

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Report of the Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission

**13 October 2021
Online**

Report of the Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission

13 October 2021

Online

Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting

1. Mr Max Kitchell (Australia) was confirmed as the Chair of the Twenty Eighth Annual meeting of the Commission (CCSBT 28) and Mr Arthur Hore (New Zealand) was confirmed as the Vice Chair of CCSBT 28.
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 Eighth Meeting of the Commission, which is at **Appendix 3**.

Agenda Item 3. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for CCSBT 29 and venue

6. New Zealand and Korea advised that they will nominate the Chair and Vice-Chair respectively for CCSBT 29 as soon as possible, and advise the Secretariat of those nominations.
7. CCSBT 29 will be held in New Zealand.

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 8:08 pm (Canberra time), on 13 October 2021.

List of Appendices

Appendix

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

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Agenda
Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna
Online

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 29 and venue
4. Other business
5. Adoption of report of meeting
6. Close of meeting

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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-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission

11 –13 October 2021

Online

**Report of the Extended Commission of the
Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission
11 –13 October 2021
Online**

Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting

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

1. Mr Max Kitchell (Australia) was confirmed as the Chair of the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Eighth meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT 28), and Mr Arthur Hore (New Zealand) 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 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/2110/04 and was considered during the pre-meeting discussion process. The report contained four matters for consideration by the EC as follow:

- Whether to renew the appointment of the Chair of the Compliance Committee (CC) for another term;
 - The process for recruitment of a new Executive Secretary;
 - Granting Long-term observer status for CC meetings to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) and BirdLife International; and
 - Granting Long-term observer status for CC, EC and Commission meetings to The Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew).
10. The Chair advised that Heads of Delegations have agreed to renew the appointment of the CC Chair for another three-year term and congratulated Mr Frank Meere on his reappointment.
 11. The meeting agreed to a modified process for recruitment of a new Executive Secretary, which is shown at **Attachment 6**.
 12. The meeting agreed to grant Long-term observer status for CC meetings to ACAP, BirdLife International and Pew, and for EC and Commission meetings to Pew.
 13. It was noted that the duration of “Long-term” observer status has not been defined. Instead, the Rules of Procedure state that the approvals for long-term observer status “will remain in-force until cancelled by the Commission”.
 14. The meeting noted the activities of the Secretariat as reported.

Agenda Item 3. Finance and Administration

15. The Chair advised that the Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) was announced intersessionally in Circular #2021/054. The Chair thanked Mr Vallières for agreeing to Chair the FAC again. It was also noted that the FAC has already commenced its work.
16. The Executive Secretary provided a brief presentation of the draft revised budget for 2021 (CCSBT-EC/2110/05), the proposed budget for 2022 and the indicative budget for 2023 - 2024 (CCSBT-EC/2110/06).
17. For the revised 2021 budget, the Executive Secretary noted that:
 - All Members paid their 2021 contributions to the CCSBT in full, with the only outstanding payment being \$5,539 by South Africa for CDS tags that were delivered to it in March 2021.
 - The expenditure for 2021 is forecast to be approximately \$625,000 less than approved for 2021. Cancellation of physical meetings and travel due to the COVID-19 pandemic is the primary reason for the reduced expenditure, however, \$150,000 of the reduced expenditure is due to deferral of some 2021 expenses to 2022.
18. The Executive Secretary noted that the 2022 draft budget and 2023 - 2024 indicative budget includes the funding required for the CCSBT’s usual business, including the Extended Scientific Committee’s (ESC) three-year workplan. The Executive Secretary advised that 2022 draft budget assumes that the 2022 OMMP, ESC, CC and EC meetings will proceed as physical meetings, however

there is no certainty that this will be possible and savings will be achieved if these meetings proceed as virtual meetings instead of as physical meetings.

19. The draft budget for 2022 proposes that Member contributions for 2022 remain at the same level as for 2021 and 2020. However, the Executive Secretary also warned that current Member contribution levels are not sufficient to cover the current annual running costs of the CCSBT. The budget paper advised that a gradual increase in Membership contributions of 3.5% per year from 2023 to 2026¹ together with usage of the remaining savings and the Contributions Stabilisation Fund would be sufficient to reach a contribution level that would cover the annual running costs of the CCSBT.
20. Detailed consideration of the two budget papers was referred to the FAC.
21. The FAC was convened to consider:
 - The revised budget for 2021;
 - The proposed budget for 2022; and
 - The indicative budget for 2023 - 2024.

3.1. Report from the Finance and Administration Committee

22. The EC thanked the FAC Chair and the FAC for its hard work.
23. The EC adopted the report of the FAC, noting the revised 2021 budget at Annex A, approving the budget for 2022 at Annex B and noting the indicative budgets for 2023-2024 at Annex C.
24. The full report of the FAC is provided at **Attachment 7**. Highlights include that that the overall financial situation for EC is that contributions are not meeting expenses and that there will need to be increased contributions or reduced expenditure in future years. The budget for 2022 includes a 1% increase in Member contributions for 2022.
25. There was substantial discussion regarding the e-tagging design study that was recommended by the ESC. This study has not been funded for 2022 and has instead been included in the indicative budget for 2023.
26. In relation to the e-tagging design study, Australia noted that the proposal was supported by the ESC and would allow for an assessment of the costs of benefits of long-term tagging work to confirm stock distribution, compare stock distribution to fishing effort, ensure CPUE data is meaningful, and estimate unaccounted for mortality. Australia further noted that changes in stock distribution due to climate change and other climate factors such as El Niño, and comparing distribution to fishing effort, were critical to ensure accuracy of data used in the stock assessment.
27. However, some Members had concerns about proceeding with the design study at this stage, given budget pressures and to allow strategic consideration of competing budget priorities. Accordingly, consideration of the e-tagging design

¹ With a possible smaller increase in 2027.

study was deferred until next year's ESC and EC for consideration under the SRP.

Agenda Item 4. Review of SBT Fisheries and ERS Interactions

28. The Chair noted the deliberations of the CC on Members' National Reports and invited Members to ask any questions regarding Members' National Reports additional to those already raised at the Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC16).
29. No additional questions were asked in relation to Members' National Reports.

4.1. Reports on Members' projects

30. Australia noted its paper CCSBT-EC/2110/23 on its progress towards implementation of stereo video (SV). Australia committed to implementing SV when the government's pre-conditions were met, i.e., when it could be demonstrated that SV is cost-effective and fully automated. Australia also noted that its planned SV trial had been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and was now undertaking a formal tender process for the trial which is now planned to commence in 2022.
31. Some Members expressed concerns with the delay in the commencement of the SV trial and noted that the results of the trial should be reviewed by the ESC.
32. Japan noted that it looks forward to the progress of SV trial and requested Australia to surely implement the trial in 2022. It also noted that the trial result should receive scientific review by the ESC.
33. New Zealand referred to its paper CCSBT-EC/2110/18 on reducing uncertainty in SBT farming statistics and asked Australia whether it would be able to make its Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) data available for review and analysis by ESC, given that the ESC had pointed out that such an analysis could be very helpful.
34. Australia stated that its current 100-fish sampling regime is accurate and precise, and further that the independent expert at the 2019 ESC meeting had advised that CDS data could only be used to give indirect estimates of catch.
35. New Zealand further noted that, in the current circumstances, an indirect estimate was better than nothing and that some Members did not consider Australia's current 100-fish sampling regime to be adequate, which is the reason why the SV trial was continually being encouraged.
36. The EC noted that:
 - Some Members had expressed concerns about the continued delay in SV implementation;
 - Australia advised it is making its best efforts to commence the SV trial under difficult pandemic circumstances and that, subject to the formal tender process, it will commence in 2022; and
 - Australia did not agree to make its CDS data available for review and analysis due to it being commercial in confidence data.

37. Japan presented an overview of its paper CCSBT-TCWG/2110/06² which provides updates on the Japanese Market Proposal. Japan also thanked Members for their intersessional work to agree to a Terms of Reference for the appointment of an external expert to conduct the market work, as well as for Members' initial recommendations regarding suitable experts.
38. Japan noted that with regard to the market work:
- The Secretariat will continue to provide additional information on markets in its Compliance with Measures paper (Attachment C) in 2022;
 - Japan will re-visit its proposal to develop a Resolution to seek the cooperation of non-Members after the conclusion of the Performance review and in consideration of that review's recommendations;
 - In 2022, the Secretariat will repeat its trial analysis for verification of reported catch by Members with CDS data and CDS tag survey data obtained from the Japanese market with some agreed improvements; and
 - A set of Recommendations on CDS tag attachment to try to improve the readability of tags in markets was agreed by CC16 (Attachment 4 of CC16 report).
39. In Japan's view, the tag management survey at Toyosu would benefit all Members and the cost should therefore be borne by the CCSBT. An intersessional group will be formed to discuss this matter further following CCSBT 28.
40. The meeting endorsed the selection of Dr Shelley Clarke as the external expert who will develop the methodology for the market proposal on verification of all Members' catch.
41. Australia supported Dr. Clarke's appointment and requested that Dr. Clarke's report should include all available datasets analysed, and requested that if some data-sets are not included, then a reason for their non-inclusion be provided within the report. Australia particularly referred to the data available from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) on the source country of SBT sold.

Agenda Item 5. Report from the Compliance Committee

42. The independent Chair of the Compliance Committee, Mr Frank Meere, presented the report of CC16, outlining key points. The report is provided at **Attachment 8**.
43. The CC Chair thanked participants for their efforts in responding to questions in the pre-meeting discussion documents which improved the overall transparency of the meeting, and for participating in a productive video conference meeting.
44. The CC Chair highlighted to the EC that South Africa did not attend CC16 but did respond to questions in the pre-meeting document. The CC Chair noted he had written to the Deputy Director General, Fisheries Management in the South African Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment about South

² This paper had already been discussed in detail at both TCWG2 and CC16.

Africa's non-attendance during CC16 but did not receive a reply prior to the close of CC16.

45. The CC Chair highlighted key compliance issues discussed by CC16 which were:
- There are no new serious compliance issues which require action under the Corrective Actions Policy³.
 - South Africa was found to be non-compliant, e.g., with respect to various CDS matters and non-submission of key data and reports. As a result, CC16 recommended that South Africa develop a plan, with associated timeframes, to address the issues of non-compliance identified by the CC.
 - As requested by EC 27, CC16 undertook a review of Indonesia's pay back plan and management measures and recommended that the revised payback figure submitted by Indonesia of 456.584t, which is 91.3 t annually over the five years, be agreed. CC16 was encouraged by the actions Indonesia reported it was taking and believed those actions to be consistent with the payback and management commitments Indonesia made at EC27. The CC Chair noted that given Indonesia's current catch at 30 September 2021, Indonesia only has 173.99 t of Total Available Catch (TAC) remaining to be taken between now and the end of December 2021.
46. The CC Chair noted some additional compliance issues discussed by CC16 which were:
- CDS implementation issues, ranging from significant recurring issues for South Africa to some minor ongoing issues for Korea and Australia;
 - Very late submission of port inspection reports (South Africa);
 - Continuing lack of full implementation of seabird mitigation measures by some Members;
 - The high percentage of unobserved at sea transshipments that occurred during 2020⁴ and so far reported for 2021; and
 - The low level of scientific observer coverage during 2020⁴.
47. The CC Chair also noted that no notifications had been received by the Executive Secretary in 2021 with respect to Compliance Policy Guideline 5 - Guideline on principles for action and steps to be taken in relation to extraordinary circumstances. However, Japan has advised that it will make a notification for August 2021 as soon as possible.
48. The CC Chair referred to the CC16 meeting report including the report's workplan (paragraph 142) and summarised the recommendations (and notes) to the EC which are provided in paragraphs 144 and 145 of the report respectively, including the recommendation that a TCWG meeting be held prior to CC17.
49. Australia proposed that work on depredation should be considered in conjunction with the ESC's research planning process and be prioritised accordingly. Australia also supported the CC recommendation to discuss the

³ Noting that Indonesia's over-catches in 2019 and 2020 are already being addressed and paid back under the Corrective Actions Policy.

⁴ Due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

possible use of electronic monitoring, mindful of progress being made by other RFMOs, to assist in reducing the uncertainties around CPUE, discarding, predation and seabird mortality.

50. New Zealand reiterated its concern at the high levels of seabird bycatch and noted the need to improve compliance with mitigation measures.
51. The EC Chair advised that the EC endorsed all of CC16's recommendations and notes with one exception and two minor updates:
 - Recommendation 1⁵ which was deferred for consideration until Agenda Item 7;
 - Recommendation 2 was modified to name the specific Members (Australia and New Zealand) that had offered to provide assistance to South Africa; and
 - Recommendation 7b was updated to include a note that the agreed revision to paragraph 1.2 of the CDS Resolution also needed to be reflected in appropriate revisions to the associated instructions in Appendix 1 of the CDS Resolution.⁶

Agenda Item 6. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee

52. The independent Chair of the ESC, Dr Kevin Stokes, presented the report of the ESC for the Twenty Sixth meeting of the Scientific Committee (SC 26), which is summarised in papers CCSBT-EC/2110/09 (Rev.1) and CCSBT-EC/2110/16, and is provided in full at **Attachment 9**.
53. It was recalled that, in 2020, EC 27 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. Members were requested to submit papers with ideas on how to improve the communication. The ESC Chair advised that "Chair's report of the Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Extended Scientific Committee" (CCSBT-EC/2110/09 (Rev.1)) was produced for the EC based on a recommendation by the ESC on this matter.
54. In response to questions from Members, the ESC Chair clarified that:
 - Total Reproductive Output (TRO) is similar to Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) as an indicator of the stock. SSB is an estimate of the weight of fish able to spawn, whereas TRO is not a weight and takes into account that some aged fish are more productive. The move from SSB to TRO has not had much impact on the results of the stock assessment and may even be slightly more optimistic.
 - Work on the new CPUE index is progressing well and it is expected that a revised and accepted CPUE series will be available next year.

⁵ CC16 Recommendation 1: *"That the revised payback figure submitted by Indonesia of 456.584 t which is 91.3 t annually over the five years be agreed. CC is encouraged by the actions that were reported back by Indonesia and believes that these are in keeping with the commitments made as part of the plans agreed at EC27, noting that with the current catch Indonesia only has 173.99 t available between now and the end of December"*.

⁶ The Secretariat will revise the instructions for CDS Resolution Appendix 1 in accordance with the agreed revision of paragraph 1.2.

- Fishery dependent indexes, such as CPUE and the trolling survey index, are not as robust as fishery independent indexes, such as the Close Kin mark recapture and Gene Tagging indexes, which provide more reliable estimates.
 - The ESC's new approach for prioritising research is intended to be forward looking and hopes to see proposals up to four years in advance.
 - An e-tagging project would provide a number of benefits to the EC, including reducing the uncertainty on the distributional range of the SBT, which has implications for CPUE interpretation and estimates of non-Member catches. The e-tagging design study will refine questions in relation to the benefits of e-tagging and compare different studies in terms of what benefits they provide, how feasible they are and how much they are likely to cost.
55. Members and the ESC Chair discussed the issue of communication between the ESC and EC. It was noted that:
- Members have three main stakeholder groups (fishery managers, scientists, and industry) that need improved understanding of the science, as well as an improved means to communicate the science results with each other.
 - Workshops or seminars in-country would be beneficial to communication. Participation of the Scientific Advisory Panel and the ESC Chair in such workshops would be helpful, noting the budgetary implications. Some Members are already planning to hold internal workshops.
 - Graphs of the science results are desirable, particularly in relation to trends, but can be misleading if too complex and interpreted incorrectly.
 - Part of the difficulty managers have in understanding the results of stock assessments and the Management Procedure (MP) is due to the complex uncertainties and the number of different scenarios and projections presented.
 - Predicted TAC histogram (as shown in Attachment 9 of ESC 26 report) is useful to supplement conventional projection graphs which may give wrong impression that median trajectory is the most likely. Predictions for the future, such as TAC, are desirable, noting that predicting the future carries risks and the predications could even be incorrect.
 - The idea of the ESC producing a non-technical summary of its report was supported.
 - Some scientists of developing Members are unable to attend some scientific meetings, such as the OMMP and ERSWG, which hinders their understanding of the science. The possibility of the CCSBT providing funding for some Member's scientists to attend meetings will be discussed in the FAC.
56. It was noted that the estimate in 2020 that the stock has recovered to 20% of initial TRO is a doubling of the stock since 2009, which is a significant rebuilding of the stock during this period.
57. Pew congratulated the EC for the success of its MP and for following its recommendations. The EC and ESC Chairs also stated that the science of the MP is world leading and is an excellent example of fisheries management to other RFMOs.

58. It was agreed that Members would provide suggestions on how the ESC can improve communication with the EC intersessionally. The Secretariat will compile responses for the next ESC meeting.
59. The EC adopted the report of the ESC, noting that the e-tagging component of the ESC's work program would be further considered in the FAC and that the recommendations on the TAC and Research Mortality Allowance would be discussed further at Agenda Item 7.

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 total SBT mortalities.
61. Most Members reported their total Attributable Catch as well as a breakdown of their SBT mortalities across different sectors. The EU emphasised that it forbids its vessels to target SBT and that it had 0 t of SBT catch in 2020. Table 1 summarises the Attributable Catches reported by each Member either during the meeting or in National Reports:

Table 1: Summary of Reported Attributable Catch (rounded to whole numbers)

| Member | Sector (t) | | | | Total Reported Attributable Catch (t) |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| | Commercial Catch | Releases/discards | Recreational | Customary | |
| Australia ⁷ | 5,429 | | 250 | | 5,679 |
| EU ⁸ | 0 | | | | 0 |
| Indonesia ⁸ | 1,298 | | | | 1,298 |
| Japan ⁹ | 5,870 | 48 | | | 5,918 |
| Korea ⁹ | 1,226 | 5 | | | 1,231 |
| New Zealand ⁷ | 857 | 20 | 49 | 0 | 926 |
| South Africa ⁹ | 118 | | 5 | | 123 |
| Taiwan ⁹ | 1,116 | 10 | | | 1,126 |

7.2. TAC Determination

62. The Chair noted that the CCSBT adopted a new MP at CCSBT 26 to guide the setting of the global total allowable catch for 2021 and beyond. The MP

⁷ 2019/20 season.

⁸ 2020 calendar year.

⁹ 2020/21 season.

recommended a SBT TAC of 17,647 tonnes per year for the 2021 to 2023 quota block¹⁰. The Chair further advised that a review by the ESC did not identify any exceptional circumstances, and therefore the ESC recommended that the 2022 SBT global TAC should remain at 17,647 t.

63. Humane Society International (HSI) stated that there had been very little consideration of the seabird conservation crisis in reviewing the SBT TAC and queried whether the current levels of seabird mortality should be seen as an extenuating circumstance, although HSI recognised that the adopted MP does not factor in seabird mortalities.
64. The ESC Chair confirmed that the MP considers only the SBT population and not the seabird population.
65. The EC endorsed the global SBT TAC of 17,647 t for the upcoming 2022 season.

7.3. Research Mortality Allowance

66. The Chair advised that CCSBT 27 agreed that an allocation of 6 t per year would continue to be made for Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) within the TAC for 2021 to 2023 and that the EC needs to decide whether to approve RMA requested for research projects in 2021/2022.
67. The EC approved a total of 6 tonnes of RMA requested for the following research projects in 2021/2022, which were endorsed by the ESC:
 - 1.75 t for the CCSBT Gene Tagging Project;
 - 0.5 t by Japan for trolling surveys of age-0 SBT in North-west Australia and age-1 SBT in South-west Australia;
 - 3.0 t by Australia for a project to trial the use of stereo video technology to determine the weight of catch taken in Australia's SBT farming sector; and
 - 0.75 t by Australia in the event that a small number of popup satellite tags are released in 2021-22 to examine localised Great Australian Bight (GAB) SBT movement and behaviour over the summer.

7.4. Allocation of TAC

68. The Chair advised that the allocations to Members for 2021 to 2023 were agreed at CCSBT 27, together with the effective catch limits for 2021. These allocations and catch limits are provided in Table 2 below.

¹⁰ This is the same TAC as for the 2018 to 2020 quota block.

Table 2: Allocations (tonnes of SBT) to Members for 2021 (and 2022).

| Member | (1) Nominal Allocation | (2) Nominal Catch Proportion | (3) Effective Catch Limit |
|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Japan | 6165.068 | 0.355643 | 6197.4 ¹¹ |
| Australia | 6165.068 | 0.355643 | 6238.4 ¹² |
| 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 ¹³ |
| European Union | 10.883 | 0.000628 | 11 |
| South Africa | 422.741 | 0.024387 | 455.3 ¹⁴ |

69. The Chair further advised that there are two items that require specific consideration under this agenda item:

- The current effective catch limit for Indonesia of 1,122.8 t includes a special temporary allowance of 80 t¹⁵. The EC needs to consider the information provided to CC16 on Indonesia's compliance with its Payback Plan (including that no further over-catch has occurred), and progress with its management plan, and decide whether to endorse the continuation of this special temporary allowance (80 t) to Indonesia for the upcoming 2022 season.
- Indonesia's proposed revised Payback Plan (item b. of paper CCSBT-CC/2110/19) is shown in Table 3 below. The EC needs to decide whether to endorse the modified Payback Plan, which reduced the annual payback from 91.8 t to 91.3 t per year due to a lower than anticipated catch in 2020.

Table 3: Indonesia's Proposed Revised Gradual Payback Plan

| TAC 2020 after pay back | Total catch 2020 | Final total over- catch 2020 | Gradual Pay Back (5 years) | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| | | | Year | Pay Back |
| 841t | 1,298t | 457t | 2022 | 91.3 t |
| | | | 2023 | 91.3 t |
| | | | 2024 | 91.3 t |
| | | | 2025 | 91.3 t |
| | | | 2026 | 91.3 t |

¹¹ 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.

¹² Includes a deduction of 7 t for Australia's voluntary transfer to Indonesia.

¹³ Includes voluntary transfers to Indonesia of 21 t from Japan, 7 t from Australia and the special temporary allowance of 80 t.

¹⁴ Includes a voluntary transfer of 27 t to South Africa from Japan.

¹⁵ This special temporary allowance of 80 t to Indonesia does not affect the nominal catch level or nominal catch percentage levels in the Annex of the Resolution on the Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch.

70. The Chair noted that CC16 had reviewed Indonesia's implementation of its payback plan and its advice to EC was, *"That the revised payback figure submitted by Indonesia of 456.584 t which is 91.3 t annually over the five years be agreed. CC is encouraged by the actions that were reported back by Indonesia and believes that these are in keeping with the commitments made as part of the plans agreed at EC27, noting that with the current catch Indonesia only has 173.99 t available between now and the end of December"*.
71. Members expressed their appreciation of the actions Indonesia is taking to remain within its plans and TAC. Some Members expressed concern that there is a risk Indonesia might potentially over-catch SBT in 2021, especially since Indonesia often has increased catches during the fourth quarter of the year. One Member queried what will happen to Indonesia's Payback Plan and allocation if an over-catch does occur during 2021. Some Members noted that it was their understanding that the 80 t special allowance is dependent on Indonesia remaining within its payback plan and TAC, but that it was too early to discuss what might happen if there is an over-catch in 2021.
72. Indonesia advised Members that it had already put in place several mechanisms to prevent future over-catches including an early warning system, as well as the potential to require that association members do not fish in particular areas within specified timeframes.
73. Indonesia also stated that if the worst case occurred and there was another over-catch, then it would absolutely follow the Corrective Actions Policy and modify its Payback Plan to take account of any additional over-catch. Indonesia reiterated that it did not want to lose its 80 t temporary allowance as it is very important to the livelihood of its industry, small scale and artisanal fisheries, therefore it was trying its best to follow its payback and management plans. Indonesia also mentioned that it is trying to implement the workplan including increasing its observer coverage although increased coverage is subject to budgetary constraints.
74. The meeting recognised Indonesia's endeavours to comply with its payback and management plans and noted some Members' concerns that Indonesia could still potentially exceed its TAC limit during 2021.
75. Given the information available to date and taking into account CC's recommendation, the EC agreed:
- That the special temporary allowance of 80 t for Indonesia should continue into 2022;
 - The allocations summarised in Table 2 above; and
 - Indonesia's modified payback plan in Table 3 above.

Agenda Item 8. Ecologically Related Species (ERS)

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

Update to CCSBT's Resolution on Ecologically Related Species (ERS)

77. The meeting agreed to adopt the changes to the CCSBT's ERS Alignment Resolution¹⁶ that were proposed in paper CCSBT-EC/2110/11 from the Secretariat. The revised ERS Resolution adopted by the EC is shown at **Attachment 10**.

Members' performance with respect to ERS

78. The Secretariat's report on Members' performance with respect to ERS was presented to the CC as paper CCSBT-CC/2110/05. The CC discussed this paper at its meeting in the previous week and the EC agreed that it did not need to discuss this paper further.

Draft Agenda for the 14th Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG)

79. The Chair advised that the next meeting of the ERSWG is planned to be held during March 2022 and it is likely to be held as a virtual meeting.
80. The Secretariat provided a draft agenda for the next ERSWG meeting in paper CCSBT-EC/2110/12.
81. There was no support to a suggestion from HSI that the ERSWG meeting consider possible changes to paragraph 7 of the ERS Alignment Resolution. Similarly, there was no support for including an agenda item for the ERSWG to formulate a submission requesting the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) to provide advice on the relative efficacy of the mitigation measure options.
82. There was support for ACAP, as the expert organisation in this field, to provide a presentation to the ERSWG on best practices for mitigation of seabird bycatch.
83. ACAP advised that ACAP would be happy to present the upcoming ERSWG with an update on its best practice advice, noting that its recently concluded Working Group and Advisory Committee meetings adopted new guidelines and updated best practice mitigation measures that will be of interest to the ERSWG, together with an update on population trends for ACAP listed species in the CCSBT area. ACAP's recent meetings also endorsed guidelines on electronic monitoring that would be relevant to planned discussions on EMS at the next TCWG meeting.
84. Members discussed the need for annual ERSWG meetings. It was agreed that ERS bycatch, in particular seabirds, was an important issue that needed more focus, and annual meetings would help to provide that. Some Members noted that this would be an extra burden on relevant officials and scientists and they were not ready to agree to annual meetings. It was noted that virtual meetings could complement physical meetings to help reduce costs.
85. Members agreed that the agenda for the next ERSWG meeting should include an item to discuss how to provide more focus on ERS species, especially seabirds, and the need for annual ERSWG meetings.

¹⁶ Resolution to Align CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs.

86. The agreed draft agenda for the next ERSWG meeting is shown at **Attachment 11**, noting that there will be a further opportunity for Members to add agenda items in the usual process for setting the Provisional Agenda. It was also agreed that a pre-meeting discussion process for “simple” agenda items will be established through Circulars in advance of the virtual meeting, together with a prioritisation of agenda items.

Other ERS matters

87. HSI commented that it considers that Member’s identified performance failings with respect to ERS warrants a TAC determination pause to allow the outstanding ERS related issues to receive attention. If not, and if a TAC increase is recommended for 2024-2026, HSI believes that even more seabirds will be killed by the corresponding fishing effort increase which will deepen the seabird conservation crisis. HSI further commented that the seabird crisis is largely driven by non-compliance with seabird mitigation measures, and that electronic monitoring could help improve the current inability to adequately verify compliance.
88. Despite the opinion of HSI, Members agreed that ERS issues should be considered separately to the SBT stock, and that it was not appropriate to consider ERS matters as exceptional circumstances in relation to the MP and the TAC.

Agenda Item 9. Report of the Performance Review of the CCSBT

89. The Chair advised that the CCSBT Performance Review process commenced in November 2020 and that it was originally intended that the final report would be available at EC 28. However, the review panel had an extremely sad start - the original Chair of the Review Panel, Bill Gibbons-Fly, resigned and the replacement Chair, Professor Fábio Hazin, tragically passed away from COVID-19 in June 2021. Professor Hazin had already done a large amount of work before he passed and the meeting recognised this and expressed its sincere thanks.
90. The Chair explained that the loss of two Performance Review Chairs and two panellists part way through the Panel’s work had been a major setback and that consequently the EC had agreed to make some changes to the performance review process as follows:
- Mr. Hussain Sinan was appointed as the new Chair of the Performance Review Panel;
 - It was agreed that an interim Performance Review report be provided to the EC 28 in October 2021; and
 - The timeframe for completion of the final Performance Review report was extended until 1 March 2022.
91. The meeting thanked Mr Sinan for agreeing to take on the role of the Chair of the Performance Review Panel at extremely short notice, and also thanked the other panel members, Mr Dominic Vallières from New Zealand, Professor Indra Jaya from Indonesia and Mr Hong-Yen Huang from Taiwan.

92. The Chair of the CCSBT Performance Review, Mr Hussain Sinan, presented the interim report of the Panel (paper CCSBT-EC/2110/20). Mr Sinan highlighted the Panel's key findings to date under the following four sub-headings:

- **Conservation and Management (Science)**

- CCSBT's SBT scientific work and its incorporation in management is exceptional.
- CCSBT needs a renewed focus (time and resources) for management of non-target species.
- CCSBT has limited technical capacity for sophisticated computational models and emerging scientific processes. Capacity building is key to bridge the gap.
- Limited observer coverage has been problematic in particular for non-target species.
- Accuracy, reliability and timeliness of data is vital for stock-assessments. CCSBT should fast-track the e-reporting systems.

- **Conservation and Management (Management)**

- SBT Management has improved significantly as evident from the improvement in stock status.
- Measures to mitigate ERS species are not being implemented or fully implemented.
- Concerns of poor communication between scientists and managers. This might pose a risk for the management in the future.
- Needs to be a mechanism to revisit the allocation process that reflects international agreements.

- **Compliance and Enforcement**

- CCSBT's MCS measures are in place, well-documented and easily accessible.
- Lack of observer coverage and representativeness is an issue that needs to be dealt with.
- Further improvements in CDS – timely reporting & improvement in quality. The eCDS will tackle some of these issues.
- Catch tagging forms, farm stocking forms and farm transfer forms are collected as part of the CDS. However, they're not used by the Secretariat, the CC, nor the ESC.
- Absence of a follow-up process in compliance matters, in particular Quality Assurance Reviews (QARs).

- **Financial and Administrative Matters**

- Lack of communication between subsidiary bodies and the Finance and Administration Committee;
- The importance of establishing a reserve/savings fund; and
- The CCSBT Secretariat's work is commendable.

93. One Member made specific comments regarding paragraphs 52, 68, 86, 90, 110, 116 and 134 of the Panel's interim report highlighting that more detail could be appropriate to be presented in the final report, notably to avoid confusion and not to lead to possible conflict among Members. Another Member requested

that in the final report, the Panel provide more specific details for the rationale for the likely recommendation articulated in paragraph 52 of the interim report to allow Members to better understand and discuss this point next year (2022).

94. Japan commented that, in relation to non-target species, the CCSBT Convention pre-dated some of the more recent RFMO Conventions and that therefore it may not specifically mention non-target species. In addition, it mentioned that given the CCSBT does not have a spatially defined Convention Area, it is important that the CCSBT aligns its measures with those of other RFMOs, in particular for non-target species.
95. One Member had no specific comment on draft recommendations but noted that the themes of the report, such as the need for a more strategic approach, were consistent with issues discussed by the CCSBT in recent years.
96. In response to questions, Mr Sinan advised that:
 - The general format and tone of the interim report had been guided by the Performance Review terms of reference; and
 - That the Panel had identified some duplicative areas in existing CCSBT reporting templates.
97. The meeting again thanked the CCSBT Performance Review Panel for its hard work.
98. The Executive Secretary noted that no formal feedback process had been envisaged regarding the interim performance review report but urged any Members who had views they had not yet expressed to provide these to the Panel as soon as possible.
99. The meeting agreed that all 2022 meetings of CCSBT subsidiary bodies (ERSWG, ESC and the CC) should consider any pertinent recommendations made by the performance review panel in its final report¹⁷, and provide advice to CCSBT 29 on any final recommendations relating to them.
100. The Chair noted that the terms of reference for the performance review stated that, “*the EC will decide whether there are any urgent recommendations that need early implementation*”, and that Members should consider this possibility even though only the interim report is currently available. Members did not identify any interim recommendations to consider implementing immediately.

Agenda Item 10. Relationship with Non-Members

101. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.
102. The Secretariat submitted paper CCSBT-EC/2110/13 which summarised the Secretariat’s interactions with non-Members since CCSBT 27. China, Fiji, Mauritius, Namibia, Singapore and the USA were invited to attend this meeting and CC16.

¹⁷ These will be available by 1 March 2022.

103. The EC agreed to invite China, Fiji, Mauritius, Singapore and the USA to participate as observers at CC 17 and CCSBT 29.
104. Members noted that there have been difficulties obtaining responses from non-Members in the past despite endeavours from the Secretariat and Members. It was considered important to engage with those that are potentially catching SBT or are an important port or market State. Members generally agreed that a different and stronger strategy might be required. One Member commented that the CCSBT is a multilateral international platform and all communications from the CCSBT, such as invitations, should be in a standard format.
105. China's domestic regulation to avoid catching and forbidding retention of SBT was noted, but it wasn't known if this regulation has been effectively implemented.
106. Members were encouraged to engage with non-Members at a diplomatic level and in other RFMOs, as this approach has provided some results in the past.
107. It was agreed that New Zealand will consider a strategy with alternative approaches to non-Members and present it to the next EC meeting.
108. The Meeting thanked the United States for its continued cooperation with the CCSBT's Catch Documentation Scheme.

Agenda Item 11. Activities with Other Organisations

11.1. Reports from other RFMO meetings of interest

109. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.
110. The Chair advised that CCSBT Members act as CCSBT observers at RFMO meetings of interest, and these Members provide reports back to the CCSBT on matters of relevance in order to improve coordination with other RFMOs.
111. The following reports were provided by Members as part of their Observer duties for the CCSBT.
 - Korea's report (CCSBT-EC/2110/19) on the 17th Regular Session of the WCPFC;
 - New Zealand's report (CCSBT-EC/2110/24) on the 39th Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR);
 - Indonesia's report (CCSBT-EC/2110/25 in relation to the Twenty Fifth session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC);
 - Japan's report (CCSBT-EC/2110/22) on the 2020 Discussions on Essential Commission Business in lieu of the 22nd Special Meeting of The International Commission for The Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT); and
 - Taiwan's report (CCSBT-EC/2110/17) in relation to the 98th Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC).

112. It was agreed that the following Members would act as Observers to other RFMOs on behalf of CCSBT during 2021/22:

- 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 12. Confidentiality of Data and Documents

12.1. Confidentiality of reports and documents from 2021

113. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.
114. The meeting agreed that all the reports of meetings and documents submitted to meetings under the jurisdiction of CCSBT 28 would be made publicly available with the following exception that was listed in the Secretariat's paper CCSBT-EC/2110/15:
- Attachment A of paper CCSBT-ESC/2108/04 from the Secretariat titled "Secretariat Review of Catches".
115. The EU advised that paper CCSBT-CC/2110/09 on a "Desktop (Phase 1) Quality Assurance Review of the European Union (EU)" should be restricted until the end of CCSBT 28" and that it may be publicly released with other documents immediately on conclusion of the meeting.

Agenda Item 13. Meetings for 2022

116. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.
117. New Zealand, the meeting host for 2022, advised that it hoped to hold face-to-face ESC, TCWG, CC and EC meetings, but that it could not yet predict whether this will be possible.
118. Indonesia advised that, due to budgetary constraints, it probably will not be able to attend any face-to-face RFMO meetings in 2022.
119. The meeting noted that it should be technically possible to hold hybrid meetings with some participants being physically present and others participating virtually. However, it was also commented that this style of meeting would disadvantage the delegation(s) attending virtually.
120. It was agreed that the 14th meeting of the ERSWG would be held online, from 21 to 25 March 2022.
121. The EC agreed that the dates for physical ESC, TCWG, CC and EC meetings in New Zealand during 2022 will be:
- The 27th ESC meeting, from 29 August to 3 September 2022;

- The 3rd TCWG Meeting, 5 October 2022;
 - The 17th CC Meeting, from 6 to 8 October 2022; and
 - The 29th EC Meeting, from 10 to 13 October 2022.
122. It was further agreed that if the ESC, TCWG, CC and/or EC meetings become virtual meetings, the new dates would become:
- ESC: 29 August to 6 September (with a rest day on the Sunday);
 - TCWG: 3 October;
 - CC: 4-7 October; and
 - EC: 10-14 October.

Agenda Item 14. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the 29th Annual Meeting of the CCSBT

123. The Chair advised that there were no nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the EC, and that consequently, the Chair and Vice-Chair will be determined in accordance with past practice and the rotation of meetings. Therefore, New Zealand will be Chair of the EC and Korea will be Vice-Chair.
124. The Chair requested that New Zealand and Korea provide their nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair to the Secretariat as soon as possible.
125. New Zealand advised that it is not yet able to nominate the Chair, and that in the meantime it will nominate an Acting Chair to deal with any essential matters such as the recruitment process for the new Executive Secretary.
126. Korea advised that it will nominate a Vice Chair as soon as possible.

Agenda Item 15. Other Business

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

Agenda Item 16. Close of Meeting

16.1. Adoption of report

128. The report of the meeting was adopted.

16.2. Close of meeting

129. The meeting closed at 7:59 pm (Canberra time), 13 October 2021.

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. Process for Recruitment of a new Executive Secretary for the CCSBT
7. Report of the Finance and Administration Committee
8. Report of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee
9. Report of the Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Scientific Committee
10. Resolution to Align CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species measures with those of other tuna RFMOs
11. Draft Agenda for the Fourteenth meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group

List of Participants
The Extended Commission of the Twenty Eighth Annual Commission Meeting

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Agenda
Extended Commission of the Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission
11 - 13 October 2021
Online

1. Opening of the Meeting
 - 1.1. Confirmation of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Commission
 - 1.2. Adoption of Agenda
 - 1.3. Opening Statements
 - 1.3.1. Members
 - 1.3.2. Observers
2. Report from the Secretariat
3. Finance and Administration
 - 3.1. Report from the Finance and Administration Committee
4. Review of SBT Fisheries and ERS Interactions
 - 4.1. Reports on Members' projects
5. Report from the 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. Report of the Performance Review of the CCSBT
10. Relationship with non-Members
11. Activities with Other Organisations
 - 11.1. Reports from other RFMO meetings of interest
12. Confidentiality of Data and Documents
 - 12.1. Confidentiality of reports and documents from 2021
13. Meetings for 2022

14. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the CCSBT
15. Other Business
16. Close of Meeting
 - 16.1. Adoption of report
 - 16.2. Close of meeting

List of Documents

The Extended Commission of the Twenty Eighth Annual Commission Meeting

(CCSBT-EC/2110/)

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. Draft List of Documents
4. (Secretariat) Report from the Secretariat (EC agenda item 2)
5. (Secretariat) Draft Revised 2021 Budget (EC agenda item 3)
6. (Secretariat) Draft 2022 and indicative 2023 - 2024 Budgets (EC agenda item 3)
7. (Secretariat) Review of SBT Fisheries and ERS Interactions (EC agenda item 4)
8. (Secretariat) Report from the Compliance Committee (EC agenda item 5)
9. (SC Chair) Chair's report of the Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Extended Scientific Committee (Rev.1)
(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) Draft Agenda for ERSWG 14 (EC Agenda item 8)
13. (Secretariat) Relationship with Non-Members (EC agenda item 10)
14. (Secretariat) Activities with Other Organisations (EC agenda item 11)
15. (Secretariat) Confidentiality of Data and Documents (EC agenda item 12)
16. (SC Chair) Presentation of the Report of the 26th Meeting of the Scientific Committee incorporating the Extended Scientific Committee (EC agenda item 6)
17. (Taiwan) Report from the CCSBT Observer (TAIWAN) on the 98th Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
(EC Agenda item 11.1)
18. (New Zealand) Reducing uncertainty in SBT farming statistics
(EC Agenda item 4.1)
19. (Korea) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the Seventeenth Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)
(EC Agenda item 11.1)
20. (CCSBT) 2021 CCSBT Interim Performance Review (EC Agenda item 9)
21. (CCSBT) 2021 CCSBT Performance Review - Views of stakeholders
(EC Agenda item 9)

22. (Japan) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the 2020 Discussions on Essential Commission Business in Lieu of The 22nd Special Meeting of The International Commission for The Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
(EC Agenda item 11.1)
23. (Australia) Australia's progress towards implementation of stereo video (EC Agenda item 4.1)
24. (New Zealand) Report from the CCSBT Observer (New Zealand) to the 39th Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Living Resources (EC Agenda item 11.1)
25. (Indonesia) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the 25th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (EC Agenda item 11.1)

(CCSBT-EC/2110/Rep)

1. Report of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2021)
2. Report of the Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (August 2021)
3. Report of the Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2020)
4. Report of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2020)
5. Report of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2020)
6. Report of the Eleventh Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Meeting (June 2020)
7. Report of the Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2019)
8. Report of The Thirteenth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (May 2019)
9. Report of the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2018)

(Documents to be discussed from the Compliance Committee Meeting)¹

(CCSBT-CC/2110/SBT Fisheries -)

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|----------------|---|
| Australia | Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission |
| European Union | Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission |

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

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Indonesia | Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission |
| Japan | Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission |
| 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 (Rev.2) |
| Taiwan | Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission (Rev.1) |

(CCSBT-CC/2110/)

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. List of Documents
4. (Secretariat) Compliance with CCSBT Management Measures (Rev.1)
(CC agenda item 2.1)
5. (Secretariat) Annual Report on Members' implementation of ERS measures and performance with respect to ERS (CC agenda item 2.1)
6. (Secretariat) Corrective Actions Policy: Review of Indonesia's Implementation of its Payback Plan (CC agenda item 2.4.2)
7. (Secretariat) Progress Report on 2021 Compliance Committee WorkPlan Items
(CC agenda item 4)
8. (Secretariat) Operation of CCSBT MCS Measures (Rev.1)
(CC agenda items 2.2.2 and 5)
9. (CCSBT) Quality Assurance Review of the EU On behalf of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CC agenda item 7.1.2)
10. (Secretariat) Proposed Revisions to the CCSBT's CDS Resolution
(CC agenda item 7.3)
11. (Secretariat) Potential Non-Member Fishing Activity/Trade & Trade Summaries
(CC agenda item 7.4)
12. (Secretariat) Draft Revised Minimum Performance Requirements (MPRs) (CC agenda item 8.1)
13. (Secretariat) Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with Other Bodies and Organisations (CC agenda item 8.3)

14. (Secretariat) Progress Update on the CCSBT's On-line Data Submission/ Access Project (CC agenda item 9.1)
15. (Secretariat) Progress Update on the CCSBT's Trial eCDS Project (CC agenda item 9.2)
16. (Secretariat) Pilot analysis for verification of reported catch by Members with CDS data and tag survey data obtained from Japanese market (CC agenda item 7.2.2)
17. (Australia) Compliance Assessment Process - Reporting from the intersessional correspondence group (CC agenda item 7.1.1)
18. (New Zealand) Report back from the intersessional discussion group on predated southern bluefin tuna (CC agenda item 6)
19. (Indonesia) Implementation of the Indonesia's payback plan on the over catch of 2020 (CC agenda item 2.4.2)
20. (Indonesia) Implementation of Indonesia's work plan to remain within TAC for 2021 (CC agenda item 2.4.2)
21. (Indonesia) Further investigation into discrepancies between COMTRADE and Indonesia CDS data (CC agenda item 4)
22. (BirdLife and CCSBT) Update on the Project for Enhancing the Implementation of Ecologically Related Species Seabird Measures within CCSBT Fisheries (Rev.2) (CC agenda item 10)
23. (Pew Charitable Trusts) A Comparative Analysis of AIS Data with the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Statistical Areas Reported Transshipment Activity in 2019 (CC agenda item 7.4)

(CCSBT-TCWG/2110/)

4. (Secretariat) Background Paper for the 7 & 8 April 2021 eCDS Working Group (CC agenda item 9.2)
5. (Secretariat) Background Paper #2 for the eCDS Working Group: Error checking in the eCDS (Rev.1) (CC agenda item 9.2)
6. (Japan) Update on Japanese market proposal (CC agenda item 7.2.1 and 7.2.3)

Opening Statement by Australia

On behalf of the Australian delegation, I would like to welcome you to CCSBT28, for which Australia is the host this year. Once again, we find ourselves meeting virtually, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We recognise the limitations of meetings of this type which provide only limited opportunities to meet informally to find solutions to issues. However, I understand Compliance Committee was able to complete its work last week with a great deal of flexibility and goodwill. Australia thanks all Members for their constructive approach to this important work which I'm sure will continue this week. We are hopeful that face to face meetings can resume next year.

We 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 and video conference organisation has been excellent, and the pre-meeting discussion process, which we see as particularly useful and efficient and something we could adopt for future meetings even after the current restrictions end.

Australia would also like to thank our translators who have the difficult task of keeping up with complex discussions, and on whom we rely on so heavily. The added complexity of virtual meetings must make their work even more challenging.

Australia has made some good progress since our meeting last year. We continue to progress a trial of stereo video systems available worldwide and look forward to reporting on the outcome of that work upon completion. We are also putting in place measures to improve the return of our CDS import forms.

Australia will continue to advocate strongly for the broad adoption of electronic monitoring systems throughout SBT fisheries noting likely improvements in reporting of catch, discards and ecologically related species interactions. EM may also help us better understand and tackle the seabird bycatch problem in part of the fishery, which has to be one of the highest priorities for the Commission now.

Australia takes to opportunity to express our support for CCSBT Members who continue to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and note the very real impacts it is causing across industry, government, and the wider community. We note in particular South Africa's circumstances and wish them well moving forward.

Australia remains committed to working constructively with all members this week 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 once again very happy to participate in the Annual Meeting of the CCSBT Extended Commission. We would like to thank the Secretariat for the hard and competent work dedicated to the preparation of this virtual meeting as well as for the progress achieved in the pre-meeting exchanges and the support provided to delegations.

We all continue suffering from the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic but we trust, that again, with the constant support of the Secretariat and the efforts made by Members and stakeholders, fishing activities will remain on track and the SBT stock keeps rebuilding. In this difficult framework, we 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. As in previous years with regard to Ecological Related Species (ERS), 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 the management of information related to SBT markets, we are very keen to follow the progress accomplished since the last plenary. The EU encourages a prompt catch up of the delays in implementing the stereo-video technology that is the best available methodology for estimating the weight of SBT in farms. Moreover, the EU, recognising the efforts made during the intersessional period, would like to push for more accuracy on the information concerning SBT markets.

The EU is pleased with the conclusions of its desktop Quality Assurance Review (QAR) as discussed in the Compliance Committee. This QAR provides some guidance in respect to possible adjustments in the European Monitoring, Surveillance and Control mechanisms and necessary tunings in relevant CCSBT Resolutions.

With regard to the conclusions of the Compliance Committee and particularly the introduction of electronic monitoring mechanisms, the EU globally supports innovation but remains seeking convergence and complementarity with the situation of other tuna RFMOs.

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, Taiwan is delighted to participate in the 28th meeting of the CCSBT. On behalf of My delegation, I would like to extend our appreciation to Mr. Kennedy, the Executive Secretary, and the Secretariat staff for your excellent work in arranging all the virtual meetings and preparing the comprehensive meeting documents. Besides, taking this opportunity, I would like to express our gratitude to the Performance Review Panel Chair and all the panelists for conducting the review under the extraordinary circumstances, and express our deepest condolences to the family and friends of the late Panel Chair, Dr. Fábio Hazin.

This year has been extraordinarily challenging for both the government and the industry. The fisheries operation has been greatly affected by the second wave of the COVID-19 in Taiwan, which leads to some of the management measures are forced to be conducted through alternative means. For example, the deployment of the IOTC ROP observers and the members' scientific observer program has been significantly reduced or ceased. Even in such a situation, Taiwan, as a cooperating member of the CCSBT, commits and makes its effort to comply with all Resolution of the CCSBT and the Conservation and Management Measure of relevant RFMOs for the Ecologically Related Species, and we also have taken the appropriate measures to mitigate the impact of the extraordinary circumstances to the greatest extent possible.

Regarding the allocation of the total allowable catch (TAC) of Southern Bluefin Tuna, one of the critical issues for the 26th Extended Scientific Committee recommends was that the TAC in 2022 remains at 17,647 tones, which indicates that the stock is expected to maintain on the path of rebuilding under current management procedure. Taiwan is glad to see the positive outcome of the SBT stock, and we also believe that a solid monitoring scheme and implementation of corrective action, if needed, to its full extent is critical for long-term conservation and sustainable utilisation of the resources.

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

We wish for a successful meeting, thank you.

Opening Statement by Indonesia

Honourable Chair

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

To begin with, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, I would like to thank the Secretariat for the effective and efficient ways to facilitate the virtual 28th Annual Meeting amidst the obstacles of the lingering Covid-19 pandemic since last year. I am also taking this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the Chair of the Extended Commission, Mr. Max Kitchell, Executive Secretary, Mr. Robert Kennedy, and all Chairs of the Committees and Working Groups 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.

Further, I would like to retake this opportunity to express our solidarity with Member States who are fighting against 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. This meeting is thus 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.

Honourable Chair and distinguished delegates,

In principle, Indonesia strongly keeps the commitments made as part of the plans agreed in EC27 meeting to ensure Indonesia's catch remaining within TAC for 2021. To date, Indonesia has implemented most of the work plan that was submitted the last year, and will continue to implement the work plan as we know that we have a payback plan for our over-catch in 2022.

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 preferred policy framework.

Regarding electronic catch documentation scheme, Indonesia will continue to participate in the trial of e-CDS. Indonesia has experiences in implementing our own e-CDS since 2015. It has gone through several improvements to adapt to the needs and practicality, with the aim at better data monitoring on SBT catch.

Honourable Chair and distinguished delegates,

As we acknowledge, SBT migrates within the Indonesian fisheries management areas and goes even further within the first 12 nautical miles from the Indonesia coastlines, where the SBT spawning areas are located. The natural behaviour of such SBT makes

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

This condition should be considered to be unique and special features of Indonesia which distinguishes Indonesia from other Parties to CCSBT and which also has a long history of SBT resource user. Therefore, we hope that the next discussion on the new TAC will include a pathway towards fairness and impartial consideration for developing coastal state rights and interest.

Honourable Chair and distinguished delegates,

To conclude my remarks, I hope that all of the critical agendas to be deliberated this week in this Commission meeting will provide 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. May all of us 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. It is a very sad news that Mr. Kennedy will retire from the Executive Secretary's position next year. I would like to express our sincere appreciation to his wide, long and excellent contributions to the CCSBT so far. We should do our best to find out equally capable candidates for his successor.

While it is my first time to participate in CCSBT meeting, I have heard a lot of CCSBT's good international reputation for its well-established harvest strategy based on the Management Procedure (MP). Meanwhile, 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. The progress should receive scientific review by the Scientific Committee in terms of reduction of uncertainty.

Also, following the last year's discussion, Japan has presented a comprehensive update for the Commission-wide catch verification scheme utilising market information. 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 five-day meeting.

Thank you very much.

Opening Statement by New Zealand

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

Greetings to CCSBT members and observers.

We meet again in a virtual environment and I would like to acknowledge the challenges we all face in dealing with the global pandemic that has beset us. In this regard, New Zealand extends its appreciation to the Secretariat for working assiduously to maintain the work of the Commission during these difficult times. Our appreciation is also extended to the Chairs and members of the subsidiary committees of the Commission and the intersessional working groups that continued their business during the year. Particular thanks go to the members of the performance review panel who had their own special and tragic challenges to deal with.

As usual we have several important issues to consider at this meeting and we look forward to working with Members towards a constructive outcome. Our thoughts also extend to next year's meeting, which New Zealand will host. It is perhaps too early to predict whether we will meet in person but it will be at this meeting that we decide the global catch limit for the next three year quota block. We believe that next year's decisions should be informed by the best information that we have available and we encourage best endeavours to reduce the uncertainties that have plagued past Commission meetings. We acknowledge the efforts of Japan in this regard.

We look forward to hearing the views of Members on the issues before us this week.

Kia kaha colleagues

Opening Statement by the Republic of Korea

Greetings from Sejong, Korea.

We would like to start our opening statement by thanking the Executive Secretary and Secretariat staff for organising this virtual meeting in such a smooth and stable manner despite all the constraints stemming from the pandemic. It's a pity that we have not been able to have in-person meetings for two years in a row now and we sincerely hope that 2022 will bring us good news regarding COVID-19 situation.

We believe that the most important achievements that CCSBT accomplished in recently years, among others, are the establishment and continuous improvement of MP as well as the ongoing recovery of the SBT resources. Although there still is some room for further refinement of the MP and the stock remains below the level estimated to produce MSY, the rebuilding pace of 5% per year over the last 10 years is something we can be proud of and we appreciate the strong commitments and contributions of CCSBT Members. We have no doubt that all Members will continue to do their best for the conservation and optimum utilisation of SBT stock based on the existing CCSBT Resolutions and other rules in place. Most of all, we are mindful of the importance of scientific data submission and compliance with the TAC or national allocation. Although the COVID-19 still has a lingering negative impact on Members ability to fulfill their obligations under CCSBT Resolutions, we believe that the current difficult situation will come to an end soon.

At the same time, in order for us to be able to continue this successful management of SBT stock, we believe that the dialogue or communication among scientists, fisheries managers, fishers and NGOs are crucial. Especially, those elements related to scientific work of the Commission such as stock assessment and running of MP are very difficult for non-scientists to understand, and we would like to explore a possible way to enhance the dialogue or communication between scientists and other stakeholders who are not scientists. We believe some of the other RFMOs have examples of addressing this matter.

Having said that, we very much look forward to working with the Chairman, all Members, NGOs and the Secretariat during the 28th Annual meeting of the Commission, and hope the meeting will be a productive and successful one.

Thank you very much.

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

ACAP is pleased to be able to participate in the virtual meetings of the Compliance Committee and Extended Commission. We congratulate the Chairs and the CCSBT Secretariat on the smooth arrangements for these meetings in difficult times.

We value our cooperative relationship with the CCSBT enshrined in our Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2015. This MOU is soon to expire and we look forward to renewing it so as to continue to facilitate collaboration between CCSBT and ACAP to support efforts to minimise bycatch of albatrosses and petrels.

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. ACAP continues to work with others to address the challenges of the conservation crisis faced by albatrosses and petrels. This crisis requires ongoing, concerted efforts by all whose activities have an impact on the fate of these birds. The theme of World Albatross Day 2021, celebrated on 19 June, was “Ensuring Albatross Friendly Fisheries”. We see this as a joint endeavour for ACAP, RFMOs and others. Fortunately, the crisis is not insoluble. 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.

ACAP is pleased to see progress with the development of the CCSBT/BirdLife International initiative on enhancing education on, and implementation of, Ecologically Related Species seabird measures within CCSBT fisheries, a project which we fully support.

ACAP continues to investigate best practice mitigation measures and to provide updated advice and guidance. The most recent meetings of ACAP’s Seabird Bycatch Working Group (SBWG10) and Advisory Committee (AC12), held in August-September this year, reviewed ACAP’s best practice advice. Two additional mitigation measures for pelagic longline fisheries were assessed against the six best practice seabird bycatch mitigation criteria adopted by ACAP. These were underwater bait setting devices, specifically the Underwater Bait Setter’ (Skadia Technologies) and the Hookpod-mini. Following this review, ACAP recommends that the most effective way to reduce seabird bycatch in pelagic longline fisheries is the simultaneous use of weighted branch lines, bird scaring lines and night setting, or use of one of the assessed hook-shielding and underwater bait setting devices.

AC12 also adopted new guidelines for observers and for electronic monitoring, which we consider will be of interest to the CCSBT. Documents and reports submitted to the CCSBT Compliance Committee and Extended Commission illustrate that, while there

have been some improvements, bycatch of seabirds remains a critical issue in CCSBT fisheries. We also note the difficulties some members have experienced in providing the required level of observer coverage.

We look forward to presenting our new advice and guidelines to the ERSWG meeting next March and discussing them in more detail on that occasion.

Opening Statement by BirdLife International

BirdLife International thanks the Extended Commission (EC) for the opportunity to participate as an observer to this meeting. BirdLife International also thanks the CCSBT Secretariat and Members for continuing progress to improve fisheries management. We recognise the difficulties that the COVID-19 pandemic presents and sincerely appreciate the efforts that have been made to continue work and hold meetings at this time.

Firstly, BirdLife wishes to acknowledge some of the improvements in regards to seabirds over the last year, in particular the reduction in seabird bycatch rates of Members and the continued collaboration between Members, the Secretariat and BirdLife on the joint project on seabirds that is due to commence in mid-2022.

Despite this progress the reduction in observer coverage in 2020 has hampered the ability of the CCSBT and Members to monitor the impacts of the SBT fishery, including on ERS interactions and compliance with mitigation measures. Indeed, some fleets were not meeting the minimum observer coverage requirements pre-COVID19 and observer rates have decreased in 2020 with some Members having no observer coverage at all. BirdLife acknowledges that COVID-19 continues to represent an unprecedented situation, however we emphasise the need for CCSBT members to adapt to the COVID19 reality and the need to meet their obligations to implement CMMs and fulfil observer data requirements.

BirdLife again notes the opportunity afforded by Electronic Monitoring systems on vessels to provide higher and more representative coverage of the CCSBT fleets than current observer programmes.

The preliminary CCSBT Interim Performance Report highlights concerns over the CCSBT's inability to date to address the impact of SBT fisheries on nontarget species that belong to the same ecosystem, in particular seabirds. BirdLife shares this concern and welcomes the recommendation to look for ways to address any clarity issues surrounding CCSBT's mandate around the management of ERS. As well as the suggestions to increase resources for ERSWG and the EC to develop strengthened CMMs on ERS, particularly in reducing seabird mortality. We urge the CCSBT and Members to take heed of the recommendations of the report and to implement the recommendations as soon as possible to ensure that the CCSBT lessens its impact on ERS.

We remind the EC again that despite seabird Conservation Management Measures (CMMs) being in place in the tuna RFMOs for a decade, seabird bycatch in CCSBT remains concerningly high and implementation of the seabird CMM still requires improvement. 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.

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 circumstances leading us to again meet virtually, 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.

HSI is concerned the interim CCSBT Performance Review highlights the inability to address the impact of SBT fisheries on non-target species, in particular seabirds in light of the conservation crisis they are currently experiencing. HSI supports the recommendations focused on ecologically related species (ERS) and particularly seabirds in this review. It is clear that members must take this criticism seriously and give far greater priority to this issue. The results of the performance review must not be ignored.

The use of Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS) have the potential to be an important element for compliance and better ERS performance. HSI supports the use of EMS, and encourages its advancement, with a suggested initial primary objective in CCSBT of EMS for verifying mitigation measure compliance specifically, with the aim of consistency across relevant RFMO's.

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 across all RFMOs 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 takes the opportunity to urge CCSBT to 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. In this final term for longstanding Executive Secretary Bob Kennedy, we would like to wish him a productive and successful term, and HSI looks forward to seeing CCSBT Members work to strengthen required mitigation measures and prevent noncompliance.

Thank you Chair and Members for your time.

Humane Society International Australia

8th October 2021.

Process for Recruitment of a new Executive Secretary for the CCSBT

It is proposed that the target commencement date of the new Executive Secretary be Monday 26 September 2022. This will provide approximately one month of overlap with the current Executive Secretary (ES) and it will also allow the new ES to attend the October 2022 annual meetings of the Compliance Committee and Extended Commission. It is further proposed that the recruitment process be conducted sufficiently early, so that if an international applicant is successful, that person can arrive in Canberra and commence work by the target commencement date.

The following recruitment timetable is therefore proposed, noting that there may need to be some flexibility with the exact dates. Each step of the recruitment timetable is described in further detail after the table below.

| Task | Completion Date in 2022 |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Position Description and Selection Criteria agreed | 1 February (<i>Tuesday</i>) |
| 2. Position advertised | 4 February (<i>Friday</i>) |
| 3. Applications close | 4 March (<i>Friday</i>) |
| 4. Applications sent to Members by Secretariat | 7 March (<i>Monday</i>) |
| 5. Members Rank their top 5 preferred candidates for an interview and send to Sec | 25 March (<i>Friday</i>) |
| 6. Secretariat score the candidates and advise Members of the top 5 candidates to be interviewed | 29 March (<i>Tuesday</i>) |
| 7. Secretariat contact interviewees and notify them of interview date | 30-31 March (<i>Wed.-Thu.</i>) |
| 8. Conduct interviews and select preferred candidate | 11-14 April (<i>Mon.-Thu.</i>) |
| 9. Notify successful candidate | 19 April (<i>Tuesday</i>) |

(1) Position Description and Selection Criteria

The Secretariat will circulate a draft position description, selection criteria and advertisement to Members for their consideration. Members will be asked to suggest changes to these documents and the Secretariat will circulate the agreed documents to Members by 1 February 2022.

It is proposed that the ES position be open to all people, regardless of nationality.

The advertisement will specify that applications are to be sent to the current ES. The current ES will also be the contact point for any questions in relation to the position.

(2) Advertising the position

The Secretariat will provide the agreed position description, selection criteria and advertisement to the Regional Secretariat Network for distribution to all RFMOs and to the IMCSN for distribution to its network. The Secretariat will also publish these documents on the CCSBT's website and on the joint tuna RFMO website (www.tuna-org.org).

Members are asked to advertise the ES position domestically through newspapers or other appropriate means. Members may also wish to target people that they consider to be suitable for the position and provide the position information to those people.

Furthermore, Members and the Secretariat are asked to distribute the advertisement and associated documents to any other interested parties.

(3 & 4) Applications close & sent to Members

No applications will be accepted after the closing date unless the closing date is extended.

Applications will be treated confidentially, so the current ES will only email applications to Heads of Delegations (unless a Head of Delegation nominates a different person to receive this communication).

(5, 6 & 7) Ranking and scoring of the top 5 candidates and notification of interviewees

It is proposed that only five people be interviewed for the ES position. Members are therefore asked to rank their top 5 preferred candidates and provide those rankings to the current ES.

The current ES will then sum all the ranks received¹, advise Members of the top 5 candidates that will be interviewed, and contact the candidates to set the interview dates.

(8) Interviews and selection of the preferred candidate

The CCSBT Chair (or the Vice-Chair if the Chair has not been nominated) will Chair the interviews as well as the session to select the preferred candidate after the interviews. If neither the Chair or Vice-Chair has been nominated, the 2022 CCSBT hosting Member (New Zealand) will Chair the interviews and the selection session. The interview panel will consist of one representative of each Member. The current ES will be present to provide support to the panel if requested by the Chair.

The interviews will be conducted in English, either in-person or online via Zoom, depending on the practicalities at the time. The Chair of the interview panel will decide which approach to use after consulting with Members. Two interviews will be conducted each day and it is assumed that each interview will last for approximately 1-1.5 hours.

It is envisaged that all prepared interview questions will be read out by the Chair. This will be the most efficient approach for an on-line interview. To assist with this process, interview panel members are asked to send any questions they have to the Chair at least two weeks prior to the interviews. The Chair may amalgamate similar questions from different panellists and may add additional questions. About one week before the interviews, the Chair will send panellists a copy of all the questions that the Chair will ask. All interview questions will be treated as being confidential to the panel. During each interview, panellists will be allowed to ask follow-up questions of each candidate.

Once the interviews are complete, a final Zoom session will be held to select the preferred candidate. Selection of the preferred candidate will be by consensus of the

¹ Giving “5” to each Member’s top ranked candidate and “1” to their fifth ranked candidate.

panellists present at this selection session. Second and third preferences will also be decided by the panel in case the preferred candidate does not accept the offer.

(9) Notification to successful candidate

The current ES will notify the preferred candidate and offer the ES position to that candidate. If that candidate declines the offer, the current ES will contact the second and third (if necessary) preferences of the selection panel. The Chair will sign a contract with the successful candidate.

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 2021 budget;
- Drafting of the 2022 budget; and
- Drafting of the indicative budgets for 2023 and 2024

The revised budget for 2021

The Executive Secretary provided a summary of the 2021 revised budget prior to the meeting and FAC Members were asked to provide initial comments at that time. Details of the revised budget are also outlined in CCSBT-EC/2110/05. The revision incorporates actual income and expenditure together with forecast income and expenditure for the remainder of the year.

Expenditures for 2021 are forecast to total \$2,331,000, which is a 21.2% decrease on the amount approved for 2021. Once again, this year, 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).

All Members have paid their 2021 contributions to the CCSBT in full and the only outstanding amount that remains is the \$5,539 owed by South Africa to repay the Secretariat's purchase of CDS tags in 2021.

The forecasted income for the Extended Commission was slightly lower than anticipated due to a reduction in returns from the Staff Assessment Levy¹ and a reduction on returns from investments due to reduced interest rates.

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 2021 at Annex A.

Draft budget for 2022

The FAC considered the proposed budgets outlined in CCSBT-EC/2110/06, which includes funding for the CCSBT's usual business.

This draft budget has been developed under the assumption that, with the exception of the March 2022 ERSWG meeting, physical meetings will resume in 2022. However,

¹ The Staff Assessment Levy appears on both the income and expenditure side of the budget and therefore has no net effect.

the FAC recognises that these expenses will be significantly lower if Members are once again forced to use virtual means to meet.

In its presentation of the draft 2022 budget, the Executive Secretary noted that current contribution levels are not sufficient to cover the annual running costs of the CCSBT and that the freeze on Member contributions that was suggested at last year's FAC can only be achieved by using carry-over and savings from previous years. However, the savings available to the Commission will not sustain this practice and an increase in Member contributions will be required in 2023 and beyond.

Members of the FAC expressed concerns about the potential fiscal risks associated with the current disparity between income and revenue and chose to explore a number of differing scenarios for Member contributions.

Members of the FAC considered three potential scenarios for Member contributions: an increase of 1%; an increase of 2%; and a scenario which retains the current contribution level. Some Members expressed a strong preference for a 2% increase noting the Executive Secretary's comments regarding current expenses exceeding income. One Member requested additional time to consult with their finance officials and asked that the final decision on Member contributions level be deferred to plenary.

The draft budget for 2022, presented in paper CCSBT-EC/2110/06, contained \$139,331 more expenditure than the interim draft budget for 2022 that was provided in Circular #2021/051. This increased expenditure was related to the inclusion of the following new items from the updated Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) workplan:

- An eTagging design study;
- Participation of the CPUE consultant at the OMMP meeting;
- Deferring OMMP maintenance and development work from 2021 to 2022;
- Increasing the effort for development of the CPUE series in 2022; and
- A workshop to progress the Scientific Research Planning process.

In addition to the above, some expenditures related to Secretariat staff leave were deferred from 2021 to 2022.

Indonesia asked that Members consider making funding available to support the participation of developing States at technical meetings (e.g. ERSWG and OMMP) noting that other RFMOs have established such mechanisms. Members asked for greater detail around this proposal including on the potential eligibility criteria that would be applied in order to access these funds. Indonesia agreed to develop a paper ahead of the next EC to better define the proposal.

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, focusing primarily on the eTagging design study and its relative importance to the wider research program and associated potential benefits.

Members of the FAC recognised the potential benefits of this work to the wider science process but also expressed some reservations about the financial impacts it could carry both now and potentially in future years.

Some Members were inclined to defer the project for a year noting the work taking place more broadly on the development of a Scientific Research Plan while others expressed a preference for immediate inclusion of the design study within the 2022 budget. Ultimately, FAC members were unable to reach consensus on either of these two options and we now ask that the final decision be made in plenary.

The budget for 2022 assumes that interviews for the Executive Secretary position will be conducted virtually. However, the Extended Commission has agreed that the interviews may be conducted in-person depending on the practicalities at the time. This would result in additional costs to fly interviewees (and potentially the Executive Secretary) to New Zealand and to provide their accommodation. The FAC recommends that the Executive Secretary be authorised to make these payments, which would exceed the budget, if it is decided to hold in-person interviews.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission approve the 2022 General Budget as set out in Annex B to this document noting that a final decision on both Member contributions and the eTagging design project will need to be made in plenary.

Indicative budgets for 2023 and 2024

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 with the exception of a potential additional meeting of the ERSWG in 2023

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 wishes to highlight that under all the funding scenarios considered, an increase of Member contributions will be required from 2023 onwards unless significant reductions in expenses are achieved. The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission note the indicative 2023 and 2024 budgets as set out in Annex B recognising once more that the final decision in plenary on the eTagging design study may influence its final composition.

GENERAL BUDGET - 2021

| INCOME | 2021 | Forecast | % Variation |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | APPROVED BUDGET | Final Income | |
| Contributions from Members | \$2,840,163 | \$2,840,163 | 0.0% |
| 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 | \$154,989 | |
| Contributions in Arrears (South Africa)¹ | \$154,989 | \$154,989 | |
| Staff Assessment Levy | \$135,700 | \$125,936 | -7.2% |
| Carryover from previous year | \$591,113 | \$591,113 | 0.0% |
| Interest on investments² | \$13,000 | \$9,411 | -27.6% |
| Contributions Stabilisation Fund | -\$778,280 | -\$778,280 | 0.0% |
| TOTAL GROSS INCOME | \$2,956,685 | \$2,943,331 | -0.5% |

¹ This amount was paid by South Africa immediately after the EC meeting in 2020. However, the payment was made after the approval of 2021 budget and consequently this item appears in the 2021 budget, despite having been paid in 2020.

² Interest on investments does not include interest earned from the staff liability fund (which is estimated to be \$170 in 2021).

| EXPENDITURE | 2021 APPROVED BUDGET | 2021 Expenditure to date | <i>Forecast Remaining Expenditure¹</i> | Forecast Final Expenditure | % variation |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|----------------|
| ANNUAL MEETINGS - (EC/CC) | \$209,400 | \$0 | \$52,400 | \$52,400 | -75.0 |
| Independent chairs | 26,500 | 0 | 16,000 | 16,000 | -39.6 |
| Interpretation costs | 63,300 | 0 | 33,900 | 33,900 | -46.4 |
| Hire of venue & catering | 50,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 |
| Hire of equipment | 35,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 |
| Translation/of meeting documents | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 |
| Secretariat expenses | 24,100 | 0 | 2,500 | 2,500 | -89.6 |
| EXTENDED SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE | \$250,500 | \$498 | \$69,800 | \$70,298 | -71.9 |
| Interpretation costs | 56,000 | 281 | 29,300 | 29,581 | -47.2 |
| Hire of venue & catering | 31,200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 |
| Hire of equipment | 34,100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 |
| Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel | 115,100 | 0 | 40,000 | 40,000 | -65.2 |
| Translation of meeting documents | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 |
| Secretariat expenses | 13,100 | 217 | 500 | 717 | -94.5 |
| SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS | \$23,785 | \$0 | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | -79.0 |
| Technical CC WG Meeting (1 day, prior to CC) | 23,785 | 0 | 5,000 | 5,000 | -79.0 |
| SCIENCE PROGRAM | \$675,800 | \$292,061 | \$315,561 | \$607,622 | -10.1 |
| Intersessional OM/MP Maintenance & Development | 16,200 | 0 | 2,700 | 2,700 | -83.3 |
| Development of the CPUE series | 35,300 | 28,000 | 7,800 | 35,800 | 1.4 |
| Tagging program coordination | 1,000 | 0 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 0.0 |
| Long-Term Gene Tagging Project ² | 350,000 | 155,000 | 195,000 | 350,000 | 0.0 |
| Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing ² | 120,900 | 60,415 | 60,415 | 120,830 | -0.1 |
| Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) ² | 44,100 | 22,039 | 22,039 | 44,078 | 0.0 |
| Sampling and aging of Indonesian otoliths | 53,300 | 26,607 | 26,607 | 53,214 | -0.2 |
| Maturity study | 55,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 |
| SPECIAL PROJECTS | \$285,500 | \$39,744 | \$158,100 | \$197,844 | -30.7 |
| Market Analysis | 57,200 | 0 | 57,200 | 57,200 | 0.0 |
| Performance Review | 119,800 | 69 | 45,100 | 45,169 | -62.3 |
| Ad-Hoc AIS Analysis | 20,000 | 0 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 0.0 |
| Database upgrade and on-line data submission/access | 7,500 | 7,475 | 0 | 7,475 | -0.3 |
| Trial eCDS development | 81,000 | 32,200 | 35,800 | 68,000 | -16.0 |
| SECRETARIAT COSTS | \$1,352,700 | \$819,043 | \$423,500 | \$1,242,543 | -8.1 |
| Secretariat staff costs | 836,700 | 524,894 | 294,900 | 819,794 | -2.0 |
| Staff assessment levy | 135,700 | 80,836 | 45,100 | 125,936 | -7.2 |
| Employer social security | 229,800 | 114,529 | 65,600 | 180,129 | -21.6 |
| Insurance -worker's comp/travel/contents | 16,500 | 13,077 | 3,300 | 16,377 | -0.7 |
| Travel/transport | 20,300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 |
| Translation of meeting reports | 11,300 | 0 | 11,300 | 11,300 | 0.0 |
| Training | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0.0 |
| Home leave allowance | 13,400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 |
| Other employment expenses | 2,300 | 1,007 | 1,300 | 2,307 | 0.3 |
| Recruitment expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Staff liability fund (accumulating) | 84,700 | 84,700 | 0 | 84,700 | 0.0 |
| OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS | \$159,000 | \$104,297 | \$51,300 | \$155,597 | -2.1 |
| Office lease and storage | 67,700 | 49,994 | 17,100 | 67,094 | -0.9 |
| Office costs | 74,000 | 44,881 | 25,200 | 70,081 | -5.3 |
| Provision for new/replacement assets | 12,500 | 6,948 | 5,500 | 12,448 | -0.4 |
| Telephone/communications | 4,800 | 2,474 | 3,500 | 5,974 | 24.5 |
| TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE | \$2,956,685 | \$1,255,643 | \$1,075,661 | \$2,331,304 | -21.2 |

¹ Most of these estimates are rounded up to the nearest \$100.

² CSIRO is providing an in-kind contribution to these projects.

GENERAL BUDGET for 2022 and Indicative Budgets for 2023-2024

| | APPROVED 2021 BUDGET | REVISED 2021 BUDGET | APPROVED 2022 BUDGET | <i>Indicative 2023</i> | <i>Indicative 2024</i> |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| INCOME | | | | | |
| Contributions from Members | \$2,840,163 | \$2,840,163 | \$2,868,564 | <i>\$2,956,630</i> | <i>\$3,047,398</i> |
| Japan | \$813,564 | \$813,564 | \$821,700 | <i>\$846,927</i> | <i>\$872,927</i> |
| Australia | \$813,564 | \$813,564 | \$821,700 | <i>\$846,927</i> | <i>\$872,927</i> |
| New Zealand | \$231,318 | \$231,318 | \$233,631 | <i>\$240,804</i> | <i>\$248,196</i> |
| Korea | \$248,791 | \$248,791 | \$251,279 | <i>\$258,994</i> | <i>\$266,945</i> |
| Fishing Entity of Taiwan | \$248,791 | \$248,791 | \$251,279 | <i>\$258,994</i> | <i>\$266,945</i> |
| Indonesia | \$221,389 | \$221,389 | \$223,603 | <i>\$230,468</i> | <i>\$237,543</i> |
| European Union | \$107,754 | \$107,754 | \$108,832 | <i>\$112,173</i> | <i>\$115,617</i> |
| South Africa | \$154,989 | \$154,989 | \$156,539 | <i>\$161,345</i> | <i>\$166,298</i> |
| Contributions in Arrears (South Africa) | \$154,989 | \$154,989 | \$0 | <i>\$0</i> | <i>\$0</i> |
| Staff Assessment Levy | \$135,700 | \$125,936 | \$123,800 | <i>\$127,000</i> | <i>\$130,000</i> |
| Carryover from previous year | \$591,113 | \$591,113 | \$612,027 | <i>\$0</i> | <i>\$0</i> |
| Withdrawal from savings | \$0 | \$0 | \$43,609 | <i>\$333,411</i> | <i>\$0</i> |
| Interest on investments *1 | \$13,000 | \$9,411 | \$3,000 | <i>\$3,000</i> | <i>\$3,000</i> |
| Contributions Stabilisation Fund *2 | -\$778,280 | -\$778,280 | \$0 | <i>\$191,259</i> | <i>\$288,202</i> |
| TOTAL GROSS INCOME | \$2,956,685 | \$2,943,331 | \$3,651,000 | <i>\$3,611,300</i> | <i>\$3,468,600</i> |

*1: Interest on investments does not include interest earned from the staff liability fund.

*2: 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.

| EXPENDITURE | APPROVED 2021 BUDGET | REVISED 2021 BUDGET | APPROVED 2022 BUDGET | Indicative 2023 | Indicative 2024 |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ANNUAL MEETING - (CC/EC/CCSBT) | \$209,400 | \$52,400 | \$302,000 | \$277,000 | \$323,000 |
| Independent chairs | \$26,500 | \$16,000 | \$37,000 | \$45,000 | \$51,000 |
| Interpretation costs | \$63,300 | \$33,900 | \$66,000 | \$66,000 | \$68,000 |
| Hire of venue & catering | \$50,000 | \$0 | \$112,000 | \$66,000 | \$73,000 |
| Hire of equipment | \$35,500 | \$0 | \$44,000 | \$29,000 | \$55,000 |
| Translation of meeting documents | \$10,000 | \$0 | \$10,000 | \$10,000 | \$10,000 |
| Secretariat expenses | \$24,100 | \$2,500 | \$33,000 | \$61,000 | \$66,000 |
| ESC/SC Meeting | \$250,500 | \$70,298 | \$250,000 | \$268,000 | \$279,000 |
| Interpretation costs | \$56,000 | \$29,581 | \$58,000 | \$49,000 | \$56,000 |
| Hire of venue & catering | \$31,200 | \$0 | \$41,000 | \$46,000 | \$29,000 |
| Hire of equipment | \$34,100 | \$0 | \$33,000 | \$35,000 | \$23,000 |
| Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel | \$115,100 | \$40,000 | \$99,000 | \$99,000 | \$122,000 |
| Translation of meeting documents | \$1,000 | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| Secretariat expenses | \$13,100 | \$717 | \$18,000 | \$38,000 | \$48,000 |
| SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS | \$23,785 | \$5,000 | \$174,400 | \$238,000 | \$122,000 |
| Ecologically Related Species WG Meeting | \$0 | \$0 | \$33,400 | \$38,000 | \$94,000 |
| OMMP Technical Meeting (5 day, intersessional) | \$0 | \$0 | \$114,800 | \$97,000 | \$0 |
| Technical CWG Meeting (1 day prior to CC) | \$23,785 | \$5,000 | \$26,200 | \$27,000 | \$28,000 |
| SCIENCE PROGRAM | \$675,800 | \$607,622 | \$1,076,400 | \$1,083,500 | \$981,500 |
| Intersessional OM/MP Maintenance & Development | \$16,200 | \$2,700 | \$20,600 | \$9,000 | \$9,000 |
| Analysis of unaccounted mortality | \$0 | \$0 | \$10,000 | \$28,000 | \$0 |
| Development of the CPUE series | \$35,300 | \$35,800 | \$46,900 | \$9,000 | \$9,000 |
| Scientific Research Planning Workshops | \$0 | \$0 | \$3,300 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Tagging program coordination | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| Long-Term Gene Tagging Project *1 | \$350,000 | \$350,000 | \$720,000 | \$720,000 | \$720,000 |
| Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing *1 | \$120,900 | \$120,830 | \$113,900 | \$123,700 | \$126,600 |
| Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) *1 | \$44,100 | \$44,078 | \$50,900 | \$55,800 | \$57,400 |
| Sampling and aging of Indonesian Otoliths | \$53,300 | \$53,214 | \$54,800 | \$57,000 | \$58,500 |
| Maturity study | \$55,000 | \$0 | \$55,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| eTagging design study | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$80,000 | \$0 |
| SPECIAL PROJECTS | \$285,500 | \$197,844 | \$203,600 | \$211,000 | \$201,000 |
| Quality Assurance Review | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$50,000 | \$50,000 |
| Market Analysis | \$57,200 | \$57,200 | \$57,200 | \$126,000 | \$126,000 |
| Performance Review | \$119,800 | \$45,169 | \$55,700 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Ad-Hoc AIS Analysis | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Database upgrade and on-line data submission/access | \$7,500 | \$7,475 | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| Trial eCDS developmet | \$81,000 | \$68,000 | \$50,000 | \$30,000 | \$20,000 |
| Website Redevelopment in Drupal 10 | \$0 | \$0 | \$35,700 | \$0 | \$0 |

| SECRETARIAT COSTS | \$1,352,700 | \$1,242,543 | \$1,493,400 | <i>\$1,381,800</i> | <i>\$1,401,100</i> |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Secretariat staff costs | \$836,700 | \$819,794 | \$830,600 | <i>\$851,000</i> | <i>\$872,000</i> |
| Staff assessment levy | \$135,700 | \$125,936 | \$123,800 | <i>\$127,000</i> | <i>\$130,000</i> |
| Employer social security | \$229,800 | \$180,129 | \$212,500 | <i>\$218,000</i> | <i>\$223,000</i> |
| Insurance -worker's compensation/ travel/contents | \$16,500 | \$16,377 | \$16,900 | <i>\$17,000</i> | <i>\$17,000</i> |
| Travel/transport | \$20,300 | \$0 | \$20,200 | <i>\$21,000</i> | <i>\$22,000</i> |
| Translation of meeting reports | \$11,300 | \$11,300 | \$16,000 | <i>\$16,000</i> | <i>\$16,000</i> |
| Training | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | <i>\$2,000</i> | <i>\$2,100</i> |
| Home leave allowance | \$13,400 | \$0 | \$13,400 | <i>\$13,700</i> | <i>\$0</i> |
| Other employment expense | \$2,300 | \$2,307 | \$3,200 | <i>\$3,300</i> | <i>\$3,400</i> |
| Recruitment / discharge expenses | \$0 | \$0 | \$144,800 | <i>\$0</i> | <i>\$0</i> |
| Staff liability fund (accumulating) | \$84,700 | \$84,700 | \$110,000 | <i>\$112,800</i> | <i>\$115,600</i> |
| OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS | \$159,000 | \$155,597 | \$151,200 | <i>\$152,000</i> | <i>\$161,000</i> |
| Office lease and storage | \$67,700 | \$67,094 | \$68,400 | <i>\$70,000</i> | <i>\$72,000</i> |
| Office costs | \$74,000 | \$70,081 | \$66,400 | <i>\$68,000</i> | <i>\$70,000</i> |
| Provision for new/replacement assets | \$12,500 | \$12,448 | \$9,400 | <i>\$7,000</i> | <i>\$12,000</i> |
| Telephone/communications/web hosting | \$4,800 | \$5,974 | \$7,000 | <i>\$7,000</i> | <i>\$7,000</i> |
| TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE | \$2,956,685 | \$2,331,304 | \$3,651,000 | <i>\$3,611,300</i> | <i>\$3,468,600</i> |

*1: CSIRO is providing an in-kind contribution to these projects.

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



Attachment 8

みなまぐろ保存委員会

Report of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee

5 - 7 October 2021

Online

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



Attachment 9

みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Report of the Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Scientific Committee

**31 August 2021
Online**

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

(Updated at the Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting – 11-13 October 2021)

The Extended Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna,

Recalling the decision made at the 5th 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 2018/03 - Conservation and Management Measure to mitigate the impact of fishing for highly migratory fish stocks on seabirds;
- k) Resolution 2018/04 - Conservation and Management Measure of Sea Turtles;
- l) Resolution 2019/04 - Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks;
- m) Resolution 2019/05 - Conservation and Management Measure on Mobulid Rays Caught in Association with Fisheries in the WCPFC Convention Area;

Convention Area of the ICCAT

- n) 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;
- o) Resolution 03-10 on the shark fishery;
- p) Recommendation 04-10 concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT;
- q) Resolution 05-08 on circle hooks;
- r) Supplemental Recommendation 07-06 Concerning Sharks;
- s) Recommendation 07-07 on Reducing Incidental By-Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries;
- t) Recommendation 09-07 on the Conservation of Thresher Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries in the ICCAT Convention Area;

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

Draft Agenda
Fourteenth meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group
21 – 25 March 2022
Online

1. Opening

1.1 Adoption of the Agenda

1.2 Adoption of Document List

1.3 Appointment of Rapporteurs

Members will be asked to nominate rapporteurs for agenda items 4-6. In addition, presenters of papers will be asked to provide a brief paragraph for papers they have presented (excluding annual reports) for inclusion in the report of the meeting.

2. Annual reports

Members will prepare and provide annual reports to the ERSWG in accordance with the [agreed template](#). Reports are expected to contain all information specified in the template. In accordance with the ERSWG's workplan, the Secretariat will use Members' data to also produce Table 1 from the template as a trial. It will be assumed that reports have been read by participants prior to the meeting, so this agenda item will be reserved for questions of clarification regarding the reports.

2.1 Members

2.2 Secretariat report on the ERSWG Data Exchange

The Secretariat will provide summaries of the data from the annual ERSWG Data Exchange¹. This agenda item also provides an opportunity to consider changes in relation to the data exchange process and associated information.

3. Reports of meetings and/or outcomes of other organisations relevant to the ERS Working Group

All organisations with long terms observer status for CCSBT ERSWG meetings (see <https://www.ccsbt.org/en/content/attendance-meetings-observers>) will be invited to attend and to present a report to the meeting. Members and observers may also present relevant meeting reports from organisations not present at the ERSWG meeting. The ERSWG will consider relevant recommendations of these reports.

4. Review of progress with the work program from ERSWG 13

*The work program from ERSWG 13 is provided at **Attachment A**. The ERSWG will review progress with the work program..*

5. Information and advice on ERS

*This is the key agenda item to progress the assessment of the risks to ERS posed by fishing for SBT and the effects of ERS on the condition of the SBT stock, and to provide advice on any measures that might be needed for the mitigation of risks. **Members and observers are requested to develop and submit papers in advance of the meeting on the following agenda items.***

¹ Members that wish to conduct their own analysis of these data can obtain an amalgamated spreadsheet of these data from the "ERSWG Data Exchange" section of the "General Private Area" of the CCSBT website. A highly aggregated public version of the data is available at https://www.ccsbt.org/userfiles/file/data/ERSWG_Data.xlsx.

5.1 Seabirds

5.1.1 Information on stock status

In accordance with standing instructions, the Secretariat will request ACAP and Birdlife International to provide updated information on the seabirds likely to be caught by SBT fisheries, including population status summaries and reviews of mitigations measures.

5.1.2 Estimates of ERS mortality and associated uncertainty

This agenda item provides an opportunity to consider methods for estimating total seabird mortality and for reviewing any mortality estimates provided by Members.

5.1.3 Ecological risk assessment

The ERSWG 13 work program specifies that New Zealand will lead work, with collaboration from Members, to update the seabird Ecological Risk Assessment, together with updated identification of high-risk areas for ERSWG 14. The ERSWG will review the outcome of this work.

5.1.4 Assessment and advice on mitigation measures

This is a standing item on the ERSWG agenda for the ERSWG to review current measures and provide advice on any changes that might be needed.

5.1.5 Use of new 5*5 by quarter data

*The ERSWG 13 work program specifies that New Zealand will investigate the use of the new 5*5 by quarter data provided for the modified ERSWG Data Exchange, for analyses of issues relating to seabird bycatch.*

5.1.6 Seabird species identification

Updates on any improvements in seabird identification practices or methodology.

5.1.7 Multi-year seabird strategy

ERSWG 13 developed the overall objective and five specific objectives for the [CCSBT Multi-year Seabird Strategy](#). CCSBT 26 adopted these objectives. ERSWG 13's work program specifies that Australia, with collaboration from all Members, will develop a revised draft list of strategic actions under each of the specific objectives of the Multi-year seabird strategy for ERSWG 14. The ERSWG will discuss the draft strategic actions.

5.2 Sharks

5.2.1 Information on stock status

Members should provide information on the stock status of shark species relevant to the CCSBT.

5.2.3 Estimates of ERS mortality and associated uncertainty

This agenda item provides an opportunity to consider methods for estimating total shark mortality and for reviewing any mortality estimates provided by Members.

5.3 Other ERS

Members and observers are encouraged to present information concerning the impacts of fishing for SBT on other ERS such as sea turtles and marine mammals etc.

6. Education and public relations activities

This is a highly important agenda item to ensure full implementation of agreed mitigation measures. Education and public relation activities conducted by Members should be covered under agenda item 2, so they should not need to be discussed here. This agenda item is intended for discussion of any new activities that should be conducted by the CCSBT to enhance mitigation and/or data collection in relation to ERS. This will include an update on the "Project proposal for enhancing education on and implementation of Ecologically Related Species seabird measures within CCSBT fisheries" which has been developed jointly between the CCSBT and BirdLife International.

7. Consideration of recommendations from the Performance Review of the CCSBT
The report of the CCSBT Performance Review is scheduled to be submitted on 1 March 2022. The ERSWG will consider recommendations relating to ERS and provide the EC with feedback from the ERSWG on these specific recommendations.
8. How to improve the CCSBT's focus on seabird bycatch
EC28 agreed that ERS bycatch, in particular seabirds, was an important issue that needed more focus, and annual ERSWG meetings would help to provide that. Some Members noted that this would be an extra burden on relevant officials and scientists and they were not ready to agree to annual meetings. It was also noted that virtual meetings could complement physical meetings to help reduce costs. The EC requested that the ERSWG consider the need for annual meetings and provide advice to the EC on how CCSBT's focus on ERS can be improved, particularly on seabird bycatch.
9. Future work program
The ERSWG will develop an updated work program from matters raised during the previous agenda items together with any additional work items that need to be considered.
10. Other business
11. Referral of ERS matters for consideration by CCSBT subsidiary bodies
This agenda item is for matters that the ERSWG considers should be specifically referred to other subsidiary bodies of the CCSBT.
12. Recommendations and advice to the Extended Commission
The ERSWG will develop a list of recommendation and advice to the Extended Commission from matters raised during the previous agenda items.
13. Conclusion
 - 13.1. Adoption of meeting report
 - 13.2. Recommendation on timing of the next meeting
 - 13.3. Close of meeting

ERSWG 13 Workplan

(An additional column has been added to the workplan to indicate where each item will be discussed within the ERSWG 14 Agenda. The default agenda item for discussion of workplan activities is agenda item 4 unless there is a more appropriate agenda item for the specific content)

| Activity | Approximate Period | Resource | Proposed ERSWG14 Agenda Item |
|---|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Refine the proposal “to enhance the implementation of ERS measures through outreach/education and to verify compliance with measures”. | CC 14 | BirdLife, Secretariat, Members | 6 |
| 2. Provide the Report of ERSWG13 to the other tuna RFMOs when it is made public. | November 2019 | Secretariat | 4 |
| 3. Share documents, formats and procedures for observer and electronic monitoring, seabird bycatch data collection through a centralised portal, e.g. the Bycatch Mitigation Information System hosted by WCPFC. | July 2020 | Members, Secretariat | 4 |
| 4. Provide revised historical data for the EDE that includes all mortalities (i.e. both discard mortalities and retained commercial catch). | July 2020 | Australia, Korea | 4 |
| 5. Provide 2019 EDE data in accordance with the new EDE template. Members are also encouraged to voluntarily provide revised historical data in the same format. | July 2020 | All Members | 2.2 |
| 6. Translate the ACAP seabird species identification guide into key languages (e.g. Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, and Taiwanese) and by establishing a reference library of seabird bycatch photographs to assist observers in identifying bycaught seabirds to specific levels. | July 2020 | CCSBT and ACAP Secretariats, Indonesia, Korea, Japan, and Taiwan | 5.1.6 |
| 7. Customise ACAP guidelines for photographing and sampling dead bycaught seabirds for DNA, as an additional aid to identifying seabirds to specific levels. The ACAP guides to photographing dead seabirds and collecting feather samples for DNA analysis provide a template for the improved procedures and methods. | December 2020 | CCSBT and ACAP Secretariats | 5.1.6 |
| 8. Trial production of Table 1 of the revised ERSWG annual report template for each Member. | ERSWG 14 | Secretariat, Members | 2 |
| 9. Develop a template for summarising the key points of the ERSWG report that could be provided to other tuna RFMOs in the future. | ERSWG 14 | Chair, Secretariat | 4 |
| 10. Investigate the use of the new 5*5 by quarter to be provided for the modified ERSWG Data Exchange, for analyses of issues relating to seabird bycatch. | ERSWG 14 | New Zealand | 5.1.5 |

| Activity | Approximate Period | Resource | Proposed ERSWG14 Agenda Item |
|---|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 11. Update the seabird Ecological Risk Assessment, together with updated identification of high-risk areas. | ERSWG 14 | New Zealand lead with collaboration from Members | 5.1.3 |
| 12. Develop a revised draft list of strategic actions under each of the specific objectives of the Multi-year seabird strategy. | ERSWG 14 | Australia with collaboration from all Members | 5.1.7 |