)
6. Report of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2019)
7. Report of The Thirteenth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (May 2019)
8. Report of the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2018)
9. Report of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2017)
10. Report of the Special Meeting of the Commission (August 2011)

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

**(CCSBT-CC/2010/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 (Rev.1)

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

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

**(CCSBT-CC/2010/)**

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. List of Documents
4. (Secretariat) Compliance with CCSBT Management Measures (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. (CCSBT) Quality Assurance Review On behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna. Member Report: EU (CC agenda item 2.2)
7. (Secretariat) Guideline on principles for action and steps to be taken in relation to extraordinary circumstances (CC agenda item 2.3.2)
8. (Secretariat) Progress Report on 2020 Compliance Committee WorkPlan Items (CC agenda item 3)
9. (Secretariat) Operation of CCSBT MCS Measures (Rev.1) (CC agenda item 4)
10. (Secretariat) Potential Non-Member Fishing & Non-Member Compliance Interactions (CC agenda item 5.2)
11. (Secretariat) Proposed Revised Template for the Annual Report to Compliance Committee and Extended Commission (CC agenda item 5.2)
12. (Secretariat) A Review of Compliance Risks and Consideration of a Draft Compliance Action Plan for 2021-2025 (CC agenda item 6.1)
13. (Secretariat) Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with Other Bodies and Organisations (CC agenda item 6.2)
14. (Secretariat) Progress Update on the CCSBT's On-line Data Submission/ Access and Trial eCDS Projects (CC agenda item 7)



15. (BirdLife International) Project proposal for enhancing education on and implementation of Ecologically Related Species seabird measures within CCSBT fisheries - for FAO Funding (Rev.2) (CC agenda item 8)
16. (BirdLife International) Project proposal for enhancing education on and implementation of Ecologically Related Species seabird measures within CCSBT fisheries. Co-funding – for non-FAO funding (Rev.2) (CC agenda item 8)
17. (Pew Charitable Trusts) A 2018 Comparative Analysis of AIS Data with Reported Transshipments in the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Statistical Areas (CC agenda item 5.2)
18. (Indonesia) In Respond to CCSBT-CC/1910/10 - 2020: Initial investigation of the data discrepancies market trade SBT Indonesia (CC agenda item 5.2)

### Opening Statement by Australia

Good morning, good day or good evening, depending on where you are.

On behalf of the Australian delegation, I would like to thank Japan for hosting CCSBT27, which is being held by video conference this year.

I understand this is also the first time the Extended Commission has not met in person, after what has been a difficult year for all due to COVID-19. I understand however that Compliance Committee was able to complete its work via video conference, and I am optimistic we can also make similar progress this week. In particular I understand Compliance Committee was able to agree the extraordinary circumstances guidelines after long and complex discussions, and I thank all Members for their flexibility and constructive approach to this important work.

I want to acknowledge the Secretariat for the great work they do throughout the year, and in the lead up to these meetings. In particular, the contingency planning (with Japan) and video conference organisation has been excellent. I would also like to thank in advance our translators who have the difficult task of keeping up with complex discussions, but whom we rely on so heavily.

This year the Commission is faced with the task of deciding on the Total Allowable Catch limits for the next quota block. I look forward to these discussions noting that despite positive news earlier this year regarding the SBT stock, we must remain cautious to ensure the stock is rebuilding. That said, this year's stock assessment indicates significant continued rebuilding from around 5% at the start of the CCSBT. This must be one of the greatest successes in regional fisheries management globally.

The ongoing recovery of the stock can, in large part, be credited on use of a science based management procedure for the fishery, and Members adherence to its outcomes. It is critical that we maintain that discipline going forward, to ensure continued recovery, and broader confidence in the management framework for the fishery.

Australia will update the Commission on the considerable work we have done towards the implementation of stereo video and the results of our national recreational fishing survey, along with our planned recreational catch set aside.

Australia appreciates the difficult position Indonesia is in with the pandemic and economic outlook. We are aware many other Members are facing similar issues, and we are keen to find a way to ensure the continued sustainable management of the fishery, while providing as much flexibility as possible in terms of management measures.

Like everyone here, Australia is committed to working constructively with all members to achieve the best outcomes for CCSBT.

Thank you.

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

Mr. Chairman,

Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The EU Delegation is very pleased to participate in the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Extended Commission of the CCSBT. First of all, I would like to thank the Chair and the CCSBT Secretariat for the quality of documents provided to all Delegations and also for the preparation of this virtual meeting, including the progress achieved in the pre-meeting exchanges.

The COVID-19 pandemic initiated a very difficult and strange year for all of us. We trust that with the constant support of the Secretariat and the efforts made by Members and stakeholders fishing activities are globally on track and the SBT stock keeps rebuilding. We believe that we all should continue our efforts to improve the level of compliance, which is essential to ensure the sustainability of all CCSBT fishing activities.

The European Union welcomes the work and recommendations of the Scientific Committee, which set the direction to be followed in terms of Conservation Measures. In this context, the EU supports the adoption of a new TAC in a fair and responsible manner at the level recommended by science, ensuring the rebuilding of the SBT stock consistently with the Management Procedure adopted last year.

With regard to Ecological Related Species, as one of the co-proponents of the improvements of the ERS provisions adopted two years ago, the EU fully supports the implementation and updating of ERS mitigation and management measures.

Looking at the remaining uncertainties in accounting mortalities in SBT farms as well as on the management of information related to SBT markets, we are very keen to follow the progress accomplished since the last plenary. In this context, the EU supports the implementation of stereo-video technology as the best available methodology for estimating the weight of SBT in farms and would like to push for more accuracy on the information concerning SBT markets.

With regard to the conclusions of the Compliance Committee, the EU backs the adoption of its recommendations, also including COVID-19 related issues. Globally, the EU seeks convergence and complementarity with the situation of other tuna RFMOs.

Let me also highlight that the EU will sponsor the selection of the best Members' experts to the Performance Review panel.

To conclude, I would like to underline our willingness to work constructively and co-operatively with all Members to make this CCSBT session a success.

Thank you.

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

Honorable Chairperson, Distinguished Delegates, Observers, Ladies, and Gentlemen,  
The Taiwan Delegation is very pleased to be present at the 27th Annual Meeting of CCSBT. First of all, I would like to extend our appreciation to Mr. Kennedy, the Executive Secretary, and the Secretariat staff for your exceptional work of arranging all the virtual meetings and preparatory works throughout the year.

This year has been a challenging one, the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected Taiwanese Southern Bluefin Tuna fisheries during 2020. Many management measures were forced to be conducted through alternative means, such as transshipment, port state measures, observer program, and so on. However, Taiwan, committed to the safety and welfare of all fisheries-related workers and compliance with relevant RFMO management measures, has taken proactive actions and implement appropriate measures to mitigate the impact of the extraordinary circumstances to the greatest extent possible. Hopefully, through global cooperation, we can overcome this crisis in solidarity.

Concerning crucial issues of this meeting, the allocation of the total allowable catch (TAC) of Southern Bluefin Tuna after the adoption of the "Cape Town Procedure" remains to be our focus issue. Taiwan is glad to see the positive trend that the Total Reproductive Output has risen to 20% of its initial biomass in 2020, and the cautious recommendation made by the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) on the annual TAC for 2021 to 2023 through the new Management Procedure. As for the allocation of TAC, we should take the scenarios of unaccounted mortality into consideration and proceed with the best scientific evidence available that the ESC equipped us with. Based on good collaboration experience with every member in the past, Taiwan is confident that this Commission can decide on the optimal manner to effectively manage the Southern Bluefin tuna fishery under the premise of maintaining the trend of stock rebuilding.

To conclude, I look forward to working with all members in the following days in this unprecedented format 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

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 the Secretariat for effective and efficient ways to facilitate the 27th Annual Meeting through the virtual meeting, despite many obstacles faced this year due to pandemic Covid19. I am also taking this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Chair of the Extended Commission, Mr. Ichiro Nomura, 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 doing excellent jobs in arranging all preparatory works to this meeting.

To begin the Opening Statement, I would like to retake this opportunity to express our solidarity with Member States who are fighting COVID-19 and our sincere condolences for their loss. Hopefully, we could strive together to fight the disease in the spirit of good cooperation. In the middle of this unfortunate event, we shall endure and adapt. Thus, this meeting is held virtually with the protocols managed by the Secretariat and Chair. We hope that we could keep our spirit to have fruitful discussions in this meeting.

Honorable Chairman and distinguished delegates,

In principle, Indonesia strongly supports applying the corrective action policy to ensure the effective implementation of the SBT management on a catch quota basis. However, its application should objectively consider the specific circumstances of the Indonesian tuna fisheries and poses a unique geographical seascape, which has a significant difference to the remaining CCSBT members.

At this juncture, we would like to share the complexity of the Indonesia tuna fisheries. Indonesia is a developing coastal state that is considered the largest in terms of number but the lowest in fishing productivity of tuna fishing fleets operating in the Indian ocean. This situation was caused mainly by a wide range of vessel sizes dominated by small-sized vessels with the least technologically advanced. Our fleets do not have the technology to identify fish schooling like any other developed state. Due to their technology limitation and therefore, they tend to fish for yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna as target species due to their relative abundance population compare to SBT fish stock. That is why we consider that SBT catch as bycatch or un-intended catch.

As we acknowledge, SBT migrates within the Indonesian fisheries management zones and goes even further within the first 12 nautical miles from the Indonesia coastline, where the SBT spawning area is located. The natural behavior of such SBT makes it

almost impossible for artisanal and small-scale tuna fisheries who fished in their "backyard" waters to stop fishing tuna and tuna-like species.

This condition should be considered a unique and special feature of Indonesia, which distinguishes Indonesia from other Parties to CCSBT, which also has a long history as SBT resource users.

Honorable Chairman and distinguished delegates,

Indonesia acknowledges that SBT catches on the harvesting year 2019 and 2020 exceeds the TAC, and according to CCSBT resolution, Indonesia should payback in the following year. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Indonesia is facing an economic recession situation. Our growth rate had a sharp decline in two consecutive quarters of 2020. This situation forced Indonesia to adapt by relying on the primary economic sectors that have proven to survive during this economic recession due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic hits our economy very hard, shown by a negative GDP trend as much as minus 5.32% in the second quarter and projected minus 2.9% in the third quarter with an inflation rate around 1.42%. This situation leads to an increasing number of unemployment predicted to reach 11 million people by the end of 2020 and a decrease in the national consumption rate by minus 5.51%. This recession is assumed to continue for the following three years.

To overcome the economic recession, Indonesia's Government has a national policy to increase the agriculture and fisheries sector's capacity and production. Both sectors are the surviving basic sectors to support the national economy, especially during this economic recession. Moreover, both sectors are labor-intensive and provide enormous job opportunities.

We are willing to improve our management tools and welcome any assistance from other members and the Secretariat to ensure that Indonesia's management measures for SBT are in place to have better control of quota utilisation. As a member, Indonesia kindly asks the CCSBT and members to work together with Indonesia to seek a solution within the preference policy framework.

However, we should consider that applying the corrective action policy in quota reduction due to the overcatches-quota should not have a negative social and economic implications for Indonesia, which is characterised by small scale fisheries and modest fishing technologies owned by each vessel.

Reflecting on our current difficulty and willingness to keep good cooperation for sustainable SBT fisheries management, Indonesia would like to ask the Extended Commission and other members to consider this nature and provide flexibility to Indonesia to gradually pay back the over-catch following an increase in the global TAC in the future.

Honorable Chairman and distinguished delegates,

As we noted in the past few years, the Extended Scientific Committee continued to provide empirical evidence that the rebuilding stock of SBT remains gave us the positive signal with rebuilding spawning biomass, which will be achieved faster than

expected using the Bali Management Procedure, as replaced by the Cape Town Management Procedure. Last year Extended Commission meeting considered that the Cape Town Management Procedure opened up an opportunity to increase the global TAC and indicated that the Extended Commission in 2020 would discuss the new global TAC for the next three-years quota block and distribution. However, the 25th Meeting of the Extended Scientific Committee recommends that there will be no additional TAC until 2023. Such a recommendation's inconsistency from the ESC gave a bad precedent for the SBT fisheries industry's sustainability due to creating uncertainty condition while doing the business and negatively impacting the economy, particularly for the investment work plan.

Honorable Chairman and distinguished delegates,

To conclude my remarks, I hope that all of the critical agendas to be deliberated this week on this commission meeting will provide the beneficial results that can contribute significantly to our joint efforts to meet the utmost CCSBT objectives. With that, I would like to underline our willingness to work constructively and cooperatively with other delegations for the success of this meeting.

Thank you. I hope that all of us can stay safe and healthy during this pandemic.

### 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 the Executive Secretary, Mr. Kennedy and staffs of the CCSBT Secretariat for their tireless efforts for organising this meeting even under such an arduous situation as caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to the interpreters for their excellent job. We were originally planning to host this meeting in Sapporo, Hokkaido, where you would have enjoyed great food and nature. It is quite unfortunate that we had to cancel it and missed a precious opportunity to meet in person once a year. I hope this virtual meeting will be fruitful.

The most important issue at this meeting is the determination of a new TAC based on the new Management Procedure (MP) adopted by the Commission last year. The calculation of a TAC in accordance with the MP is one of the most unique features of the CCSBT, enabling it to make proper management decisions even under some uncertainties. I believe, however, that there is still a room for improvement in communication between scientists and managers/industry people in the process. We would like to discuss this point further during the meeting.

Besides, even with the MP, it is important to minimise uncertainties relating to catch of Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT), whether it is attributable to Members or non-Members. To further strengthen the robustness of the MP, we once again request Australia to surely take positive actions toward implementation on stereo-video cameras, including on-site trial of the new technology provided by Japan. Also, following the last year's discussion, Japan has presented a comprehensive proposal for the Commission-wide catch verification scheme taking into account SC discussion last September. As the relative importance of the Japanese market has been decreasing, more attention and focus should be given to other SBT markets, including those in non-Members.

Finally, I would like to conclude my remarks by expressing my hope that we will be able to make an important step forward for the future development of the CCSBT and further 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: *Greetings one and all*

These are difficult times. Let me firstly convey our best wishes to all involved as our countries deal with this devilish pandemic. Our particular thanks to the staff of the Secretariat who have adapted to the changed circumstances in order to allow the work of the Commission to continue.

This Commission meeting is not one in which to indulge long and arduous debate. None the less some key decisions need to be made and we need to check on progress on some key issues of import to the interests of members.

New Zealand is pleased to hear that in the views of our scientists the SBT stock has continued to rebuild. Like others we are surprised that, despite the initial enthusiasm, the MP recommends no change in global TAC for the next quota block and we remain concerned that the continued uncertainty in catches is prejudicial to the interests of the membership in this regard.

We look forward to hearing the views of the membership on these and other issues on our agenda particularly whether it is time for stronger measures to address over catch of national allocations.

**Opening Statement by Republic of Korea**

To begin with, the Republic of Korea would like to extend its sincere appreciation to the Executive Secretary and Secretariat staff for organising this virtual meeting in a timely and professional manner despite all the logistical constraints we have in this time of difficulty and uncertainty. Also, we are very glad and relieved to see the distinguished delegates from other Members who look well and healthy although it would have been even happier to see each other in person. We sincerely hope that our lives will go back to normal soon and that we will be able to have face-to-face meetings from next year.

This delegation believes that CCSBT is unique in several aspects when compared to other RFMOs. One of the unique characteristics of CCSBT is that we have a relatively small number of Members and deal with single tuna species. In our view, the good thing about this is that it is likely that it often makes it easier for us to have focused discussions on smaller number of items. On the other hand, it also means that each Member's share of the responsibility for conservation and management can be bigger as the performance of each one of us could have a huge impact on the status of southern bluefin tuna resource in its entirety and the Commission's longstanding work to achieve the objective of the Convention which is to ensure the conservation and optimum utilisation of southern bluefin tuna.

As such, with this thought in mind, Korea has continued to attach a great deal of importance to the implementation of CCSBT Resolutions and the full compliance by our fishermen since it joined CCSBT in 2001. We would like to take this opportunity to once again underline Korea's strong commitment to its continued effort to contribute to the Commission's work in terms of compliance as well as science.

Last year, we adopted a new MP which we believe is a more advanced one but there remain some outstanding issues for us to resolve before we can set up the TAC in a more stable and less controversial manner using the new MP. We believe there has been a certain level of progress in these issues and hope we can resolve those issues reasonably soon.

Having said that, we very much look forward to working with the Chairman, all Members, NGOs and the Secretariat this week, and firmly believe that the Commission will produce fruitful outcomes based on the spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation.

Thank you very much.

### **Opening Statement by the United States of America**

The United States would like to begin by thanking the Secretariat for their excellent preparations for the Twenty Seventh Annual CCSBT Commission Meeting. We are sorry to not have the opportunity to meet everyone in beautiful Sapporo, but must commend the Secretariat's adapting the Commission and Extended Commission Meetings to a virtual format in these challenging times.

The United States would also like to thank Members for the invitation to participate in the 2020 annual meeting. The United States is committed to continuing our cooperation with the CCSBT, in particular with the CDS program through sharing of import data. In previous years, we undertook a comprehensive review of trade data and have continued outreach efforts to SBT dealers. The United States previously reported that U.S. importers are now required to submit all import data, including copies of CDS documents, through a single electronic interface, the U.S. International Trade Data System. The United States is pleased that these efforts have demonstrated concrete results, as we have seen a clear improvement in implementation of U.S. domestic requirements among our dealers with respect to CCSBT's CDS. We look forward to continuing to engage in this program, particularly as CCSBT seeks to develop an electronic CDS.

The United States would like to take this opportunity to encourage Members to ensure appropriate monitoring, control, and surveillance of SBT fishing activities and remain vigilant during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, and in that regard, welcomes the discussions of the draft compliance policy guidelines in relation to exceptional circumstances. The United States congratulates the CCSBT for its continued efforts to recover SBT populations. We encourage Members to continue this progress through application of the Management Procedure, ensuring the TAC is set in line with scientific advice, and in taking a precautionary approach to consideration of unaccounted for mortality. The United States also calls on the CCSBT to take appropriate action to conserve ERS populations, including through the review of implementation of seabird bycatch mitigation measures.

Thank you again to Members for the kind invitation to the United States to participate in the Annual Commission and Extended Commission Meetings. We look forward to continuing efforts to enhance U.S. cooperation with the CCSBT into the future.

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

Thank you chair, and distinguished delegates for the opportunity to participate in this virtual meeting, and the Secretariat for their efforts to facilitate and support the meeting and work of the Commission and its subsidiary groups.

Through its 13 Parties, the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP <https://acap.aq/>) strives to conserve albatrosses and petrels by coordinating international activities to mitigate threats to their populations. Bycatch in pelagic longline fisheries is one of the greatest threats to seabirds, particularly albatrosses and petrels. At its last meeting in May 2019, 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 longline fishing operations. Despite extensive efforts by ACAP and other bodies that have been put into researching, recommending and supporting effective bycatch mitigation measures to address seabird bycatch in fisheries, in many instances these are not being implemented or are not being fully implemented. Non-compliance in the proper use of seabird bycatch mitigation measures adopted by 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.

The documents and information prepared and submitted for consideration by CCSBT's Compliance Committee and Extended Commission illustrate that bycatch of seabirds remains a critical issue in CCSBT fisheries, and in some cases appears to be increasing. ACAP is very concerned about the high levels of seabird bycatch recorded for some fleets. The report(s) also highlight low levels of compliance by some fleets in the required use of seabird bycatch mitigation measures. Such non-compliance will certainly contribute to, and drive, increased levels of seabird bycatch and needs urgently to be addressed. It appears that in some cases vessels with relatively high levels of compliance in respect of bycatch mitigation requirements continue to record high levels of seabird bycatch, which raises the question of whether these measures need to be strengthened, and if CCSBT should be playing a more active and leading role in efforts to strengthen the requirements to mitigate seabird bycatch. The reports also highlight that action is urgently needed to improve the overall levels of observer coverage of fishing effort and the representativeness of this coverage. ACAP is keen to work with CCSBT and its members to address these critical issues, and is strongly supportive of the proposal by BirdLife International and CCSBT members for enhancing education on and implementation of Ecologically Related Species seabird measures within CCSBT fisheries.

### **Opening Statement by BirdLife International**

BirdLife International thanks the Extended Commission for the opportunity to participate as observers to this key meeting. We appreciate that 2020 has been a challenging year and we are grateful to the Secretariat for their work to make this year's meeting possible.

Firstly, BirdLife wishes to acknowledge some of the improvements in regards to seabirds over the last year, in particular the collaborative work between Members, the Secretariat and BirdLife on the joint proposals on seabirds, as well as the work by Japan to start corrective actions to address seabird related issues identified in previous compliance reports.

However, despite seabird Conservation Management Measures (CMMs) being in place in the tuna RFMOs for almost a decade, seabird bycatch in CCSBT remains concerningly high. BirdLife would like to remind Members that 15 of the 22 albatross species remain threatened with extinction – and that longline fisheries in high risk areas, authorised by tuna RFMOs, continue to be the principal cause of this conservation crisis. Of all five tuna commissions CCSBT has the highest degree of overlap between its fisheries and albatrosses, such that it is impossible for CCSBT member states to escape responsibility for seabird deaths caused by the tuna longliners they authorise. It's now more than twenty years since CCAMLR members took effective steps to fix this same albatross bycatch problem in sub-Antarctic toothfish fisheries, and it is time that the tuna RFMOs, including CCSBT take further actions to solve this entirely avoidable issue.

BirdLife are deeply concerned by the extremely high rates of seabird bycatch reported by the Members; Japan and New Zealand. We note that Japan reports a worryingly high proportion of sets conducted not in compliance with the required seabird mitigation measures. BirdLife recognises that Japan has set up a corrective action plan, but we urge Japan, and other Members to monitor the effectiveness of the plan in reducing bycatch, and if necessary, to take further actions.

Meanwhile, New Zealand have reported high compliance with seabird measures, yet still record unacceptably high seabird bycatch rates. This suggests that in areas of high seabird abundance the current measures are not enough to reduce bycatch levels to acceptable levels. Existing seabird bycatch mitigation measures of WCPFC, IOTC and ICCAT fall short of ACAP Best Practice advice, which requires the simultaneous use of three mitigation measures or hook shielding devices, and more effective line weighting specifications. We urge Members and the Secretariat to consider how more stringent measures can be adopted in areas where current practices are shown to not be effective, either through a CCSBT CMM for seabirds or by working with other RFMOs to strengthen requirements.

BirdLife acknowledges that COVID-19 represents an unprecedented situation, but we emphasise the need for CCSBT members to continue to meet their obligations to

implement CMMs and fulfil observer data requirements. With that in mind, BirdLife notes the opportunity afforded by Electronic Monitoring systems on vessels to provide higher and more representative coverage than current observer programmes. Indeed, some fleets were not meeting the minimum observer coverage requirements pre-COVID19, and observer coverage will only decrease in the current climate.

We would like to conclude by reminding member States that is their obligation under international legal frameworks to work to reduce the impact of longline fisheries on ERS.

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

Humane Society International (HSI) wishes to thank the Extended Commission for the opportunity to participate once again as an observer to this important decision-making meeting. Despite the extraordinary circumstances leading us to meet remotely on this occasion, we look forward to further progress in securing the sustainability of the SBT fishery, both in terms of SBT and in terms of the impact that SBT fishing has on non-target species, seabirds in particular, which Members have agreed is the main incidental catch of concern.

CCSBT fisheries have some of the highest albatross bycatch in the world. HSI has long advocated that CCSBT fulfil its duties under current international legal frameworks to remove the threat of extinction posed by the longline fishing it authorises.

It is therefore welcome news that the 2021-2023 southern bluefin tuna TAC will not be increased because every two tonnes increase represents another albatross killed due to continuing mitigation measure compliance failings and the high albatross interaction levels of serious concern outlined in the CC15 Papers.

Of all five tuna commissions CCSBT has the greatest overlap between its fisheries and albatrosses, yet currently, CCSBT only requires vessels to use bird scaring lines and to follow the seabird bycatch mitigation requirements of other tuna RFMOs. Improved mitigation measures are urgently required due to continued very high rates of albatross bycatch in some CCSBT longline fleets, reported low levels of compliance with mitigation measure use and the lack of ability of CCSBT to undertake compliance actions under the current system.

HSI again asks that CCSBT adopt binding requirements for vessels to use effective seabird bycatch mitigation measures, as a condition of access to the SBT fishery, and that these requirements reflect best practice bycatch mitigation as recommended by the Agreement for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP). It should be noted that existing seabird bycatch mitigation measures of WCPFC, IOTC and ICCAT fall short of ACAP best practice advice, which includes more effective line weight specifications and the use of not two, but three measures in areas of highest albatross bycatch.

In conclusion the EC is reminded that albatross populations are in serious decline and are declared to be facing a conservation crisis – and that longline fisheries in high risk areas, authorised by tuna RFMOs, continue to be the principal cause. HSI looks forward to seeing CCSBT Members work to strengthen required mitigation measures and prevent noncompliance.

Thank you Chair and Members for your time.

### **Opening Statement by the Pew Charitable Trusts**

Thank you for the opportunity for The Pew Charitable Trusts to participate in CCSBT27 as an observer.

2020 has been an unprecedented year that has affected the ability of RFMOs to conduct business as usual and we applaud the secretariat for maintaining a full agenda whilst running the meeting in a virtual format.

Last year, a new Management Procedure (MP) was agreed, known as the Cape Town Procedure. Unlike in the Bali Procedure, the Cape Town Procedure did not set the total allowable catch (TAC) for the subsequent management period. Instead, CCSBT 26 agreed that the 2021-23 TAC would be set this year based on the MP but also with consideration of “the sustainability of the SBT stock and fisheries as well as the papers and proposals that Australia will provide on SV [stereovideo] and Japan will provide on markets.” This agreement effectively decoupled the TAC from the MP, which is concerning as it opens the door to extended negotiations and untested scenarios, the avoidance of which are among the key benefits of an adopted MP. The CCSBT MP is the benchmark for MP development in the world’s RFMOs, particularly the tuna RFMOs. The decoupling of the TAC sets a dangerous precedent as it has the potential (if abused) to undermine the predictability, transparency, and stability that a rigorous MP can provide, arguably negating the entire philosophy behind the approach. While we understand the concerns around farm and market data, we urge the Commission to re-incorporate the TAC back into the MP or at least restrict the ability for it to be undermined, by only allowing the TAC to be revised down from the MP recommendation. In other MP business rolled over from CCSBT 26, we urge the Commission to adopt the “Metarules for the Cape Town Procedure” proposed by the ESC.

Thank you members and we wish you a productive virtual meeting.



### Opening Statement by TRAFFIC

Thank you Chair.

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 the Secretariat for their work during this extraordinary year which has required them to organise this virtual meeting and we look forward to continuing to contribute to these important deliberations. We believe that we can learn from the experiences of successful virtual engagement necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic, and that CCSBT has an opportunity to expedite progress on critical issues through the use of inter-sessional virtual meetings, for example, of the ERSWG.

TRAFFIC welcomes the continued signs the Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) stock is showing of recovery, through positive reporting at ESC25 against the stock status indicators and trends towards rebuilding to the interim management objective of B30 (30% of the initial Total Reproductive Output (TRO)) by 2035. We also note the recommendation for the TAC remaining the same for this next TAC period, but also calculations which consider the need for a TAC of no higher than this over the longer term if the 30% objective is to be met. Precaution remains a concern particularly as the stock is still at what is considered 69% of the MSY level and only at 20% of the TRO.

TRAFFIC welcomed the adoption of the MP process at its eighteenth annual meeting in 2011 when the CCSBT agreed that an MP would be used to guide the setting of the SBT global total allowable catch and formulated a meta-rule process as the method guiding the implementation of the MP and for dealing with exceptional circumstances in SBT fisheries. We note with concern the decision taken at EC26<sup>1</sup> that the agreement on the TAC would from 2020 consider other matters beyond that recommended TAC by the MP. TRAFFIC has been participating in CCSBT since it came into force and prior to that at the Trilateral Agreement between Australia, New Zealand and Japan. We have witnessed firsthand the years of stalemate in progress against management due to disagreements over TAC setting in this consensus agreement. TRAFFIC is deeply concerned that this decision at EC26 will trigger a return to a climate of disagreement and disfunction. We urge the Member States to return to the process agreed at the 2011 meeting.

TRAFFIC notes the continued action of the Commission to address unaccounted SBT mortality and that specifically in this regard China advised its fleet in 2019 to avoid catching and landing SBT, with prohibitions on SBT retention, area closures, transshipment and reporting requirements. The Commission should take steps to verify that this has occurred. The Commission should also look to ensure Australia and

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<sup>1</sup> EC26 Meeting Report, Paragraph 87 and 88. NB: in paragraph 88 there is reference to an increase in TAC, but the most recent MP has not recommended an increase in TAC and TRAFFIC would not support an increase based on the importance of the 30% TRO target meeting its 2035 objective.

Japan have clear timelines for the commitments they have made to address other issues around unaccounted mortalities.

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, 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. Performance targets against ERS measures need to be set and members who do not meet such performance should not be attributed all their national allocation of the SBT TAC. ERS species are caught as a direct result of effort to catch SBT and CCSBT members catching excess numbers of ERS species should accordingly have their SBT allocation reduced. The evidence for this is particularly evident when considering the extremely high catch of sea birds by some members of CCSBT.

In regard to the Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels (revised at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting: 12 October 2017). Observed transshipments should be recording and reporting all species transhipped, which includes shark products. This information is important for verification of ERS catches that are being reported to the ERSWG, but also for the purposes of ensuring Members are meeting the requirements of shark CMMs in other RFMOs and permitting requirements for any CITES listed species. The latter is a specific requirement for observing in the Port States Measures Agreement. All this information should be reported and considered at the Compliance Committee and ERSWG.

Finally we ask the Commission to consider the recommendations from the December 2019 meeting of the joint tuna RFMO by-catch working group meeting be considered at the next ERSWG meeting for any required action within CCSBT. We also ask the next ERSWG be directed to consider the use of the full range of mitigation methods recommended by ACCAP to avoid seabird catch with a view to CCSBT adopting its own such management measures.

## 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 2020 budget
- Draft 2021 budget
- Draft indicative budgets for 2022 and 2023
- Consider the use of a Contribution Stabilisation Fund to avoid large yearly fluctuations in Member contributions.

### *The revised budget for 2020*

The Executive Secretary gave a summary of the 2020 revised budget outlined in CCSBT-EC/2010/05. The revision incorporates actual income and expenditure together with forecast income and expenditure for the remainder of the year.

Expenditures for 2020 are forecast to total \$2,586,936, which is a 23.6% decrease on the amount approved for 2020. Many of the reduced expenditures were a direct result of the global pandemic and its impact on the operations of this Commission (e.g. the replacement of physical meetings with virtual forums).

Income for 2020 was also revised downward by \$209,451, which is a decrease of 12.6% from that approved at the previous Commission meeting. This change was due to the lateness of the South African Member contribution. South Africa apologised for the lateness of the contribution, advised that its contribution payment had been processed and provided the Secretariat with evidence of its outward electronic transfer. This late contribution will now be reflected in the 2021 budget as a “contributions in arrears”.

Importantly, Australia was able to amend its domestic regulations to allow a refund of \$250,788 for Australian GST provided by the Australian Taxation Office for the period from June 2017 to December 2019. This influx enabled the Commission to reduce its previously planned withdrawals from savings.

The Executive Secretary provided FAC members with additional details on individual items of the revised 2020 budget where significant changes had occurred from the initially planned amounts.

Members of the FAC thanked the Secretariat for the revised budget and endorsed it.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission note the revised budget for 2020 at Annex A.

### *Draft budget for 2021*

The FAC considered the proposed budgets outlined in CCSBT-EC/2010/06, which includes funding for the CCSBT's usual business.

The draft budget for 2021, presented in paper CCSBT-EC/2010/06, contained \$283,400 more expenditure than the interim draft budget for 2021 that was provided in Circular #2020/072. This increased expenditure was related to the inclusion of Japan's market analysis proposal and new items from the updated Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) workplan.

Japan revised its proposal prior to the meeting to have the first year focused on the contracting of an independent expert to develop a revised methodology and suggested deferring further discussion on possible CCSBT expenditures relating to the tag management survey to EC/FAC in 2021, which reduced the immediate funding requirements for this work in 2021.

In discussion with the Chair of the ESC, the FAC considered the proposed workplan from the ESC. The ESC Chair provided additional context to FAC members on the individual research items proposed and their relative importance in supporting some of this Commission's key scientific processes.

Reflecting the advice of the EC, the FAC agreed to fund all items within the ESC workplan with the exception of the electronic tagging survey. Funding of the electronic tagging survey would have required a substantial increase in Member contributions in the coming years and some members of the FAC expressed concerns that such increases may be difficult to secure given the economic uncertainties stemming from the global pandemic.

In addition, the FAC recommends that future requests from the ESC for new research be accompanied by additional information to allow the FAC to have a better understanding of the relative importance and priority of the work in relation to other scientific expenses.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission approve the 2021 General Budget as set out in Annex B to this document.

#### *Consideration of the use of a Contribution Stabilisation Fund*

The unique circumstances of the 2020 financial year, where expenses were less than those approved while income was greater than anticipated, presented an unusual challenge for the FAC in trying to maintain its longstanding goal of minimising fluctuations in Member contributions from year to year.

In order to avoid large fluctuations in membership contributions in the coming years, the FAC has approved the use of a Contributions Stabilisation Fund. Without such a fund, Member contributions would have dropped in the upcoming year only to increase drastically in 2022.

The Contributions Stabilisation Fund allows an even distribution of the savings made in 2020 over the coming years and will be discontinued once the funds within it have been fully utilised (currently budgeted for 2023). By using this approach, the FAC has been able to maintain Member contributions at their current level for both the 2021 budget and the 2022 indicative budget.

*Indicative budgets for 2022 and 2023*

The FAC was also asked to consider indicative budgets for the two years beyond the upcoming budget.

Most expenses within the indicative budgets represent ongoing commitments and did not require significant change from the FAC.

Members of the FAC did note the general uncertainty related to this Commission's ability to hold physical meetings and its potential impact on estimated costs. The FAC has currently budgeted future meetings under the assumption that physical meetings will become the norm once again but recognises that savings will occur should this Commission require virtual meetings.

The FAC notes that although the 2024 budget was beyond the scope of this year's review, the lack of increase in Member contributions in 2022 will likely lead to a more significant increase in Member contributions in 2024.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission note the proposed changes to the indicative 2022 and 2023 budgets.

## GENERAL BUDGET - 2020

INCOME	2020	2020	% Variation
	APPROVED BUDGET	REVISED BUDGET	
<b>Contributions from Members</b>	<b>\$2,840,163</b>	<b>\$2,685,173</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>
Japan	\$813,564	\$813,564	
Australia	\$813,564	\$813,564	
New Zealand	\$231,318	\$231,318	
Korea	\$248,791	\$248,791	
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	\$248,791	\$248,791	
Indonesia	\$221,389	\$221,389	
European Union	\$107,754	\$107,754	
South Africa	\$154,989	\$0	
<b>Staff Assessment Levy</b>	<b>\$129,300</b>	<b>\$132,363</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
<b>Carryover from previous year</b>	<b>\$88,037</b>	<b>\$88,037</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>GST Refund (2017 to 2019)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$250,788</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Withdrawal from savings</b>	<b>\$310,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100.0%</b>
<b>Interest on investments<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$21,688</b>	<b>8.4%</b>
<b>TOTAL GROSS INCOME</b>	<b>\$3,387,500</b>	<b>\$3,178,049</b>	<b>-12.6%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Interest on investments does not include interest earned from the staff liability fund (which is estimated to be \$1,094 in 2020).

EXPENDITURE	2020 APPROVED BUDGET	2020 Expenditure to date	Forecast Remaining Expenditure <sup>2</sup>	2020 REVISED BUDGET	% variation
<b>ANNUAL MEETINGS - (EC/CC)</b>	<b>\$370,400</b>	<b>\$25,890</b>	<b>\$29,200</b>	<b>\$55,090</b>	<b>-85.1</b>
Independent chairs	37,000	4,653	13,400	18,053	-51.2
Interpretation costs	56,700	4,068	30,700	34,768	-38.7
Hire of venue & catering	155,700	671	0	671	-99.6
Hire of equipment	65,100	0	0	0	-100.0
Translation/of meeting documents	10,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Secretariat expenses	45,900	16,498	-14,900	1,598	-96.5
<b>EXTENDED SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE</b>	<b>\$245,500</b>	<b>\$30,898</b>	<b>\$54,300</b>	<b>\$85,198</b>	<b>-65.3</b>
Interpretation costs	39,900	6,743	14,100	20,843	-47.8
Hire of venue & catering	9,800	0	0	0	-100.0
Hire of equipment	45,100	4,256	9,800	14,056	-68.8
Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel	114,000	6,455	39,500	45,955	-59.7
Translation of meeting documents	1,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Secretariat expenses	35,700	13,444	-9,100	4,344	-87.8
<b>SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>	<b>\$92,800</b>	<b>\$33,622</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$33,622</b>	<b>-63.8</b>
OMMP Technical Meeting (5 day, intersessional)	92,800	33,622	0	33,622	-63.8
<b>SCIENCE PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$1,059,200</b>	<b>\$313,102</b>	<b>\$555,950</b>	<b>\$869,052</b>	<b>-18.0</b>
Intersessional OM/MP Maintenance & Development	9,300	6,608	2,500	9,108	-2.1
Development of the CPUE series	3,900	6,044	0	6,044	55.0
Tagging program coordination	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0.0
Long-Term Gene Tagging Project <sup>3</sup>	775,500	203,000	455,000	658,000	-15.2
Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing <sup>3</sup>	109,500	49,750	49,750	99,500	-9.1
Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) <sup>3</sup>	47,800	21,700	21,700	43,400	-9.2
Sampling and aging of Indonesian otoliths	57,200	26,000	26,000	52,000	-9.1
Maturity study	55,000	0	0	0	-100.0
<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$214,700</b>	<b>\$51,810</b>	<b>\$71,970</b>	<b>\$123,780</b>	<b>-42.3</b>
Quality Assurance Review	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	0.0
Ad-Hoc AIS Analysis	20,000	0	10,000	10,000	-50.0
Database upgrade and on-line data submission/access	34,700	26,290	8,410	34,700	0.0
Trial eCDS development	150,000	25,520	43,560	69,080	-53.9
<b>SECRETARIAT COSTS</b>	<b>\$1,245,700</b>	<b>\$824,342</b>	<b>\$451,200</b>	<b>\$1,275,542</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Secretariat staff costs	785,800	523,546	282,800	806,346	2.6
Staff assessment levy	129,300	88,063	44,300	132,363	2.4
Employer social security	188,400	124,523	64,200	188,723	0.2
Insurance -worker's comp/travel/contents	16,000	13,067	3,900	16,967	6.0
Travel/transport	27,600	201	0	201	-99.3
Translation of meeting reports	14,500	3,935	10,000	13,935	-3.9
Training	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0.0
Home leave allowance	9,500	0	0	0	-100.0
Other employment expenses	3,200	1,607	700	2,307	-27.9
Staff liability fund (accumulating)	69,400	69,400	43,300	112,700	62.4
<b>OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS</b>	<b>\$159,200</b>	<b>\$101,052</b>	<b>\$43,600</b>	<b>\$144,652</b>	<b>-9.1</b>
Office lease and storage	73,400	49,450	16,900	66,350	-9.6
Office costs	72,200	47,296	18,700	65,996	-8.6
Provision for new/replacement assets	8,300	2,450	4,700	7,150	-13.9
Telephone/communications	5,300	1,856	3,300	5,156	-2.7
<b>TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$3,387,500</b>	<b>\$1,380,716</b>	<b>\$1,206,220</b>	<b>\$2,586,936</b>	<b>-23.6</b>

<sup>2</sup> Most of these estimates are rounded up to the nearest \$100. Negative amounts are expected refunds of airfares due to COVID-19 related flight cancellations by the airline.

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

## GENERAL BUDGET for 2021 and Indicative Budgets for 2022-2023

INCOME	APPROVED 2020 BUDGET	REVISED 2020 BUDGET	APPROVED 2021 BUDGET	Indicative 2022	Indicative 2023
<b>Contributions from members</b>	<b>\$2,840,163</b>	<b>\$2,685,173</b>	<b>\$2,840,163</b>	<b>\$2,840,100</b>	<b>\$2,880,179</b>
Japan	\$813,564	\$813,564	\$813,564	\$813,547	\$825,027
Australia	\$813,564	\$813,564	\$813,564	\$813,547	\$825,027
New Zealand	\$231,318	\$231,318	\$231,318	\$231,313	\$234,577
Korea	\$248,791	\$248,791	\$248,791	\$248,786	\$252,297
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	\$248,791	\$248,791	\$248,791	\$248,786	\$252,297
Indonesia	\$221,389	\$221,389	\$221,389	\$221,385	\$224,509
European Union	\$107,754	\$107,754	\$107,754	\$107,752	\$109,272
South Africa	\$154,989	\$0	\$154,989	\$154,986	\$157,173
<b>Contributions in Arrears (South Africa)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$154,989</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Staff Assessment Levy</b>	<b>\$129,300</b>	<b>\$132,363</b>	<b>\$135,700</b>	<b>\$138,000</b>	<b>\$141,000</b>
<b>Carryover from previous year</b>	<b>\$88,037</b>	<b>\$88,037</b>	<b>\$591,113</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
<b>GST Refund (2017 to 2019)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$250,788</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Withdrawal from savings</b>	<b>\$310,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$310,000</b>
<b>Interest on investments<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$21,688</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Contributions Stabilisation Fund<sup>2</sup> (proposed)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>-\$778,280</b>	<b>\$544,100</b>	<b>\$234,180</b>
<b>TOTAL GROSS INCOME</b>	<b>\$3,387,500</b>	<b>\$3,178,049</b>	<b>\$2,956,685</b>	<b>\$3,582,200</b>	<b>\$3,625,359</b>

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

<sup>2</sup> The Contributions Stabilisation Fund is designed to reduced fluctuations in Member contributions from year to year. Negative entries are deposits to the fund and are treated as a reduction in available income for the relevant year. Positive entries are withdrawals from the fund and are treated as increased available income for that year.



## Annex B

EXPENDITURE	APPROVED 2020 BUDGET	REVISED 2020 BUDGET	APPROVED 2021 BUDGET	Indicative 2022	Indicative 2023
<b>ANNUAL MEETING - (CC/EC/CCSBT)</b>	<b>\$370,400</b>	<b>\$55,090</b>	<b>\$209,400</b>	<b>\$292,000</b>	<b>\$277,000</b>
Independent chairs	\$37,000	\$18,053	\$26,500	\$37,000	\$45,000
Interpretation costs	\$56,700	\$34,768	\$63,300	\$79,000	\$66,000
Hire of venue & catering	\$155,700	\$671	\$50,000	\$94,000	\$66,000
Hire of equipment	\$65,100	\$0	\$35,500	\$36,000	\$29,000
Translation of meeting documents	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Secretariat expenses	\$45,900	\$1,598	\$24,100	\$36,000	\$61,000
<b>ESC/SC Meeting</b>	<b>\$245,500</b>	<b>\$85,198</b>	<b>\$250,500</b>	<b>\$293,000</b>	<b>\$268,000</b>
Interpretation costs	\$39,900	\$20,843	\$56,000	\$64,000	\$49,000
Hire of venue & catering	\$9,800	\$0	\$31,200	\$36,000	\$46,000
Hire of equipment	\$45,100	\$14,056	\$34,100	\$26,000	\$35,000
Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel	\$114,000	\$45,955	\$115,100	\$144,000	\$99,000
Translation of meeting documents	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Secretariat expenses	\$35,700	\$4,344	\$13,100	\$22,000	\$38,000
<b>SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>	<b>\$92,800</b>	<b>\$33,622</b>	<b>\$23,785</b>	<b>\$207,000</b>	<b>\$196,000</b>
Ecologically Related Species WG Meeting	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$90,000	\$0
Strategy and Fisheries Management WG Meeting	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$76,000
OMMP Technical Meeting (5 day, intersessional)	\$92,800	\$33,622	\$0	\$97,000	\$99,000
Technical Compliance WG Meeting (1 day prior to CC)	\$0	\$0	\$23,785	\$20,000	\$21,000
<b>SCIENCE PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$1,059,200</b>	<b>\$869,052</b>	<b>\$675,800</b>	<b>\$976,100</b>	<b>\$951,900</b>
Intersessional OM/MP Maintenance & Development	\$9,300	\$9,108	\$16,200	\$9,000	\$9,000
Development of the CPUE series	\$3,900	\$6,044	\$35,300	\$35,000	\$8,000
Tagging program coordination	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Long-Term Gene Tagging Project <sup>1</sup>	\$775,500	\$658,000	\$350,000	\$700,000	\$700,000
Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing <sup>1</sup>	\$109,500	\$99,500	\$120,900	\$113,700	\$123,600
Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) <sup>1</sup>	\$47,800	\$43,400	\$44,100	\$48,600	\$53,300
Sampling and aging of Indonesian Otoliths	\$57,200	\$52,000	\$53,300	\$54,800	\$57,000
Maturity study	\$55,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$0	\$0
E-tagging program	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Updated analysis of unaccounted mortality (UAM)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,000	\$0
<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$214,700</b>	<b>\$123,780</b>	<b>\$285,500</b>	<b>\$269,000</b>	<b>\$219,000</b>
Quality Assurance Review	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
Market analysis	\$0	\$0	\$57,200	\$129,000	\$129,000
Performance Review	\$0	\$0	\$119,800	\$0	\$0
Ad-Hoc AIS Analysis	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Database upgrade and on-line data submission/access	\$34,700	\$34,700	\$7,500	\$0	\$0
Trial eCDS developmet	\$150,000	\$69,080	\$81,000	\$30,000	\$20,000
Redevelopment of CCSBT website	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$0
<b>SECRETARIAT COSTS</b>	<b>\$1,245,700</b>	<b>\$1,275,542</b>	<b>\$1,352,700</b>	<b>\$1,386,100</b>	<b>\$1,552,459</b>
Secretariat staff costs	\$785,800	\$806,346	\$836,700	\$853,000	\$870,000
Staff assessment levy	\$129,300	\$132,363	\$135,700	\$138,000	\$141,000
Employer social security	\$188,400	\$188,723	\$229,800	\$234,000	\$239,000
Insurance -worker's compensation/ travel/contents	\$16,000	\$16,967	\$16,500	\$17,000	\$17,000
Travel/transport	\$27,600	\$201	\$20,300	\$30,000	\$30,000
Translation of meeting reports	\$14,500	\$13,935	\$11,300	\$12,000	\$12,000
Training	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Home leave allowance	\$9,500	\$0	\$13,400	\$9,700	\$2,100
Other employment expense	\$3,200	\$2,307	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300
Recruitment / discharge expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$145,459
Staff liability fund (accumulating)	\$69,400	\$112,700	\$84,700	\$88,100	\$91,600

## Annex B

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>APPROVED 2020 BUDGET</b>	<b>REVISED 2020 BUDGET</b>	<b>APPROVED 2021 BUDGET</b>	<i><b>Indicative 2022</b></i>	<i><b>Indicative 2023</b></i>
<b>OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS</b>	<b>\$159,200</b>	<b>\$144,652</b>	<b>\$159,000</b>	<i><b>\$159,000</b></i>	<i><b>\$161,000</b></i>
Office lease and storage	\$73,400	\$66,350	\$67,700	<i>\$69,000</i>	<i>\$70,000</i>
Office costs	\$72,200	\$65,996	\$74,000	<i>\$75,000</i>	<i>\$77,000</i>
Provision for new/replacement assets	\$8,300	\$7,150	\$12,500	<i>\$10,000</i>	<i>\$9,000</i>
Telephone/communications	\$5,300	\$5,156	\$4,800	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
<b>TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$3,387,500</b>	<b>\$2,586,936</b>	<b>\$2,956,685</b>	<i><b>\$3,582,200</b></i>	<i><b>\$3,625,359</b></i>

<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 Fifteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee**

**8 – 10 October 2020**

**Online**

## Indonesia's Plan of Gradually Pay Back of Over-catch 2020

This paper responds to the Head of Delegation Meeting request for Indonesia to provide a figure of payback mechanism related to Indonesia's over-catch of 2019-2020. Indonesia proposed to gradually pay back the over-catch 2020 starting in 2022 for five years period.

### A. Background

In recent years, the Indonesian Government conducted the data validation process in the first and second week of March in the following year. The landing for SBT caught in November to December will be around January to February. Therefore, the over-catch will occur during those months, and it is reflected in the report of tagging on port.

### B. Overview of Indonesia's TAC and over-catch 2019 to 2020

#### 1. TAC and over catch of 2019

TAC 2019	Total catch 2019	Over-catch 2019
1,024t	1,206t	182t

#### 2. TAC and over catch of 2020

TAC 2020	TAC 2020 after pay back	Total catch Per 12 Oct 2020	Over Catch Per 12 Oct 2020
1,023t	841t	1,078t	237t

The SBT Catch until 12 October 2020 was 1,078t. Indonesia's total SBT catch from October 2019 to December 2019 was 499t. Based on last year's historical data, it is estimated that Indonesia's SBT catch could reach 1,577t. However, Indonesia will maintain its catch up to 1,300t. Thus, it is estimated that the total over-catch for 2020 around 459t.

### C. Gradual Pay Back for over-catch of 2020

TAC 2020 after pay back	Total catch (12 Oct 2020)	Estimates Total catch 2020	Estimates Over catch 2020	Gradual Pay Back (5 years)	
				Year	Pay Back
841t	1,078t	1,300t	459t	2022	91.8t
				2023	91.8t
				2024	91.8t
				2025	91.8t
				2026	91.8t

## Indonesia's work plan to remain within TAC for 2021

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period
1	National policy in the distribution of national quota	The Indonesian Government allocates the SBT Quota to fisheries associations who distribute those quotas to their members	DGCF– MMAF	Since 2015
2	CDS application system	Implementing a quota block and prevent an over catch for the following year within the Indonesia CDS system	DGCF	Since 2015
3	Observer coverage	Improve observer coverage.	DGCF, RITF & Tuna Fisheries Association	2021
4	Early warning system	It will regularly notify associations and fishing companies of the SBT catch status as an early warning system to avoid over-catch. Reward and punishment application towards the catch quota/vessel	DGCF & Tuna Fisheries Association	2021 (Start 1st Quarter)
5	Tagging control	Reduce tagging on port activities	DGCF and Tuna Fisheries Association	2021
6	E-logbook	Improve e-logbook implementation for LL vessels above 30 GT as an obligation and under 30 GT as a voluntary.	DGCF & Tuna Fisheries Association	Since 2019
7	E-monitoring	E-monitoring for supporting/carrier fishing vessels and LL vessel above 100 GT	DGCF & Tuna Fisheries Association	2021

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period
8	Catch analysis by fishing area	Data analysis of SBT catches to identify SBT was caught weather at the territorial waters, archipelagic waters, Indonesian EEZ, or high seas. The data analysis will be conducted by overlaying various data such as CDS, fishing logbooks, e-Monitoring and VMS data.	DGCF, RITF	2021
9	Market trade data	Consolidation to all market data resources	DGCF, DGPCMF, AFQ, PUSDATIN, Statistics Indonesia, Indonesia Customs,	2021
10	Fisheries Improvement Program (FIP) for tuna longliner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve observer coverage.</li> <li>• Data collecting improvement</li> <li>• ERS mitigation</li> <li>• Improving compliance on the regulations related to longline tuna enforced by the Government</li> <li>• Conducting training and/or awareness activities to fishing industries to ensure compliance</li> </ul>	Tuna Fisheries Association	2021

Note:

MMAF = Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

DGCF = Directorate General of Capture Fisheries

DGMFRS = Directorate General of Marine and Fisheries Resources Surveillance

DGPCMF = Directorate General of Product Competitiveness of Marine and Fishery

DGSMFR = Directorate General of Surveillance on Marine Affairs and Fisheries Resources

AFQ = Agency of Fish Quarantine, Quality Control and Safety of Fishery Products

Indonesian Custom = Directorate General of Custom

BPS = Statistic Indonesia

PUSDATIN = Center for Data, Statistic, and Information, Statistics Indonesia-MMAF

RITF = Research Institute for Tuna Fisheries, MMAF

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



**みなみまぐろ保存委員会**

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

**7 September 2020  
Online**



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

*(Updated at the Twenty Seventh Annual Meeting – 12-16 October 2020)*

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);

### *Convention Area of the WCPFC*

- j) Resolution 2010/07 - Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks (*to be replaced by CMM 2019-04 on 1 November 2020*);
- k) Resolution 2011/04 - Conservation and Management Measure for Oceanic Whitetip Sharks (*to be replaced by CMM 2019-04 on 1 November 2020*);
- l) Resolution 2012/04 - Conservation and Management Measure on the protection of whale sharks from purse seine operations (*to be replaced by CMM 2019-04 on 1 November 2020*);
- m) Resolution 2013/08 - Conservation and Management Measure for Silky Sharks (*to be replaced by CMM 2019-04 on 1 November 2020*);
- n) Resolution 2014/05 - Conservation and Management Measures for Sharks (*to be replaced by CMM 2019-04 on 1 November 2020*);
- o) Resolution 2018/03 - Conservation and Management Measure to mitigate the impact of fishing for highly migratory fish stocks on seabirds;
- p) Resolution 2018/04 - Conservation and Management Measure of Sea Turtles;
- q) Resolution 2019/04 - Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks (*takes effect on 1 November 2020, when it replaces CMMs 2010-07, 2011-04, 2012-04, 2013-08, and 2014-05*);
- r) Resolution 2019/05 - Conservation and Management Measure on Mobulid Rays Caught in Association with Fisheries in the WCPFC Convention Area (*takes effect on 1 January 2021*);

*Convention Area of the ICCAT*

- s) 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;
- t) Resolution 03-10 on the shark fishery;
- u) Recommendation 04-10 concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT;
- v) Resolution 05-08 on circle hooks;
- w) Supplemental Recommendation 07-06 Concerning Sharks;
- x) Recommendation 07-07 on Reducing Incidental By-Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries;
- y) Recommendation 09-07 on the Conservation of Thresher Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries in the ICCAT Convention Area;
- z) Recommendation 10-06 on Atlantic Shortfin Mako Sharks Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries;
- aa) Recommendation 10-07 by ICCAT on the Conservation of Oceanic Whitetip Sharks caught in Association with fisheries in the ICCAT Convention Area;
- bb) Recommendation 10-08 on Hammerhead Sharks (family *Sphyrnidae*) caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by ICCAT;
- cc) Recommendation 10-09 on the By-catch of Sea Turtles in ICCAT Fisheries;
- dd) Recommendation 11-08 on the Conservation of Silky Sharks Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries;
- ee) Supplemental Recommendation 11-09 on Reducing Incidental By-Catch of Seabirds in ICCAT Longline Fisheries;
- ff) Recommendation 11-10 on Information Collection and Harmonization of Data on By-catch and Discards in ICCAT Fisheries;
- gg) Recommendation 13-10 on Biological Sampling of Prohibited Shark Species by Scientific Observers;
- hh) Recommendation 13-11 Amending Recommendation 10-09 on the By-Catch of Sea Turtles in ICCAT Fisheries;
- ii) Recommendation 14-06 on Shortfin Mako Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries;
- jj) Recommendation 15-06 on Porbeagle Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries;
- kk) Recommendation 16-12 on Management Measures for the Conservation of Atlantic Blue Shark Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries