

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Report of the Twenty Ninth Annual Meeting of the Commission

**14 October 2022
Online**

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14 October 2022

Online

Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting

1. Mr Don MacKay (New Zealand) was confirmed as the Chair of the Twenty Ninth Annual meeting of the Commission (CCSBT 29) and Mr Ilkang Na (Korea) was confirmed as the Vice Chair of CCSBT 29.
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 Ninth Meeting of the Commission, which is at **Appendix 3**.

Agenda Item 3. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for CCSBT 30 and venue

6. Korea and Indonesia advised that they will nominate the Chair and Vice-Chair respectively for CCSBT 30 as soon as possible, and advise the Secretariat of those nominations.
7. CCSBT 30 will be held in Busan, Korea.

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 7:55 pm (Wellington time), on 14 October 2022.

List of Appendices

Appendix

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

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



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Agenda
Twenty-Ninth 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 30 and venue
4. Other business
5. Adoption of report of meeting
6. Close of meeting

List of Participants
The Twenty Ninth Annual Meeting of the Commission

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REPUBLIC OF KOREA

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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-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Commission

10 –14 October 2022

Online

**Report of the Extended Commission of the
Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Commission
10 –14 October 2022
Online**

Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting

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

1. Mr Don Mackay (New Zealand) was confirmed as the Chair of the Extended Commission (EC) of the Twenty-Ninth meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (EC 29), and Mr Ilkang Na (Korea) 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 Chair noted that critical issues for the meeting included: Agreeing on process for recruitment of a new Chair for the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG); Agreeing on a budget for 2023; Consideration of progress made in relation to stereo video and market analysis for verifying the catch of all Members; Consideration of the recommendations from the reports of the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC), Compliance Committee (CC) and ERSWG; Confirming the TAC for 2023 and agreeing the TAC for 2024-2026; Consideration of the report of the Performance Review of the CCSBT and providing direction to the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG) in relation to development of an implementation plan for the performance review recommendations; and agreeing on the meetings for 2023.
4. The list of participants is provided at **Attachment 1**.

1.2. Adoption of agenda

5. The agenda was adopted and is included at **Attachment 2**.
6. The list of documents submitted to the meeting is provided at **Attachment 3**.

1.3. Opening statements

7. Opening statements were circulated in advance of the meeting and were taken as having been read.

1.3.1. Members

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

1.3.2. Observers

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

Agenda Item 2. Report from the Secretariat

10. The Chair advised that Mr Morison's term as Chair of the ERSWG comes to an end after this meeting. Mr Morison has Chaired the ERSWG since 2011 and on behalf of all the Members, the Chair thanked Sandy warmly for his substantial efforts as ERSWG Chair during this period.
11. The Report from the Secretariat was provided to the meeting as paper CCSBT-EC/2210/04 and was considered during the pre-meeting discussion process. The report contained one item for consideration by the EC, which is the process for selection of a new Chair for the ERSWG.
12. The meeting agreed the process for recruitment of a new Chair for the ERSWG, which is shown at **Attachment 6**.
13. The meeting noted the activities of the Secretariat as reported with appreciation.

Agenda Item 3. Finance and Administration

14. The Chair advised that the Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) was announced intersessionally in Circular #2022/044. The Chair thanked Mr Neil Hughes for agreeing to Chair the FAC. It was also noted that the FAC has already commenced its work.
15. The Executive Secretary provided a brief presentation of the draft revised budget for 2022 (CCSBT-EC/2210/05), the proposed budget for 2023 and the indicative budget for 2024 - 2025 (CCSBT-EC/2210/06).
16. For the revised 2022 budget, the Executive Secretary noted that:
 - With the exception of Korea, all Members have paid their 2022 contributions to the CCSBT in full. The draft revised budget for 2022 assumes that Korea's outstanding payment of approximately 25% of its contribution will be made during 2023;
 - The income for 2022 was about \$177,000 higher than expected due mainly to a rollover of funds from 5 projects in 2021;
 - The total expenditure for 2022 is forecast to be approximately \$470,000 lower than the amount approved for 2022;
 - Savings are forecast across all seven expenditure areas of the budget;
 - Cancellation of physical meetings and travel, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is the primary reason for the reduced expenditure; and
 - The draft revised budget provides a carry-forward of \$633,322 from 2022 to 2023.

17. For the 2023 draft budget and 2024 - 2025 indicative budgets, the Executive Secretary noted that:
- The budgets include the funding required for the CCSBT's usual business, including the Extended Scientific Committee's (ESC) three-year workplan;
 - The budget assumes that all the main meetings in 2023 will proceed as physical meetings;
 - As discussed last year, current Member contribution levels are not sufficient to cover the current annual running costs of the CCSBT. The paper proposes that Member contributions for 2023 be increased by 3.5% over that of 2022, and, if expenditure cannot be reduced, that contributions be increased by a further 5% each year from 2024-2028;
 - If the current high inflation rate continues, the proposed increases in contributions are unlikely to be sufficient to cover the CCSBT's running costs; and
 - The budget paper identifies new expenditure items for 2023 that have yet to be approved. Some of these may be potential areas for cost savings.
18. Detailed consideration of the two budget papers was referred to the FAC.
19. The FAC was convened to consider:
- The revised budget for 2022;
 - The proposed budget for 2023 including the nature of the proposed SFMWG and ERS meetings; and
 - The indicative budget for 2024 - 2025.
20. Australia advised that it will contribute \$10,000 to the 2023 project to update estimates of unaccounted fishing mortality (UAM). Members expressed appreciation for Australia's generosity. Members expressed similar appreciation for Korea's generous contribution towards the cost of hosting in 2023.
21. The Chair requested that the FAC resolve differences in views regarding the format of the SFMWG meeting (in-person or virtual) and the number and format of ERS technical meetings. The FAC was also asked to consider Indonesia's proposal for a Meeting Participation Fund.

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 and all its recommendations, noting the revised 2022 budget (Annex A), approving the budget for 2023 (Annex B), noting the indicative budgets for 2024-2025 (Annex B), and adopting The Resolution on the establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) for developing States of CCSBT Members, which is provided at **Attachment 7**.
24. The full report of the FAC is provided at **Attachment 8**. Important points include that:
- The overall financial situation is that Member contributions are not sufficient to cover the annual running costs of the CCSBT. Therefore, a 3.5% increase in membership contributions for 2023 and approximately 5% increase per

year between 2024 to 2028, together with the Contributions Stabilisation Fund and the remaining savings put aside in 2016 was considered necessary to reach a contribution level that would cover the annual running costs of the CCSBT.

- Australia offered to make a voluntary contribution (\$10,000) to fund half of the proposed update of NCNM estimates of unaccounted fishing mortality.
 - The FAC supported the establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) from 2023 and recommended \$50,000 be initially drawn from CCSBT funds to establish it, with ongoing funding for future years to come from either the CCSBT budget, or voluntary Member contributions, up to the total fund amount of \$50,000. The FAC recommended that the MPF provide support for attendance of technical meetings and not regular CCSBT meetings such as EC, CC, and ESC.
25. FAC members expressed concern about the likely level of future contribution increases, noting these were not sustainable and recommended that the EC explore additional sources of income for the CCSBT and make efforts to reduce current levels of expenditure.

Agenda Item 4. Review of SBT Fisheries and ERS Interactions

26. 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 Seventeenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC 17).
27. No additional questions were asked in relation to Members' National Reports.

4.1. Reports on Members' projects

28. The Chair invited Australia to provide an oral update on progress with trials for automated stereo-video.
29. Australia explained that during 2021, it ran an international tender process after proactively contacting known recognised stereo-video providers. The preferred provider identified as part of this tender process has previous experience with stereo video in other RFMOs. The trial did not take place as planned because of the global pandemic and the travel restrictions in place prevented the provider from sending experts to Australia. Australian officials have been working remotely with the chosen provider since. Borders in Australia are now opened, which will allow the provider to begin field work in the January to March 2023 period with the field work component scheduled for completion in January - March 2024.
30. New Zealand thanked Australia for its update and requested additional detail to better understand the difference between the work taking place in 2023 and 2024. New Zealand also queried what, if any, additional work may be necessary beyond this project before stereo-video can be successfully implemented.
31. Australia clarified that the first phase is to operationally test the accuracy of the equipment in Port Lincoln. This would involve testing the ability to accurately

get individual length measurements and then apply a conversion factor. The second part of the trial would evaluate the technology in a transfer situation as occurs when fish are moved into holding pens. Australia further stated that if from there the trial was successful in showing stereo-video is able to meet Australia's pre-conditions and the technology is able to be used *in situ*, then work would be undertaken with the management authority to determine necessary steps for implementation including any potential regulatory changes that may be required.

32. New Zealand and the European Union sought additional information from Australia on the timeline involved in the regulatory process that may be required in order to domestically implement stereo-video.
33. Australia explained that should the trial prove successful, it would be required to work through a number of additional steps to operationalise stereo video as a monitoring tool for its farm sector. The first would involve the design of a monitoring program. This program would largely be informed by the outcomes of the stereo video trial. Factors to consider include, but are not limited to: program objectives, outcomes and requirements, data governance, cost implications, appropriate technology and systems, data collection and consideration, including length weight conversions and sampling regimes.
34. Domestic implementation would also require legislative change. Australia's current monitoring regime is based on the 100 fish sample process and is considered within the existing legislative framework. Australia would need to consult broadly across government and seek legal advice on the implementation of legislating a new monitoring regime in the SBT farm sector. If implemented, Australia may need to undertake drafting and execution of new legislation and may also need to undertake a regulation impact statement, to determine how the increased regulation impacts stakeholders. It is likely the process for legislative change will involve statutory consultation timeframes.
35. Finally, Australia would be required to undertake a formal tender process to approach the market to identify a supplier of SV services in the farm sector. This would be followed by a tender evaluation and then a subsequent engagement of the successful tenderer.
36. While timing of implementation will need to be confirmed following the trial, based on Australia's experience the three processes outlined above could take approximately 12 to 18 months in total to complete.
37. Japan thanked Australia for this additional information and expressed its hope for steadfast progress towards operationalising of stereo-video along with future discussions at the ESC.
38. New Zealand also thanked Australia for the insight provided into domestic processes and noted Australia's commitment to progressing this issue.
39. The European Union also expressed its view that stereo-video is an important issue, which has been present for many years. The European Union also noted Australia's commitments and encouraged a prompt resolution.
40. The Chair invited Japan to present paper CCSBT-EC/2210/20, which provides an update on the Japanese Market Proposal.

41. Japan reminded the group that during last year's meeting Dr Clarke was selected to work on the market survey. Dr Clarke was to study various elements of the Japanese market and rigorously performed her task. Japan noted that Dr Clarke interviewed market experts, conducted surveys, and looked into the existing formula and its underlying variables. Results from this exercise concluded that data from the CDS and current landing controls can be a good source of information to monitor SBT catch distributed in Japanese market and provide a more robust basis for catch verification. The approach to continue to use the formula could not be recommended because of the uncertainty involved. Based on results of Dr Clarke's study showing six approaches, Japan will now consider these approaches and make a proposal next year. Japan suggested that all Member catch verification and monitoring approaches need to be improved.
42. The Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew) expressed concerns that both the market and farm data issue are a potential backdoor to undermining CCSBT's very successful Management Procedure (MP). Pew suggested that the previous decision to decouple TAC setting from the MP could undermine management. Pew further suggested that the sooner these two issues are resolved and incorporated into the MP the better.
43. New Zealand stated that it appreciates the sentiments expressed by Pew having encouraged resolution for a number of years. New Zealand also highlighted the excellent work from Dr Clarke and had placed hope that it would resolve issues of market uncertainty. Although disappointed by the outcomes of the research, New Zealand was now encouraged by Japan's commitment for a proposal next year.
44. Based on pre-meeting and CC discussions, the EC agreed that the CCSBT will fund the management tag survey and market survey at Toyosu Market in Japan, to be commenced from 2023. The EC also agreed that the Executive Secretary will coordinate the detailed terms of reference and contract (including payment schedule) for implementing the survey.

Agenda Item 5. Report from the Compliance Committee

45. The independent Chair of the Compliance Committee, Mr Frank Meere, presented the report of CC 17, outlining key points from the meeting. The report is provided at **Attachment 9**.
46. The CC Chair noted that CC 17 had been assisted by pre-meeting work but that the level of engagement was not as good as for CC 16, and this resulted in generally lower transparency and the meeting having to revisit many pre-meeting agenda items during the VC session. The CC Chair thanked the Secretariat and participants who actively engaged in the pre-meeting process.
47. The CC Chair noted that South Africa did not attend CC 17, did not respond to questions raised in the pre-meeting document and had not provided a plan and timeframe for addressing its non-compliant issues identified by CC 16, which was to be provided as soon as practical and no later than CC 17.
48. The CC Chair referred to and summarised elements of the CC 17 meeting report including the workplan (paragraph 142), recommendations to the EC (paragraph

144), including the recommendation that a Technical Compliance Working Group (TCWG) meeting be held prior to CC 18, as well as items for the EC to note (paragraph 145).

49. The CC Chair advised that CC 17 had endorsed the continuation of Indonesia's Payback and Management Plans to re-pay its 2019 and 2020 over-catches and noted there were no new over-catch issues identified which required actions under the Corrective Actions Policy.
50. However, the CC Chair noted that South Africa still had non-compliance issues which did require attention under the Corrective Actions Policy.
51. The CC Chair advised that CC 17 identified significant non-compliance by Indonesia which had failed to implement CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution for at-sea transshipments of SBT undertaken by its LSTLVs¹ during 2021 and 2022.
52. The CC Chair also highlighted some additional compliance issues discussed by CC 17 then advised the EC to consider the following CC 17 discussion:
 - With respect the current Corrective Actions Policy, Members had recognised the limits of this Policy and suggested that new tools be included within the Policy to further incentivise compliance;
 - Only one notification had been received in relation to Compliance Policy Guideline 5 (CPG5) and some clarifications were provided regarding when notifications should be made under this policy;
 - TCWG 3 had provided participants with their first opportunity to discuss the potential role Electronic Monitoring (EM) could play in the SBT fishery and it was recommended that an intersessional working group be established to meet virtually to consider some of the key issues with a discussion paper prepared in advance;
 - There were differing views regarding whether estimates of depredation should be included within Members' Attributable Catch (AC);
 - It was recommended that the EC and SFMWG take the value of Quality Assurance Reviews (QARs) into consideration when developing the Performance Review Implementation Plan;
 - The Japanese market study results were considered and will be re-visited at CC 18;
 - It was recommended a Technical Compliance Working Group meeting be convened prior to the CC 18 in 2023 to discuss compliance risks to support the review of the Compliance Action Plan (CAP) and better quantify those risks; and
 - CC 17 recommended the development of the trial eCDS be continued and implemented, and requested that the associated eCDS workplan and budget for 2023 and beyond be endorsed.

¹ "LSTLV" means a tuna longline fishing vessel with Freezing Capacity, and a vessel is deemed to have "Freezing Capacity" if it has a freezer which is capable of storing more than 500 kilograms of SBT at -30°C or below".

53. With regard to CC 17's discussion on the Performance Review recommendations:
- There was discussion aided by Secretariat and by New Zealand to help identify key areas of work (Attachment 5 to CC 17's Report);
 - The highest priority category areas of work identified (using a simplistic methodology) were compliance assessment, corrective actions and capacity building; and
 - Given the importance of scientific observer programs to many reporting and data collecting requirements, the Observer / EM category is also an area for consideration by the EC and SFMWG despite not having as high a priority score.
54. In response to the compliance concerns noted, South Africa thanked the Secretariat and Chairs and stated its commitment to do more that is required to meet its CCSBT obligations and to work constructively and cooperatively to address all critical outstanding compliance matters. It explained that it had lost many officials recently, especially those responsible for tuna and tuna-like species fisheries, as well as having had issues migrating its systems and infrastructure from one department over to the new department (DFFE²).
55. Members had some sympathy with South Africa's situation noting that they would like South Africa to clarify if it can submit its corrective plan of action, as well as its required reports and data, and uphold its obligation to attend meetings.
56. Japan expressed its concern, as an importer, about the case of SBT shipments with no CDS forms or CDS forms containing incorrect information, or the case where tags from previous years were being used, and that it would like to work with South Africa to resolve these issues.
57. South Africa appreciated the assistance offered by Members and committed to respond to all outstanding compliance matters including providing a timeframe within which to do so.
58. Following further discussion, South Africa advised that it was unable to nominate a specific date when its Plan and associated timeline would be available but noted they would be submitted by CCSBT 30. South Africa also committed to maintaining regular contact with the Secretariat and assisting Members in the interim.
59. Members requested that South Africa's Plan be provided in advance of CCSBT 30. To assist South Africa and ensure regular communications are maintained, it was agreed the Executive Secretary would convene a contact group comprised of Secretariat personnel, potentially the CC Chair, and any assisting Members who wished to participate. This group will communicate with South Africa on a regular basis until CCSBT 30 to assist South Africa to resolve issues, and to help give direction to the process of developing and delivering South Africa's Plan and timeline prior to CCSBT 30.

² Department of Forest, Fisheries and the Environment.

60. South Africa welcomed the proposal to communicate regularly through the group and advised it would provide relevant contact details for Ms. F. Savel and Mr. B. Liedemann who would be involved.
61. Japan and New Zealand indicated interest in participating in the group.
62. There were some questions and comments on CC 17's report and recommendations including that:
 - Taiwan noted it supported the Secretariat using AIS analyses as a supplementary compliance monitoring tool but emphasised it should not be the primary or sole methodology for assessing Members' compliance – the meeting noted Taiwan's concern;
 - The Executive Secretary clarified that CC 17's discussion of night setting concerned consistent reporting of night setting rather than the definition of night setting itself;
 - ACAP³ offered to contribute to the intersessional discussion of EM with respect to seabirds; and
 - It was clarified that endorsement of CC 17's report and recommendations would mean that the recommended amendments to the Authorised Vessel Resolution were adopted.
63. The meeting discussed Indonesia's proposal to amend CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution to allow Indonesia to conduct at-sea transshipments of SBT (including frozen SBT) to be observed by its own national observers rather than CCSBT transshipment observers⁴. Indonesia noted that the IOTC⁵ had agreed it could conduct a pilot project similar to this within the IOTC's Area of Competence and that Indonesia was still developing the project with IOTC.
64. Indonesia clarified that its proposal:
 - Pertained to the same 17 wooden Carrier Vessels (between 100 GT and 300 GT in size) specified in Annex VI of the IOTC's Resolution 22/02⁶;
 - Involved at-sea transshipments of frozen SBT and involved LSTLVs with freezing capacity; and
 - Could be modified to be a trial pilot project proposal with a mechanism for review if required.
65. Indonesia also clarified that:
 - Transshipped fish/SBT are not landed outside Indonesia and must first be landed in domestic ports;
 - All 17 CVs would be observed and would not be able to go to sea without observers on board; and

³ Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels.

⁴ Currently provided through the Observer Consortium and MRAG.

⁵ Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

⁶ Resolution 22/02 on Establishing a Programme for Transshipment by Large-scale Fishing Vessels.

- Indonesian observers are trained to WCPFC's⁷ scientific observer standards and had additional training to enable them to identify SBT as well as tropical tunas.
66. One Member clarified that Indonesia's proposal means that, if agreed, Indonesia would be able to use non-independent national transshipment observers to observe its at-sea transshipments of SBT from LSTVs rather than the independent transshipment observers currently required by CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution.
67. Indonesia agreed to amend its proposal to take into account discussion points raised by Members, including to modify the proposal to be a pilot project with a review mechanism.
68. Indonesia submitted its amended proposal to modify CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution clarifying that:
- Only the 17 named wooden Carrier Vessels (CVs) are involved (listed in the Annex);
 - A CV on the list may be replaced by a different CV but only if the substitute CV is also wooden and its fish hold volume is not larger than the hold volume of the CV being replaced;
 - The wooden CVs would receive transshipments in the IOTC area, not the Pacific Ocean;
 - Indonesia intentionally backdated the proposal to 2021, and this was done to align with the timeframe already agreed for a similar IOTC pilot project and to facilitate a report back in the same year as to IOTC;
 - In IOTC, standard independent MRAG transshipment observers cannot be deployed to wooden CVs due to safety concerns and this is the reason Indonesia proposed using national observers instead; and
 - IMO numbers are not mandatory for wooden Carrier Vessels.
69. The CC Chair:
- Emphasised that CC 17 had found Indonesia to be non-compliant with CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution in 2021 (and 2022) and that Indonesia's proposed amendment to the Transshipment Resolution was not discussed in any detail at CC 17;
 - Noted that backdating the proposal to 2021 is not appropriate when Indonesia has already been found non-compliant with respect to the CCSBT Transshipment Resolution for 2021;
 - Noted that transshipment in general has been identified as a high-risk activity and that allowing one Member to use non-independent national observers to observe at-sea transshipments could be seen as watering down the provisions of the Transshipment Resolution;
 - Queried why Indonesia's CVs, as commercial merchant vessels, did not have IMO numbers; and

⁷ Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

- Noted that during CC 17's deliberations, Indonesia had reiterated on numerous occasions that it had difficulties deploying observers due to logistical and financial constraints, etc, but that there seemed to be observers available for the 17 CVs named in Indonesia's proposal.
70. With regard to observers, Indonesia responded that it currently had only 80 observers deployed across all its fisheries and that it had to prioritise their placement, and priority had been given to placing them on board the wooden CVs, which is why they were sometimes not available to observe longline fisheries.
 71. One Member queried whether Indonesia's proposed amendments had been placed within the appropriate section of the Resolution.
 72. Pew noted that it might be prudent to consider the results of any available report backs to IOTC and it was noted that Indonesia's 2023 report to IOTC as well as the IOTC's response would be available before CCSBT 30.
 73. The CC Chair:
 - Commented that the standard process for proposals such as Indonesia's would be to submit them in advance of CC meeting for the CC's thorough consideration;
 - Noted that viewing available report backs to IOTC and any responses from the IOTC would be beneficial to all; and
 - Queried whether Indonesia's proposed scheme meets CCSBT's standards and sought advice from Indonesia as to whether the 17 CVs were fishing vessels with freezing capacity or dedicated CVs.
 74. Japan noted that the IOTC trial project is underway and Indonesian observers are already on board its wooden CVs and will be observing transshipments during 2022 and 2023 in accordance with the IOTC Resolution. Japan stated its understanding that SBT could not be transhipped at sea to those wooden vessels until the examination of Indonesia's proposal by CC 18 and EC 30, and that a CPG5⁸ notification could be potentially made if Indonesia faces the difficulty of deployment of CCSBT observers for at-sea transshipments of SBT involving those wooden CVs.
 75. The Chair expressed appreciation to Indonesia for its proposal and for responding to all CC and EC's requests for further information.
 76. The Chair summarised that there appeared to be uncertainty about the implications of the proposal, and that it may be broader in scope and more complex than initially understood, and that in normal circumstances it should first have been submitted to the CC for detailed examination. The Chair therefore proposed that the proposal be referred to CC 18 for full consideration.
 77. The meeting agreed to consider Indonesia's proposal at CC 18 and EC 30 and that it would be useful for some background analysis to be undertaken to better clarify the scope and implications of the proposal, noting the Secretariat may have the capacity to provide this background analysis.

⁸ Compliance Policy Guideline 5.

78. The EC Chair advised that the EC endorsed all of CC 17's recommendations. The EC Chair also noted that the Compliance Committee did not identify issues with respect to the implementation of Indonesia's payback and management plan for its 2019 and 2020 over-catch.

Agenda Item 6. Report from the Extended Scientific Committee

79. The independent Chair of the ESC, Dr Kevin Stokes, presented the report of the ESC for the Twenty Seventh meeting of the Scientific Committee (ESC 27), which is summarised in papers CCSBT-EC/2210/09 and CCSBT-EC/2210/23, and provided in full at **Attachment 10**.
80. The ESC Chair highlighted the key management recommendations from ESC 27, which were:
- There is no reason to modify the 2021-2023 TAC recommendation on the basis of Exceptional Circumstances;
 - An allocation of 6.0 t in 2023 be made to cover mortality associated with agreed research projects; and
 - The recommended TAC for 2024-2026 is 20,647 t.
81. In response to a question as to why the stock assessment is separated from the MP, the ESC Chair clarified that it was mainly to help manage workloads of those involved but running the MP in advance of the stock assessment allowed for some lead-in time for planning and decision-making with respect to the TAC.
82. The EC adopted the report of the ESC and endorsed its recommendations (including the recommended revisions to the CCSBT Scientific Observer Program Standards), noting that the new scientific research proposals under the SRP (and included as components 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

83. The Chair noted that full implementation of the agreed CCSBT definition of Attributable SBT Catch commenced during the 2018 season and opened the floor for discussion on how each Member has accounted for its SBT mortalities.
84. 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 2021. 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 (National allowance) as per Members' National Report to the CC/EC. Figures are rounded to whole numbers.

Member	Sector (t)				Total Reported Attributable Catch (t)
	Commercial Catch	Releases/ discards	Recreational	Customary	
Australia ⁹	5,645		312 ¹⁰		5,957
EU ¹¹	0				0
Indonesia ¹¹	1,123				1,123
Japan ¹²	6,768	26			6,794
Korea ¹²	1,299	5			1,304
New Zealand ⁹	1,046	20	34	2	1,102
South Africa ¹²	468	40	5		513
Taiwan ¹²	1,274	10			1,284

85. On the topic of depredation, New Zealand expressed the view that it believes that this type of mortality fits within the agreed definition of attributable catch and expressed concerns that some Members may be withholding information on depredation as part of their reporting to the Extended Commission. New Zealand further suggested that such a practice could be considered as non-compliance with the obligations found within the Resolution on Reporting all Sources of Mortality of Southern Bluefin Tuna.
86. The EC noted that the ESC concluded that, on the basis of the available information, it does not consider depredation to be a priority issue and that the CC could not reach agreement on how best to account for depredation in the definition of the Attributable SBT Catch.

7.2. TAC Determination

Confirmation of the TAC for 2023

87. The Chair noted that the global Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for 2021 to 2023 was agreed at CCSBT 27 as being 17,647 t per year. The Chair further advised that the ESC, following its annual review of exceptional circumstances, agreed that there was no need to modify the TAC for 2023, and therefore the 2023 SBT global TAC should remain at 17,647 t.
88. The meeting agreed that the SBT global TAC for 2023 would remain at 17,647 t.

⁹ 2020/21 season.

¹⁰ 2020/21 estimated set aside

¹¹ 2021 calendar year.

¹² 2021/22 season.

Determination of the TAC for 2024 - 2026

89. The Chair noted that the ESC has run the Management Procedure (MP) and has recommended a TAC of 20,647 t per year for 2024 to 2026, which is a 3,000 t increase over the TAC for 2021 to 2023. The ESC has recommended the adoption of this TAC.
90. The Chair referred to discussion of TAC issues at previous meetings, including CCSBT 26 and 27.
91. The meeting expressed its appreciation for the thorough work done by the ESC and noted that it had confidence in its advice that was based on high quality science that is robust to known uncertainties.
92. Most Members supported adopting the recommended increase to the TAC of 3000 t.
93. One Member expressed its concern at the lack of progress on the stereo video (SV) and Japanese market issues and proposed to defer any decision on the TAC to next year's meeting where it would like to see that real and measurable progress has been made on those issues.
94. Most Members expressed their significant concern on the reluctance to accept the TAC increase recommended by ESC based on MP which all Members had agreed on and was the best scientific evidence at EC 29. It was commented that to delay application of the ESC recommendation for non-scientific reasons jeopardises CCSBT's successful attempt to recover and sustainably manage SBT. It was also noted that it will adversely affect CCSBT's reputation internally and externally. New Zealand did not agree and noted that a decision on the scientific advice had simply been deferred.
95. Australia developed a work plan as a basis for measuring its progress implementing stereo video at **Attachment 11**.
96. Based on the paper CCSBT-EC/2210/20, Japan will submit a detailed proposal intersessionally, probably, in May or June in 2023, subject to Members' views, Japan will initiate a study on the Japanese market to report the progress at EC30 in cooperation with the Secretariat, if necessary.
97. Progress with the SV and Japanese market work will be reported by Australia and Japan respectively to the Secretariat for distribution to Members via Circular(s). The Secretariat will facilitate the provision and circulation of comments by other Members on the progress of this work.
98. A decision on the TAC for 2024 to 2026 was deferred to EC 30.
99. The EC also agreed to defer consideration of the allocation for 2024 to 2026 until EC 30.

7.3. Research Mortality Allowance

RMA for research projects in 2023

100. The EC approved a total of 6 tonnes of RMA requested for the following research projects in 2022/2023, which were endorsed by the ESC:
 - 1.5 t for the CCSBT Gene Tagging Project;

- 0.1 t by Japan for trolling surveys of age-0 SBT in north West Australia and 0.9 t by Japan for trolling surveys of 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 Southern Bluefin Tuna farming sector; and
- 0.5 t in the event that a small number of popup satellite tags are released in 2022-23 to examine localised GAB movement and behaviour over the summer.

RMA to deduct from the TAC for 2024-2026

101. The Chair advised that the EC needs to decide on the amount of Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) that is to be deducted from the TAC each year from 2024 to 2026.
102. The EC agreed to continue a 6 t of fixed deduction from the TAC from 2024 to 2026 for RMA.

7.4. Allocation of TAC

Allocation of the TAC for 2023

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

Table 2: Allocations (tonnes of SBT) to Members for 2021-2022 (and 2023).

Member	(1) Nominal Allocation	(2) Nominal Catch Proportion	(3) Effective Catch Limit
Japan	6165.068	0.355643	6197.4 ¹³
Australia	6165.068	0.355643	6238.4 ¹⁴
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 ¹⁵
European Union	10.883	0.000628	11
South Africa	422.741	0.024387	455.3 ¹⁶

104. The Chair further advised that the current effective catch limit for Indonesia of 1,122.8 t includes a special temporary allowance of 80 t and the EC needs to consider the information provided to CC 17 on Indonesia's compliance with its Payback Plan (including that no further over-catch has occurred), and progress

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Includes a deduction of 7 t for Australia's voluntary transfer to Indonesia.

¹⁵ Includes voluntary transfers to Indonesia of 21 t from Japan, 7 t from Australia and the special temporary allowance of 80 t.

¹⁶ Includes a voluntary transfer of 27 t to South Africa from Japan.

with its management plan, and decide whether to endorse the continuation of this special temporary allowance (80 t) to Indonesia for the upcoming 2023 season.

105. In consideration of Indonesia's efforts and taking into account the CC's recommendation, the EC agreed that the special temporary allowance of 80 t for Indonesia should continue into 2023.

Allocation of the TAC for 2024 - 2026

106. Indonesia advised that, as outlined in its opening statement, it would like the EC to review the current allocation of TAC to Members so that it better reflects Indonesia's situation as a developing coastal state with direct access to SBT fishing grounds.
107. Members expressed understanding of Indonesia's position and suggested that Indonesia prepare a proposal for Members to consider at next year's meeting but noted that discussions of allocation can be difficult and often take years to reach agreement in other forums.
108. The EC agreed that Indonesia would provide a proposal for revising TAC allocation to EC 30 for consideration by Members. It was noted that the proposal would be for a simple adjustment to the allocation percentages and not a proposal for a completely new mechanism.

Agenda Item 8. Report from the Ecologically Related Species Working Group

109. The Chair advised that the Secretariat prepared an agenda paper (CCSBT-EC/2210/11) for this item that provides a summary of the recommendations and advice from ERSWG 14. The full report of ERSWG 14 report is provided at **Attachment 12**.
110. The independent Chair of the ERSWG, Mr Alexander Morison, presented the report of ERSWG 14, outlining key points from the meeting. There were two recommendations from the meeting, which were that the EC adopt:
- The proposed template in Attachment B of paper CCSBT-ERS/2203/07 for summarising key points of ERSWG reports for provision to other tuna RFMOs.
 - The Multi-year Seabird Strategy at Attachment 4 of the ERSWG 14 report. The overall objective and five specific objectives of this strategy were agreed by the EC in 2019. The revised strategy contains actions under each specific objective that were developed and agreed during ERSWG 14.
111. The ERSWG Chair reported other relevant advice to the EC from ERSWG 14, which included that:
- The ERSWG did not seek to amend its previous advice that the level of interaction between seabirds and SBT fisheries is still a significant level of concern.
 - The ERSWG noted that ACAP has updated its advice concerning the most effective ways to reduce seabird bycatch in pelagic longline fisheries. This still includes the use of the following three best practice measures simultaneously: branch line weighting, night setting and bird scaring lines. In

addition, the use of any of three assessed hook shielding devices or the use of a newly assessed underwater bait setting device have now been recommended as suitable alternatives.

- The meeting confirmed its previously agreed advice for all shark species caught in SBT fisheries, that there were currently no specific concerns about shark bycatch that warranted additional mitigation requirements.
 - The ERSWG considered the report of the CCSBT Performance Review. A total of 37 recommendations were initially determined to be of potential relevance to the scope of the ERSWG. Using simple criteria to evaluate the recommendations, seven recommendations were considered as being most important from the ERSWG's perspective and required new action, noting that even with these recommendations, there were some differences of views between Members.
 - The EC had 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. Recommendation PR2021-05 from the Performance Review expressed a similar view. The ERSWG discussed this matter and agreed that more regular meetings should be held but to have a hybrid approach for future ERSWG meetings. This involves having a full, face-to-face ERSWG meeting every second year and scientific technical meeting(s) in the intersessional years.
 - It was agreed that national reports would only be submitted by Members to the full meetings of the ERSWG every second year. The intersessional meetings can be held virtually and would focus on specific technical priorities agreed by the Members.
112. The ERSWG Chair also noted that the ERSWG plans to conduct a collaborative seabird spatially explicit fisheries risk assessment (SEFRA) amongst Members. The SEFRA will be one of the main focuses of ERSWG hybrid technical meetings originally planned for 2023.
113. The EC endorsed the recommendations from ERSWG 14.
114. The meeting thanked Mr Morison for Chairing the ERSWG since 2012 and the large impact he had.
115. Some Members and observers noted the benefits that EM, which is included in the Multi-year Seabird Strategy, will bring with respect to both determining seabird bycatch and the level of compliance with mitigation measures.
116. Birdlife International commented that the new CCSBT seabird project will hopefully come into effect next month and urged Members to engage with that project, noting that it also had a component relating to EM.
117. The ERSWG chair made some concluding remarks concerning the work of the ERSWG during his term as the ERSWG Chair. He noted that seabird bycatch has been the most significant matter that the ERSWG has had to consider, that the scientific advice to the ERSWG and to the EC during this period has been that implementation of more effective mitigation measures based on best practice was urgently required, that best practice measures for mitigation of seabird bycatch have still not been mandated by CCSBT, and there has continued to be an annual bycatch of many thousands of seabirds in fisheries that

target SBT. He further noted that advice on best practice measures and evidence of their successful implementation in other fisheries had been provided to the ERSWG since 2009, and that improved performance on ERS matters had been recommended in two CCSBT Performance Reviews, his view was that this was evidence that the ERSWG had been a group whose activities and advice have lacked any effective pathway to improved management outcomes. He requested that the EC consider the question of what it would take to establish a pathway to improved outcomes for the ERSWG and if this was not achievable by the CCSBT, he asked if this should be acknowledged and the responsibility for such important ERS matters be explicitly passed to the other area-based tuna RFMOs.

118. The Humane Society International (HSI) commented that ACAP has declared a conservation crisis and that CCSBT is largely responsible for that crisis. In light of this, HSI questioned how CCSBT can consider a 3,000 t increase in the SBT TAC without considering the impacts of this on the crisis.

Agenda Item 9. Ecologically Related Species (ERS)

119. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC, and at the CC.

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

120. The Chair advised that the pre-meeting discussion noted that there have been no ERS decisions by IOTC, WCPFC or ICCAT¹⁷ since CCSBT 28 that are of relevance to the CCSBT's ERS Alignment Resolution. Consequently, no updates are proposed to the ERS Resolution for consideration by CCSBT 29.
121. The EC agreed that there would be no updates to the ERS Alignment Resolution this year.

Members' performance with respect to ERS

122. The Secretariat's report on Members' performance with respect to ERS was presented to the CC in paper CCSBT-CC/2210/05. The CC discussed this paper at its meeting in the previous week and the EC decided that it did not need to further discuss this paper.
123. Australia noted that the delay in Australia's data provision for the ERSWG Data Exchange this year was the result of upgraded data systems in relevant organisations which had been resolved and the data had now been submitted.

Agenda Item 10. Report of the Performance Review of the CCSBT

124. The Chair advised that the CCSBT Performance Review process commenced in November 2020 and the report of the 2021 Performance Review of the CCSBT was provided to Members on 1 March 2022. The Chair further noted that, in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Performance Review, the ERSWG, ESC and CC considered any pertinent recommendations and provided

¹⁷ International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

advice to CCSBT 29 on recommendations relating to them. The Chair advised that EC meeting needs to consider advice from subsidiary bodies and provide direction to the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG) in relation to development of an implementation plan for the Performance Review recommendations.

125. The Chair of the CCSBT Performance Review Panel, Dr Hussain Sinan, presented the final report of the Panel (Attachment C of paper CCSBT-CC/2210/13), in which the Panel's key recommendations were highlighted.
126. The EC thanked Dr Hussain Sinan and the members of the Performance Review Panel for their work in drafting this comprehensive report. Members were pleased to see that improvements had been achieved in several areas from previous iterations of the Performance Review but noted that some areas continue to be deficient. The meeting noted that the Performance Review provides a useful starting point for the next step of prioritisation and recognised that the responsibility now shifts to the Members.
127. The Chair reminded Members of the Terms of Reference for this project which state that an implementation plan is now to be developed with the support of a SFMWG meeting in mid-2023. The Chair also noted pre-meeting discussions with Members that suggested that a draft implementation plan should be developed ahead of SFMWG and that this important exercise be shared amongst Members.
128. Australia offered to lead the work on the development of a draft implementation plan. Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan, Indonesia, and Korea all confirmed their willingness to support Australia in this work.
129. HSI wished to congratulate Members for undertaking the Performance Review seeing it as an important process and fully supporting the direction that has been taken.
130. BLI also thanked Members for implementing the Performance Review. In particular, BLI wishes to highlight the issues identified around ERS and supports the recommendation that suggests a renewed focus on ERS.
131. In response to a question from the Chair, the ERSWG Chair suggested that one area that could be considered for early implementation is a potential review of the Convention to clarify the role and mandate of CCSBT with regard to ERS. The ERSWG Chair noted the lengthy process typically associated with a change to the Convention, and that a decision on any changes to the Convention might have implications for how other recommendations were addressed, as possible justifications for work to begin as soon as possible.
132. Noting the importance of the area raised by ERSWG Chair, Japan noted that the discussion on this issue would require consideration of relationship with other Tuna-RFMOs as CCSBT does not have geographical area of its competence.
133. Taiwan agreed that some of the recommendations were likely to take more time to achieve, such as modernisation of the Convention. Taiwan also wished to note that not all issues of high importance had been identified through the subsidiary bodies and that work remains for the SFMWG.
134. The Chair thanked Australia for leading the intersessional work on a draft implementation plan and referred further discussions to the SFMWG.

Agenda Item 11. Relationship with Non-Members

135. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.
136. The Secretariat submitted paper CCSBT-EC/2210/14 which summarised the Secretariat's interactions with non-Members since CCSBT 28. China, Fiji, Mauritius, Singapore and the USA were invited to attend this meeting and CC 17.
137. The EC agreed to invite China, Fiji, Mauritius, Panama, Singapore and the USA to participate as observers at CC 18 and CCSBT 30.
138. Japan requested that the Secretariat continue its efforts to approach those countries which have fished or traded SBT for their participation in the meeting.
139. The Chair thanked the United States for its continued cooperation with the CCSBT's Catch Documentation Scheme. The Chair also thanked Fiji, Mauritius, and Panama for attending this meeting, which was appreciated.

Agenda Item 12. Activities with Other Organisations

12.1. Reports from other RFMO meetings of interest

140. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.
141. Members have acted as CCSBT observers at RFMO meetings of interest, and these Members have provided reports back to the CCSBT on matters of relevance in order to improve coordination with other RFMOs.
142. The following reports were provided by Members as part of their Observer duties for the CCSBT.
 - Korea's report (CCSBT-EC/2210/19) on the 18th Regular Session of the WCPFC;
 - New Zealand's report (CCSBT-EC/2210/22) on the 40th Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR);
 - Indonesia's report (CCSBT-EC/2210/24) in relation to the Twenty Sixth session of the IOTC;
 - Japan's report (CCSBT-EC/2210/21) on the 2021 Discussions on Essential Commission Business in Lieu of The 27th Regular Meeting of ICCAT; and
 - Taiwan's report (CCSBT-EC/2210/18) in relation to the 99th Extraordinary Meeting and 100th Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC).
143. It was agreed that the following Members would act as Observers to other RFMOs on behalf of CCSBT during 2022/23:
 - 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.
144. The Chair thanked these Members for providing their reports and for agreeing to be CCSBT observers again next year.

12.2. Arrangement between CCSBT and CCAMLR

145. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.
146. The Secretariat's paper CCSBT-EC/2210/15 reported on the status of the Arrangement between CCSBT and CCAMLR, which is now overdue for review and renewal. The paper advised that both the CCSBT and CCAMLR Secretariats consider that the cooperation between the two organisations has been beneficial and that it would be appropriate to renew the Arrangement in its current form.
147. The EC agreed to renew the Arrangement with CCAMLR in its current form, providing that the annual CCAMLR meeting also agrees to renew the Arrangement.

Agenda Item 13. Confidentiality of Data and Documents

13.1. Confidentiality of reports and documents from 2022

148. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.
149. The meeting agreed that all the reports of meetings and documents submitted to meetings under the jurisdiction of CCSBT 29 would be made publicly available with the exception of Attachment A of paper CCSBT-ESC/2208/04 from the Secretariat titled "Secretariat Review of Catches".

Agenda Item 14. Meetings for 2023

150. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the EC.
151. The EC agreed that the dates for the ESC, CC and EC meetings in Korea during 2023 will be:
- The 28th Extended Scientific Committee meeting, in Jeju island, from 28 August to 2 September 2023;
 - The 4th Technical Compliance Working Group Meeting, in Busan, on 4 October 2023;
 - The 18th Compliance Committee Meeting, in Busan, from 5 to 7 October 2023; and

- The 30th Extended Commission Meeting, in Busan, from 9 to 12 October 2023.
152. It was further agreed that an Operating Model and Management Procedure (OMMP) technical meeting would be held during June/July 2023 to consider the full stock assessment, and that the dates for this meeting will be determined by the Executive Secretary in consultation with Member scientists.
 153. It was agreed that a face-to-face SFMWG meeting will be held to consider an implementation plan for the recommendations of the Performance Review. The meeting will be held during mid-2023 at a date and location to be determined by the Executive Secretary in conjunction with Members. Members have been requested to volunteer to host the meeting. If there are no volunteers, the location will default to Canberra, where the CCSBT is headquartered.
 154. A virtual ERS technical meeting will also be held during 2023, at a date to be determined by the Executive Secretary in conjunction with relevant Member scientists.

Agenda Item 15. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the CCSBT

155. 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, Korea will be Chair of the EC and Taiwan will be Vice-Chair.
156. The Chair requested that Korea and Taiwan provide their nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair to the Secretariat as soon as possible.
157. Korea advised that it would nominate a Chair as soon as possible.
158. Taiwan advised that it would nominate a Vice Chair as soon as possible.

Agenda Item 16. Other Business

159. New Zealand advised that it has an albatross tracking project that overlaps with SBT fishing grounds and formally requested Members to inform their fleet and ask their vessels to cooperate with the program. If crew find tracking devices they should be returned to the program.
160. Members supported the program, and it was agreed that the flyer for the project would be circulated to Members by the Secretariat.
161. New Zealand noted that it had been reflecting on the issue raised by HSI on potential increases in seabird bycatch if the SBT TAC is increased. New Zealand further commented that this is an issue that should be considered by the EC over the course of the year before the TAC is reconsidered at EC 30.
162. HSI asked whether consideration of the seabird issue will be linked to the decision on the TAC increase and allocations, and Birdlife International asked whether observers can be involved in these discussions.

163. The Chair advised that the decisions to be taken at the next meeting are up to the next EC and that no decisions have been taken at this point. The Chair further advised that discussion of the TAC next year will not necessarily be in Heads of Delegation meetings and that the vast majority of the EC's proceedings are in plenary and are thus available to be observed.

Agenda Item 17. Close of Meeting

17.1. Adoption of report

164. The report of the meeting was adopted.

17.2. Close of meeting

165. The meeting closed at 7:50 pm (Wellington time), 14 October 2022.

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 Chair for the CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species Working Group
7. Resolution on the Establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund for Developing States of CCSBT Members
8. Report of the Finance and Administration Committee
9. Report of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee
10. Report of the Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Scientific Committee
11. Stereo video implementation: Trial and implementation steps in Australia's farm sector
12. Report of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group

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Agenda
Extended Commission of the Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Commission
10-14 October 2022
Online

1. Opening of the Meeting
 - 1.1. Confirmation of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Twenty-Ninth 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 (FAC)
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. Report from the Ecologically Related Species Working Group
9. Ecologically Related Species (ERS)
10. Report of the Performance Review of the CCSBT
11. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Extended Commission of the Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the CCSBT
12. Other Business
13. Close of Meeting
 - 13.1. Adoption of report
 - 13.2. Close of meeting

List of Documents

The Extended Commission of the Twenty Ninth Annual Commission Meeting

(CCSBT-EC/2210/)

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 2022 Budget (EC agenda item 3)
6. (Secretariat) Draft 2023 and indicative 2024 - 2025 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) Chairman's report of the Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Extended Scientific Committee (EC agenda item 6)
10. (Secretariat) Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation (EC agenda item 7)
11. (Secretariat) Report from the ERSWG (EC agenda item 8)
12. (Secretariat) Update to CCSBT's Resolution on Ecologically Related Species (ERS) (EC Agenda item 9)
13. (Secretariat) Report of the Performance Review (EC Agenda item 10)
14. (Secretariat) Relationship with Non-Members (EC agenda item 11)
15. (Secretariat) Activities with Other Organisations (EC agenda item 12)
16. (Secretariat) Confidentiality of Data and Documents (EC agenda item 13)
17. (Indonesia) A Proposal for a Meeting Participation Fund Mechanism in CCSBT (EC agenda item 3)
18. (Taiwan) Report from the CCSBT Observer (TAIWAN) on the 99th Extraordinary Meeting and 100th Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (EC agenda item 12.1)
19. (Korea) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the Eighteenth Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) (EC agenda item 12.1)
20. (Japan) Update on Japanese Market Proposal (EC agenda item 4.1)
21. (Japan) Report from the CCSBT Observer to the 2021 Discussions on Essential Commission Business in Lieu of The 27th Regular Meeting of The International Commission for The Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) (EC agenda item 12.1)

22. (New Zealand) Report from the CCSBT observer (New Zealand) to the 40th annual meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (EC agenda item 12.1)
23. (SC Chair) Presentation of the Report of the 27th Meeting of the Scientific Committee incorporating the Extended Scientific Committee (EC agenda item 6)
24. (Indonesia) Report from the CCSBT Observer to 26th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (EC agenda item 12.1)

(CCSBT-EC/2210/Rep)

1. Report of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2022)
2. Report of the Twenty-Seventh Meeting of the Scientific Committee (August - September 2022)
3. Report of the Twelfth Operating Model and Management Procedure Workshop (June 2022)
4. Report of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (March 2022)
5. Report of the Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2021)
6. Report of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2021)
7. Report of the Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (August 2021)
8. Report of the Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2020)
9. Report of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2020)
10. Report of the Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2019)

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

(CCSBT-CC/2210/SBT Fisheries -)

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

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

(CCSBT-CC/2210/)

1. Provisional Agenda
4. (Secretariat) Compliance with CCSBT Management Measures (CC agenda items 2.1, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 8.2.3)
5. (Secretariat) Annual Report on Members' implementation of ERS measures and performance with respect to ERS (CC agenda item 2.1)
6. (Secretariat) Report on Notifications Received by the Secretariat under CPG5 (CC agenda item 2.2.1)
7. (Secretariat) Corrective Actions Policy: Review of Indonesia's Implementation of its Payback and Management Plans and South Africa's Plan to Address its Non-compliance (CC agenda item 2.4.2)
8. (Secretariat) Report from the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (CC agenda item 3)
9. (Secretariat) Operation of CCSBT MCS Measures (CC agenda items 2.2.2, 5)
10. (Secretariat) Proposed Draft Revised CCSBT Authorised Vessel Resolution (CC agenda item 5)
11. (Secretariat) CC Recommendations from the Performance Review of the CCSBT (CC agenda item 7)
12. (CCSBT) 2021 CCSBT Performance Review (CC agenda item 7)
13. (Secretariat) Updated analysis for verification of reported catch by Members with CDS data and tag survey data obtained from Japanese market (CC agenda item 8.2.2)
14. (Secretariat) Potential Non-Member Fishing Activity/Trade & Trade Summaries (CC agenda item 8.3)
15. (Secretariat) Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with Other Bodies and Organisations (CC agenda item 10)
16. (Secretariat) Progress Update on the CCSBT's On-line Data Submission/ Access Project (eSBT) (CC agenda item 11.1)

17. (Secretariat) Progress Update on the CCSBT's Trial eCDS Project
(CC agenda item 11.2)
18. (Secretariat) Potential for the Secretariat to Undertake Future Analyses Using Publicly Available Automatic Identification System (AIS) Data
(CC agenda item 12)
19. (CCSBT) Report on Verification of All Members' Catch through Monitoring of Southern Bluefin Tuna Product Distribution (CC agenda item 8.2.1)
20. (New Zealand) Options for the future of CCSBT Quality Assurance Review Programme (CC agenda item 8.1)
21. (Japan) Report of the Discussion on Transshipment Scheme in the 27th Regular Meeting of The International Commission for The Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) (CC agenda item 5)
22. (Japan) Proposal for Implementation of Management Tag Survey and Market Survey from 2023 (CC agenda item 8.2.1)
23. (Indonesia) Implementation of Indonesia's work plan to remain within TAC for 2022 (Rev.1) (CC agenda item 2.4.2)

(CCSBT-CC/2210/Info)

1. (Indonesia) Updated Analysis on Catch of Southern Bluefin Tuna (*Thunnus maccoyii*) by Fishing Area from Indonesian Tuna Longline Fleet
(CC agenda item 2.4.2)

(CCSBT-TCWG/2210/)

1. Provisional Agenda
4. (New Zealand) On-board cameras in New Zealand: Current status and future plans (Rev.1) (TCWG agenda item 2)
5. (Japan) Progress Report of EMS Trials (TCWG agenda item 2)
6. (Australia) Australia's Perspectives on the Benefits of Electronic Monitoring (TCWG agenda item 2)
7. (Australia) Progress of Electronic Monitoring in the WCPFC and IOTC (TCWG agenda item 2)

(CCSBT-TCWG/2210/BGD)

1. (Australia) Measuring congruence between electronic monitoring and logbook data in Australian Commonwealth longline and gillnet fisheries
(Previously CCSBT-ERS/1905/13) (TCWG agenda item 2)

2. (Australia) Changes in logbook reporting by commercial fishers following the implementation of electronic monitoring in Australian Commonwealth fisheries
(Previously CCSBT-ERS/1905/14) (TCWG agenda item 2)

(CCSBT-TCWG/2210/Info)

1. (USA) Information Paper: Electronic Monitoring in the U.S. Atlantic Pelagic Longline Fishery: An Information Paper
(TCWG agenda item 2)
2. (ACAP) ACAP Guidelines on Fisheries Electronic Monitoring Systems
(TCWG agenda item 2)
3. (Australia) Australia's Electronic Monitoring Program: Lessons and New Direction (TCWG agenda item 2)

Opening Statement by Australia

Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, wherever you may be.

First let me thank New Zealand for hosting the meeting. It is our hope this will be the last virtual meeting, at least for a while, and we can soon return to our usual face-to-face meetings.

We would also like to acknowledge the Chair, Mr Don Mackay, the Secretariat for the meeting papers and arrangements, which are of the usual high standard, our excellent and patient translators and of course all other delegates and delegations

This year the Commission is faced with the task of deciding on the Total Allowable Catch limits for the next quota block, taking into account the very positive outcome of the Cape Town Procedure this year and the recommended maximum increase in global total allowable catch.

Implementing the management procedure has supported the recovery of the SBT stock, after many difficult years, and it is critical that we maintain that discipline going forward, to ensure continued recovery, and broader confidence in the management framework for the fishery.

The reputation of the CCSBT in adhering to management procedure recommendations makes it a role model for other RFMOs. Australia is heartened to see management procedures adopted in other RFMOs, including most recently the Bigeye Tuna Management Procedure in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

Australia will update the Commission on the work we have done towards the implementation of stereo video, noting the difficulties of international work due to COVID 19 travel restrictions – including for this meeting.

I understand the Compliance Committee put considerable effort into considering how depredation is accounted for by Members, and how depredation might be considered in the context of the Resolution on Reporting all Sources of Mortality. We look forward to discussing this further this week.

Australia is proud to take on the role Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) this year. The work of the FAC is critical to our work, and I understand its work is growing in importance as the CCSBT budget deficit continues to grow. Australia will work with all Members to prioritise the most critical work for the Commission, with an emphasis on work that is truly necessary to manage the stock.

I note many Members, including Australia, still struggle to meet existing obligations and we need to think carefully about expanding CCSBT obligations to ensure they do not add unnecessary cost and burden to Members and the Secretariat, without demonstrably benefiting the management of the SBT stock.

And finally we would like to welcome Mr Dominic Vallières as the incoming Executive Secretary, and acknowledge the impending retirement of the current Executive Secretary, Mr Robert Kennedy. We will speak more on the excellent contribution Mr Kennedy has made to the CCSBT at the meeting.

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

Opening Statement by the Fishing Entity of Taiwan

Honorable Chairperson, Distinguished Delegates, Observers, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

The Taiwan delegation is very pleased to participate in the 29th meeting of the CCSBT. First of all, I would like to extend our appreciation to Mr. Kennedy, the Executive Secretary, and the Secretariat staff for your excellent arrangements for the virtual meetings and also for the comprehensive meeting documents.

The COVID-19 pandemic is still challenging for all of us. Nonetheless, even in this difficult time, Taiwan still endeavours to mitigate the impact of the pandemic to the greatest extent possible and to comply with all resolutions of CCSBT. For example, at the beginning of 2022, we vaccinated all our observers and dispatched them to the vessel again.

In this meeting, we will decide the SBT total allowable catch (TAC) for 2024-2026. According to the report, the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) recommended the annual TAC for the years 2024-2026 is 20,647 tons, which is 3,000 tons higher than the current TAC. This is very inspiring. Taiwan is glad to see the increment, for it is a positive sign of SBT conservation.

Today, I would like to especially extend our appreciation to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Kennedy, whose term will end at the end of this year. Taiwan is very grateful to Mr. Kennedy for all your efforts to conserve the SBT and ERS and to arrange the administrative affairs in these years. Also, I would like to congratulate Mr. Vallieres, who will be the new Executive Secretary. We are looking forward to working with you.

Finally, I wish we will have a productive and successful meeting, and that we will achieve constructive outcomes for the sustainability of the SBT fishery. Thank you.

Opening Statement by Indonesia

Honorable Chair

Executive Secretary of the Commission

Distinguished Delegates, Observers.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening, everyone.

Indonesia would like to extend our sincere appreciation towards Chair, Vice Chair, and the Secretariat respectively, that had been working hard to arrange and facilitate the meeting this year.

Today's online format meeting reflects the fact that the Covid19 pandemic is still very much with us. But we are grateful that we can at least have this format and be able to see all of you in this platform.

Despite the conditions, Indonesia is still committed to attend and actively participate in various CCSBT meetings. We hope that today's meeting achieves best and fruitful decision for all members, to ensure sustainable SBT management.

Honorable Chair and distinguished delegates,

Despite the fact that Total Allowable Catch (TAC) remains unchanged for 2023 based on the Extended Scientific Committee, Indonesia welcomes the potential of an increase in TAC for the 2024-2026 quota block. However, Indonesia suggests that the discussion on the distributions of quota block allocation of 2024-2026 for each member to be undertaken offline in 2023 rather than this year (2022).

Indonesia concerns with the current SBT quotas allocation. In this regard, Indonesia believes that it is necessary to review the quota allocation mechanism which will be discussed next year in order to give greater consideration to the interests of developing coastal states.

Honorable Chair and distinguished delegates,

Indonesia is well-aware its inadequate participation in the scientific work process, particularly in CCSBT's two key scientific bodies, - the Operating Model and Management Procedure (OMMP) and the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG). This is an unfortunate reality due to its constraints on both financial resource and human resource capacity.

Along this line, Indonesia proposes a Meeting Participant Fund mechanism for developing coastal states, and it is envisaged that a capacity development program for researchers from developing coastal states would be established so that they can actively engage and contribute in the scientific work process at CCSBT.

I thank you.

Opening Statement by Japan

Honourable Chair,

Executive Secretaries, Distinguished Delegates of All Members and Observers.

First of all, on behalf of the Japanese delegation, I would like to offer our sincere congratulations to Mr. Dominic Vallières on his appointment as new Executive Secretary of Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT). We are pleased to continue to work along with the Secretariat under his leadership.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Executive Secretaries and the staff of the Secretariat for their efforts to prepare for and organise this meeting under difficult situation where the COVID-19 still affects face-to-face communication. Moreover, we would also like to thank interpreters for their excellent contributions to facilitate our discussions.

CCSBT has agreed on and implemented the well-established Management Procedure (MP). Applying Operation of the current MP (Cape Town Procedure), the Extended Scientific Committee recommended the increase in global Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for 2024-2026. While the next stock assessment will be conducted in 2023, the last assessment indicated the stock has increased from the previous assessment. This is the evidence that the established CCSBT's conservation and including TAC management has worked well in rebuilding and conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna. As a Member of CCSBT, we are honoured to cooperate for appropriate implementation of the conservation measures.

On the other hand, CCSBT needs to continue to decrease uncertainty in management of Southern Bluefin Tuna. In this regard, the evident contributions such as strengthening implementation of the measures and data collection by all the Members will further strengthen the robustness of the conservation measures including MP. Japan is pleased to participate in the constructive discussions and cooperate in further improvement of the current measures for achieving the rebuilding goal of Southern Bluefin Tuna.

Finally, I would like to express our deep gratitude to Mr. Robert Kennedy for his longtime and dedicated works toward CCSBT and all the Members. We hope all the best for him in the future.

Thank you very much.

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Opening Statement by New Zealand

Tena koutou katoa: *Greetings one and all*

The New Zealand delegation is disappointed that we were unable to physically host this meeting of CCSBT to showcase our beautiful country. Nonetheless a virtual welcome to all participants.

We express our appreciation for the work of the Secretariat and the CCSBT subsidiary bodies during the year and welcome Mr Vallieres as the new Executive Secretary. We will express our regards and thanks to the outgoing Executive Secretary at the conclusion of our meeting.

We have several important issues on our agenda for the meeting this week. Key among those for New Zealand is the setting of the TAC and its allocation. In this regard we continue to believe that the failure to resolve uncertainty in farm and market reporting undermines our and other Members' interests. It remains our position that real and measurable progress on these matters is a precursor to any future increase in the global total allowable catch and we will reflect on this during the course of this meeting.

Our best wishes to all and we look forward to productive discussions.

Opening Statement by the Republic of Korea

Greetings from Sejong, Korea.

First and the foremost, Korea would like to thank the Chairman of the Commission and the Secretariat for organising the 29th meeting of CCSBT. Although we have seen some progress or improvements in the global COVID-19 situation, we have to say we are disappointed that CCSBT Members can not meet in person again this year. We do hope that we would be able to meet all Members in Korea next year.

This year, as usual, we have a number of issues to deal with during the meeting including the decisions on TAC and its allocation, ERS related issues as well as other important matters. In particular, as the current 3-year management period will end in 2023, the Commission has to agree on the TAC for the next management period. It is our sincere hope that the Commission would be able to agree on the new TAC based on mutual understanding and spirit of cooperation. Although there still remain issues to resolve with the application of CTP, we expect that Members will show a reasonable level of flexibility in discussing these issues.

Also, we note that this meeting would be the last one for the Executive Secretary Mr. Bob Kennedy. Taking this opportunity, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude to him for the tremendous job he has done and the priceless contribution he has made to the work of the Commission as well as the recovery of SBT stock. We firmly believe that CCSBT wouldn't have been what it is now without his dedication and contribution. We wish him all the best for his future endeavours.

At the same time, we would like to congratulate Mr. Dominic Vallieres for his election and warmly welcome him as the new Executive Secretary. He has taken the role of FAC Chair for a long time and we appreciate his excellent service. Based on our experience with him so far, we have no doubt that he will lead the Secretariat efficiently and successfully.

Finally, we very much look forward to working with the Chairman, all Members, NGOs and the Secretariat at the Extended Commission meeting, and hope the meeting will be a productive one.

Thank you very much.

Opening Statement by BirdLife International

BirdLife International thanks the Extended Commission for the opportunity to participate in this meeting and for continuing progress to improve fisheries management. We recognise the ongoing difficulties of the circumstances caused by COVID-19 and sincerely appreciate the efforts that have been made to continue work and hold meetings.

BirdLife International re-emphasizes the responsibilities of CCSBT Members to minimise bycatch of seabirds as established under the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement and committed to in member's National Plans of Actions for Seabirds. The Members' 2021 fishing year annual reports highlight worryingly low levels and poor spatial representation of observer coverage, which is severely impacting the ability of the Commission to verify compliance with all Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs). Without observers or electronic monitoring, there is no way to verify if Members are meeting their obligations to minimise impacts on ecologically related species.

Information presented at ERSWG 14 highlighted ongoing significant seabird bycatch issues, with an estimated 13,000 seabirds killed in the two previous years that haven't been impacted by reduced observer coverage (2018/19). We would remind the Commission that the CCSBT fishing area has the greatest overlap with seabird distribution of any of the tuna RFMOs, and as identified in the Performance Review there is still much work to be done to remedy the situation. We urge all Members to prioritise actions to improve implementation of seabird bycatch mitigation measures, and also to improve monitoring of measures and bycatch rates.

BirdLife once again emphasizes that electronic monitoring (EM) is an important tool in the suite of compliance and data collection tools to overcome the challenges that COVID-19 has presented. This pandemic highlights the importance of taking urgent action to increase EM in SBT fleets to ensure that compliance monitoring occurs. BirdLife notes that without verification through human observer reported data, electronic monitoring (EM), or high seas and portside inspections, self-reported data by Members remain questionable.

BirdLife is committed to collaborative efforts to improve the implementation of seabird bycatch mitigation measures in CCSBT fisheries. The intersessional work to prepare for the FAO funded seabird project is almost complete, thanks to the efforts of the Members, and especially the Secretariat. We look forward to seeing the project implemented over the next few years, and actions taken by Members to tackle high levels of seabird bycatch.

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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. 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.

Importantly we take this opportunity to farewell Bob Kennedy and commend his tireless and exemplary work as Executive Secretary. We look forward to continuing in our role as Observer to the Commission and extend a warm welcome to Dominic Vallieres.

While it is encouraging to note CCSBT Members MP efforts will again likely be rewarded with a TAC increase, it is of grave concern to HSI that the concurrent fishing effort increase will have the predictable consequence of 500 annual additional seabird deaths. That this would be allowed to happen in the face of an already declared conservation crisis, is a situation surely demanding much more aggressive remedial measures.

The Report of the 28th Annual Meeting of the Commission (Paras 87 & 88) detail concerns over the implication for seabirds of any TAC increase and while at that time Members agreed ERS issues should be considered separately to the SBT stock, surely before EC29 endorses a TAC recommendation, advice on seabird bycatch implications of fishing effort increase would first be necessary from the ERSWG. Preventing a deepening of the seabird conservation crisis because of TAC increase should entail remedial action advice from the working group for the Commission to act on concurrent with a TAC increase. HSI urges advice from the working group and decisions from the Commission on a process for mitigation before further TAC increase.

HSI again takes the opportunity to encourage 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. HSI looks forward to seeing CCSBT Members work to strengthen required mitigation measures and prevent noncompliance. This can be achieved by fully utilising EMS for monitoring and compliance, heeding specific recommendations of the Performance Review and by implementing the Seabird Strategy of the CCSBT.

The EC is reminded that, of all five tuna commissions, CCSBT has the greatest overlap between its fisheries and albatrosses and that those albatross populations in serious decline have been declared to be facing a conservation crisis, largely because of an inability identified by the Performance Review for the impacts of the SBT fishery to be addressed. Those recommendations in particular of the Performance Review need priority action.

Thank you Chair and Members for your time.

Process for Recruitment of a new Chair for the CCSBT's Ecologically Related Species Working Group (ERSWG)

The CCSBT's [Chairing Arrangements for CCSBT Subsidiary Bodies](#) specifies the following details for the ERSWG Chair:

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

The Extended Commission has agreed that:

- Each Member of the Extended Commission may nominate one independent ERS expert to be the Chair of the ERSWG. Members should ascertain the willingness of their nominee to Chair the ERSWG prior to providing the nomination to the Executive Secretary.
- Each nomination must be provided to the Executive Secretary by 6 January 2023 and must include:
 - a current CV; and
 - a statement of independence in accordance with the above independence criteria together with a declaration of any conflicts of interest.
- The Executive Secretary will circulate the nominations by 9 January 2023.
- Members will provide the Executive Secretary with their order of preference among all nominations by 31 January 2023.
- The Executive Secretary will rank nominations according to Members' preferences and seek to appoint the top ranked candidate. If that candidate refuses the offer of appointment, the next highest ranked candidate will be appointed (and so on).
- The Secretariat will then advise Members of the appointed candidate.

**Resolution on the Establishment of a Meeting Participation Fund
for Developing States of CCSBT Members**

(Adopted at the Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting: 14 October 2022)

The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT),

RECOGNISING that Article 25 paragraph 3 of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA) describes, *inter alia*, forms of cooperation with developing States and the need for assistance relating to collection, reporting, verification, exchange and analysis of fisheries data and related information; and stock assessment and scientific research;

RECALLING that the Twenty-Eight Annual Meeting of the Commission noted that some scientists of developing Members are unable to attend some scientific meetings, which hinders their understanding of the science;

ADOPTS, in accordance with paragraph 3(b) of Article 8 of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (Convention), that:

1. A special Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) be established for the purposes of supporting scientists and representatives from CCSBT Members who are developing States to attend and/or contribute to CCSBT meetings related to Scientific Works.
2. In accordance with Article 11(5) of the Convention, the MPF shall not be used to fund attendance at meetings of the Commission or the Scientific Committee.
3. The MPF shall be financed from an initial allocation of AUD 50,000 from the CCSBT's funds, and subsequently by voluntary contributions from Members and such other sources as the Commission may identify. The Commission will identify, at its 29th Annual Meeting of CCSBT, a procedure for supplying funds to the MPF in the future.
4. The MPF will be administered by the CCSBT Executive Secretary, in accordance with the same financial controls as regular budget appropriations.
5. The CCSBT Executive Secretary shall establish a process for notifying Members annually of the level of available funds in the MPF, and provide a timeline and describe the format for the submission of applications for assistance.
6. The CCSBT Executive Secretary shall submit an annual report to the Commission on the status of the MPF, including a financial statement of contributions to and disbursements from the MPF;

7. The MPF would be utilised, as a first priority, to support the participation of scientists and representatives from developing States in scientific meetings of the CCSBT, including Working Groups. Support will be limited to funding of economy airfares, other transport costs, accommodation, and meals. Payments for accommodation and meals will not exceed that of the United Nations Daily Subsistence Allowance. Eligible participants may submit an application for assistance from the MPF. Applicants will be selected by a panel including the Chair of the scientific subsidiary body concerned, the CCSBT Executive Secretary and the Chair of the CCSBT Scientific Committee, in accordance with the process established in 5 above. The decision by the Panel shall also take into account the size of the MPF and the need for cost-effectiveness. Consideration of applications shall also include an assessment of whether any alternative sources of assistance are available. No more than two eligible participants from a single Member may be supported to participate in a single CCSBT scientific meeting.
8. Applicants should note that alternative avenues of funding are available to developing State Members who wish to send scientists to CCSBT scientific meetings. For example, a fund has been established under Part VII of UNFSA to assist developing States that are signatories of the UNFSA to implement its provisions, including participation in the work of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations. For those eligible Members of CCSBT, this could provide for an alternative source of funding to participate in meetings of the Commission and subsidiary bodies or to fund attendance at CCSBT meetings as training and capacity building required to fulfil the obligations under the UNFSA.

Report of the Finance and Administration Committee

CCSBT Members agreed to Mr Neil Hughes (Australia) chairing the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC). The FAC was tasked with the following agenda:

- Revision of the 2022 budget.
- Drafting of the 2023 budget; and
- Drafting of the indicative budgets for 2024 and 2025

The FAC was also asked by the Extended Commission (EC) for advice on a proposal by Indonesia for a meeting participation fund (MPF) mechanism in the CCSBT (paper CCSBT-EC/2210/17 refers).

The revised budget for 2022

The Executive Secretary provided a summary of the 2022 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/2210/05. The revision incorporates actual income and expenditure together with forecast income and expenditure for the remainder of the year.

Expenditures for 2022 are forecast to total \$3,180,709, which is a 12.9% decrease on the amount approved for 2022. Once again, this year, many of the reduced expenditures were a result of the global pandemic and its impact on the operations of the Extended Commission (e.g., the replacement of physical meetings with virtual fora).

Most Members have paid their 2022 contributions to the CCSBT in full, except for Korea who have an outstanding payment amount of \$63,925.94. Korea apologised for the delay in making the payment, noting the ongoing COVID-19 situation and the global geopolitical issues which had affected Korea's operating budget. Korea advised the FAC that this amount is likely to be paid in the first half of 2023, along with 2023 contributions due at that time, although they would make their best endeavours to make the outstanding payment sooner if possible. Korea also mentioned that it was hoping that this amount would not cause any problem to the normal operation of the Commission given the total budget. FAC Members thanked Korea for this explanation.

The forecast income for the Extended Commission was slightly higher than anticipated due to a higher carryover from the previous year and slightly higher interest on investments.

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 2022 at Annex A.

Draft budget for 2023

The FAC considered the proposed budget for 2023 outlined in CCSBT-EC/2210/06, which includes funding for the CCSBT's usual business.

This draft budget has been developed under the assumption that most meetings of the Commission will return to physical meetings in 2023. However, the FAC recognised that these expenses will be lower if Members choose to use virtual means to meet in some cases.

In the Secretariat's paper on the draft 2023 budget, it was noted that current contribution levels are not sufficient to cover the annual running costs of the CCSBT. Therefore a ~3.5% increase in membership contributions for 2023 and a 5% increase per year from 2024 to 2028, together with use of the remaining savings put aside in 2016 to ease the impact of changes to the CCSBT Science Program and from the Contributions Stabilisation Fund (CSF) was considered necessary to reach a contribution level that would cover the annual running costs of the CCSBT. It is likely that an increase in ~5% will be required from 2024 onward.

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 and Commission expenses. The FAC gave particular attention to the potential cost savings from virtual meetings when assessing the range of meetings proposed for 2023.

The draft budget for 2023, presented in paper CCSBT-EC/2210/06, contained \$149,300 more expenditure than the agreed budget 2022 that was provided in Circular #2022/042. This increased expenditure was related to the inclusion of the following new items from the updated ESC 27 workplan:

- Operating Model (OM) specification and software upgrade (\$130,000).
- CPUE Index development (\$30,000).
- Update Non-Cooperating Non-Member UAM estimates of unaccounted fishing mortality (\$20,000); and
- Second workshop on otolith-based ageing of southern bluefin tuna (\$38,000).

The total cost for these projects in 2023 is \$218,000, but \$66,400 of this expenditure had been anticipated in Circular #2022/042, so the ESC 27 workplan only adds \$151,600 to the previously anticipated science program costs for 2023.

At the request of some Members, the Secretariat prepared a working paper listing all CCSBT planned meetings for 2023, with approximate costs for in-person meetings compared to virtual meetings. FAC Members noted significant savings available by continuing virtual meetings but acknowledged the significant benefits of in-person meetings. Some Members proposed the SFMWG be held virtually, given the significant savings this option potentially offered. However, a number of participants, including a member of the performance review panel, spoke of the likely complexity of the upcoming SFMWG meeting and the importance of developing an action plan to implement agreed performance review recommendations, and advice was sought from the EC on this. The EC agreed the meeting be held in person with the location of the meeting to be confirmed.

The Secretariat provided further information on potential costs for an in-person SFMWG meeting, based on locations. It was noted that costs for Busan, Korea, were likely to be close to the maximum for any location. Costs were also provided for Canberra, which were significantly below the Busan estimate. The FAC recommended the EC be asked to seek nominations to host the meeting from Members, as well as voluntary contributions towards the cost of the meeting, as a way of reducing costs to the CCSBT.

Indonesia asked that Members consider making funding available to support the participation of developing States at technical meetings through the MPF (e.g., ERSWG and OMMP) noting that other RFMOs have established such mechanisms (CCSBT-EC/2210/17). One Member noted that while they were supportive of the idea of a MPF, that there could be benefit in exploring ways to reduce the impact on the CCSBT budget.

Members supported the proposal, noting the link between the proposed fund and capacity building recommendations contained in the CCSBT Performance Review, but recommended that the MPF not provide support for attendance at regular CCSBT meeting, including EC, CC, and ESC.

The FAC **recommends** \$50,000 be initially drawn from CCSBT funds to establish the meeting participation fund from 2023, with ongoing funding for future years to be either from the CCSBT budget, or by way of voluntary Member contributions to the fund, up to the total fund amount of \$50,000. The FAC further **recommends** the fund be reviewed in 2025 to ensure its effective use and the need for ongoing funding.

The meeting noted Australia had agreed to fund half (\$10,000) of the proposed update of NCNM estimates of unaccounted fishing mortality, and thanked Australia for this contribution. The FAC Chair encouraged other Members to consider voluntarily funding the other half of this work.

The FAC considered funding for two ERSWG meetings planned for 2023. The meeting was advised that delays in providing necessary data meant that the planned face-to-face ERSWG meeting would now be held in 2024, resulting in savings to the 2023 budget. It was noted an in-person technical workshop would be held early in 2024, and a second, virtual, workshop held in mid-2024. It was noted that holding the second meeting in conjunction with the planned in-person regular ERSWG meeting may not be possible if the ERSWG meeting is agreed and held in early 2024.

The FAC supported the Technical Compliance Working group (TCWG) meeting be held in person prior to Compliance Committee in 2023 to further identify compliance risks to be included in the CCSBT Compliance Action Plan.

The FAC **recommends** the Extended Commission agree to a budget for 2023 of \$3,579,100.00 as set out at Annex B, noting this will require an increase in Membership contributions of around 3.5%.

Indicative budgets for 2024 and 2025

The FAC was also asked to consider indicative budgets for the two years beyond the upcoming budget, noting increases of around 5% in member contributions would

likely be required for each year from 2024 to 2028 unless further reductions in expenses are achieved. Most expenses within the indicative budgets represent ongoing commitments.

FAC Members expressed concern about the likely level of Membership contribution increases, noting these were not sustainable. FAC Members **recommended** the Extended Commission explore additional sources of income for the CCSBT and make efforts to reduce current levels of expenditure.

The FAC **recommends** that the Extended Commission note the indicative 2024 and 2025 budgets as set out in Annex B.

GENERAL BUDGET - 2022

INCOME	2022	2022	% Variation
	APPROVED BUDGET	REVISED BUDGET	
Contributions from Members	\$2,868,564	\$2,804,638	-2.2%
Japan	\$821,700	\$821,700	
Australia	\$821,700	\$821,700	
New Zealand	\$233,631	\$233,631	
Korea ¹	\$251,279	\$187,353	
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	\$251,279	\$251,279	
Indonesia	\$223,603	\$223,603	
European Union	\$108,832	\$108,832	
South Africa	\$156,539	\$156,539	
Staff Assessment Levy	\$123,800	\$139,494	12.7%
Carryover from previous year	\$612,027	\$788,958	28.9%
Withdrawal from savings	\$43,609	0	-100.0%
Interest on investments²	\$3,000	\$17,015	467.2%
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	\$3,651,000	\$3,750,104	2.7%

¹ Korea's outstanding 2022 contribution of \$63,925.94 will be paid in 2023.

² Interest on investments does not include interest earned from the staff liability fund (which is estimated to be ~\$1,100 in 2022).

EXPENDITURE	2022 APPROVED BUDGET	<i>2022 Expenditure to date</i>	<i>Forecast Remaining Expenditure¹</i>	2022 REVISED BUDGET	% variation
ANNUAL MEETINGS - (EC/CC)	\$302,000	\$3,000	\$58,800	\$61,800	-79.5
Independent chairs	37,000	0	25,200	25,200	-31.9
Interpretation costs	66,000	0	32,100	32,100	-51.4
Hire of venue & catering	112,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Hire of equipment	44,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Translation/of meeting documents	10,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Secretariat expenses	33,000	3,000	1,500	4,500	-86.4
EXTENDED SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE	\$250,000	\$741	\$83,700	\$84,441	-66.2
Interpretation costs	58,000	574	28,900	29,474	-49.2
Hire of venue & catering	41,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Hire of equipment	33,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel	99,000	0	52,600	52,600	-46.9
Translation of meeting documents	1,000	0	0	0	-100.0
Secretariat expenses	18,000	167	2,200	2,367	-86.9
SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS	\$174,400	\$124,551	\$5,800	\$130,351	-25.3
Ecologically Related Species WG Meeting	33,400	25,089	0	25,089	-24.9
OMMP Technical Meeting (5 day, intersessional)	114,800	99,462	500	99,962	-12.9
Technical CC WG Meeting (1 day, prior to CC)	26,200	0	5,300	5,300	-79.8
SCIENCE PROGRAM	\$1,076,400	\$506,502	\$565,063	\$1,071,565	-0.4
Intersessional OM/MP Maintenance & Development	20,600	0	0	0	-100.0
Analysis of unaccounted mortality	10,000	12,799	0	12,799	28.0
Development of the CPUE series	46,900	23,000	3,000	26,000	-44.6
Scientific Research Planning Workshops	3,300	1,000	2,300	3,300	0.0
Tagging program coordination	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0.0
Long-Term Gene Tagging Project ²	720,000	360,000	360,000	720,000	0.0
Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing ²	113,900	56,902	107,317	164,219	44.2
Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) ²	50,900	25,434	47,473	72,907	43.2
Sampling and aging of Indonesian otoliths	54,800	27,367	43,973	71,340	30.2
Maturity study	55,000	0	0	0	-100.0
SPECIAL PROJECTS	\$203,600	\$126,071	\$66,400	\$192,471	-5.5
Market Analysis	57,200	47,679	9,900	57,579	0.7
Performance Review	55,700	36,589	5,000	41,589	-25.3
Database upgrade and on-line data submission/access	5,000	5,003	0	5,003	0.1
Trial eCDS development	50,000	36,800	15,800	52,600	5.2
Website Redevelopment in Drupal 10	35,700	0	35,700	35,700	0.0
SECRETARIAT COSTS	\$1,493,400	\$1,001,766	\$490,679	\$1,492,445	-0.1
Secretariat staff costs	830,600	584,887	267,700	852,587	2.6
Staff assessment levy	123,800	96,094	43,400	139,494	12.7
Employer social security	212,500	136,993	62,700	199,693	-6.0
Insurance -worker's comp/travel/contents	16,900	12,490	3,400	15,890	-6.0
Travel/transport	20,200	0	1,700	1,700	-91.6
Translation of meeting reports	16,000	0	16,000	16,000	0.0
Training	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0.0
Home leave allowance	13,400	12,249	1,100	13,349	-0.4
Other employment expenses	3,200	887	2,200	3,087	-3.5
Recruitment expenses	144,800	48,166	90,479	138,645	-4.3
Staff liability fund (accumulating)	110,000	110,000	0	110,000	0.0

OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS	\$151,200	\$102,536	\$45,100	\$147,636	-2.4
Office lease and storage	68,400	51,100	16,600	67,700	-1.0
Office costs	66,400	46,312	17,900	64,212	-3.3
Provision for new/replacement assets	9,400	2,100	6,900	9,000	-4.3
Telephone/communications	7,000	3,024	3,700	6,724	-3.9
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	\$3,651,000	\$1,865,167	\$1,315,542	\$3,180,709	-12.9

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 2023 and Indicative Budgets for 2024-2025

INCOME	APPROVED 2022 BUDGET	REVISED 2022 BUDGET	APPROVED 2023 BUDGET	Indicative 2024	Indicative 2025
Contributions from Members	\$2,868,564	\$2,804,638	\$2,968,963	\$3,111,474	\$3,260,825
Japan	\$821,700	\$821,700	\$850,459	\$891,282	\$934,063
Australia	\$821,700	\$821,700	\$850,459	\$891,282	\$934,063
New Zealand	\$233,631	\$233,631	\$241,808	\$253,415	\$265,579
Korea	\$251,279	\$187,353	\$260,074	\$272,558	\$285,640
Fishing Entity of Taiwan	\$251,279	\$251,279	\$260,074	\$272,558	\$285,640
Indonesia	\$223,603	\$223,603	\$231,429	\$242,538	\$254,180
European Union	\$108,832	\$108,832	\$112,641	\$118,048	\$123,714
South Africa	\$156,539	\$156,539	\$162,018	\$169,795	\$177,945
Contributions in Arrears (Korea)	\$0	\$0	\$63,926	\$0	\$0
Staff Assessment Levy	\$123,800	\$139,494	\$129,000	\$135,000	\$142,000
Carryover from previous year	\$612,027	\$788,958	\$569,396	\$0	\$0
Voluntary contributions from Members *1	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$0
Withdrawal from savings	\$43,609	\$0	\$0	\$377,020	\$0
Interest on investments *2	\$3,000	\$17,015	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Contributions Stabilisation Fund *3	\$0	\$0	-\$192,185	\$128,506	\$317,975
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	\$3,651,000	\$3,750,105	\$3,579,100	\$3,782,000	\$3,750,800

*1: Australia is contributing \$10,000 to the 2023 project for updated analysis of unaccounted mortality.

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

*3: 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 2022 BUDGET	REVISED 2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET	Indicative 2024	Indicative 2025
ANNUAL MEETING - (CC/EC/CCSBT)	\$302,000	\$61,800	\$236,000	\$323,000	\$330,000
Independent chairs	\$37,000	\$25,200	\$44,000	\$51,000	\$59,000
Interpretation costs	\$66,000	\$32,100	\$60,000	\$68,000	\$78,000
Hire of venue & catering	\$112,000	\$0	\$58,000	\$73,000	\$67,000
Hire of equipment	\$44,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$55,000	\$77,000
Translation of meeting documents	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Secretariat expenses	\$33,000	\$4,500	\$54,000	\$66,000	\$39,000
ESC/SC Meeting	\$250,000	\$84,441	\$352,000	\$280,000	\$290,000
Interpretation costs	\$58,000	\$29,474	\$48,000	\$56,000	\$67,000
Hire of venue & catering	\$41,000	\$0	\$89,000	\$29,000	\$22,000
Hire of equipment	\$33,000	\$0	\$65,000	\$23,000	\$35,000
Hire of consultants - Chairs and Advisory Panel	\$99,000	\$52,600	\$113,000	\$122,000	\$136,000
Translation of meeting documents	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Secretariat expenses	\$18,000	\$2,367	\$36,000	\$49,000	\$29,000
SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS	\$174,400	\$130,351	\$244,300	\$146,200	\$206,000
ERS Technical or ERSWG Meeting	\$33,400	\$25,089	\$0	\$125,200	\$61,000
Strategy and Fisheries Management WG Meeting	\$0	\$0	\$128,100	\$0	\$0
OMMP Technical Meeting (5 day, intersessional)	\$114,800	\$99,962	\$97,000	\$0	\$122,000
Technical CWG Meeting (1 day prior to CC)	\$26,200	\$5,300	\$19,200	\$21,000	\$23,000
SCIENCE PROGRAM	\$1,076,400	\$1,071,565	\$1,104,200	\$1,304,700	\$1,137,300
Operating Model Specification & Software upgrade	\$20,600	\$0	\$130,000	\$155,000	\$30,000
Development of the CPUE series	\$46,900	\$26,000	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$30,000
Updated analysis of unaccounted mortality (UAM)	\$10,000	\$12,799	\$20,000	\$0	\$0
Development of UAM methods	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$83,000	\$26,000
SBT otolith-based aging workshop	\$0	\$0	\$38,000	\$0	\$0
Scientific Research Planning Workshops	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$0	\$0	\$0
Tagging program coordination	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Long-Term Gene Tagging Project *1	\$720,000	\$720,000	\$720,000	\$720,000	\$800,000
Close-kin sampling, DNA extraction & sequencing *1	\$113,900	\$164,219	\$86,100	\$183,000	\$131,200
Close-kin identification & exchange (POP & HSP) *1	\$50,900	\$72,907	\$52,900	\$59,900	\$57,600
Sampling and aging of Indonesian Otoliths	\$54,800	\$71,340	\$26,200	\$62,800	\$61,500
Maturity study	\$55,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SPECIAL PROJECTS	\$203,600	\$192,471	\$116,000	\$96,000	\$91,000
Meeting Participation Fund	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	\$0
Quality Assurance Review	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000
Market Analysis / CDS Tag and Market Survey in JP	\$57,200	\$57,579	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000
Performance Review	\$55,700	\$41,589	\$0	\$0	\$0
Database upgrade and on-line data submission/access	\$5,000	\$5,003	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Trial eCDS developmet	\$50,000	\$52,600	\$40,000	\$20,000	\$15,000
Website Redevelopment in Drupal 10	\$35,700	\$35,700	\$0	\$0	\$0

Annex B

EXPENDITURE	APPROVED 2022 BUDGET	REVISED 2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET	Indicative 2024	Indicative 2025
SECRETARIAT COSTS	\$1,493,400	\$1,492,445	\$1,373,500	<i>\$1,466,100</i>	<i>\$1,525,500</i>
Secretariat staff costs	\$830,600	\$852,587	\$881,100	<i>\$925,000</i>	<i>\$971,000</i>
Staff assessment levy	\$123,800	\$139,494	\$129,000	<i>\$135,000</i>	<i>\$142,000</i>
Employer social security	\$212,500	\$199,693	\$225,200	<i>\$236,000</i>	<i>\$248,000</i>
Insurance -worker's compensation/ travel/contents	\$16,900	\$15,890	\$17,000	<i>\$18,000</i>	<i>\$19,000</i>
Travel/transport	\$20,200	\$1,700	\$30,000	<i>\$32,000</i>	<i>\$34,000</i>
Translation of meeting reports	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000	<i>\$17,000</i>	<i>\$18,000</i>
Training	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	<i>\$2,000</i>	<i>\$2,100</i>
Home leave allowance	\$13,400	\$13,349	\$12,300	<i>\$14,100</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Other employment expense	\$3,200	\$3,087	\$3,200	<i>\$3,400</i>	<i>\$3,600</i>
Recruitment / discharge expenses	\$144,800	\$138,645	\$0	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
Staff liability fund (accumulating)	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$57,700	<i>\$83,600</i>	<i>\$87,800</i>
OFFICE MANAGEMENT COSTS	\$151,200	\$147,636	\$153,100	<i>\$166,000</i>	<i>\$171,000</i>
Office lease and storage	\$68,400	\$67,700	\$69,400	<i>\$73,000</i>	<i>\$77,000</i>
Office costs	\$66,400	\$64,212	\$69,800	<i>\$73,000</i>	<i>\$77,000</i>
Provision for new/replacement assets	\$9,400	\$9,000	\$7,000	<i>\$13,000</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
Telephone/communications/web hosting	\$7,000	\$6,724	\$6,900	<i>\$7,000</i>	<i>\$7,000</i>
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	\$3,651,000	\$3,180,709	\$3,579,100	<i>\$3,782,000</i>	<i>\$3,750,800</i>

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

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Report of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee

4 - 7 October 2022

Online

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Report of the Twenty Seventh Meeting of the Scientific Committee

**5 September 2022
Online**



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

Attachment 11

Stereo video implementation

Trial and implementation steps in
Australia's farm sector

Australian working paper for CCSBT29



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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

Contents

Summary.....	iv
1 Trial of stereo video	1
1.1 Work to date	1
2 Implementation.....	2
2.1 Monitoring program design:	2
2.2 Legislative Change:	2
2.3 Contractor engagement:	2

Summary

CCSBT29 requested Australia to provide a working paper detailing its trial of stereo video technology and, if successful, the steps to implement stereo video as a monitoring tool in its farm sector.

1 Trial of stereo video

Australia's stereo video trial has been delayed due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. However, the trial will commence in 2023 and CCSBT29 noted Australia's update of the two-stage approach to the trial.

1.1 Work to date

During 2021, Australia undertook an open tender process to procure a service provider of stereo video technology for the trial. The tender was open to international and domestic service providers. Prior to the tender, Australia undertook market research on stereo video technology, which included contacting all known potential suppliers of fully automated stereo video technology. The potential suppliers identified were informed by discussions with CCSBT Members, including Japan, New Zealand and the European Union, which sought advice on potential fit-for-purpose stereo video technologies, or stereo video technology providers in their respective countries.

The successful tenderer has experience in using stereo video in the Mediterranean including in the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

Due to difficulties associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, including Australia's border restrictions in late 2021 and early 2022, the trial did not start in the 2022 catching season (December – March) as planned.

Despite this, Australia has continued to work with the tenderer on the approach and methodology and operational aspects of the trial.

With Australia's borders opening on 21 February this year, the trial is now able to commence during the 2023 catching season in January to March.

Year one of the trial will test the accuracy of stereo video monitoring on SBT in Port Lincoln. This will allow the technology to be adapted to Australian-caught SBT and for the tenderer to understand the operational environment in Australia's farms.

Upon completion of year one of the trial, Australia will provide a report with the progress and results of year one of the trial and provide this to EC30.

Informed by the results of year one, the field work for the trial will be completed in January – March 2024, to test stereo video technology in a commercially operational environment, including transfers from tow cages to farm pens and ability of the technology to operate within the oceanic and weather conditions of Australia's SBT farms.

Upon completion of year two of the trial, Australia will report the final results of the trial and, assuming the trial is successful, progress on implementation to EC31.

2 Implementation

If the stereo video trial proves successful, Australia will be required to work through a number of additional steps to operationalise stereo video as a monitoring tool for its farm sector. While timing of implementation will need to be confirmed following the trial, based on Australia's experience the three processes outlined below could take approximately 12 to 18 months in total to complete.

2.1 Monitoring program design:

Subject to the success of the stereo video trial, Australia's fisheries regulator, the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA), would be required to design a monitoring program largely informed by the outcomes of the stereo video trial. Factors to consider include, but are not limited to: program objectives, outcomes and requirements, data governance, cost implications, appropriate technology and systems, data collection and consideration, including length weight conversions and sampling regimes.

2.2 Legislative change:

Australia has an existing legislative framework that governs how quota is decremented in the SBT farm sector and consideration will need to be given to the legislative implications of departing from its existing regime.

Australia's current monitoring regime is based on the 100 fish sample process and is considered within the existing legislative framework.

Australia will need to consult broadly across government and seek legal advice on the implementation of legislating a new monitoring regime in the SBT farm sector. If implemented, Australia may need to undertake drafting and execution of new legislation and may also need to undertake a regulation impact statement, to determine how the increased regulation impacts stakeholders. It is likely the process for legislative change will involve statutory consultation timeframes.

2.3 Contractor engagement:

AFMA would be required to undertake a formal tender process to approach the market to identify a supplier of SV services in the farm sector. This would be followed by a tender evaluation and then a subsequent engagement of the successful tenderer.

Stereo video timeline

Stage	Activities	2023				2024				2025		
		J-M	A-J	J-S	O-D	J-M	A-J	J-S	O-D	J-M	A-J	J-S
1.2	Year 1 trial											
1.3	Year 2 trial											
2.1	Monitoring											
2.2	Legislative change											
2.3	Contractor engagement											

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

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

21 – 25 March 2022

Online