

Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

Report of the Nineteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee

3 - 5 October 2024

Taipei, Taiwan

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Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting

1.1. Welcome

1. The Chair of the Compliance Committee (CC), Mr Frank Meere, welcomed participants and opened the meeting. The Chair advised that discussion for some agenda items had commenced in advance by correspondence and thanked participants for their cooperation with this arrangement.
2. The Chair reminded the group of the full agenda ahead and identified key priority outcomes for the meeting. The Chair reminded the group of the importance of considering issues in depth and that Members be prepared to hold each other to account.
3. Members and observers introduced their delegations to the meeting and provided some introductory remarks. The list of participants is shown at **Attachment 1**.

1.2. Adoption of agenda

4. The agenda was adopted. The agenda is provided at **Attachment 2**.
5. The list of documents for the meeting is shown at **Attachment 3**.

1.3. Meeting arrangements

6. The Chair and the Executive Secretary announced the main arrangements for the meeting.

Agenda Item 2. Overview of Compliance with CCSBT Conservation and Management Measures

2.1. Report from the Secretariat

SBT Related Measures

7. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/04 (Rev.1), which summarised compliance with CCSBT Management Measures by Members. The Secretariat noted that when comparing compliance in the 2023 analysis with the 2022 analysis reported to CC 18:
 - Compliance with the Scientific Data Exchange requirements improved in 2023.
 - Overall compliance improved with the Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) Resolution elements that are examined in the paper.

- The paper outlines some continued areas of non-compliance for South Africa, but also notes some improvement in its provision of CDS data in 2023.
 - Overall, across all Members, there were no areas where a significant drop in compliance was noted in 2023, and the majority of areas assessed saw some improvement. However, implementation issues remain evident in some areas.
 - Compliance with the Transshipment Resolution saw no significant change, with Indonesia's provision of data and information not meeting CCSBT obligations again in 2023.
 - Members that are transshipping SBT are generally including in their national reports a brief summary related to observer deployments and a broad comment on if there were any identified infractions, rather than providing a comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports as required.
 - Compliance with Member national reporting requirements also increased slightly; however, the European Union (EU) did not provide a report to the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC).
8. In responses to issues raised in the Secretariat's paper, South Africa advised that:
 - It apologised for the delay in providing their corrective action plan and noted that it remains committed to upholding its CCSBT obligations and to a process of continuous improvement;
 - It has recruited additional staff to work on CDS, is finalising discrepancies and work on conversion factors, and is working closely with industry to correct errors and processes leading to non-compliance.
 - In relation to port inspection reports, assured CC 19 that all vessels seeking to enter and use ports in South Africa need to be permitted and authorised and all are inspected. It further noted that transmission of the reports to head office and then to Secretariat seems to be the challenge, but that it does have copies of the reports.
 - It has a number of Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO) commitments in the coming period, but that it would commit to submit the corrective action plan by the end of this year; and
 - That this plan would include timeframes to address outstanding issues and non-compliance.
 9. The meeting commended South Africa on its recent work to address the challenges it is facing.
 10. The meeting expressed its disappointment that the EU was not participating in the meeting and noted that the EU's response to questions failed to address the issues raised.
 11. One Member noted value in some aspects of the pre-meeting discussion, but considered there was more value in discussing key elements in plenary. The Chair noted the concern and committed to working with the Secretariat to streamline the process and minimise the burden on Members.
 12. The meeting noted the issues raised in the Secretariat paper.

ERS Related Measures

13. The Secretariat submitted paper CCSBT-CC/2410/05, which examined the extent to which Members have implemented CCSBT's measures in relation to Ecologically Related Species (ERS) together with Members' performance with respect to ERS commitments found in the Resolution to Align ERS Measures with those of other RFMOs.
14. It was noted that:
 - This report is one of the reporting requirements from the Resolution to Align CCSBT's ERS Measures with those of other tuna RFMOs; and
 - The data presented in the report is primarily taken from Member submissions to the ERS data exchange.
15. The following points from the report were highlighted:
 - The most significant change in the most recent year involves the resumption of the Japanese observer coverage following a COVID-related disruption;
 - Observed compliance levels varied across the Membership with Japan and Taiwan both reporting several observed trips where only a tori line was used while operating in areas where two mitigation methods were required;
 - Performance in terms of mortality of seabirds was also mixed with Australia and South Africa showing higher raised estimates while others presented reductions;
 - Although Japan did not have data in 2022 and 2021 to compare against, the raised estimates for 2023 were lower than the levels reported prior to the COVID disruption; and
 - Year to year variability in seabird mortality estimates continues to be very high, making it incredibly difficult to suggest an overall trend in the data.
16. In relation to the higher mortality estimate in 2023, Australia noted that the estimate for Australia was based on a very low number of observed mortalities, which has been scaled up, and that it remains confident in the effectiveness of its seabird threat abatement plan.
17. The meeting noted the information presented in the paper and thanked the Secretariat for its analysis.

2.2. Annual Reports from Members

18. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the CC meeting.
19. The Chair appreciated that most Members provided their annual reports to the CC by the due date this year. The Chair also noted that the report from South Africa was provided late to the meeting.
20. A summary of comments and responses to questions during the pre-meeting discussion for Members annual reports is provided below.

Australia

- Australia's Threat Abatement Plan for the incidental catch (or bycatch) of seabirds during oceanic longline fishing operations (2018) (the TAP) specifies a range of actions for AFMA¹ to implement. Interaction rates for the TAP seasons over 2023 were all below the trigger rate of 0.05 birds per 1,000 hooks, except for one 5-degree latitudinal band on the east coast of Australia (ETBF) between 35° and 40° South where the interaction rate was 0.058 birds 1,000 hooks.
- Australia's reported number of non-retained SBT has declined in 2023 and this is thought to be due to the increased availability of quota and affordability of quota to retain live SBT. Under Australian law, SBT may be released alive and not be deducted against quota.
- Australia's electronic monitoring (EM) program is consistent with the CCSBT EMS standards and is also consistent with the IOTC² Resolution (23/08) on electronic monitoring standards for IOTC fisheries.
- All observer coverage in Australia's purse seine sector is by human observers, while the longline/minor line sector is all by electronic monitoring.
- Australia confirmed that the 100 % figure in its report represents the percentage of vessels monitored by EM and that the smaller figures represent the amount of footage reviewed as a percentage of total hooks. Australia further clarified that the selection of footage for reviewing was random.

The European Union

- The EU has adopted Regulation (EU) 2023/2842, which modifies the EU IUU catch certification scheme requirement as well as introduces a legal basis for the use of an IT system (CATCH). This Regulation will not give effect to the eCDS currently under development by the CCSBT.
- The EU longline fleet target South Pacific swordfish where the WCPFC³ area of competence overlaps with the area of SBT distribution. However, the EU fleet does not target SBT and did not report any bycatch of SBT in 2023.
- The observer coverage rate of the EU Longline fleet in WCPFC was around 10 % prior to the COVID pandemic. In 2023 it was around 6 % (WCPFC has a minimum observer coverage requirement of 5 %).
- In the Western and Central Pacific Ocean the EU purse seine fleet is the most advanced in terms of voluntary deployment of EM capabilities. The introduction of EM for the longline fleet is also among the EU priorities.

Indonesia

- Indonesia developed a National Plan of Action Seabird Mitigation Measures in 2016 and is planning to update this NPOA in 2025.
- Indonesia has implemented a requirement that vessels less than or equal to 30 GT that operate beyond 12 nautical miles must install VMS⁴. The Indonesian

¹ Australian Fisheries Management Authority

² Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

³ Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

⁴ Vessel Monitoring System

government has implemented a grace period for these vessels to have VMS installed by December 31, 2024.

- Indonesia has recruited another 26 new observers in 2024 and has conducted trainings for these new observers and its existing observers.
- Indonesia's increased number of CCSBT authorised vessels have come from both within the two existing associations and from the quota allocation set aside (up to 10 %) for artisanal vessels and vessels/companies outside the association that already had a quota previously.
- Indonesia uses CDS data reported in real time through the CDS application system to inform their early warning system (initiated when 90 % of the quota allocation is caught). Indonesia further clarified that CDS data was typically submitted on land and not from the fishing vessel.
- Indonesia's observer reports indicate that there are no discards of SBT and also that no SBT catches were recorded from recreational fishing.
- Indonesia is facing challenges in deploying scientific observers below 25 degrees latitude, due to safety concerns and this is further hindering the minimum coverage rate targets being achieved.
- Indonesia welcomed the suggestion to conduct analysis to determine whether there is any variance between reported catch and landed catch.
- Indonesia clarified that the previous 10 % allocation made for small scale fishers and those not operating as part of the associations and been underutilised and reallocated to the associations. Changes to the small scale fishery allocation will be further detailed in next year's report including the process to estimate and manage small scale catch. Commercial allocations reflect a negotiated outcome between the Indonesian government and the associations.
- In response to a question about the applicability of any lessons learned from the IOTC pilot transshipment project, Indonesia stated that the two pilots are taking place in parallel and improvements are being introduced concurrently.

Japan

- Japan has made efforts to increase observer coverage in Areas 4 and 7 while achieving overall observer coverage of 10 %. However, many uncertainties, including the movement of SBT schools, weather and sea conditions, influence the fishing location of each vessel and make predictions on their fishing activities difficult.
- Japan detailed its inspections of all SBT catching vessels from 2023/24 and noted that the inspections include checking the mitigation devices onboard the SBT fishing vessel that are necessary to observe all the requirements by tuna RFMOs and confirming the use of the devices during the operation with the SBT fishers.
- In relation to its increased SBT discards reported in 2023, Japan noted that the number of unintentional SBT caught by Japanese fleet has increased in recent years as the stock has increased. In order to minimise the risk of over-catch, there is greater discarding of SBT, but Japan has more than doubled its National Allowance for Release and/or Discards for the 2024 fishing year, from 109 t to 250 t.

Korea

- Korea confirmed that operational data including the discards/release from vessels is collected to estimate discard mortality.

New Zealand

- New Zealand's lower observer coverage in 2023 was primarily due to observer deployments not proceeding because of health and safety concerns relating to inadequate watchkeeping practices onboard the fishing vessels.
- Due to observer coverage being low in 2023, New Zealand prioritised observer deployments for fishing areas known to have high seabird interaction rates and this may have contributed to the high BPUE rate that year.
- New Zealand noted it had implemented electronic monitoring (EM) that meets CCSBT EM standards and had placed onboard cameras on all surface longline fishing vessels in January 2024. EM is the primary method of verification for these fishing vessels but there may be some exceptions where observers are deployed on a vessel which has onboard cameras, such as to collect biological samples.
- The discard mortality for 2023 was calculated based on 70 authorised discards of dead SBT by Fisheries New Zealand observers. During the reporting period New Zealand vessels could only lawfully discard dead SBT when authorised by Fisheries New Zealand observers. Fishers must account for dead SBT discards with their annual catch entitlement and therefore discards are included in the calculation of commercial removals.
- New Zealand's lower reported SBT discard amount in 2023 is likely due to the low observer coverage in 2023. Since 1 June 2024, New Zealand vessels can also return SBT when predated and unfit for human consumption, as verified by onboard cameras. However, any returned predated fish will still be included in the calculation of commercial removals as an additional source of fishing mortality.
- New Zealand currently reviews over 30 % of footage for surface longline vessels.

Taiwan

- Taiwan noted that high seabird bycatch rates observed in 2022 and 2023 were considered anomalies. It has been consistently conducting outreach to masters operating in the southern bluefin tuna fishery, emphasising the importance of seabird bycatch mitigation measures, particularly the use of the tori line. Administrative penalties are applied to those who do not comply with the regulations on seabird mitigation measures.
- Taiwan's third-party inspections in Japan only verify the quantity of the catch onboard carrier vessels so it is not possible for these inspections to check whether seabird bycatch mitigation measures were used on the fishing vessels.
- Taiwan does not conduct high seas inspections on its flagged vessels in the Indian Ocean.
- In 2023, Taiwanese vessels conducted no in-port transshipments. Taiwan believed this change was due to the operators' operational plans and commercial considerations.

South Africa

- South Africa explained that all vessels in the fleet must have a minimum number of observed trips to ensure that coverage is spread evenly throughout the fleet and that additional measures had been put in place to address the reduction in the most recent year.

2.3 Assessment of compliance with CCSBT management measures

21. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/06 (Rev.2), which reviewed the implementation of Indonesia's and South Africa's Corrective Actions & Indonesia's Compliance in 2023.
22. For Indonesia, the Secretariat highlighted in this paper:
 - Indonesia's Total Available Catch for 2023 was 1,031.5 t and Indonesia's reported catch of SBT for 2023 (based on submitted monthly catch report figures) was 1,031.345.
 - At CC 18, Indonesia reported that some landings by small scale fishers were at that stage not included in CDS data. The Secretariat followed up with Indonesia and it was confirmed that this data was submitted in March 2024 and it appears to have been added to Indonesia's 2023 annual catch;
 - In its national report Indonesia stated that monitoring of catch of SBT from other sectors, such as recreational fishing and or other artisanal fishery using hook and line that operated in relatively deep water, had not been conducted;
 - EC 30 agreed that the special temporary allowance for Indonesia would be subject to an annual review of Indonesia's compliance undertaken at CC. Indonesia's main areas of non-compliance in 2023 related to:
 - The submission of required transshipment data and reports required under the transshipment resolution;
 - Incomplete CMFs, namely non-provision of statistical area for CMFs recording at-sea transshipments; and
 - Retrospective vessel authorisations
23. For South Africa,
 - The Corrective Action Plan for South Africa has not been provided, despite previous commitments made at CC 18 to submit this by 31 December 2023;
 - South Africa had continued data submission issues, including some CDS documents not being submitted or submitted up to six months late, CDS forms submitted with duplicate numbers, submission of incomplete or non-compliant CDS forms, and port inspection reports either not being submitted or often being submitted up to a year late;
 - Lack or late provision of required national reports and data submissions; and
 - Recently, South Africa has started to address some of these issues, however without a corrective actions plan, there is uncertainty in terms of the sustainability of these recent changes.

Application of Corrective Actions Policy

24. Indonesia presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/22 on the implementation of Indonesia's work plan to remain within TAC for 2024. In this paper, Indonesia provided the updated table on workplan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for

2024. Detailed table on the workplan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024 is provided at **Attachment 4**.

25. In response to questions, Indonesia advised that:

- The Early Monitoring System (EMS) is based entirely on data obtained from the CDS and once triggered results in a letter to the association.
- Indonesia utilises daily VMS data to monitor whether vessels are operating in the area defined in the letter. If vessels are found in the area, then the association should reduce quota for the next year. In Indonesia's experience, the incentives surrounding quota has resulted in compliance with the directives found in the EMS letters; and
- The setting of the EMS threshold at 80 % provides sufficient buffer to offset the delays in obtaining CDS data.

26. The meeting agreed to recommend that the EC continue its support for the payback plan for Indonesia.

27. The Chair noted the renewed commitment made by South Africa in terms of providing a Corrective Action Plan prior to 31 December 2024 but noted that previous similar commitments made by South Africa had not been kept and encouraged greater follow through on this occasion.

28. South Africa assured the group of its commitment noting that the difficulties in meeting previous commitments were based on a lack of resourcing rather than desire on its part. South Africa also noted that its non-compliance issues are largely administrative and do not suggest a risk of overcatch.

29. The meeting supported the application of a targeted QAR in 2025 for the Indonesian transshipment trial as a corrective action and noted the commitments towards improved performance by both South Africa and Indonesia.

Agenda Item 3. Draft Compliance Action Plan (CAP) for 2025 - 2029

30. The Chair reminded the meeting that the existing Compliance Action Plan (CAP), in Appendix 1 of CCSBT's Compliance Plan, is outdated.

31. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/07, which summarised the work to develop the draft Compliance Action Plan for 2025-2029 and provided to CC 19:

- Some general background material including a summary of the intersessional correspondence process;
- The current draft list of compliance risks from CC 18;
- A draft CAP Action Plan and Ongoing Workplan commenced during TCWG 4/CC 18, including additions, updates and comments from Members received during the intersessional correspondence process; and
- A combined draft CAP that includes the specific and ongoing actions under the associated risks.

32. The meeting worked to finalise the CAP.

33. The meeting agreed to recommend that the EC adopt the Compliance Action Plan for 2025 – 2029, which is shown in **Attachment 5**.
34. The meeting also supported the addition of a standing agenda item to review the CAP as a ‘living document’ on an annual basis as previously agreed at CCSBT 26.
35. The meeting also agreed that the CC will review the CCSBT Compliance Plan in 2025 to ensure that its overarching goals, strategies and principles are aligned with CCSBT’s 2023-2028 Strategic Plan.

Agenda Item 4. Operation of CCSBT Measures: Issues & Updates

36. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the CC meeting.
37. The Secretariat submitted paper CCSBT-CC/2410/08 (Rev.1), which provided an update on the operation of CCSBT’s key measures. This paper provided a summary of the operational matters with respect to some of CCSBT’s main Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) measures not discussed elsewhere. The Secretariat noted that:
 - The paper provides a summary of transshipment documentation received from Japan, Korea and Taiwan for 2023, but does not include data received from Indonesia because a report back on the Indonesia Transshipment trial is reported separately.
 - Since 1 Jan 2024, all Members have complied with the requirement to provide notifications of whether CCSBT authorised vessels are also authorised to operate outside national jurisdiction.
 - Five vessels did not comply with the requirements for IMO numbers.
 - Two Members reported VMS failures in 2023, but this may not mean that vessels flagged to other Members did not also have VMS outages, because the Secretariat noted that Members can respond to this question differently.
 - There are currently 157 vessels on the CCSBT IUU vessel list, all vessels are cross listed from other RFMOs.
 - During 2023 Japan, South Africa and Taiwan provided inspection reports for foreign fishing vessels or carrier vessels with landing or transshipping SBT in their designated ports. Japan and Taiwan met the inspection and reporting requirements. It is unknown if South Africa met its inspection requirement of at least 5 % because the total inspections carried out in 2023 is currently unknown and is also not included in its national report. Only one of the four inspection reports received from South Africa was also received within the required 14-day time period.
38. The Secretariat paper identified a number of areas of compliance concern and recommended that the meeting note the following:
 - The USA’s important voluntary cooperation with respect to providing quarterly CDS submissions to the Secretariat;
 - Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) failure issues noted by Korea and New Zealand;

- The update on Compliance Policy Guideline 5 (CPG5) notifications; and
 - The current status of the CCSBT's IUU Vessel List and the IUU cross-listing process.
39. The Secretariat paper also invited the meeting to make any appropriate recommendations regarding the following:
- South Africa's continued late submission of port inspection reports without the required notification of delay or the reasons for the delays being provided within the required 14-day time period (refer to paragraph 20 of the [*Resolution for a CCSBT Scheme for Minimum Standards for Inspection in Port*](#)). South Africa has only provided one relevant port inspection report within the required 14-day timeframe since the Resolution came into effect in 2017.
40. South Africa advised that under its permit conditions all vessels are required to have an IMO number, so it will check on the vessel with a missing IMO number and report back to the committee. South Africa also advised that delays associated with communication with individual ports was making it difficult to meet the existing 14-day requirement.
41. The compliance issue of Indonesia not fully meeting CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution Obligations is further discussed under Agenda item 6.2.2.
42. The meeting noted the information provided in this paper.

Agenda Item 5. Review and Revision of CCSBT Policies & Resolutions

5.1. Proposed Revised Minimum Performance Requirements – MPRs (CPG1)

43. The Chair recalled that CC 18 agreed to revise the Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels, and the CCSBT's Compliance Policy Guideline 1 (CPG1) - Minimum Performance Requirements (MPRs) for transshipment also needs to be updated to reflect the revisions made to the Transshipment Resolution in 2023.
44. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/09, which proposed draft revisions to the MPRs. The updates proposed were:
- Revisions to match the editorial updates to the Resolution proposed and agreed by CCSBT 30 in 2023;
 - Revisions to match the proposed strengthening updates to the Resolution e.g. the introduction of mandatory requirements to provide IMO numbers in some cases, the separation of cargo provisions, i.e. separate stowage and stowage plans, agreed by CCSBT 30 in 2023 (note that supply declaration provisions were added in 2023 but are not being considered to become operational until 2025);
 - Revisions to match the newly added obligations associated with Indonesia's two-year trial at-sea transshipment observer programme using its own national observers rather than Regional Observer Program Observers (paragraphs 13 to 16 inclusive of CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution); and
 - Additional proposed revisions to align references to Resolutions, such as to refer to CCSBT's VMS Resolution (2017) rather than its predecessor, and

insertion of Member/CNM authorised Carrier Vessels in obligation xiii and its MPRs, which were previously missing.

45. The meeting agreed to recommend to EC that it adopt the revised MPRs for transshipment, which are shown in **Attachment 6**.

5.2. Review of CCSBT's Corrective Actions Policy (CPG3)

46. The Chair recalled that CC 18 reviewed the CCSBT's Corrective Action Policy – Compliance Policy Guideline 3 (CPG3) and considered proposed new tools that could potentially be added to CPG3 to incentivise improved compliance with CCSBT measures. CC 18 agreed to re-visit CPG3 in 2024.
47. The Chair further advised that, at CC 18, Members raised the following points on CPG3:
- the concept of persistent non-compliance was currently not well defined in the CCSBT context;
 - the importance of unanimous decision-making to ensure that the non-compliant Member agrees with the corrective action;
 - some Members felt that having a pre-agreed set of responses to compliance issues could be a useful model since the consequences of being non-compliant would be known in advance; and
 - the purpose of CPG3 was understood to be to assist Members to comply and that adding further punitive measures could, in some circumstances, increase non-compliance.
48. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/10, which outlined the intersessional engagement process led by the Secretariat to review CPG3 and summarised the responses received from Members.
49. In this paper, the Secretariat outlined further discussion on six identified key elements:
- Challenges with the use of further punitive measures;
 - The reflection of majority views in Compliance Committee recommendations;
 - Current challenges with the development of the agreed programme to correct administrative deficiencies;
 - Assessing ongoing non-compliance without good cause and what information may support the compliance committee in making this assessment;
 - The process to support the effective development of capacity building programmes, including the link the CCSBT Capacity Development Workplan that will be discussed at CCSBT 31; and
 - Opportunities to clarify the types of administrative failings and providing guidance on procedures for assessing and addressing any administrative deficiencies.
50. Members noted that this issue does not relate to capacity building alone but is also influenced by resourcing and budget pressures within Member administrations.
51. The meeting suggested a review of reporting obligations to ensure that these were not creating an unreasonable burden on Member administrations.

52. Members also noted that although circumstances surrounding non-compliance are often unique, there would be benefit in finding agreement on what constitutes more serious cases of non-compliance and developing an agreed response mechanism in those cases. The group supported the use of an intersessional process to initiate this discussion.
53. The Chair also noted that the Capacity Building Plan that will be discussed at the upcoming Extended Commission has the potential to support the objectives of CPG3 and provide greater clarity on the role of the Secretariat in relation to capacity building.
54. The meeting agreed to recommend that the EC adopt the revised CPG3, which is shown at **Attachment 7**, to clarify the role of the Secretariat in supporting Members to understand the causes of non-compliance and to develop and report on the progress of the programmes of corrective actions.
55. The meeting also agreed to the Secretariat leading an intersessional process to further develop CPG3 to inform Compliance Committee decisions on appropriate corrective actions.
56. The meeting noted the link between the capacity building work plan that will be discussed at CCSBT 31 and the capacity building corrective actions for administrative failings by a developing country Member specified in CPG3.

5.3. Review of CCSBT's Guideline on principles for action and steps to be taken in relation to extraordinary circumstances (CPG5)

57. CCSBT's Guideline on principles for action and steps to be taken in relation to extraordinary circumstances - Compliance Policy Guideline 5 (CPG5) is a guideline that defines principles for action and steps to be taken when extraordinary circumstances prevent the full implementation of CCSBT measures. The Chair advised that CC 18 agreed to add a review of CPG5 to the CC work plan for 2024.
58. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/11, which provided a review of CCSBT's CPG5 including to incorporate lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic. Key points summarised in this paper were:
 - CPG5 states that it should be reviewed "after operational difficulties associated with the COVID-19 pandemic have been resolved to incorporate lessons learned during the crisis". However, to date, only one notification has been received by the Secretariat under CPG5. The very limited application of the policy to date, despite the COVID pandemic, means it has been difficult to identify and consider any lessons learned through this period;
 - The COVID pandemic demonstrated that we cannot predict when circumstances outside of our control may limit our ability to operate in the way we previously have. The Secretariat therefore sees benefit in maintaining and continuing to improve the policy;
 - To encourage stronger reporting of extraordinary circumstances and to support Members consideration of how this policy may be further developed and applied in the future, the Secretariat recommended that this reporting be added to the template for national reports to CC/EC.; and

- The CDS resolution (in paragraphs 1.7.1, 1.7.2, 1.7.3 and 1.8) requires Members and Cooperating Non-Members to report any exceptional circumstances when SBT are landed, transhipped, exported or imported without a tag. However, there is currently no dedicated section of the national report for this to be captured. So, the addition of this to the national reports can also support Members to meet this reporting requirement.
59. The meeting noted the difficulty in defining what constitutes extraordinary circumstances. The group also recognised the need to retain a facility to allow reporting of extraordinary circumstances in the future.
60. The meeting agreed to recommend that CCSBT 31 approve that reporting of extraordinary circumstances be added to the template for national reports (**Attachment 8**) to improve reporting and discussion to inform the ongoing review and improvement of CPG5.
61. The meeting also agreed that, for future CC meetings, the Secretariat reporting on CPG5 implementation be moved to standing agenda items and discussed if and where updated information is available.

Agenda Item 6. Implementation of the CCSBT Compliance Plan

6.1. Transshipment Resolution: LoU with IOTC and MoU with ICCAT

62. Consideration of this sub agenda item was conducted by correspondence in advance of the CC meeting.
63. The Chair advised that CC 18 tasked the Secretariat with examining its Transshipment Letter of Understanding (LoU) or Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) with a view to enhancing them to allow IOTC/ICCAT to share Transshipment Supply Declarations with CCSBT.
64. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/12, which provided Consideration of Enhancements to the Existing Transshipment Memorandum/Letter of Understanding with ICCAT and the IOTC. In this paper, along with some background information, the Secretariat provided:
- a draft revised Transshipment MoU between CCSBT and ICCAT to support the sharing of Supply Declarations.
 - a draft MOU with FAO⁵ which is required to support a more technical and specific Collaboration Agreement (CA) between the IOTC and CCSBT.
65. The meeting agreed to recommend to the EC that the Executive Secretary sign and forward the finalised ICCAT MoU, which is shown in **Attachment 9**, to ICCAT's 2024 annual meetings (in November 2024) for its consideration and potentially countersigning by ICCAT's Executive Secretary.
66. The meeting also agreed that the Secretariat continue to engage with IOTC and FAO to finalise and execute a high-level MoU between CCSBT and FAO in

⁵ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

keeping with the initial draft shown in **Attachment 10**, and that the Secretariat draft an updated CCSBT and IOTC collaboration agreement under this MoU for consideration at CC 20.

6.2. Indonesia's Two-Year Trial at-sea Transshipment Programme

6.2.1. Report Back on Programme Monitoring

67. Consideration of this sub agenda item was conducted by correspondence in advance of the CC meeting.
68. The Chair reminded that the Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels was revised in 2023 at CCSBT 30 to allow Indonesia to use its own national observers to monitor SBT transshipments at sea to specified wooden Indonesian-flagged Carrier Vessels for a two-year trial period.
69. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/13, which reported the Secretariat's monitoring of Indonesia's trial at-sea transshipment observer programme obligations since 1 November 2023. In this paper, the Secretariat highlighted:
 - To date, the data and information received has been inconsistent and incomplete, and where received is most often submitted outside of the timeframes required in the resolution; For observer deployments received for trips departing between 1 November and 30 June inclusive there were 718 planned transshipments. Of these planned transshipments, at the time of finalising the paper, transshipment declarations had been received for only 239 transshipments (just over 33 %) and observer reports for 282 transshipments (39 %);
 - The transshipment declarations received at the time of completing the report had been received on average, 53 days after the date of the transshipment and observer reports, where received, on average 38 days after the expected date of arrival in port;
 - The missing and late submission of data makes it very difficult to account for actual quantities transhipped and to reconcile the transshipment data received across different sources of information, such as those transshipments declared on CDS documents; and
 - During all of 2023, there were 117 planned SBT transshipments notified to the Secretariat by other CCSBT members, outside of Indonesia. This resulted in 60 transshipment declarations being received by the Secretariat. This number was surpassed by the Indonesia transshipment trial in November and December alone. So, the commencement of the trial has resulted in a significant increase in the Secretariat's workload.
70. Indonesia noted that it has built the programme from nothing and acknowledged that it had some difficulties in the beginning. Indonesia stated that it is trying to improve and believes that it will provide the information in detail during the planned QAR process. Indonesia further noted that the deployments are based on a list of vessels associated with a carrier vessel and so not all planned transshipments will go ahead. It was noted that all documents had been uploaded to a shared

drive, but that a better process needed to be developed for uploading documents to the Secretariat.

71. One Member welcomed the improved transshipment data being received through the trial, but also recalled the discussions on increasing demands on the Secretariat that occurred during the Compliance Action Plan discussions.
72. The meeting noted that a similar transshipment trial was also occurring in IOTC and that the number of carrier vessels was increasing in IOTC and CCSBT. This increase in vessels would likely increase the workload of the Secretariats.
73. One Member expressed concern that Indonesia should meet its obligations before seeking to increase the number of carrier vessels and hoped that it would not see any further increases in Indonesia's wooden carrier vessels until this occurred.
74. In clarifying methods of communication with the carrier vessels, Indonesia noted that the vessels would radio the vessel owner, and the owner would provide information to the government. The IOTC regional observer programme provider had suggested tools to support more effective communication with, and reporting by, observers but current budget limitations meant that they were unable to procure and implement these tools.
75. The meeting noted that, currently, Indonesia is not fully meeting the obligations of the Transshipment Resolution, including requirements relating to the two-year national transshipment observer trial.
76. The Chair noted that Indonesia has provided its proposal related to the CCSBT Transshipment Resolution to the CCSBT 31 meeting. The Chair suggested that the CC should consider Indonesia's proposal and provide advice to the EC from the CC's perspective to assist in the EC's decision.
77. Indonesia presented paper CCSBT-EC/2410/23, which proposed amendments to the CCSBT Transshipment Resolution. In this paper, Indonesia proposed to revise Annex IV of the Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transshipment by Large-scale Fishing Vessels by adding three (3) Indonesian wooden carrier vessels, replacement of one vessel included in the previous 17 wooden carrier vessels listed ANNEX IV due to a fire incident and revise the gross tonnage information of one (1) vessel.
78. Indonesia noted that the three additional carrier vessels were already authorised with IOTC. The amendment to the gross tonnage of one vessel was required as this vessel was resurveyed and had its gross tonnage increased. It also noted one vessel did not have an IMO number, but that the owner was waiting for the documents.
79. The meeting noted that because the three vessels were already authorised by IOTC, it would maintain consistency with IOTC if CCSBT also adopted these changes.
80. The meeting agreed that the proposed amendment should be further discussed at EC, noting the concerns raised by the Compliance Committee and consideration of consistency with IOTC.

6.2.2. *Quality Assurance Review (QAR) Draft Terms of Reference (ToR)*

81. The Chair reminded Members that paragraph 15 of the revised Transshipment Resolution explicitly states that a QAR will be conducted in 2025, and the results presented to CC 20:
- “15. The provisions in paragraph 13 will be considered as a two-year trial with a start date of 1 November 2023 and concluding on 31 October 2025. A Quality Assurance Review (QAR), whose aim will be to provide an independent assessment of the performance of the trial, will be conducted in 2025 and presented to CC 20. This QAR will be funded by the CCSBT. In addition to the QAR, CC 20 shall also consider advice from the IOTC as well as the performance in meeting existing CCSBT transshipment obligations.”
82. Following this paragraph 15 of the Transshipment Resolution, CC 18 tasked the Secretariat with drafting a Terms of Reference (ToR) for the QAR of Indonesia’s 2-year at-sea transshipment trial.
83. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/14, which provided a Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the 2025 Quality Assurance Review (QAR) of Indonesia’s Two-Year Trial at-sea Transshipment Program. The key aspects of the proposed ToR were:
- The QAR has been developed in two phases, similar to the approach used in recent QARs;
 - Phase one is proposed to involve a desktop review to document and evaluate Indonesia’s systems and processes to implement, and ensure compliance with, the obligations contained within CCSBT’s Transshipment Resolution;
 - Phase two is proposed to be an onsite review of Indonesia’s systems and processes with a focus on the implementation of the documented and defined processes mapped and described in Phase One; and
 - All information obtained through the phase one and phase two activities will be captured in a final QAR report which will include an executive summary, recommendations and conclusions. The final QAR report will be presented to Members at CC 20.
84. The Chair clarified that it was proposed that the QAR be undertaken by an independent party, as has been the practice in the past.
85. Indonesia noted that its national observer program is different to regional observer programs and would like the QAR to include a review of whether Indonesia should be required to fully meet the current observer standards, or if the requirements need to be adjusted for its national observer program. An example is the timeline for submission of reports, since real-time reporting is not possible and translation of reports to English is required, which creates delays.
86. All Members expressed support for the QAR. It was noted that the information from it would be beneficial to the Commission in deciding whether to continue the trial transshipment in the future and would also assist Indonesia to improve the program.
87. The meeting agreed to recommend that the EC adopt the draft ToR for the 2025 Quality Assurance Review (QAR) of Indonesia’s Two-Year Trial at-sea Transshipment Program, which is shown in **Attachment 11**.

6.3. *Markets*

6.3.1. *Japan's Market Proposal Analyses*

88. CC 18 agreed that, in its workplan for 2024, the Secretariat would conduct the following market analyses based on the Japan's Market Proposal:
- Catches of each Member and its exports to Japan by fishing seasons, using CDS, national reports of catch, and trade statistics;
 - Proportion of imports in the Japanese market (Correspondence Approach #1) by product types (Fresh Wild, Fresh Farmed, Frozen Wild and Frozen Farmed), using CDS, management tag survey and questionnaire to trade companies;
 - Imports (Fresh and Frozen) by each Member (Correspondence Approach #2), using CDS and trade statistics;
 - Proportion of SBT (Frozen Wild, Frozen Farmed and Fresh) sold in major markets (Toyosu and Yaizu) in SBT landed and imported into Japan (Correspondence Approach #3), using CDS, management tag survey and questionnaire to trade companies;
 - Import of farmed SBT from Australia into Japan (Correspondence Approach #4), using CDS and FRDC Seafood Production and Trade Databases; and
 - Comparison between weight data of individual SBTs, using CDS and management tag survey.
89. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/15, which provides the results of analyses conducted by the Secretariat in 2024, and also provides the summary of the outcome from the market analyses to be published on the CCSBT website public area after the CCSBT 31 meeting is closed.
90. The meeting agreed that the analyses were useful and would like them to continue, but were mindful of the costs and upcoming conversations at the Finance & Administration Committee.
91. The Secretariat clarified that:
- The main cost, apart from the Secretariat's time, was the cost of the Toyosu Tag and Market survey (Market Survey), that was approximately \$30,000.
 - Funding the Market Survey every few years would be difficult due to logistical reasons such as retaining surveyors, and that an annual survey gives better results in terms of cooperation and continuity of people and companies involved in the survey.
 - The Market Survey for 2024 has already commenced, and it will be completed in March 2025, so that the same level of analyses can be done for CC 20.
92. The meeting agreed for the Secretariat to undertake these analyses, including items originally specified in the 2024 workplan, in 2025.
93. The meeting also agreed to recommend that the EC make the outcome of this analysis, shown in **Attachment 12**, publicly available through the CCSBT website.

6.3.2. Open Access CCSBT Webpage for Tag Number Search

94. Discussion for this sub-agenda item partly commenced by correspondence in advance of the CC meeting as the Chair considered it may be useful to allow Members to provide initial questions, particularly for technical aspects, during the pre-meeting discussion period.
95. The Chair advised that, in 2023, CC 18 agreed that the Secretariat should develop draft specifications and cost estimates of an open-access search function on CCSBT's webpage to search for information on individual SBTs by tag number (open-access SBT tag search) for consideration at CC 19 in 2024.
96. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/16, which provided draft specifications and cost estimates for an open-access CCSBT tag search through the CCSBT website. In this paper, the Secretariat developed the specifications and cost estimates based on the following assumptions:
- Anyone who is interested (including consumers, not limited to market stakeholders) can use the tag search tool;
 - Users can search for SBT in the public area of the CCSBT website without registration or login;
 - CMF numbers (or other related CDS form numbers) are not required;
 - To overcome the confidentiality requirements, Members provide pre-authorisation to the EC and the Secretariat to release the relevant CDS data for this purpose; and
 - The development of the open-access SBT search will commence in 2025 (and be deployed to the CCSBT website once the development work and Member testing is completed) if the Member agrees on the specification and approves the required budget.
97. In addition, the Secretariat also suggested developing the tag search tool so that scanning a CDS tag's QR code automatically takes the user to the open-access SBT search result page.
98. It was noted that it would be cost-effective to use eCDS data for the tag search, so the development could be postponed until 2026 since the eCDS will not be active until then. It was also noted that the timing of the project could have implications on a potential partial reimbursement to New Zealand for QR code tags it is ordering.
99. Members agreed that the project was valuable in terms of traceability.
100. The meeting agreed to recommend that the EC approve the specifications as described in paper CCSBT-CC/2410/16, and also to approve authorisation for releasing the Tier 1 of CDS data specified in Attachment A of paper CCSBT-CC/2410/16 (with the addition of fishing method) as part of the open-access SBT tag search.

6.4. Standing Agenda Items

101. Discussion for this sub-agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the CC meeting.

102. The Secretariat submitted paper CCSBT-CC/2410/17 on potential Non-Member fishing activity/trade. This paper provided:
- A brief summary of communication with Non-Cooperating Non-Members (NCNMs) since CCSBT 30;
 - An update on any NCNM Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) catch reported to ICCAT since CCSBT 30;
 - A brief summary of an intelligence report produced for the Secretariat by the Joint Analytical Cell (JAC);
 - An update concerning CCSBT's relationship with TMT (formerly Trygg Mat Tracking) and information about the existing contingency fund for ad-hoc analysis with TMT;
 - An analysis by the Secretariat relating to potential Non-Member catches of SBT.
103. One Member asked if the Non-Member vessels referred to Section 6 of the paper were registered with IOTC or any other RFMO.
104. The Secretariat clarified that:
- All of the vessels identified and discussed in Section 6 of paper CCSBT-CC/2410/17 are currently on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels.
 - Eight of these vessels are also currently on the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels (RFV), but only six of these vessels have current authorisations (two only have historic authorisation periods but appear not to have been removed from the WCPFC RFV at present).
 - The Seychelles clarified that it does authorise longline vessels to fish in areas where SBT may be caught and that they are on the IOTC record of authorised vessels. These vessels are authorised to fish for Albacore but are not allowed to catch or retain SBT onboard. The vessels mostly land or tranship in Port Louis, Mauritius, but they may sometimes tranship in Port Victoria in the Seychelles. Transshipments at sea are monitored by observers under the IOTC regional observer scheme and the vessels are also monitored on VMS.
105. The meeting noted:
- The increasing vessel activity in areas known to be associated with SBT catches; and
 - The opportunity to inspect these vessels when they come into Member ports.

Agenda Item 7. Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with other Organisations

106. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the CC meeting.
107. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/18 on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with Other Organisations. This paper updated Members on the CCSBT's compliance relationships with the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network (IMCSN) and its associated networks such as

the Pan-Pacific Fisheries Compliance Network (PPFCN) and Tuna Compliance Network (TCN), with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations, as well as with RFBs/RFMOs, including the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

108. The meeting noted the paper and relationships with the bodies and organisations listed in it.

Agenda Item 8. Development of a Trial eCDS

109. Discussion for this agenda item partly commenced by correspondence in advance of the CC meeting as some questions have arisen that would benefit from some pre-meeting consideration by Members.

110. The Secretariat introduced paper CCSBT-CC/2410/19, which provided a progress update on the CCSBT's trial eCDS project. This paper included the following four sections:

- Current status of the trial eCDS software;
- Outstanding functionality and issues. This section includes reference to a proposed draft revised CDS Resolution to facilitate the introduction and use of the eCDS;
- Proposed workplan and budget; and
- Recommendations.

111. During the pre-meeting discussion, Members were asked to review and comment on some of the issues raised in section 2) of the paper. Specific questions to Members were included in the pre-meeting document.

112. Members discussed the process to finalise the CDS resolution and the date of implementation of the eCDS. It was noted that reasonable time was required to amend national legislation after adoption of the revised resolution, and that the previously agreed date of 1 January 2026 was too soon if the revised CDS resolution was adopted at CCSBT 32. It was further noted that all Members needed to start on the same date as having the current CDS and eCDS operating at the same time was not practical for import procedures, and that Members had different fishing seasons.

113. Members agreed to recommend that the full implementation date be amended to 1 April 2026, subject to the CDS resolution being finalised at CCSBT 32.

114. The Secretariat agreed to work with Taiwan to develop traditional Chinese translation to the eCDS interface and eCDS instructional videos.

115. It was requested that the revised CDS resolution include the details of a paper-based system to be used in the case that the eCDS is not operational is attached as an appendix. It was further requested that when the eCDS is not operational there be notification on the CCSBT website.

116. The meeting agreed to the proposal in Attachment D of the Secretariat's paper to give the USA official access to the eCDS to assist it with managing SBT imports to the USA. The USA thanked Members for supporting the proposal.
117. Some Members noted the need to consult with stakeholders before discussing other proposed changes, so it was agreed to work on the other issues raised in the Secretariat's proposal intersessionally.
118. The meeting endorsed the proposed workplan and budget for the eCDS, noting the revised date of implementation.

Agenda Item 9. Project to enhance the implementation of seabird measures

119. Discussion for this agenda item commenced by correspondence in advance of the CC meeting.
120. Dr. Ross Wanless, the CCSBT Seabird Project Manager, presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/19, which provided updates on the Seabird Project to Enhance the Implementation of Seabird Measures. The Seabird Project has completed multiple workshops under elements 1-3, and additional workshops are planned.
- Under Element 1 (skipper training), 3 workshops have been completed, one of the two South African trainings being delivered jointly with the International Sustainable Seafood Foundation, while a second joint skipper training workshop is planned for 17 October 2024 in Taiwan.
 - Under Element 2 (Inspections), the first port inspector training was held in Japan, and another is scheduled for Taiwan on 15 October 2024.
 - Under Element 3 (EM), the project has commenced delivery of a series of bilateral engagements between Member administrations. These are initially capacity building and roadmapping exercises but may expand to more tangible activities/developments as they unfold.
 - Element 4 (risk assessment) is planned to commence after CCSBT 31.
121. The Seabird Project Manager thanked Members for their engagement with the project to date.
122. Members noted the progress of the project and expressed their support and willingness to engage.

Agenda Item 10. Work Plan for 2025

The CC developed the following workplan for 2025. Annual tasks of an ongoing nature are not shown unless they are new for 2025.

	Approximate Period	Resource
Provide a Corrective Action Plan	No later than 31 December 2024	South Africa

	Approximate Period	Resource
Progress Compliance Action Plan (CAP) action items for 2025 in accordance with Attachment 5	As specified in Attachment 5	Members, Secretariat, ESC, CC
Prepare a document to review the CCSBT Compliance Plan to ensure that its overarching goals, strategies and principles are aligned with CCSBT's 2023-2028 Strategic Plan	Before CC 20	Secretariat
Check on the vessel/s with a missing IMO number and report back to the CC	As soon as possible	South Africa and Indonesia
The Secretariat leads an intersessional process to further develop CPG3 (Corrective Actions) to inform Compliance Committee decisions on appropriate corrective actions	Before CC 20	Secretariat, Members
Report extraordinary circumstances in the new section of national report to CC/EC to improve reporting and discussion to inform the ongoing review and improvement of CPG5	Before CC 20 (when necessary)	Members
Move CPG5 (Extraordinary Circumstances) Agenda Item to standing agenda item	Before CC 20	Secretariat
Sign and forward the finalised transshipment MoU with ICCAT if CCSBT 31 agreed	After CCSBT 31	Secretariat
Engage with IOTC and FAO to finalise and execute a high-level MoU between CCSBT and FAO, and draft an updated transshipment MoU with IOTC	Before CC 20	Secretariat
Implement QAR in accordance with Attachment 11 , if CCSBT 31 approved	Before CC 20	Indonesia, Secretariat
Publish the summary of the Market Analyses 2024 (Attachment 12) to the CCSBT website public area	After CCSBT 31	Secretariat
Undertake Market Analyses (including items originally specified in the CC 18 Workplan)	Before CC 20	Secretariat
Develop the open-access SBT tag search based on the agreed specifications described in paper CCSBT-CC/2410/16, if CCSBT 31 approves the required budget and authorises the release of Tier 1 of CDS data specified in Attachment A of paper CCSBT-CC/2410/16 (with the addition of fishing method)	2025	Secretariat
Develop Traditional Chinese translation to the eCDS interface and eCDS instruction videos	As soon as possible	Taiwan, Secretariat

	Approximate Period	Resource
Continue eCDS testing by the Secretariat, Members and Industry	Within 2024	Members, Secretariat
Progress work on outstanding eCDS issues raised in CC 19 intersessionally	Before CC 20	Members, Secretariat
Field testing of the eCDS by Members (including vessels, exporters and importers)	Before CC 20	Members
Continue the pre-meeting discussion process in a more streamlined and less burdensome manner	Before CC 20	Members, CC Chair, Secretariat
Continue the Compliance Issues letters to be provided to Members before CC 20 by the Secretariat, with the addition of the consolidated Member compliance issue information be included in future Compliance with Measures papers	Before CC 20	Secretariat and Members
Write to the flag State of the vessels identified in paper CCSBT-CC/2410/17 requesting that they follow up any potential SBT catch	After CCSBT 31	Secretariat
Provide information on genetic species identification kit	To CC 20	Australia

Agenda Item 11. Other business

123. The Secretariat presented paper CCSBT-CC/2410/21, which outlined the CCSBT Strategic Plan items of relevance to CC and noted the requirement that subsidiary bodies holding responsibility for particular action items report back on the progress of those activities as part of their respective meeting reports. This will contribute to a progress report against the Strategic Plan and its workplan presented to the EC.
124. A small group was convened to develop a report from the CC on Progress against the Strategic Plan. Dr Robert Gear from New Zealand led the work of this small group.
125. The CC thanked the small group for its hard work and agreed to report the progress against the Strategic Plan, which is shown in **Attachment 13**.
126. The Chair sought Member feedback on the Compliance Issues letters provided to Members before CC 19 by the Secretariat. The meeting confirmed that the process should continue with the addition that the consolidated Member compliance issue information also be included in future Compliance with Measures papers.
127. One Member also raised the issue of Non-Member fishing in areas where SBT catch would be expected (discussed in paper CCSBT-CC/2410/17 Potential

Non-Member Fishing Activity). CC 19 requested that the Secretariat write to the flag State of the vessels requesting that they follow up on any potential SBT catch.

128. Australia undertook to provide a paper to CC 20 providing information on the development by CSIRO of in-situ rapid genetic testing to discriminate all *Thunnus* and skipjack tuna species.

Agenda Item 12. Recommendations to the Extended Commission

Recommendations

129. The CC made the following recommendations to the EC:

- 1) Continue with the Indonesian Payback Plan.
- 2) That the EC adopt the Compliance Action Plan for 2025-2029.
- 3) To adopt the revised:
 - Compliance Policy Guideline 1 (CPG1) - Minimum Performance Requirements (MPRs) for transshipment:
 - Compliance Policy Guideline 3 (CPG3) - Corrective Actions Policy; and
 - Annual Report template to CC/EC.
- 4) That the EC approve the MoU with ICCAT and authorise the signing of the MoU by the Executive Secretary.
- 5) That the EC approve the draft Terms of Reference for the 2025 Quality Assurance Review (**Attachment 11**) of Indonesia's Two-Year Trial at-sea Transshipment Program, noting all Members expressed support for the QAR.
- 6) That the EC makes the outcome of the market analysis conducted in 2024, shown in **Attachment 12**, publicly available through the CCSBT website.
- 7) That the EC approve the specifications as described in paper CCSBT-CC/2410/16, and also to approve authorisation for releasing the Tier 1 of CDS data specified in Attachment A of paper CCSBT-CC/2410/16 (with the addition of fishing method) as part of the open-access SBT tag search.
- 8) To adopt 1 April 2026 as the formal commencement date for the eCDS unless otherwise decided by the EC and subject to finalising the eCDS Resolution at CCSBT 32, and agree that the USA have access to the eCDS for exports to its market and approve the workplan and budget for 2025 on eCDS.
- 9) To endorse the CC Workplan for 2025.

Items to Note

130. The Compliance Committee suggests that the EC notes the following:

- 1) That the EU did not participate in the meeting and that the EU's response to questions to its national report failed to address the issues raised.
- 2) That both Indonesia and South Africa had areas of non-compliance in 2023, corrective actions will need to be taken by both Members to address these - Indonesia via the targeted QAR and South Africa via its renewed commitment to provide a Corrective Actions Plan prior to 31 Dec 2024.

- 3) That the Secretariat will lead an intersessional process to further develop CPG3 (Corrective Actions Policy) to inform Compliance Committee decisions on appropriate corrective actions.
- 4) That CC recognised the need to retain a facility to allow reporting of extraordinary circumstances in the future, and CPG5 (Extraordinary Circumstances) matters will become a standing item on the CC Agenda and be part of Annual Reports.
- 5) That the Secretariat will engage with IOTC and FAO to finalise and execute a high-level MoU between CCSBT and FAO, and draft an updated transshipment MoU with IOTC.
- 6) That, currently, Indonesia is not fully meeting the obligations of the Transshipment Resolution, including requirements relating to the two-year national transshipment observer trial.
- 7) That the proposed amendment to the ANNEX IV of the CCSBT Transshipment Resolution, proposed by Indonesia, should be further discussed at EC, noting the concerns raised by the CC and consideration of consistency with IOTC.
- 8) Strong support and engagement by Members in the CCSBT Seabird Project.
- 9) The progress report from the CC against the CCSBT Strategic Plan action items.
- 10) That the CC continue the pre-meeting discussion process with a more streamlined and less burdensome approach for CC 20 meeting in 2025.
- 11) That the CC has three projects which require funding in 2025, the Indonesian QAR, the Toyosu Tag and Market Survey and the Open-Access Tag Number Search. All are considered important, however the first two are the top priority.

Agenda Item 13. Conclusion

13.1. Adoption of meeting report

131. The report was adopted.

13.2. Close of meeting

132. The meeting closed at 13:48 pm (Taiwan time) on 5 October 2024.

List of Attachments

Attachment

1. List of Participants
2. Agenda
3. List of Documents
4. Work plan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024
5. Compliance Action Plan for 2025 to 2029
6. Revised Minimum performance requirements to meet CCSBT Obligations: Compliance Policy Guideline 1 – Transshipment
7. Corrective actions policy - Compliance Policy Guideline 3
8. Revised Template for the Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission
9. Memorandum of Understanding between the CCSBT and ICCAT Secretariats for Transshipment at sea by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels
10. Memorandum of Understanding between the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)
11. Draft Terms of Reference for the 2025 Quality Assurance Review (QAR) of Indonesia's At-Sea Transshipment Activities for the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)
12. Distribution of Southern Bluefin Tuna in Japanese and Global markets
13. Report from the CCSBT Subsidiary Bodies on Progress Against Strategic Plan

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The Nineteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee

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Agenda
Nineteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee
3 - 5 October 2024
Taipei, Taiwan

- 1. Opening of Meeting**
 - 1.1 Welcome
 - 1.2 Adoption of Agenda
 - 1.3 Meeting Arrangements
- 2. Overview of Compliance with CCSBT Conservation and Management Measures**
 - 2.1 Report from the Secretariat
 - 2.2 Annual Reports from Members
 - 2.3 Assessment of compliance with CCSBT Management Measures
 - 2.3.1 Compliance of Members
 - 2.3.2 Application of the Corrective Actions Policy
- 3. Draft Compliance Action Plan (CAP) for 2025 - 2029**
- 4. Operation of CCSBT Measures: Issues & Updates**
- 5. Review and Revision of CCSBT Policies and Resolutions**
 - 5.1 Proposed Revised Minimum Performance Requirements – MPRs (CPG1)
 - 5.2 Review of CCSBT's Corrective Actions Policy (CPG3)
 - 5.3 Review of CCSBT's Guideline on principles for action and steps to be taken in relation to extraordinary circumstances (CPG5)
- 6. Implementation of the CCSBT Compliance Plan**
 - 6.1 Transshipment Resolution: LoU with IOTC and MoU with ICCAT
 - 6.2 Indonesia's Two-Year Trial at-sea Transshipment Programme
 - 6.2.1 Report Back on Programme Monitoring
 - 6.2.2 Quality Assurance Review (QAR) Draft Terms of Reference (ToR)
 - 6.3 **Markets**
 - 6.3.1 Japan's Market Proposal Analyses
 - 6.3.2 Open Access CCSBT Webpage for Tag Number Search
 - 6.4 Standing Agenda Items
- 7. Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with other Organisations**
- 8. Development of a Trial eCDS**

9. Project to Enhance the Implementation of Seabird Measures

10. Work Program for 2025

11. Other business

12. Recommendations to the Extended Commission

13. Conclusion

13.1 Adoption of Meeting Report

13.2 Close of Meeting

List of Documents
Nineteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee

(CCSBT-CC/2410/)

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. List of Documents
- 4 (Rev.1). (Secretariat) Compliance with CCSBT Management Measures
(CC agenda items 2.1, 2.3.1, 2.3.2)
5. (Secretariat) Annual Report on Members' implementation of ERS measures and performance with respect to ERS (CC agenda item 2.1)
- 6 (Rev.2). (Secretariat) Review of Implementation of Indonesia's and South Africa's Corrective Actions & Indonesia's Compliance in 2023 (CC agenda item 2.3.2)
7. (Secretariat) Draft Compliance Action Plan for 2025 - 2029
(CC agenda item 3)
- 8 (Rev.1). (Secretariat) Operation of CCSBT MCS Measures
(CC agenda item 4)
9. (Secretariat) Proposed Revised Minimum Performance Requirements (CPG1): Transshipment Resolution (CC agenda item 5.1)
10. (Secretariat) Review of Corrective Actions Policy (Compliance Policy Guideline 3) (CC agenda item 5.2)
11. (Secretariat) Review of CCSBT's Guideline on principles for action and steps to be taken in relation to extraordinary circumstances (CPG5) (CC agenda item 5.3)
12. (Secretariat) Consideration of Enhancements to the Existing Transshipment Memorandum/Letter of Understanding with ICCAT and the IOTC
(CC agenda item 6.1)
13. (Secretariat) Transshipment Resolution: Report Back on Indonesia's Trial Transshipment Monitoring Programme (CC agenda item 6.2.1)
14. (Secretariat) Draft ToR for Quality Assurance Review (QAR) of Indonesia's Trial Transshipment Programme (CC agenda item 6.2.2)
15. (Secretariat) Secretariat's analyses for Japan's Market Proposal
(CC agenda items 6.3.1)
16. (Secretariat) Draft Specifications and Potential Cost of an Open-access CCSBT Webpage (CC agenda items 6.3.2)
17. (Secretariat) Potential Non-Member Fishing Activity (CC agenda item 6.4)
18. (Secretariat) Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with Other Bodies and Organisations (CC agenda item 7)

19. (Secretariat) Progress Update on the CCSBT's Trial eCDS Project (CC agenda item 8)
20. (Secretariat) Update on Seabird Project to Enhance the Implementation of Seabird Measures (CC agenda item 9)
21. (Secretariat) Report Against Strategic Plan (CC Agenda item 11)
22. (Indonesia) Implementation of Indonesia's work plan to remain within TAC for 2024 (CC Agenda item 2.3.2)

(CCSBT-CC/2410/BBT Fisheries -)

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

(CCSBT-CC/2410/BGD)

1. (Secretariat) Development of a Revised Strengthened CCSBT Transshipment Resolution (*Previously* CCSBT-CC/2310/11) (CC Agenda item 6.1)
2. (Secretariat) Review of Corrective Actions Policy (Compliance Policy Guideline 3) (*Previously* CCSBT-CC/2310/10) (CC Agenda item 5.2)

(CCSBT-CC/2410/Rep)

1. Report of the Twenty-Ninth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2024)
2. Report of The Fifteenth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group (June 2024)
3. Report of the Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2023)

4. Report of the Eighteenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2023)
5. Report of the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (August/
September 2023)
6. Report of the Sixth Meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working
Group (July 2023)
7. Report of the Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2022)
8. Report of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Compliance Committee (October 2022)
9. Report of the Twenty-Seventh Meeting of the Scientific Committee (August/
September 2022)
10. Report of The Fourteenth Meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working
Group (March 2022)

Work plan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period	Update Description
1	National policy in the distribution of national quota	The Indonesian Government allocates the SBT Quota to fisheries associations who distribute those quotas to their members	DGCF– MMAF	Since 2015	<p>The Indonesian Government allocates the SBT Quota to fisheries associations who distribute those quotas to their members.</p> <p>The allocation of Indonesia's national catch quotas for 2024 has been distributed to tuna fishing operators through associations, in accordance with the Minutes of the Meeting on the Allocation of SBT Quotas for 2024.</p>
2	CDS application system	Implementing a quota block and prevent an over catch for the following year within the Indonesia CDS system	DGCF - MMAF	Since 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing a quota block and prevent an over catch for the following year within the Indonesia CDS system. The Indonesian Government informs associations and fishing companies on the fishing capacity reduction before the next harvesting year. • Warning system starts when respective fishing company reaches 80% of their quota.
3	Observer coverage	Improve observer coverage	DGCF, RITF & Tuna Fisheries Association	2020 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2020, number of longline vessels observed were 2 units. • In 2021, number of longline vessels observed were 4 units.

Work plan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period	Update Description
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2022, number of longline vessels observed were 9 units. • In 2023, number of longline vessels observed were 7 units.
4	Early warning system	It will regularly notify associations and fishing companies of the SBT catch status as an early warning system to avoid over-catch. Reward and punishment application towards the catch quota/vessel	DGCF & Tuna Fisheries Association	2021 - 2024 (Start 1st Quarter)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DGCF is implementing early warning system in form of regular notifications to quota holders on quarterly basis. • In order to avoid over catch, DGCF will also send an additional notification letter to inform that SBT catch reach/almost reach 90% limit. There will be also a reminder to reduce/cease catch of SBT for remaining fishing season and daily information on catch level.
5	Tagging control	Reduce tagging on port activities	DGCF and Tuna Fisheries Association	2021 - 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce tagging on port activities by conducting regular dissemination to the tuna associations and companies holding quotas regarding the provisions on tagging at port.

Work plan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period	Update Description
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing vessel brought tags onboard prior fishing operation.
6	E-logbook	Improve e-logbook implementation for LL vessels above 30 GT as an obligation and under 30 GT as a voluntary.	DGCF & Tuna Fisheries Association	Since 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2019, there were 221 Indonesian fishing vessels registered in the CCSBT Record of Authorized Vessels with 84 vessels have implemented an e-logbook (> 30 GT). In 2020, there were 250 Indonesian fishing vessels registered in the CCSBT Record of Authorized Vessels with 174 vessels have implemented the e-logbook (≤ 30 GT = 23 vessels; > 30 GT = 151 vessels). In 2021, there were 265 Indonesian fishing vessels registered in the CCSBT Record of Authorized Vessels with 224 vessels have implemented the e-logbook (≤ 30 GT = 50 vessels; > 30 GT = 174 vessels).

Work plan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period	Update Description
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022, there were 273 Indonesian fishing vessels registered in the CCSBT Record of Authorized Vessels with 223 vessels have implemented the e-logbook (≤ 30 GT = 48 vessels; > 30 GT = 175 vessels). In 2023, there were 309 Indonesian fishing vessels registered in the CCSBT Record of Authorized Vessels with 228 vessels have implemented the e-logbook (≤ 30 GT = 46 vessels; > 30 GT = 182 vessels).
7	E-monitoring	E-monitoring for supporting/carrier fishing vessels and LL vessel above 100 GT	DGCF & Tuna Fisheries Association	2021 - 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-monitoring is obligatory for carrier vessel. E-monitoring on fishing vessel is not mandatory. The plan to implement e-monitoring on longline vessel above 100 GT in voluntary basis has not been implemented yet due to budget constrain.

Work plan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period	Update Description
8	Catch analysis by fishing area	Data analysis of SBT catches to identify SBT was caught whether at the territorial waters, archipelagic waters, Indonesian EEZ, or high seas. The data analysis will be conducted by overlaying various data such as CDS, fishing logbooks, e-Monitoring and VMS data.	DGCF, RITF	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A paper has been developed to a data analysis of SBT catches to identify whether SBT was caught at the territorial sea, archipelagic water, EEZ, or high seas. The data analysis will be conducted by overlaying various data such as CDS, fishing logbooks, and VMS data. The paper has been submitted to the ESC27. An updated paper was submitted to the CC17.
9	Market trade data	Consolidation to all market data resources	DGCF, DGPCMF, AFQ, PUSDATIN, Statistics Indonesia, Indonesia Customs	2021	MMAF has conducted a consultation process with related national export tuna data resources including Statistics Indonesia and Indonesia Customs. The result of the consultation presented in the paper (Further investigation into discrepancies between COMTRADE and Indonesia CDS data) submitted to CC16.

Work plan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period	Update Description
10	Fisheries Improvement Program (FIP) for tuna longliner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase observer coverage. • Improvement of data collection through enhancement and increase compliance on E-Logbook implementation • ERS mitigation • Improvement of compliance on regulations related to longline tuna enforced by the Government • Training and/or awareness activities to fishing industries to ensure compliance • Follow up on the results of the MSC Pre Assessment FIP • Improvements in relation to human rights and social responsibility for fishing vessel crews. 	Tuna Fisheries Association	2021 - 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FIP for tuna longliner is not only for vessel catching SBT or registered on CCSBT. • In 2024, there were 362 longline vessels that are members of the FIP. • In June 2024, all FIP members attended refreshment briefing on e-logbook recording as part of data collecting improvement. • There were total 18 observers onboard of 18 vessels of FIP members in 2023. Observers data and information were analysed and draft report of the by catch including ETP from the Indonesian tuna longline fishery was developed with a collaboration between Directorate of Fish Resources Management (DFRM) and the scientists from Research Center for Fishery Research Organization for Earth Sciences and Maritime National Research and Innovation Agency.

Work plan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period	Update Description
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For monitoring transshipment at sea in 2024, 20 carrier vessels conducted transshipment at sea in IOTC area, which are members of the FIP, were 100% monitored by national observers onboard under IOTC resolution. The observers verified catches for both target species and bycatch. The monitoring also ensured compliance with conservation actions and mitigation management in case any Endangered, Threatened, and Protected Species were caught. • In June 2023, the Directorate of Fish Resource Management held a Technical Coordination Meeting (RAKORTEK) for observers on fishing vessels and fish carrier vessels. • In 2024, following up on the results of the MSC Pre Assessment carried out at the end of 2023, as follows:

Work plan to remain within Indonesia's TAC for 2024

No	Activities	Description	Institution/Stakeholders	Period	Update Description
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recording and reporting non-economic fish that are intentionally discarded at sea. - Increasing compliance on shark according to existing regulations. • In December 2023 and January 2024, all members attended briefings and discussions on Human Rights and Social Responsibility for fishing vessel crews.

Note:

MMAF = Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

DGCF = Directorate General of Capture Fisheries

DGMFRS= Directorate General of Marine and Fisheries Resources Surveillance

DGSCMFP= Directorate General of Strengthening Competitiveness of Marine and Fishery Products

DGFQ= Directorate General of Fish Quarantine, Quality Control and Safety of Fishery Products

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

DFRM = Directorate of Fish Resources Management

RITF= Research Institute for Tuna Fisheries, MMAF

ATLI = Indonesia Longline Tuna Association

Compliance Action Plan (for 2025 to 2029 inclusive)

A. Compliance Action Plan

Risk Item Ref. No.	Risk Item No. & Matrix Score (H/M/L)	Action Required to Address Risk/ Draft Strategic Plan/ Seabird Strategy	Responsibility (Members and/or the Secretariat)	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
1. Non-compliance with the (e)CDS or incorrect information in (e)CDS documents.	L/M	a) To continue to move towards implementation of the eCDS as soon as possible.	Members and the Secretariat	*	*			
		b) Expedite (e)CDS capacity building for Members and Member stakeholders. ¹	Members and the Secretariat	*	*	*		
		c) Routinely check and correct (e)CDS errors.	Members and the Secretariat	Ongoing				
		d) Routinely assess market statistics to identify any widespread non-compliance.	Members and the Secretariat	Ongoing				
2. Incomplete implementation or submission of (e)CDS data including Non-Members not cooperating with the CDS Resolution.	M	a) Extend the availability of the (e)CDS to some key identified Non-Members.	Members and the Secretariat		*	*	*	
		b) Continue (e)CDS capacity building by the Secretariat. ¹	Members and the Secretariat			*	*	*
		c) Run 6-monthly and annual (e)CDS reports, including developing new reports for Members and the Secretariat to run directly from the eCDS following its full implementation date.	Secretariat	Ongoing				
		d) Report on Members' implementation of the (e)CDS to CCSBT annually.	Secretariat	Ongoing				
3. Incomplete reporting of SBT mortalities.	H	a) Ensure Members meet reporting requirements as they relate to describing how they monitor, estimate and report all SBT mortalities	Members, Secretariat and ESC	*	*			
		b) Consider strengthening corrective actions policies.	Members	*	*			
		c) Reconcile market and catch data.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
4. Not fully attributing all SBT mortalities (such as recreational catch, artisanal catches, discards, farm sector catches, non-farm commercial sector catches) against national allocations.	L	a) Ensure Members meet reporting requirements as they relate to describing how they monitor, estimate and report all SBT mortalities	Members Secretariat and CC	*	*			
		b) Further effort by each member to improve and strengthen its estimate of the actual catch amount for each element outlined at paragraph 4 (b) of the limited carry-forward resolution.	Members				*	*
		c) Reconcile market and catch data.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
5. Non-compliance associated with transshipment obligations (both in port and at-sea).	M	a) Review if arrangements have been implemented to ensure transshipment obligations are in place and report back to the Compliance Committee (CC).	Members		*	*		
		b) Review what actions can be taken in the case of non-compliance of Members or NCNM Carrier Vessels and report back to the CC.	Members and the Secretariat		*	*		
		c) Report annually on Members' implementation of and compliance with CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution.	Secretariat	Ongoing				

¹ Part of the broader capacity building plan that will be developed by the Commission

Risk Item Ref. No.	Risk Item No. & Matrix Score (H/M/L)	Action Required to Address Risk/ Draft Strategic Plan/ Seabird Strategy	Responsibility (Members and/or the Secretariat)	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
6. Incomplete submission of transshipment information including transshipment information for non-Member flagged vessels.	L/M	a) Strengthen CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution including considering the introduction of supply declarations in 2025.	Members	*			*	
		b) Improve and enhance the existing information sharing arrangements between CCSBT and other RFMOs with respect to transshipment information.	Members and Secretariat	*	*			
		c) Introduce relevant punitive measures as part of a more comprehensive Corrective Actions approach (review of Corrective Actions Policy).	Members and Secretariat		*	*	*	
		d) Examine the feasibility of increasing the 5% inspection requirement for foreign fishing/carrier vessels landing/transshipping SBT in port and report back to the CC.	Members and Secretariat				*	
		e) Support other RFMO transshipment programs to train observers with regard to CCSBT obligations.	Secretariat	Ongoing				
7. SBT mis-reported as other (non SBT) species.	M	a) Continue work on development of in-situ real-time genetic testing kits to identify SBT and report progress to the CCSBT annually.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
		b) Consider the costs and benefits of genetic testing in markets and whether to conduct such testing and report back to the CC.	Members and Secretariat	*	*			
		c) Consider the feasibility of transshipment observers taking tissue samples as part of the IOTC/ICCAT transshipment observer programmes and report back to the CC.	Secretariat			*		
		d) Share any available information/ intelligence that will assist with the identification of SBT reported as other species.	Members	Ongoing				
8. Catches of SBT that are not reported by Non-Cooperating Non-Members (NCNMs) and so not taken into account.	L/M	a) Members who are IOTC Members encourage IOTC to report SBT catch.	Members			*		
		b) Ongoing encouragement of NCNMs to provide information to CCSBT regarding potential catches of SBT.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
		c) Share information about potential non-Member catches with the Secretariat e.g. under CCSBT's Information Collection and Sharing Policy (CPG4).	Members	Ongoing				
9. Insufficient scientific observer data to manage target and non-target species.	M/H	a) Consider methods for enhancing the reliability of logbook information and scientific observer data through appropriate verification methods, including the use of EM, for target and non-target species.	Members		*			
		b) Consider the costs and benefits of increasing scientific observer percent coverage levels and/or the EM review rate taking into account consideration by ESC regarding data collection through EM and report back to the CC.	Members and Secretariat			*	*	
		c) Support Members who are considering using EM as a source of scientific data observations where it may be difficult to employ human observers.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
10. Incomplete or inaccurate	H	a) Review procedures and methods to improve compliance by SBT fishing	CC, Members and Secretariat	*				

Risk Item Ref. No.	Risk Item No. & Matrix Score (H/M/L)	Action Required to Address Risk/ Draft Strategic Plan/ Seabird Strategy	Responsibility (Members and/or the Secretariat)	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
reporting of non SBT bycatches, including seabirds.		operators with seabird CMMs and reporting requirements concerning seabird interactions.						
		b) Review data collection forms and procedures across tuna RFMOs regarding compliance with seabird CMMs by longline fishing operators and develop harmonised format to communicate and advocate across tuna RFMOs.	CC, Members and Secretariat	*				
		c) Provide an annual summary of any non-compliance detected with respect to the collection and provision of non-SBT bycatch information.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
11. CCSBT Members not fully implementing specific Conservation and Management Measures (CMM's) as agreed, particularly the CCSBT ERS Measure.	L	a) Consider additional domestic monitoring and surveillance measures for further ensuring full implementation of the CCSBT ERS Measure.	Members	Ongoing				
		b) Ongoing sharing of information and best practice MCS to assist developing Members and Cooperating Non-Members to implement the CCSBT's CMMs, including a capacity building workplan if appropriate.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
12. CCSBT Members not fully complying with the obligations of specific Conservation and Management Measures (CMM's) as agreed, particularly the CCSBT ERS Measure.	H	a) Capacity building for vessel crew of developing state on binding ERS measures.	Members		*	*		
		b) Support developing State CCSBT Members to raise awareness of CCSBT obligations within their industry and to identify and introduce tools to support improved compliance with CCSBT measures.	Members and Secretariat	*	*			
		c) Consider additional domestic measures for further ensuring full compliance with the CCSBT ERS Measure.	Members	Ongoing				
		d) Ongoing sharing of information and best practice MCS to assist developing Members and Cooperating Non-Members to comply with the CCSBT's CMMs, including a capacity building workplan if appropriate.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
13. Lack of systematic follow-up actions to address non-compliance leading to persistent non-compliance.	M	a) Consider opportunities to better support CC to discuss and recommend effective follow up action to address identified non-compliance, including through the review and update of CPG3 and through reporting from the Secretariat.	Members and Secretariat	*	*			
		b) Annually monitor and report on implementation and compliance with CCSBT CMMs including consideration of novel ways to track progress with resolving persistent non-compliance issues.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
14. The increasing demands of work limiting the ability of the Secretariat to assess compliance.	M/H	a) Review current and future (expected) workload of the Secretariat taking into account the priorities and the current human and financial resources and report back to compliance committee report back to compliance committee.	Members and Secretariat	*				
		b) Whenever a proposal is submitted, assess whether the proposal would impose additional work on the Secretariat and estimate expected workload/hours (low/moderate/significant/high). Consider and discuss the proposal, including	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				

Risk Item Ref. No.	Risk Item No. & Matrix Score (H/M/L)	Action Required to Address Risk/ Draft Strategic Plan/ Seabird Strategy	Responsibility (Members and/or the Secretariat)	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
		possible options to address the additional workload, if significant or high, on the Secretariat.						
15. Lack of comprehensive monitoring and inspection of vessels on the High Seas.	L/M	a) Encourage Members to support and advocate for the adoption of boarding and inspection CMM in IOTC.	Members	*	*			
		b) Explore the feasibility of establishing CCSBT's own boarding and inspection programme.	Members, Secretariat and CC			*	*	*
		c) Consider improvement and strengthening of monitoring of vessels on the High Seas, including through utilization of information collected through existing mechanisms, including those of other tRFMOs.	Members			*		
General		a) Maintain and strengthen relationships, including information exchange with other RFMOs and relevant international networks, in particular to assist with matters relating to CMMs, and monitoring and reporting.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				
		b) Review Compliance Plans, policies and CMMs regularly as required including adding updates, enhancements, and checking they are fit for purpose and not duplicative.	Members and Secretariat	Ongoing				

Minimum performance requirements to meet CCSBT Obligations
Compliance Policy Guideline 1
(Revised at the Thirty-First Annual Meeting: 10 October 2024)

2.3 Record of Authorised Carrier Vessels (part of Transhipment Resolution)

Title: Record of vessels authorised to receive transhipments involving SBT at-sea or in port *(from section 2 of the “Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transhipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels”)*

Link: https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/operational_resolutions/Resolution_Transhipment.pdf

Notes: The obligations for the remainder of the Transhipment Resolution are in section 3.3 (Transhipment Monitoring Program). For the purposes of this Resolution, Carrier Vessels not entered on the record are deemed not to be authorised to receive SBT in either at-sea or in-port transhipment operations.

2.3 Record of Authorised Carrier Vessels	
Obligations	Minimum performance requirements
i. Members shall submit to the CCSBT Executive Secretary, the list of Carrier Vessels that are authorised to receive SBT transhipments from its LSTLVs at sea or in port.	1. Operating systems and processes to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. authorise specific Carrier Vessels to receive at-sea and/or in-port transhipments from its authorised Fishing Vessels (LSTLVs); b. ensure authorised Carrier Vessels that tranship at sea will meet their obligations to (see Transhipment Monitoring performance requirements 3.3): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. provide access and accommodation to observers, ii. cooperate with observers in relation to carrying out their duties, and iii. not interfere with, or seek to influence, observers in any way;

2.3 Record of Authorised Carrier Vessels	
Obligations	Minimum performance requirements
<p>ii. Each Member shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary, after the establishment of the initial CCSBT Record of Carrier Vessels, of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the CCSBT Record of Carrier Vessels, at any time such changes occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. provide required information on authorised Carrier Vessels to the Executive Secretary within 15 days of the vessel being authorised, and before such vessels are actually used in transhipments; d. submit any updates to the Executive Secretary promptly, and not later than 15 days from the date the change(s) occur(s), and before such vessels are actually used in transhipments; and e. ensure all authorisations, and any updates, are submitted electronically to the Executive Secretary using the Data Provision Form for CCSBT Record of Authorised Carrier Vessels.
<p>iii. Carrier Vessels authorised to conduct at-sea or in-port transhipments shall be required to install and operate a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).</p>	<p>1. Operating systems and processes to ensure that Carrier Vessels are only to be authorised to carry out transhipments if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Carrier Vessel already has an operational VMS installed, or the Carrier Vessel undertakes to install an operational VMS before any authorisation and transhipments of SBT take place, and b) The VMS transmits at frequency sufficient to show transshipping operations, and c) The VMS will function effectively in the expected operating conditions.

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring Program (Resolution)

Title: Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels

Link: https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/operational_resolutions/Resolution_Transshipment.pdf

Notes:

- To enable interoperability between the CCSBT, IOTC and ICCAT transshipment monitoring programs, for the purpose of this measure, the IOTC/ICCAT Secretariat, observers, transshipment declarations and registration numbers may be treated as being the CCSBT equivalents provided that the presence of SBT is reported at each stage (from the initial observer deployment request through to the transshipment declaration).
- Section 2 of this Resolution relates to the establishment and maintenance of a record of authorised Carrier Vessels (Carrier Vessel means any vessel that receives SBT transhipped from a LSTLV) that are authorised to receive SBT at sea or in port from tuna longline fishing vessels with freezing capacity (LSTLVs). The obligations Section 2 of this Resolution are set out in section 2.3 of this Appendix so that it is together with the other CCSBT Authorisation measures.
- In 2023, EC 30 agreed that a special temporary allowance of 130 t would be provided to Indonesia per year from 2024 to 2026 inclusive, subject to paragraphs 85 and 86 of the [EC 30 report](#). This condition for a special temporary allowance for Indonesia includes compliance with transshipment-related obligations. In addition, CC 18 agreed on a two-year trial that would include a targeted Quality Assurance Review (QAR) in 2025 to independently assess the performance of the trial (paragraphs 68 of the [CC 18 report](#)).

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring Program	
A. Obligations (At-sea Transshipments)	Minimum performance requirements
i. Transshipments by LSTLVs in waters under the jurisdiction of the Members are subject to prior authorisation from the Coastal State / Fishing Entity concerned. An original or copy of the documentation of Coastal State/Fishing Entity prior authorisation must be retained on the LSTLV and made available to the CCSBT Observer when requested.	<i>Unless otherwise specified, the Flag State of the authorised fishing vessel (LSTLV) is responsible for meeting the minimum performance requirements set out in section 3.3.</i> 1. Operating systems and processes to ensure: a. the authorisation document(s) from the Coastal State Fishing Entity (where applicable) and/or Fishing State Entity, including details of the intended transshipment provided by

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring Program	
A. Obligations (At-sea Transshipments)	Minimum performance requirements
<p>ii. Members shall take the necessary measures to ensure that LSTLVs flying their flag comply with the following conditions:</p> <p>a. LSTLVs shall not be authorised to tranship at sea, unless they have obtained prior authorisation from their Flag State / Fishing Entity. An original or copy of the documentation of prior authorisation must be retained on the LSTLV and made available to the CCSBT observer when requested.</p> <p>To receive prior authorisation, the master and/or owner of the LSTLV must notify the following information to its Flag State / Fishing Entity authorities at least 24 hours in advance of an intended transshipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name, CCSBT Registration Number & IMO Number of the transshipping LSTLV & receiving Carrier Vessel; • Tonnage and product type¹ to be transhipped (by species where known); • Date & location of transshipment; and • Geographic location of the SBT catches, <p>b. The master and/or owner of the LSTLV concerned shall complete and transmit to its Flag State / Fishing Entity, and, where applicable, the Coastal State/ Fishing Entity not later</p>	<p>the master or owner of the LSTLV, is/are available on the LSTLV prior to the transshipment occurring;</p> <p>b. any Carrier Vessel receiving the transhipped SBT is meeting its obligations to provide access and accommodation to observers, and to cooperate with the observer in relation to the performance of his or her duties (see Carrier Vessel Authorisation minimum performance requirements, section 2.3).</p> <p>2. Rules in place to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. all SBT transshipments receive prior authorisation; b. fishing vessels are authorised on the CCSBT authorised fishing vessel register on the date(s) the SBT are harvested, retained on board, transhipped and landed; c. Carrier Vessels are authorised on the CCSBT authorised; Carrier Vessel register on the date(s) any transshipments occur; d. a named CCSBT observer is on board the Carrier Vessel;

¹ Product type is the processed state *e.g.* refer to the types of product listed in the CCSBT Transshipment Declaration in Annex I

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring Program	
A. Obligations (At-sea Transshipments)	Minimum performance requirements
than 5 working days after the transshipment, the CCSBT transshipment declaration ² .	<p>e. no SBT transshipment occurs without an observer on board except in the case of ‘force majeure’ (as notified to the Executive Secretary);</p> <p>f. transshipment declarations are completed, signed and transmitted by the LSTLV and the Carrier Vessel, in accordance with paragraphs 21, 23 and 24 of the Transshipment Resolution, in particular that:</p> <p>i) The master and/or owner of the LSTLV shall transmit a completed CCSBT Transshipment Declaration to its Flag State / Fishing Entity, not later than 5 working days after the transshipment; and</p> <p>ii) The master of the carrier vessel shall transmit its CCSBT Registration Number and a completed CCSBT Transshipment Declaration to the CCSBT Secretariat and the Flag Member/ CNM of the LSTLV, within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment.</p>
<p>iii. The master of the receiving Carrier Vessel shall:</p> <p>a. complete and transmit the CCSBT transshipment declaration to the CCSBT Secretariat and the Flag Member/CNM of the LSTLV, along with its CCSBT Registration Number, within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment; and</p> <p>b. no later than 48 hours before the first point of landing, transmit a CCSBT transshipment declaration, along with its CCSBT Registration Number, to the competent authorities of the State / Fishing Entity where the landing takes place.</p>	
iv. Each Member shall ensure that all Carrier Vessels transshipping at sea have on board a CCSBT observer in accordance with the CCSBT Regional Observer Program ^{3,4} .	
v. Vessels shall be prohibited from commencing or continuing transshipping at sea without a CCSBT regional observer on	

² As specified in Annex 1 of the Transshipment Resolution.

³ The CCSBT Regional Observer Program is described at Annex 2 of the Transshipment Resolution. The description includes obligations of the Flag State/Fishing Entity of both Carrier Vessels and LSTLVs to the observers which are not described here. In order to place a CCSBT observer on board a Carrier Vessel, the Member must submit an observer deployment request to the Secretariat before the transshipment, stating that SBT will be transhipped.

⁴ With the exception that Indonesia may fulfill the requirements of the Regional Observer Program through the use of its own national observers where SBT is being transhipped at-sea to the Indonesian-flagged wooden Carrier Vessels listed in Annex IV of CCSBT’s Transshipment Resolution during the agreed timeframe of its trial at-sea transshipment programme which commenced on 1 November 2023 for a two-year period.

3.3 Transhipment Monitoring Program	
A. Obligations (At-sea Transhipments)	Minimum performance requirements
board ⁴ , except in cases of 'force majeure' duly notified to the Executive Secretary.	<p>3. Operating systems and processes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. issue transhipment authorisations; b. verify the date and location of transhipments; c. request placement of observers on board Carrier Vessels; d. notify any cases of 'force majeure' (where transhipment occurs without an observer on the Carrier Vessel) to Executive Secretary within 15 days of the event occurring; e. ensure observers can board the LSTLV (provided it is safe to do so) before transhipment takes place, and have access to personnel and areas necessary to monitor compliance with paragraph 6(a) of Annex 2 of the Transhipment Resolution; f. enable observers to report any concerns about inaccurate documentation or obstruction, intimidation, or influence in relation to carrying out their duties; g. monitor compliance with the control measures; and h. impose sanctions or corrective action programmes for any non-compliance detected.
vi. Indonesia shall provide directly to both the CCSBT and IOTC Secretariats, copies of all data and documentation required by and within the timeframes set out in the respective CCSBT and IOTC Transhipment Resolutions.	<p>1. Operating systems and processes to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Submission to the CCSBT Secretariat of all required transhipment observer programme information relating to:

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring Program	
A. Obligations (At-sea Transshipments)	Minimum performance requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Observer designation: including the observer details and evidence to demonstrate sufficient experience and knowledge of CCSBT conservation and management measures, species identification and fishing gear and the ability to observe, record, report and verify carrier and fishing vessel transfers and SBT onboard; and ii. Observer deployment: including 5-day reports, transshipment declarations and observer reports, and any other required notifications, reports and revisions thereof. <p>b. The items listed in a. above are submitted within the required timeframes.</p>
vii. Replacement of any Indonesian-flagged wooden carrier vessels in Annex IV is only permitted if the material of the substitute vessel shall remain wooden and the carrying capacity or fish hold volume is not larger than the vessel(s) being replaced.	<p>1. Rules in place to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Any replacement Indonesian CVs are notified to the Secretariat promptly and before they receive any at-sea transshipments of SBT, and b. Do not have a greater hold volume (gross tonnage used as a proxy) than the CV being replaced, and c. The replacement vessel is also of wooden construction.

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring program	
B. Obligations (In-port Transshipments)	Minimum performance requirements
viii. For effective in-port inspections, Flag States of fishing vessels shall designate foreign ports of transshipment of southern bluefin tuna for their vessels, prohibit such transshipment at other foreign ports and communicate with those designated Port	<p>1. Operating systems and processes in place to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. provide a list of designated foreign ports where SBT transshipments are permitted to occur to the Executive Secretary on an annual basis before the annual meeting of the Compliance Committee.

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring program	
B. Obligations (In-port Transshipments)	Minimum performance requirements
States to share relevant information required for effective monitoring.	
<p>ix. Members shall take necessary measures to ensure that the following conditions are complied with for in-port transshipments:</p> <p>a) Prior to transshipping, the master of the LSTLV must notify the following information to the Port State authorities, at least 48 hours in advance or immediately after the end of fishing operations if the time to the port is less than 48 hours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The name of the LSTLV, IMO number and its number in the CCSBT record of fishing vessels; • the name of the Carrier Vessel, IMO number and its number in the CCSBT Record of Carrier Vessels, • tonnage and product type¹ to be transshipped (by species where known); • • the date and location of transshipment; • geographic location of the SBT catches. 	<p>1. Rules in place to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Port State authorities are notified at least 48 hours prior to (or immediately after) any pending in-port transshipment by the LSTLV master, and this notification includes key details about the intended transshipment; b. LSTLVs are authorised on the CCSBT authorised fishing vessel register on the date(s) the SBT are harvested, retained on board, transshipped and/or landed; c. Carrier Vessels are authorised on the CCSBT authorised Carrier Vessel register on the date(s) any transshipment/transportation of SBT occurs; d. transshipment declarations are completed, signed and transmitted by the LSTLV and the Carrier Vessel, in accordance with paragraphs 32, 34 and 35 of the Transshipment Resolution, in particular that:

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring program	
B. Obligations (In-port Transshipments)	Minimum performance requirements
<p>b) At the time of the transshipment, the master and/ or owner of the LSTLV must inform its Flag State/ Fishing Entity of the LSTLV of the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the product types¹ and quantities involved; - the date and place of the transshipment; - the name, registration number, IMO number and flag of the receiving Carrier Vessel, and its number in the CCSBT Record of Carrier Vessels authorised to receive SBT transshipments; - the geographic location of the SBT catches. 	<p>i) The master and/ or owner of the LSTLV transmits a completed CCSBT Transshipment Declaration and its number in the CCSBT Record of Fishing Vessels to its Flag State / Fishing Entity, not later than 15 days after the transshipment occurs, or, if the SBT are being transferred temporarily to bonded cold storage, not later than 15 days from the date on which the SBT is transferred into the bonded cold storage facility.</p>
<p>x. The master and/or owner of the LSTLV concerned shall complete and transmit to its Flag State/ Fishing Entity the CCSBT transshipment declaration, along with its number in the CCSBT Record of Fishing Vessels, in the format set out in Annex I not later than 15 days after the transshipment⁵.</p>	<p>2. Operating systems and processes in place to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. verify the date and location of transshipments; b. monitor compliance with the control measures; and c. impose sanctions or corrective action programmes for any non-compliance detected.

⁵ In the case where the SBT are being transferred temporarily to bonded cold storage before being transferred to the receiving Carrier Vessel, then the LSTLV shall complete and transmit the transshipment declaration to its Flag State/ Fishing Entity, and where applicable, the Coastal State/ Fishing Entity, not later than 15 days from the date from which the SBT is transferred into the bonded cold storage facility. In such cases, the receiving Carrier Vessel agent shall sign the transshipment declaration on behalf of the Carrier Vessel master.

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring program

B. Obligations (In-port Transshipments)

Minimum performance requirements

- xi. For in-port transshipments, the master of the Receiving Carrier Vessel shall:
- a. Not later than 24 hours before the beginning of the transshipment, inform the Port State authorities of the quantities of SBT to be transhipped to the receiving Carrier Vessel; and
 - b. Within 24 hours of the completion of the transshipment, complete and transmit the CCSBT transshipment declaration to the Port State authorities, the Flag Member/ CNM of the LSTLV, and the CCSBT Secretariat. A copy of this transshipment declaration shall be retained on board the receiving Carrier Vessel.
 - c. Following receipt of a transshipment including SBT, and after leaving the transshipment port, at least 48 hours before landing its transhipped SBT, complete and transmit a copy of the CCSBT transshipment declaration referred to in paragraph 35, to the competent authorities of the landing State/ Fishing Entity where the landing will take place.

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring program	
B. Obligations (In-port Transshipments)	Minimum performance requirements
<p>xii. The Port State and the Landing State (where the transshipment in port occurred) shall make an effort to take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate with the work of the Flag Member or CNM of the LSTLV to ensure that reported catches, transshipments and landings are consistent with the reported catch amounts of each vessel. This verification shall be carried out so that the vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience, and so that degradation of the fish is avoided.</p>	

3.3 Transhipment Monitoring program	
C. Obligations (General Provisions)	Minimum performance requirements
<p>xiii. LSTLVs and Carrier Vessels authorised by Members and CNMs which tranship at sea or in-port shall be required to install and operate a VMS in accordance with paragraph 4 of CCSBT's <i>Resolution on the CCSBT Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)</i> (2017), and any successor Resolution, including any future revisions thereto.</p>	<p>1. Operating systems and processes and rules to ensure that LSTLVs and Carrier Vessels authorised by Members and CNMs are only to be authorised to conduct transhipments if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The LSTLV already has an operational VMS installed, or the LSTLV undertakes to install an operational VMS before any authorisation/ transhipments of SBT take place, and b) The VMS transmits at frequency sufficient to show transhipping operations, and c) The VMS will function effectively in the expected operating conditions.
<p>xiv. Port State Members and CNMs should prioritise inspection in port of (a) Carrier Vessels whose AIS/VMS signals disappear under suspicious circumstances and without explanation and/or indicate dubious movements, as well as (b) Carrier Vessels which are not CCSBT-authorised to verify that SBT is not on board.</p>	

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring program

C. Obligations (General Provisions)	Minimum performance requirements
xv. Carrier Vessels authorised to receive transshipments of SBT shall be required to separate and stow transhipped SBT by fishing vessel and develop a stowage plan to show the locations in the hold of the quantities of SBT by fishing vessel. The Carrier Vessel master shall submit the stowage plan to inspectors, if requested.	1. Operating systems and processes are in place to ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. That CVs stow SBT received from each LSTLV separately from SBT received from other LSTLVs, andb. Accurate stowage plans are available for each CV with SBT on board and are updated whenever new transshipments of SBT are received.
xvi. To ensure the effectiveness of the CCSBT conservation and management measures pertaining to the Catch Documentation System (CDS): <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. In validating the necessary CCSBT CDS documentation, as required by the CDS, Flag Members and CNMs of LSTLVs shall ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount by each LSTLV.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Operating systems and processes are in place to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. identify and resolve any discrepancies between the LSTLV's reported catches, CDS documents, transshipment declarations and the amount of fish counted as transhipped,b. 100% supervision of all fish transhipped at sea.2. Operating systems and processes are in place to allow any CDS forms for domestically landed SBT that were transhipped at sea to be validated at the time of landing.

3.3 Transshipment Monitoring program	
C. Obligations (General Provisions)	Minimum performance requirements
<p>b. The Flag Member or CNM of LSTLVs shall validate the necessary CCSBT CDS documentation for the transhipped fish, as required by the CDS, after confirming that the transshipment was conducted in accordance with this Resolution. If transhipped at sea this confirmation shall be based on the information obtained through the CCSBT Regional Observer Program.</p> <p>c. Members and CNMs shall require that SBT caught by LSTLVs, when imported into the territory of a Member or CNM, be accompanied by the necessary CCSBT CDS documentation validated for the vessels on the CCSBT Authorised Vessel List and a copy of the CCSBT transshipment declaration.</p>	
<p>xvii. All SBT landed or imported, either unprocessed or after having been processed on board and which are transhipped, shall be accompanied by the CCSBT transshipment declaration until the first sale has taken place.</p>	<p>1. Rules, systems and procedures to ensure:</p> <p>a. all transhipped product is accompanied by a signed Transshipment Declaration until the first point of sale.</p>
<p>xviii. The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the Flag Members of LSTLVs wishing to engage in transshipment operations.</p>	

6.5 Annual Reporting to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission (Suite of Decisions/Resolutions/Recommendations)

Title: Template for the Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and Extended Commission⁶

Links: The following points provide the source of the associated obligations within this measure:

- i. Procedural Rule 10 of the Terms of Reference of the Compliance Committee:-
https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/basic_documents/terms_of_reference_for_subsidary_bodies.pdf
- ii. Paragraph 26 (and Attachment 5) of the CC7 report:-
https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/meetings/meeting_reports/ccsbt_19/report_of_CC7.pdf
- iii. Paragraph 5 (a) of the Resolution on establishing the CCSBT vessel monitoring system:-
https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/operational_resolutions/Resolution_VMS.pdf
- iv. Paragraph 38 of the Resolution on establishing a program for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels:-
https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/operational_resolutions/Resolution_Transhipment.pdf
- v. Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Recommendation to mitigate the impact on ecologically related species of fishing for southern bluefin tuna:-
https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/operational_resolutions/Recommendation_ERS.pdf
- vi. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Resolution on Reporting all Sources of Mortality of Southern Bluefin Tuna
https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/operational_resolutions/Resolution_Reporting_on_all_Sources_of_Mortality.pdf
- vii. Paragraph 25 (and Attachment 5) of the CC7 report (best estimates of all sources of mortality):-
https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/meetings/meeting_reports/ccsbt_19/report_of_CC7.pdf

⁶ The current reporting template can be found at the following link: <https://www.ccsbt.org/en/content/annual-reporting-and-documentation-requirements-members-and-cnms>

6.5 Annual Reporting to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission

Obligations	Minimum performance requirements
i. Each Member shall submit the above Annual Report to the Compliance Committee (CC) and Extended Commission (EC) in accordance with the agreed format for the template of the annual Report to the CC and EC ⁶ four weeks prior to the convening of the Compliance Committee meeting.	1. The report is submitted electronically to Executive Secretary at least 4 weeks before the annual meeting of the Compliance Committee. No sections of the template should be left empty. If the required information is not collected, this should be stated rather than leaving a section empty. Similarly, if a section is not applicable to a particular fishery, this should be stated instead of leaving that section empty.
ii. Each Member should continue to improve the detail in its report to the Compliance Committee and Extended Commission ⁶ , and the report should be kept up to date and submitted to future annual meetings of the Compliance Committee.	
iii. Members shall provide VMS summary reports in advance of the Compliance Committee meeting.	1. Complete section 2.2.4: VMS of the Annual National Report template. ⁶
iv. Members shall report the following to the Executive Secretary 4 weeks prior to the Annual Compliance Committee meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The quantities of SBT transhipped at sea and in port during the previous fishing season; ○ The list of the LSTLVs registered in the CCSBT Authorised Vessel List which have transhipped at sea and in port during the previous fishing season, and ○ A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to Carrier Vessels which have received at-sea transhipments from their LSTLVs during the previous fishing season. 	1. Complete section 2.4 of the Annual National Report template. ⁶

6.5 Annual Reporting to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission	
Obligations	Minimum performance requirements
v. Members will report annually to the Compliance Committee on the action they have taken pursuant to paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the Recommendation to mitigate the impact on ecologically related species of fishing for SBT.	1. Complete sections Annex1, 2(a) – (c) of the Annual National Report template. ⁶
vi. All Members will report complete and accurate data on the quantity of all sources of southern bluefin tuna mortality. If the Member is unable to provide complete and accurate data, it will report annually a best estimate of all sources of Southern Bluefin Tuna mortality including recreational catch and discards.	1. Complete sections 2.1.1, 2.1.2 and 2.1.3 of the Annual National Report template. ⁶

Corrective actions policy
Compliance Policy Guideline 3

(updated at the Thirty-First Annual Meeting: 10 October 2024)

1. Introduction

This compliance policy provides direction and guidance to implement Strategies 9.1(ii)¹ of the CCSBT Strategic Plan:

Apply the CCSBT's Corrective Actions Policy to breaches in the rules of the CCSBT and establish incentives to promote compliance.

In this policy all references to the Commission include the Extended Commission, and all references to Members include Cooperating Non-Members (CNMs) of the Commission.

2. Purpose of policy

The purpose of this policy is to bring all Members into compliance with their CCSBT obligations in a way that maintains the stability and cohesion of the Commission. To this end, it sets out a framework to respond to evidence of non-compliance by a Member. The primary response focus is to assist Members to achieve capacity to effectively comply with CCSBT obligations.

3. Guidelines for corrective actions

Non-compliance with Members' obligations can arise due to three main sources:

- administrative failings, including not fully implementing effective systems and processes to support obligations
- failure by Members to take action against non-compliance by fishers, farmers, processors, exporters or importers within their jurisdiction
- deliberate actions by Members to avoid meeting obligations.

The following guidelines will be used to determine the corrective action to be recommended where there is evidence of non-compliance:

1. Catch in excess of the Member's annual or multi-year national catch limit should, in the first instance, be repaid at a ratio of 1:1 over a time period specified by the Commission. Where there are specific aggravating factors a higher ratio of quota payback may be determined. Furthermore, if a Member exceeds its national allocation for the 2017 fishing season or later without paying back its excess catch for those seasons:

¹ This corresponds to *Strategy 9.2 Corrective action and remedies* in the draft Compliance Plan.

- the carry-forward procedures provided in CCSBT’s “Resolution on Limited Carry-forward of Unfished Annual Total Available Catch of Southern Bluefin Tuna” shall not be applied by that Member until those catches have been paid back, unless otherwise agreed by the Extended Commission; and
 - the Member is not eligible for an increase in its effective catch limit² until the excess catch has been paid back, unless otherwise agreed by the Extended Commission³.
2. Administrative failings should, in the first instance, be addressed through an agreed programme to correct administrative deficiencies within a specified timeframe.
 3. Corrective actions for administrative failings by a developing country Member should focus on capacity building programmes, provided this is effectively targeted at correcting the deficiencies.
 4. Corrective actions should take into account relevant aggravating factors such as harm caused to other Members, ongoing non-compliance without good cause (including systematic under-reporting or over-catch over multiple years), or evidence of intent to avoid CCSBT obligations.

4. Decision-making process

Compliance Committee

In considering potential non-compliance and any necessary corrective actions, the Compliance Committee may:

- assess initial evidence of non-compliance
- request the Member to investigate and report back
- task the Secretariat to work with the Member to support development of a plan of suggested corrective actions to address the non-compliance
- task the Secretariat with supporting implementation of the corrective actions plan
- if necessary (for instance, where the Member needs assistance or the Committee is not satisfied with the Member’s investigation), recommend an independent investigation which may include an audit or market review
- review evidence of non-compliance on the basis of the reports received

² The Effective Catch Limit is the Member’s National Allocation plus or minus any agreed short-term changes to that allocation, for example temporary transfers or quota pay-backs.

³ The Member’s national allocation may be increased but this increase may not be utilised until any excess catch has been paid back by the Member. Note for example that a 100t increase in the Members’ national allocation would result in a 200t excess catch being paid back in two years (assuming no further excess catches) since the Member’s effective catch limit would not increase during this time.

- task the Secretariat to support the monitoring and reporting on progress made with the development and implementation of programmes of corrective action
- consider any remedies suggested by the Member
- prepare a report to Commission, setting out findings, any remedies already agreed with the Member, and any recommended further corrective actions based on this policy guideline.

The Member will be provided with an opportunity to suggest corrective actions or remedies to improve their compliance with CCSBT obligations. Members will seek the support of the Compliance Committee for their suggested course of action.

Following consideration of the Member's suggestions, the Compliance Committee may agree to the Member's suggestion or recommend corrective actions for consideration by the Commission. The Compliance Committee report to the Commission may include majority and minority views.

Commission

The Commission will:

- consider the Compliance Committee report, and
- negotiate an outcome (corrective action) with the Member.

5. Corrective actions list

Depending on the particular circumstances and degree of non-compliance, corrective actions recommended by the Compliance Committee may include:

1. *Compliance assistance/capacity building programmes*
 - Skills training—e.g. for observers, compliance officers or validators
 - Systems development – e.g. technical or financial assistance to establish or improve operating systems and procedures
 - Analytical assistance – e.g. to improve monitoring of trade flow of SBT from catching phase to the market place
 - Technology purchase – e.g. VMS, data recording and transmission from fishing vessels
2. *Quota pay back*
3. *Quota reductions in national catch allocations*
4. *Increased monitoring requirements*
 - Placement of observers
 - Increased inspection requirements
 - Increased VMS reporting frequency
 - Restrictions on transshipment or landings
5. *Public disclosure*

The Executive Secretary shall maintain on the public side of the CCSBT website, a record of:

- any instances of non-compliance with Members' allocation of the global SBT TAC, and the corrective action(s) that was/were taken by the relevant Member in response to that non-compliance; and
- as agreed by the Extended Commission, other non-trivial instances of non-compliance with CCSBT obligations where corrective action has been specified, together with the corrective action taken.

6. *Trade or market restrictions consistent with international law*

6. Roles and responsibilities under this Policy

<i>Who</i>	<i>Responsibility to:</i>
Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve policy • Consider Compliance Committee's recommendations • Initiate investigations • Determine corrective actions
Compliance Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor Member compliance • Assess evidence of non-compliance and consider Members' views • Consider Members' suggestions for corrective actions • If necessary, recommend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ independent investigation ○ quota payback timeframe ○ quota payback greater than 1:1 ○ corrective actions. • Review policy and recommend any revisions.
Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place policy and reports on website • As directed by the Compliance Committee, support Members to develop, deliver and monitor programmes of corrective action and report on their implementation.
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate evidence of national non-compliance • Respond to evidence of non-compliance from national or independent investigations

7. Policy review

This policy is to be reviewed every five years from the date of agreement. The Commission may direct a review at any earlier time. A Member may request an earlier review. The request, setting out the reasons for the review, must be submitted to the annual meeting of the Compliance Committee.

**Template for the Annual Report
to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission**

(Revised at the Thirty-First Annual Meeting: 10 October 2024)

If there are multiple SBT fisheries, with different rules and procedures applying to the different fisheries, it may be easier to complete this template separately for each fishery. Alternatively, please ensure that the information for each fishery is clearly differentiated within the single template.

This template sometimes seeks information on a quota year basis. Those Members/CNMs that have not specified a quota year to the CCSBT (i.e. the EU), should provide the information on a calendar year basis. Within this template, the quota year (or calendar year for those without a quota year) is referred to as the “fishing season”. Unless otherwise specified, information should be provided for the most recently completed fishing season. Members and CNMs are encouraged to also provide preliminary information for the current fishing season where the fishing for that season is complete or close to complete.

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1 Summary of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Improvements

1.1 Improvements achieved in the current fishing season

Provide details of MCS improvements achieved for the current fishing season.

1.2 Extraordinary Circumstances

Provide comment on whether extraordinary circumstances contributed to non-compliance with any of the Commission's conservation and management measures during the current fishing season. Where extraordinary circumstances are identified, include a description of extraordinary circumstance, the CCSBT obligation impacted by the extraordinary circumstance, and the action taken by the Member to alleviate any risk created by the extraordinary circumstances.

1.3 Future planned improvements

Describe any MCS improvements that are being planned for future fishing seasons and the expected implementation date for such improvements.

1.4 Progress with actions taken to rectify any non-compliance

Describe actions taken to rectify any non-compliant issues identified in the previous Compliance Committee meeting.

2 SBT Fishing and MCS

2.1 Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna

2.1.1 Catch and allocation

Specify the Effective Catch Limit, carry-forward of quota, total available catch, and attributable catch for the three most recently completed fishing seasons in Table 1. All figures should be provided in tonnes.

Table 1. Effective catch limit, carry-forward, total available catch, and attributable catch.

A	B	C	D	E
Fishing Season	Effective Catch Limit ¹ (tonnes)	Quota Carried Forward to this Fishing Season (tonnes)	Total Available Catch ² (B+C) (tonnes)	Attributable catch ³ (tonnes)
(e.g. April 2019 – March 2020)				

¹ Effective catch limit is the Member's allocation plus any adjustments for agreed short term changes to the National Allocation. For example, see column 3 of Table 1 at paragraph 87 of the Report of CCSBT 24.

² Total available catch means a Member's Effective Catch Limit allocation for that quota year plus any amount of unfished allocation carried forward to that quota year.

³ 'A Member or CNM's attributable catch against its national allocation is the total Southern Bluefin Tuna mortality resulting from fishing activities within its jurisdiction or control including, inter alia, mortality resulting from: commercial fishing operations whether primarily targeting SBT or not; releases and/or discards; recreational fishing; customary and/or traditional fishing; and artisanal fishing.'

2.1.2 Allowances and SBT mortality for each sector

Specify the allowances and SBT mortality for each sector during the three most recently completed fishing seasons in Table 2. If information on SBT mortality is not available for a particular sector, use the best estimates of catch. All figures to be provided in tonnes.

Table 2. Allowances and SBT mortality for each sector.

Sector	Commercial fishing operations whether primarily targeting SBT or not			
	Sector 1: (please name)		Sector 2: (please name)	
Fishing season	National allowance	Mortalities (tonnes)	National allowance	Mortalities (tonnes)
(e.g. April 2019 – March 2020)				

Sector continued	Releases and/or discards		Recreational fishing		Customary and/or traditional fishing		Artisanal fishing	
	Sector 3:		Sector 4:		Sector 5:		Sector 6:	
Fishing season	National allowance	Mortalities (tonnes)	National allowance	Mortalities (tonnes)	National allowance	Mortalities (tonnes)	National allowance	Mortalities (tonnes)

2.1.3 SBT Catch (retained and non-retained)

For the three most recently completed fishing seasons, specify the weight (in tonnes) and number of SBT for each sector (e.g. commercial longline, commercial purse seine, commercial charter fleet, commercial domestic fleet, recreational fishing, customary and/or traditional fishing and artisanal fishing) in Table 3. Provide the best estimate if reported data is not available. Figures should be provided for both retained SBT and non-retained SBT. For all non-farming sectors, “Retained SBT” includes SBT retained on vessel and “Non-Retained SBT” includes those returned to the water. For farming, “Retained SBT” includes SBT stocked to farming cages and towing mortalities. If possible, provide both the weight in tonnes and the number of individuals in square brackets (e.g. [250]) for each sector. Table cells should not be left empty. If the value is zero, enter “0”.

Table 3. SBT catch (retained and non-retained)

Fishing Season	Retained and discarded SBT							
	Commercial sectors (all weights are in tonnes)							
	Sector 1 (please name)		Sector 2 (please name)		Sector 3: Recreational sector		Sector 4: Customary/artisanal sector	
	Retained SBT	Non-Retained SBT	Retained SBT	Non-Retained SBT	Retained SBT	Non-Retained SBT	Retained SBT	Non-Retained SBT
(e.g. April 2019 – March 2020)								

2.1.4 The number of vessels in each sector

Specify the fishing season and number of vessels that caught SBT in each sector during the three most recently completed fishing seasons in Table 4.

In cases where vessel numbers are not able to be provided, specify the best estimate.

Table 4. Vessels by Sector

Fishing season (e.g. April 2019 – March 2020)	Number of vessels			
	Commercial sectors		Sector 3: Recreational sector	Sector 4: Customary/artisanal sector
	Sector 1 (please name)	Sector 2 (please name)		

2.2 Monitoring catch of SBT

2.2.1 Daily logbooks

- If daily logbooks are not mandatory, specify the % of SBT fishing where daily logbooks were required.
- Specify whether the effort and catch information collected complied with that specified in the “Characterisation of the SBT Catch” section of the CCSBT Scientific Research Plan (Attachment D of the SC5 report), including both retained and discarded catch. If not, describe the non-compliance.

2.2.2 Additional reporting methods (such as real time monitoring programs)

- If multiple reporting methods exists (e.g. daily, weekly and/or month SBT catch reporting, reporting of tags and SBT measurements, reporting of ERS interactions etc) then, for each reporting method, specify if it was mandatory, and if not, specify the % of SBT fishing the reporting method covered.

2.2.3 Scientific Observers

- Provide the percentage of the SBT catch and effort observed in the three most recently completed fishing seasons for each sector (e.g. longline, purse seine, commercial charter fleet, and domestic fleet) in Table 5. The unit of effort should be hooks for longline and sets for purse seine.

Table 5. Observer coverage of SBT catch and effort

Fishing season (e.g. April 2019 – March 2020)	Sector 1		Sector 2	
	% effort obs.	% catch obs.	% effort obs.	% catch obs.

- ii. Specify whether the observer program complied with the CCSBT Scientific Observer Program Standards. If not, describe the non-compliance. Also indicate whether there was any exchange of observers between Members.

2.2.4 Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)

For the most recently completed fishing season for Member-flagged authorised carrier vessels and fishing vessels fishing for or taking SBT specify:

- i. Was a mandatory VMS that complies with CCSBT's VMS resolution in operation?
- ii. If a mandatory VMS that complies with CCSBT's VMS resolution was not in operation, provide details of non-compliance and plans for further improvement.
- iii. The number of its flag 1) fishing vessels (FVs) and 2) carrier vessels (CVs) that were required to report to a National VMS system:-
 - 1) FVs:
 - 2) CVs:
- iv. The number of its flag 1) fishing vessels (FVs) and 2) carrier vessels (CVs) that actually reported to a National VMS system:-
 - 1) FVs:
 - 2) CVs:
- v. Reasons for any non-compliance with VMS requirements and action taken by the Member.
- vi. In the event of a technical failure of a vessel's VMS, the vessel's geographical position (latitude and longitude) at the time of failure and the length of time the VMS was inactive.
- vii. A description of any investigations initiated in accordance with paragraph 3(b) of the CCSBT VMS resolution including progress to date and any actions taken.

2.2.5 At-sea inspections

Specify the coverage level of at sea inspections of SBT authorised fishing vessels by Member's patrol vessels during the most recently completed fishing season (e.g. the percentage of SBT trips inspected).

2.2.6 Authorised vessel requirements

Report on the review of internal actions and measures taken in relation to the authorised vessel requirements provided at Appendix 1, including any punitive and sanction actions taken.

2.2.7 Monitoring of catch of SBT from other sectors (e.g. recreational, customary, etc)

Provide details of monitoring methods used to monitor catches in other sectors.

2.3 SBT Towing and transfer to and between farms (farms only)

- i. Specify the percentage of the tows that were observed and the percentage of the transfers of the fish to the farms that were observed during the three most recently completed fishing seasons in Table 6.

Table 6. Observer coverage of towing and transfer to and between farms

Fishing season	Observer coverage of tows (%)	Observer coverage of transfers (%)
(e.g. April 2019 – March 2020)		

- ii. Provide updates on plans to allow adoption of the stereo video systems for ongoing monitoring.

2.4 SBT transshipment (in port and at sea)

In accordance with the Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels, report:

- i. The quantities and percentage of SBT transhipped at sea and in port during the three most recently completed fishing seasons in Table 7.

Table 7. SBT transshipment (in port and at sea)

Fishing season	Kilograms of SBT transhipped at sea	Percentage of the annual SBT catch transhipped at sea	Kilograms of SBT transhipped in port	Percentage of the annual SBT catch transhipped in port
(e.g. April 2019 – March 2020)				

- ii. The list of the tuna longline fishing vessel with Freezing Capacity (LSTLVs) registered in the CCSBT Authorised Vessel List which have transhipped at sea and in port during the most recently completed fishing season.
- iii. A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received at-sea transshipments from their LSTLVs during the most recently completed fishing season.

2.5 Port Inspections of Foreign Fishing Vessels/Carrier Vessels (FVs/CVs) with SBT/SBT Products on Board

For the three most recently completed **whole calendar years**, provide information about the number of landing/ transshipment operations that foreign FVs/CVs carrying SBT or SBT product made in port, the number of those landing/ transshipment operations that were inspected, and the number of inspections where infringements of CCSBT's measures were detected in Table 8.

Table 8. Port inspections of foreign FVs and CVs with SBT/SBT products on board

Calendar year	Foreign Flag	No. of Landing/ Transshipment Operations (that occurred)	No. of Landing/ Transshipment Operations Inspected	No. of Landing/ Transshipment Operations where an Infringement of CCSBT's Measures was Detected
(e.g. 2019)				
	TOTAL NUMBER			

2.6 Monitoring of trade of SBT

For the most recently completed whole calendar year or fishing season:

- i. Record the calendar year/ fishing season.
- ii. Provide the percentage of landings of SBT that were inspected.
- iii. Provide the percentage of exports of SBT that were inspected.
- iv. Provide the percentage of imports of SBT that were inspected.

2.7 Coverage and Type of CDS Audit undertaken

As per paragraph 5.9 of the CDS Resolution, specify details on the level of coverage and type of audit undertaken, in accordance with 5.8⁴ of the Resolution, and the level of compliance.

3 Changes to sections in Annex 1

If this is not the first year of completing Annex 1, list any sections of Annex 1 that have changed since the previous year.

⁴ Paragraph 5.8 of the CDS Resolution specifies that "Members and Cooperating Non-Members shall undertake an appropriate level of audit, including inspections of vessels, landings, and where possible markets, to the extent necessary to validate the information contained in the CDS documentation."

Annex 1. Standing items: details of MCS arrangements used to monitor SBT catch in the fishery

1 Monitoring catch of SBT

Describe the system used for controlling the level of SBT catch. For ITQ and IQ systems, this should include details on how the catch is allocated to individual companies and/or vessels. For competitive catch systems this should include details of the process for authorising vessels to catch SBT and how the fishery is monitored for determining when to close the fishery. The description provided here should include any operational constraints on effort (both regulatory and voluntary).

Complete the table below to provide details of methods used to monitor catching in the fishery.

Details should also be provided of monitoring conducted of fishing vessels when steaming away from the fishing grounds (this does not include towing vessels that are reported in Section 1.1 of this Annex).

Monitoring Methods	Description
Daily log book	<p><i>Specify:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. <i>Whether this was mandatory.</i>ii. <i>The level of detail recorded (shot by shot, daily aggregate etc):-</i>iii. <i>What information on ERS is recorded in logbooks:-</i>iv. <i>Who are the logbooks submitted to⁵:-</i>v. <i>What is the timeframe and method⁶ for submission:-</i>vi. <i>The type of checking and verification that is routinely conducted for this information:-</i>vii. <i>Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-</i>viii. <i>Other relevant information⁷:-</i>

⁵ If the reports are not to be submitted to the Member's or CNM's government fisheries authority, then also specify whether the information will later be sent to the fisheries authority, including how and when that occurs.

⁶ In particular, whether the information is submitted electronically from the vessel.

⁷ Including information on ERS, and comments on the effectiveness of the controls or monitoring tools and any plans for further improvement.

<i>Additional reporting methods (such as real time monitoring programs)</i>	<p><i>If multiple reporting methods exists (e.g. daily, weekly and/or month SBT catch reporting, reporting of tags and SBT measurements, reporting of ERS interactions etc), create a separate row of in this table for each method. Then, for each method, specify:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. Whether this is mandatory.</i> <i>ii. The information that is recorded (including whether it relates to SBT or ERS):-</i> <i>iii. Who the reports are submitted to and by whom (e.g. Vessel Master, the Fishing Company etc)⁵:-</i> <i>iv. What is the timeframe and method⁶ for submission:-</i> <i>v. The type of checking and verification that is routinely conducted for this information:-</i> <i>vi. Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-</i> <i>vii. Other relevant information⁷:-</i>
<i>Scientific Observers</i>	<p><i>Specify:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. The system used for comparisons between observer data and other catch monitoring data in order to verify the catch data:-</i> <i>ii. What information on ERS is recorded by observers:-</i> <i>iii. Who are the observer reports submitted to:-</i> <i>iv. Timeframe for submission of observer reports:-</i> <i>v. Other relevant information (including plans for further improvement – in particular to reach coverage of 10% of the effort):-</i>
<i>VMS</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. For Member-flagged authorised carrier vessels and fishing vessels fishing for or taking SBT provide references to applicable legislation and penalties:-</i>
<i>Other (for example, use of electronic monitoring etc.)</i>	

1.1 SBT Towing and transfer to and between farms (farms only)

(a) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring towing of SBT from the fishing ground to the farming area. This should include details of:

- i. Observation required for towing of SBT*
- ii. Monitoring systems for recording losses of SBT (in particular, SBT mortality).*

(b) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring transferring of SBT from tow cages into farms. This should include details of:

- i. Inspection/Observation required for transfer of SBT*
- ii. Monitoring system used for recording the quantity of SBT transferred:-*

(c) For “a” and “b” above, describe the process used for completing, validating⁸ and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Farm Stocking Form, Farm Transfer Form):-

(d) Other relevant information⁷

1.2 SBT Transshipment (in port and at sea)

(a) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring transshipments in port. This should include details of:

- i. Flag State rules for and names of:*
 - designated foreign ports where SBT may be transhipped, and*
 - foreign ports where in-port transshipments of SBT are prohibited:-*
- ii. Flag State inspection requirements for in-port transshipments of SBT (include % coverage):-*
- iii. Information sharing with designated Port States:-*
- iv. Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT transhipped:-*
- v. Process for validating⁸ and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form, Catch Tagging Form):-*
- vi. Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*
- vii. Other relevant information⁷:-*

(b) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring transshipments at sea. This should include details of:

- i. The rules and processes for authorising transshipments of SBT at sea and methods (in addition to the presence of CCSBT transshipment observers) for checking and verifying the quantities of SBT transhipped:-*
- ii. Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT transhipped:-*
- iii. Process for collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form, Catch Tagging Form):-*
- iv. Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*

⁸ Including the class of person who conducts this work (e.g. government official, authorised third party)

- v. *Other relevant information*⁷:-

1.3 Port Inspections of Foreign FVs/CVs with SBT/ SBT Products on Board

This section provides for reporting with respect to the CCSBT's Scheme for Minimum Standards for Inspection in Port. It should be filled out by Port State Members that have authorised foreign Fishing Vessels/Carrier Vessels carrying SBT or SBT products to enter their designated ports for the purpose of landing and/or transshipment. Only information for landings/transshipments of SBT or SBT products that have NOT been previously landed or transhipped at port should be included in the table below.

- (a) *Provide a list of designated ports into which foreign FVs/ CVs carrying SBT or SBT product may request entry:-*
- (b) *Provide the minimum number of hours of notice required for foreign FVs/CVs carrying SBT or SBT product to request authorisation to enter these designated ports:-*

1.4 Landings of Domestic Product (from both fishing vessels and farms)

Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring domestic landings of SBT. This should include details of:

- (a) *Rules for designated ports of landing of SBT:-*
- (b) *Inspections required for landings of SBT.*
- (c) *Details of genetic testing conducted and any other techniques that are used to verify that SBT are not being landed as a different species:-*
- (d) *Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT landed:-*
- (e) *Process for validating⁸ and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form, and depending on circumstances, Catch Tagging Form):-*
- (f) *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*
- (g) *Other relevant information*⁷:-

1.5 Monitoring of trade of SBT

1.5.1 SBT Exports

Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring exports of SBT (including of landings directly from the vessel to the foreign importing port). This should include details of:

- (a) *Inspections required for export of SBT -*
- (b) *Details of genetic testing conducted and any other techniques that are used to verify that SBT are not being exported as a different species:-*
- (c) *Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT exported:-*
- (d) *Process for validating⁸ and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form and depending on circumstances, Catch Tagging Form or Re-export/Export after landing of domestic product Form):-*
- (e) *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*

(f) *Other relevant information*⁷:-

1.5.2 SBT Imports

Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring imports of SBT. This should include details of:

- (a) *Rules for designating specific ports for the import of SBT:-*
- (b) *Inspections required for imports of SBT*
- (c) *Details of genetic testing conducted and any other techniques that are used to verify that SBT are not being imported as a different species:-*
- (d) *Process for checking and collecting CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form and depending on circumstances, Re-export/Export after landing of domestic product Form):-*
- (e) *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*
- (f) *Other relevant information*⁷:-

1.5.3 SBT Markets

(a) *Describe any activities targeted at points in the supply chain between landing and the market:-*

(b) *Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring of SBT at markets (e.g. voluntary or mandatory requirements for certain documentation and/or presence of tags, and monitoring or audit of compliance with such requirements):-*

(c) *Other relevant information*⁷

1.6 Other

Description of any other MCS systems of relevance.

2 Additional Reporting Requirements Ecologically Related Species

(a) *Reporting requirements in relation to implementation of the 2008 ERS Recommendation:*

- i. *Specify whether each of the following plans/guidelines have been implemented, and if not, specify the action that has been taken towards implementing each of these plans/guidelines:-*
 - *International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries:*
 - *International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks:*
 - *FAO Guidelines to reduce sea turtle mortality in fishing operations:*
- ii. *Specify whether all current binding and recommendatory measures⁹ aimed at the protection of ecologically related species¹⁰ from fishing of the following tuna RFMOs are being complied with. If not, specify which measures are not being complied with and the progress that is being made towards compliance:-*
 - *IOTC, when fishing within IOTC's Convention Area:*
 - *WCPFC, when fishing within WCPFC's Convention Area:*

⁹ Relevant measures of these RFMOs can be found at: <https://www.ccsbt.org/en/content/bycatch-mitigation>.

¹⁰ Including seabirds, sea turtles and sharks.

- *ICCAT, when fishing within ICCAT's Convention Area:*
- iii. *Specify whether data is being collected and reported on ecologically related species in accordance with the requirements of the following tuna RFMOs. If data are not being collected and reported in accordance with these requirements, specify which measures are not being complied with and the progress that is being made towards compliance:-*
- *CCSBT¹¹:*
 - *IOTC, for fishing within IOTC's Convention Area:*
 - *WCPFC, for fishing within WCPFC's Convention Area:*
 - *ICCAT, for fishing within ICCAT's Convention Area:*

(b) Mitigation – describe the current mitigation requirements:

(c) Monitoring usage of bycatch mitigation measures:

- i. *Describe the methods being used to monitor compliance with bycatch mitigation measures (e.g. types of port inspections conducted and other monitoring and surveillance programs used to monitor compliance). Include details of the level of coverage (e.g. proportion of vessels inspected each year):*
- ii. *Describe the type of information that is collected on mitigation measures as part of compliance programmes for SBT vessels:*

¹¹ Current CCSBT requirements are those in the Scientific Observer Program Standards and those necessary for completing the template for the annual report to the ERSWG.

Appendix 1. CCSBT Authorised Vessel Resolution

The flag Members and Co-operating Non-members of the vessels on the record shall:

- a) authorize their FVs to fish for SBT only if they are able to fulfil in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the CCSBT Convention and its conservation and management measures;
- b) take necessary measures to ensure that their FVs comply with all the relevant CCSBT conservation and management measures;
- c) take necessary measures to ensure that their FVs on the CCSBT Record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorization to fish and/or tranship;
- d) affirm that if those vessels have record of IUU fishing activities, the owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that they will not conduct such activities anymore;
- e) ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their FVs on the CCSBT Record are not engaged in or associated with fishing activities for SBT conducted by FVs not entered into the CCSBT Record;
- f) take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the FVs on the CCSBT Record are citizens or legal entities within the flag Members and Co-operating Non-members so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them.



**Memorandum of Understanding
between the CCSBT¹ and ICCAT² Secretariats
for Transshipment at sea by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels**



Introduction

1. The ICCAT has adopted a Recommendation³ and implemented a program for transshipment at sea by large-scale pelagic longline fishing vessels (LSTLVs)⁴ within the ICCAT convention area. The CCSBT has adopted a similar Resolution⁵ for tuna longline fishing vessels with freezing capacity that applies globally to all transshipments involving southern bluefin tuna (SBT). Each Secretariat is in charge of administering the program within its jurisdiction.
2. The two Commissions have overlapping jurisdiction in the Atlantic Ocean, where the CCSBT Resolution and ICCAT Recommendation are almost identical and most vessels that are required to comply with the CCSBT Resolution are also required to comply with the ICCAT Recommendation.
3. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been established to minimise the duplication of work and to minimise the associated costs for those that are required to comply with both the CCSBT Resolution and ICCAT Recommendation.

Scope of this Memorandum of Understanding

4. This MOU applies to transshipments at sea involving southern bluefin tuna (SBT) within the ICCAT convention area, by LSTLVs with freezing capacity that are Members/Contracting Parties (CPCs)⁶ of both CCSBT and ICCAT and is further restricted to CPCs that are participating in both CCSBT's and ICCAT's regional observer program.
5. CCSBT and ICCAT will notify each other of any changes in their Members/CPCs that may affect the application of this MOU.

¹ Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna

² International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas

³ At the time of the latest update to this MOU, the current ICCAT Recommendation was 21-15 Recommendation by ICCAT on Transshipment.

⁴ ICCAT Recommendation 21-15 refers to large scale pelagic longline vessels (LSPLVs), while the CCSBT Resolution refers to large scale tuna longline vessels (LSTLVs). This MoU is understood to cover both sets of vessels in their respective contexts.

⁵ Resolution on establishing a program for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels

⁶ "Members" includes Cooperating Non-Members and "CPCs" includes Cooperating non Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities.

The Arrangement between CCSBT and ICCAT

6. All provisions of the ICCAT transshipment Recommendation will continue to apply to transshipments at sea that fall within this arrangement.
7. All provisions of the CCSBT transshipment Resolution will also apply to transshipments at sea that fall within this arrangement, except that:
 - a. To enable a single Transshipment Declaration form to be completed for transshipment by an LSTLV, an ICCAT Transshipment Declaration form may be used instead of the CCSBT Transshipment Declaration form. This only applies while the ICCAT and CCSBT forms remain compatible unless there is agreement to the contrary. Furthermore, transmission of this form by Carrier Vessel masters to the ICCAT Secretariat is deemed to also be a transmission to the CCSBT Secretariat. The ICCAT Secretariat will transmit these documents to the CCSBT Secretariat without delay.
 - b. ICCAT Register Numbers for LSTLVs and Carrier Vessels may be used instead of the CCSBT equivalents. The CCSBT Secretariat will conduct the necessary conversions between ICCAT and CCSBT registration numbers.
 - c. To enable a single set of Transshipment Observers to be used, ICCAT Transshipment Observers will be deemed to be CCSBT Transshipment Observers providing these observers meet the standards established in the CCSBT Transshipment Resolution and providing that the CCSBT Secretariat is informed. In no case will ICCAT Transshipment Observers be required to observe transshipments outside of the ICCAT Convention Area.
 - d. The Consortium that operates the ICCAT program will issue a second report dealing exclusively with transfers that include SBT (i.e. omitting any transfers where no SBT were transhipped) from vessels subject to this MOU. Transmission of such Observer Reports by the Transshipment Observer to the ICCAT Secretariat is deemed to also be a transmission to the CCSBT Secretariat. The ICCAT Secretariat will re-transmit these documents to the CCSBT Secretariat without delay.
 - e. CCSBT is considering⁷ the introduction of a requirement to provide a supply declaration anytime an authorised carrier vessel provides supply services to another vessel at sea that has SBT on board. Supply declarations have been a requirement in ICCAT since 2022 and these are published on the secure part of the ICCAT website.
 - f. Should CCSBT introduce a requirement for supply declarations, then an ICCAT Supply Declaration form may be used instead of the CCSBT Supply Declaration form. This only applies while the ICCAT and CCSBT forms remain compatible, unless there is agreement to the contrary.
8. The combined effect of paragraphs 6 and 7 is that the ICCAT Secretariat and Transshipment Observers will continue to follow the requirements of the ICCAT Recommendation with the additions that:

⁷ Currently proposed to be considered at CCSBT 32 in 2025 taking into account the effectiveness of the supply declaration introduced in ICCAT.

- a. The ICCAT and CCSBT Secretariats will advise each other regarding any planned or actual changes to their Recommendations/Resolutions for at sea transshipment including the Transshipment Declaration form.
- b. The ICCAT Secretariat will transmit copies of Observer Deployment requests, Transshipment Declarations and Observer Reports for all transshipments involving SBT to the CCSBT Secretariat without delay.
- c. In addition to the experience and training required by the ICCAT Transshipment at sea Recommendation, ICCAT Transshipment Observers that observe transshipments of SBT will have sufficient experience and knowledge to:
 - identify southern bluefin tuna; and
 - have a satisfactory knowledge of the CCSBT conservation and management measures.
- d. An up-to-date list of ICCAT Transshipment Observers will be maintained and annually provided to the CCSBT Secretariat by the ICCAT Secretariat.
- e. When ICCAT is informed that an observer deployment will involve transshipments of SBT, ICCAT will notify CCSBT prior to dispatching the observer so that the CCSBT Secretariat can check the validity of authorisations of the Fishing Vessels and Carrier Vessels against the published list of CCSBT Authorised Fishing Vessels and CCSBT Authorised Carrier Vessels respectively.
- f. To support CCSBT in their consideration, and potential introduction of, Supply Declarations, the ICCAT Secretariat will provide to nominated and authorised staff within the CCSBT Secretariat, access to the supply declaration data held on the secure part of the ICCAT website. The access to, and use of, this data by CCSBT shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by ICCAT and the Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the CCSBT.
- g. In addition to tasks specified in the ICCAT Transshipment Recommendation, Transshipment Observers that observe transshipments of SBT will:
 - Conduct checks on the Fishing Vessel intending to tranship in accordance with section 6a)i) of Annex 2 of the CCSBT Transshipment Resolution.
 - Certify the transshipment verification section of the CCSBT CDS documentation to indicate that the transshipment details (date, name and registration of carrier vessel) were filled in correctly and that the transshipment of product was observed according to the CCSBT Transshipment Resolution⁸.
9. Additional costs imposed on the ICCAT observer program resulting from this MOU will be covered by CCSBT. The costs associated with additional training, additional reports, and insurance required for observers, will be calculated by the Consortium that operates the ICCAT program and transmitted to the CCSBT

⁸ A discrepancy between the stated product on the CDS document and the quantities recorded by the observer would be recorded in the observer's report (not the CDS document) and would not prevent the observer from signing the CDS document.

Secretariat via the ICCAT Secretariat. The CCSBT Secretariat will be responsible for recovering these costs from the CPCs concerned.

10. The ICCAT and CCSBT Secretariats will cooperate to improve the efficiency of the sharing of data that is covered by this MOU, provided that it remains consistent with the provisions of this MOU and each organisations respective procedures and data and confidentiality rules.
11. This MOU comes into effect for twelve months from the date of entry into force noted below. It will be automatically renewed for another twelve months each year, unless otherwise decided by either the CCSBT or ICCAT Secretariat and informed to the other in writing. Either of the Secretariats may terminate the MOU at any time by written notice to the other Secretariat.
12. This MOU replaces that signed on 1 July 2015 from the date of its entry into force.

13. Date of entry into force: _____

Signed and duly dated:

Dominic Vallières
Executive Secretary
Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna

Camille Jean Pierre Manel
Executive Secretary
International Commission for the
Conservation of Atlantic Tunas

Date: _____

Date: _____

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)
AND
[Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)]**

WHEREAS the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (hereinafter “FAO”) is a Specialized Agency of the United Nations system established in 1945 to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living for all people in FAO Member Nations, to secure improvements in the efficiency of production and distribution of food and agricultural products, and to contribute toward expanding world economy and ensuring humanity’s freedom from hunger;

WHEREAS FAO’s actions are geared towards supporting Members in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially with regards to ending hunger and malnutrition in all its forms;

WHEREAS FAO’s Strategic Framework is guided by FAO’s vision and the three Global Goals of Members and is firmly anchored in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the organising principle of the *four betters* - *better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life, leaving no one behind* demonstrates how FAO intends to support the achievement of the SDGs and reflect the interconnected economic, social and environmental dimensions of agri-food systems while encouraging a strategic and systems-oriented approach;

WHEREAS FAO has the mandate to [make available technical information, guidelines and standards and provides technical advice and assistance to FAO Members in enhancing fisheries and aquaculture development at the national, regional and global levels; and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission IOTC (an Article XIV body of the FAO constitution) seeks to promote cooperation with a view to ensuring, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilization of tuna and tuna-like species and to encourage the sustainable development fisheries based on such stocks];

WHEREAS [CCSBT,] [an intergovernmental organization] has [the objective to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of the global Southern Bluefin Tuna fishery.];

WHEREAS FAO and [CCSBT] (collectively referred to as “Parties” and individually “Party”) share common objectives with regard to [the sustainable conservation and optimum utilization of tuna and tuna like species and encouraging sustainable development of fisheries, through appropriate management, in the Indian Ocean];

WHEREAS the Parties intend to conclude this Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) with the aim of consolidating, developing and detailing their cooperation and effectiveness to achieve their common objectives in the field of [enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of species which are within their mutual competence];

WHEREAS the Parties intend their cooperation to cover a broad range of activities, which may include but not be limited to, capacity building, knowledge exchange, provision of resources and development of financing initiatives for the advancement of their common goals and objectives¹;

FAO AND [CCSBT] HAVE AGREED TO COOPERATE AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1: Interpretation and Purpose

1. The purpose of this MoU is to provide a framework for collaboration between the Parties to further their shared goals and objectives with regard to **consultation, co-operation and collaboration on**

¹ LEG instruction: Where appropriate, reference could be added here to the Hand in Hand Initiative.

matters of common interest to both the IOTC and the CCSBT], as further elaborated under Article 2 below.

2. Any Annex to this MoU shall be considered an integral part of this MoU. References to this MoU shall be construed as including any Annexes, as varied or amended in accordance with the terms of this MoU.

3. The present MoU implies no financial commitment by either Party except as specified in this MoU. Activities to be implemented under this MoU are subject to the availability of personnel and financial resources. Implementation of any projects and programmes pursuant to this MoU, including those involving the transfer of funds between the Parties, shall require the execution of appropriate separate legal agreements between the Parties in accordance with their respective rules and regulations. The terms of such agreements shall be subject to the provisions of this MoU.

4. Separate legal agreements between the Parties as expressed in Article 1(3) above shall set out detailed and specific technical, financial and other appropriate conditions for collaboration, as well as conditions relating to each Party's role, responsibilities and liability. Such arrangements will be jointly formulated and concluded on a case-by-case basis between the Parties.

Article 2: Areas of Cooperation and activities

1. The Parties have agreed to the following areas of cooperation for this MoU, which are areas of common interest to FAO and [the CCSBT]. The Parties consider that progress in these areas could be strengthened through cooperation:

- a. **exchange of data and information consistent with their information-sharing policies; and**
- b. **collaboration on research efforts relating to stocks and species of mutual interest, including stock assessments; and...**
- c. **conservation and management measures for stocks and species of mutual interest**

2. The Parties will develop a collaboration agreement outlining specific activities of collaboration. The collaboration agreement is attached to this MoU as Annex **[1]** and will constitute an integral part thereof. The collaboration agreement will be jointly reviewed on a regular basis between the Parties. Amendments to the collaboration agreement will be made, upon mutual agreement, through exchange of letters between the Parties.

3. The list of activities outlined in this MoU and in the collaboration agreement should not be taken to exclude or replace other forms of cooperation between the Parties, as may be agreed by the Parties pursuant to Article 3 to allow the Parties to respond to newly emerging issues of common interest.

Article 3: Mechanisms for coordination and review

1. The Parties shall hold regular bilateral meetings on matters of common interest, in accordance with an agenda agreed to in advance by the Parties, for the purpose of developing and monitoring collaborative activities, projects and programmes. Such meetings shall take place yearly to²:

- a. discuss technical and operational issues related to furthering the objectives of this MoU;
- b. provide overall strategic guidance for the implementation of this MoU;
- c. monitor the progress in the implementation of the MoU and exchange views on the lessons learned;

² LEG instruction: This standard text is simply one means of ensuring regular monitoring and implementation of the MoU. The responsibility of determining the specifics of the coordination mechanism rests with the relevant unit leading the development of the MoU.

2. In identifying joint activities, projects and programmes to be executed under this MoU, due regard shall be given to [CCSBT]'s mandate over southern bluefin tuna, capacity for implementation and experience in the related field.

3. Within the context defined above, further bilateral meetings at desk-to-desk and at expert level shall be encouraged and set up on an ad hoc basis as deemed necessary by the IOTC? and [CCSBT] for the implementation of joint activities, projects and programmes in specific areas, countries and regions.

4. The objectives of this MoU could also be achieved through the following activities.

- a. **reciprocal participation as observers in relevant meetings of each organization, the IOTC and the CCSBT, including those of relevant subsidiary bodies;**
- b. **information sharing about stocks, species and fisheries of mutual interest and activity related to these stocks;**
- c. **development of processes to promote harmonization and compatibility of conservation and management measures where relevant; and**
- d. **exchange of relevant meeting reports, information, technologies, research data and results, project plans, documents, and publications regarding matters of mutual interest.**

[5. To implement activities, projects and programmes in the agreed areas, the Parties shall execute separate legal instruments appropriate for the implementation of each initiative in accordance with Article 1(3) above.

Article 4: Status of the Parties and their Personnel

1. The Parties acknowledge and agree that [CCSBT] is an entity separate and distinct from FAO. The employees, personnel, representatives, agents, contractors or affiliates of [CCSBT], including the personnel engaged by [CCSBT] to carry out any of the activities, projects or programmes conducted pursuant to this MoU, shall not be considered in any respect or for any purposes whatsoever as being employees, personnel, representatives, agents, contractors or affiliates of FAO, nor shall any employees, personnel, representatives, agents, contractors or affiliates of FAO be considered, in any respect or for any purposes whatsoever, as being employees, personnel, representatives, agents, contractors or affiliates of [CCSBT].

2. The Parties shall undertake the activities under this MoU in accordance with the rules and regulations to which they are subject. Where compliance with rules may lead to a difficulty in performing under the MoU, or adhering to its provisions, the Party concerned undertakes to draw this to the attention of the other Party with a view to resolving the matter appropriately and amicably.

3. Neither Party shall be entitled to act or make legally binding declarations on behalf of the other Party. Nothing in this MoU shall be deemed to constitute a joint venture, agency, interest grouping or any other kind of formal grouping or entity between the Parties.

Article 5: Acknowledgment and publicity

1. [CCSBT] may refer to its collaboration with FAO in its internal documents and will seek and receive FAO's written clearance in advance of any other documents, in particular, materials intended to be made public relating to the collaboration with FAO.

2. At or near a time to be mutually agreed upon by the Parties, [CCSBT] and FAO may each issue a press release and make public statements regarding their collaboration, the content of which will be subject to the written agreement of the other Party, which will not unreasonably be withheld or delayed. Neither Party will issue any press release or promotional material, hold any press conference or make any public announcement concerning this MoU and/or the relationship of the Parties hereunder, without obtaining the approval of the other Party.

3. In all cases of acknowledgment and publicity on the collaboration under this MoU, the Parties will use neutral language that accurately reflects the actual contribution of each Party.

4. This MoU or information about this MoU may be published on FAO's website after it has entered into force consistent with its policies of transparency, as updated from time to time. [CCSBT] may also publish the MoU or information on its website after it has entered into force.

Article 6: Use of Name and Logo

The Parties agree not to use the other Party's name or logo in any press release, memo, report, or other published disclosure related to this MoU without the prior written consent of the Party concerned.

Article 7: Confidentiality

1. It is acknowledged that each Party may possess confidential information, which is proprietary to it or to third parties collaborating with it. Any information provided by one Party (as the "Disclosing Party") to the other Party (as the "Receiving Party") in the context of this MoU shall be treated by the Receiving Party as confidential.

2. The Receiving Party shall take all reasonable measures to keep information pursuant to paragraph 1 above confidential and shall only use the information for the purpose for which it was provided. The Receiving Party shall ensure that any persons having access to the said information shall be made aware of and be bound by the obligations of the Receiving Party hereunder.

3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, there shall be no obligation of confidentiality or restriction on use where (i) the information is publicly available, or becomes publicly available otherwise than by action of the Receiving Party; or (ii) the information was already known to the Receiving Party (as evidenced by its written records) prior to its receipt; or (iii) the information was received from a third party not in breach of an obligation of confidentiality owed to the Disclosing Party; or (iv) the Disclosing Party has given its written consent to disclosure to the Receiving Party.

Article 8: Intellectual Property Rights

1. Intellectual property rights, in particular copyright, in material such as information, software and designs, made available by [CCSBT] and FAO to be used to carry out activities under this MoU shall remain with the originating Party. Appropriate authorizations for use of such materials by the other Party will be addressed in the agreements concluded in accordance with Article 1(3) above.

2. **Option 1:** Intellectual Property Rights in materials developed under this MoU, such as information, software and designs, shall be vested in FAO. The [CCSBT] will enjoy a royalty-free, non-exclusive and non-transferable license to use, publish, translate and distribute, privately or publicly, any item or part thereof for non-commercial purposes, provided that FAO is acknowledged as the source and copyright owner.

Option 2: Intellectual Property Rights in materials developed under this MoU and appropriate authorizations for use of such materials by either of the Parties will be addressed in the agreements concluded in accordance with Article 1(3) above.

Option 3: Intellectual Property Rights in materials developed under this MoU, such as information, software and designs, shall be jointly owned by FAO and [CCSBT], including, without any limitations, the right to use, publish, translate, sell or distribute, privately or publicly, any item or part thereof for non-commercial purposes.

Article 9: Responsibility

Each Party will be responsible for dealing with any claims or demands arising out of its actions or omissions, and those of its personnel, in relation to this MoU.

Article 10: Commitment to respect FAO's principles and values

1. **[CCSBT]** agrees to respect FAO's constitutional principles and values, and warrants that nothing in its governance or operational activities, or those of its affiliates, is incompatible with FAO's constitutional mandate, principles and policies, or with internationally recognized principles concerning human rights, the environment and anti-corruption as reflected in the United Nations Global Compact Principles³.
2. **[CCSBT]** warrants that it has zero tolerance for all forms of sexual wrongdoing, and acknowledges that sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment violate human rights and are incompatible with the core values of the United Nations System. **[CCSBT]** confirms that it has in place appropriate and effective mechanisms to prevent and address conduct incompatible with those core values. It undertakes to promptly inform FAO of allegations against its employees and any other persons involved in the implementation of activities in relation to this MoU and which have been found to be credible under **[CCSBT]**'s mechanisms.

Article 11: Privileges and Immunities and Applicable Law

1. Nothing in or relating to this MoU or in any document or arrangement relating thereto shall be construed i) as a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of FAO, nor as extending any privileges or immunities of FAO to the other Party, or to its personnel, ii) as the acceptance by FAO of the applicability of the laws of any country to FAO, or iii) as the acceptance by FAO of the jurisdiction of the courts of any country.

2. The present MoU and any document or arrangement relating thereto shall be governed by general principles of law, to the exclusion of any single national system of law. Such general principles of law shall include UNIDROIT General Principles of International Commercial Contracts 2016.

Article 12: Settlement of disputes

Any dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation and execution of this MoU, or any document or arrangement relating thereto, shall be settled by negotiation between the Parties. Any differences that may not be so settled shall be brought to the attention of the Executive Heads of the two institutions for final resolution.

Article 13: Contacts for correspondence⁴

All correspondence regarding the implementation of this MoU, including notifications made pursuant to this MoU, shall be addressed to:

For FAO:	Executive Secretary, Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Abis Centre, Providence, Seychelles (iotc-secretariat@fao.org)
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³ <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/mission/principles>.

⁴ LEG instruction: In line with the Personal Data Protection Principles (AC2021/01), instead of naming a particular individual, LEG recommends limiting the focal contact point details to the identification of a functional title and generic official email address e.g. Legal Counsel, LEG-Director@fao.org. This avoids issues pertaining to who has authority to sign extensions, give notice of amendments etc., which may arise in the future where a named individual has subsequently changed roles or left the Organization.

For [CCSBT]	Executive Secretary, Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna 81A Denison Street Deakin, ACT Australia (sec@ccsbt.org)
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Article 14: Notification and Amendments

1. Each Party shall promptly notify the other in writing of any anticipated or actual material changes that shall affect the execution of this MoU.
2. This MoU may be amended by mutual consent in writing at any time at the request of either Party. Such amendments shall enter into force one (1) month following notifications of consent by both Parties to the requested amendments or on a date otherwise agreed in writing for the amendment to enter into force. If the written mutual consent occurs on two different dates, amendments will take effect on the date of the second notification. Each Party shall give sympathetic consideration to any amendment proposed by the other.

Article 15: Entry Into Force, Duration and Termination

1. This MoU shall be signed by the duly authorized representatives of the Parties and shall enter into force upon the date of last signature. It shall remain in force for a period of **five (5)** years, unless terminated in accordance with the terms of this Article.
2. Subject to satisfactory past implementation, this MoU may be renewed for similar periods thereafter by written agreement between the Parties through Exchange of Letters.
3. This MoU may be terminated by either Party upon the provision of three (3) months' written notice to the other Party.
4. Upon termination of this MoU, the rights and obligations of the Parties defined under any other legal instrument executed pursuant to this MoU shall cease to be effective.
5. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any termination of this MoU shall be without prejudice to (i) the orderly completion of any ongoing collaborative activity and (ii) any other rights and obligations of the Parties accrued prior to the date of termination under this MoU or any legal instrument executed pursuant to this MoU.
6. The provisions of Articles 7, 8, 11 and 12⁵ shall survive the expiry or termination of this MoU.

Option 1 - if an official language is being used: [This MoU is done in the English and **[French]** languages, both texts being equally authentic].

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized representatives of the Parties affix their signatures below.

[To be used for signature of the MoU:

Option 1 – if the Parties decide to sign the MoU electronically: [The Parties agree that electronic signature of this MoU using the Adobe-Acrobat tool shall be treated as valid and legally binding. This MoU shall be treated as an original for all purposes.]

Option 2 – if the Parties decide to conclude the MoU through an exchange of emails attaching the scanned versions of the MoU signed in hard copy: [The Parties agree that this MoU will be concluded

⁵ LEG instruction: These Articles should refer to: Confidentiality, Intellectual Property Rights, Privileges and Immunities and Applicable Law and Dispute Settlement.

electronically via email exchange of scanned signed copies and that the signed copies exchanged in this manner shall be treated as originals.]

For FAO

For [CCSBT]

.....

.....

[*Insert name*]

[*Insert name*]

[*Insert title*]

[*Insert title*]

Date:.....

Date:

**Draft Terms of Reference
for the 2025 Quality Assurance Review (QAR)
of Indonesia's At-Sea Transshipment Activities
for the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)**

1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

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

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

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

It is further intended that QARs:

- Benefit the reviewed Member by giving them confidence in the integrity and robustness of their own monitoring and reporting systems, and
- Promote confidence among all Members as to the quality of individual Members' performance reporting.

Requirement to Conduct this QAR

The requirement to conduct this QAR is noted in paragraph 15 of CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution¹ and by CC18 (paragraphs 68 and 69 of CC18's report):

- *68. The meeting agreed on a two-year trial that would include a targeted Quality Assurance Review (QAR) to independently assess the performance of the trial.*
69. The meeting also agreed that Terms of Reference for the targeted QAR would be agreed at CC 19.

Background: At-Sea Transshipment (Indonesia)

To tranship SBT at sea, a key requirement of CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution is that Carrier Vessels (CVs) have on board a "CCSBT observer", in accordance with

¹ [*Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transshipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels*](#)

the CCSBT Regional Observer Program in Annex II of CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution.

Indonesia has noted that its longline fleet effort has increased in CCSBT statistical area 2, which is further from its ports and that the ability to tranship SBT at-sea is important for its commercial fishery to ensure the quality of the product. Indonesia's SBT fishing grounds fall within the IOTC's area of competence. This means that in practice it is the IOTC that deploys regional transshipment observers to monitor any at-sea transshipments in this area, with IOTC transshipment observers being deemed to be CCSBT observers in cases where SBT are transhipped.

An issue for Indonesia has been that its CV fleet are wooden and do not meet the minimum health and safety standards that are required by IOTC's transshipment observer programme provider. Therefore, it has not been possible to place IOTC/CCSBT regional transshipment observers on board Indonesian-flagged CVs. This has in turn meant that Indonesia could not make at-sea transshipments of SBT to its wooden CV fleet without contravening CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution.²

In 2023, a number of revisions to CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution were agreed³ to enable a CCSBT two-year trial of at-sea SBT transshipments to wooden Indonesian-flagged CVs to commence from 1 November 2023. The trial allows for:

- At-sea transshipments of SBT to be made from Indonesian-flagged longliners to a specified list of Indonesian-flagged wooden CVs, and
- The requirements of paragraph 26⁴ to be met by Indonesian national observers rather than IOTC/CCSBT Regional transshipment observers.

The relevant paragraphs added to [CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution](#) to facilitate the implementation of the two-year trial are paragraphs 13 - 26:

13. Where SBT is transhipped at-sea to a wooden Indonesian-flagged Carrier Vessels listed in Annex IV, Indonesia may fulfill the requirements of paragraph 26 through the use of its own national observers.

14. Indonesia shall provide directly to both the CCSBT and IOTC Secretariats, copies of all data and documentation required by and within the timeframes set out in the respective CCSBT and IOTC Transshipment Resolutions. The information provided shall include transshipment observer information, notifications and reports (reports should include reports equivalent to – in standard and content - those currently prepared and provided by IOTC's independent ROP Contractor).

15. The provisions in paragraph 13 will be considered as a two-year trial with a start date of 1 November 2023 and concluding on 31 October 2025. A

² At-sea transshipments of SBT made to Indonesian CVs up to and including 31 October 2023 were non-compliant with CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution.

³ Paragraphs 13 - 16

⁴ Paragraph 26: *Each Member and CNM shall ensure that all Carrier Vessels transshipping at sea have on board a CCSBT observer, in accordance with the CCSBT Regional Observer Program in Annex II. The CCSBT observer shall observe the compliance with this Resolution, and notably that the transhipped quantities of SBT are reasonably consistent with the reported catch in the CCSBT transshipment declaration and, as recorded in the fishing vessel logbook and CDS documents.*

Quality Assurance Review (QAR), whose aim will be to provide an independent assessment of the performance of the trial, will be conducted in 2025 and presented to CC 20. This QAR will be funded by the CCSBT. In addition to the QAR, CC 20 shall also consider advice from the IOTC as well as the performance in meeting existing CCSBT transshipment obligations.

16. Replacement of any wooden carrier vessels in Annex IV is only permitted if the material of the substitute vessel shall remain wooden and the carrying capacity or fish hold volume is not larger than the vessel(s) being replaced. In such case, the authorisation of the replaced wooden vessel shall be immediately revoked.

2. SCOPE

This QAR will review the suitability of the Indonesia's systems and processes for ensuring compliance with CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution¹, in particular the two-year trial at-sea transshipment programme using its own national transshipment observers as described in paragraphs 13 – 16 of the Resolution.

The QAR will assess whether Indonesia's systems and processes meet CCSBT's Minimum Performance Requirements⁵ for CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution. It will inform the Compliance Committee's assessment of whether Indonesia's systems and processes for at-sea transshipment using wooden vessels and national observers provides the same level of confidence and transparency as the processes required for other at-sea transshipment activities under the CCSBT resolution.

In assessing the suitability of systems, the QAR will include consideration of any issues identified by the Compliance Committee (CC) as well any compliance risks identified by the Extended Commission which will be provided to the reviewer(s) by the Executive Secretary.

The QAR consultation will be between the appointed reviewer and the Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries – Directorate General of Capture Fisheries.

The review will be focused on government systems and processes to implement and meet the requirements of the Transshipment Resolution but may also include consultation with industry stakeholders and consideration of their processes. Approval will be sought from Indonesia prior to any engagement with industry stakeholders taking place.

3. LANGUAGE

The review will be conducted in English and documents requested from Indonesia will need to be provided in, or translated into, one of the official languages of the Commission.

⁵ The MPRs for Transshipment are proposed to be revised in 2024 to reflect a revised Transshipment Resolution adopted in 2023

4. REVIEW PROCESS

The methodology used should be based on that used in recent Phase I and II combined QARs⁶ as much as possible and should be detailed in the reviewer's proposal to the CCSBT.

The review will commence with an “*Application Process*”, similar to that described in Section 5.1 of CCSBT paper [CCSBT-CC/1610/18](#), to assist the Member being reviewed to understand what the QAR is about, what to expect and what is expected of them. The “*Application Process*” should also provide the reviewer with the necessary contact information for conducting the QAR.

4.1 Phase 1 Review (Desktop)

The purpose of a Phase 1 QAR is to independently document and evaluate whether Indonesia's systems and processes meet the relevant Minimum Performance Requirements for CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution.

The reviewer must evaluate Indonesia's current systems and processes with respect to CCSBT's Transshipment Measure, and provide a detailed review of these systems and processes in the following areas:

- What systems and supporting processes are in place to implement and meet the requirements of CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution?
- What systems prevent Indonesia from complying with ordinary processes and requirements of CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution for at-sea transshipment, that are applied to and implemented by other CCSBT Members?
- How do the systems and supporting processes implemented by Indonesia ensure compliance with CCSBT's Transshipment Resolution?
- Are the relevant systems and processes fit for purpose?
- Do the systems meet CCSBT obligations in terms of the CCSBT's Minimum Performance Requirements?
- Are any changes or improvements to current systems or processes underway or being planned? If so, how will these impact Indonesia's ability to meet their CCSBT obligations?
- Have the systems in place been assessed by Indonesia and have any corrective or preventative measures been taken in response to compliance monitoring?
- Are the requirements of CCSBT's Transshipment Measure being met, both generally and in particular the 2-year trial of at-sea transshipments of SBT:
 - a. Implemented in National Laws?
 - b. Clearly defined and documented processes that support implementation of the CCSBT Transshipment Measure and monitor compliance with requirements.
 - c. Have national observers been specifically trained to assess CCSBT transshipment obligations?
 - d. Clearly provided and communicated to CV masters and transshipment observers?

⁶ Such as the QARs of Taiwan in 2017 ([CCSBT-CC/1710/05](#)) and South Africa in 2018 ([CCSBT-CC/1810/05](#))

It is expected that the review will involve the general steps detailed below. Emphasis will be placed on whether the systems and processes in place for the accurate reporting and verification of SBT within the timeframes required by the measure:

- Analysis of relevant documentation submitted to the CCSBT Secretariat, in particular all of Indonesia's relevant domestic legislation/instruments, relevant information from National Reports, data submissions to the CCSBT Secretariat including transshipment deployment requests, 5-day reports, observer reports and observer particulars (and revisions of documents where provided), and whether all the required documentation was submitted and within required timeframes;
- Examination of the IOTC Report on the Indonesia Transshipment Trial, specifically as this relates to national reports and data submissions, including whether documentation was submitted with required timeframes.⁷
- Examination of transshipment observer training material to ensure it meets the technical training guidelines established by CCSBT, or the guidelines established by IOTC or ICCAT, and that observers receive appropriate training to identify SBT and ensure satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the CCSBT conservation and management measures;
- Drafting of an initial process map of systems in place at the time of the review, which clearly identifies the process steps, required inputs and outputs at each step, responsible parties and measures in place to ensure compliance;
- Consultation with Indonesia to verify the general accuracy of the initial process map, clarify areas of uncertainty and seek any additional information required to complete the process map; and
- Preparation of an initial SWOT analysis (strength, weakness, opportunities, threat/risk) analysis. The opportunities section of the SWOT analysis will include recommendations for improvement.

4.2 Phase 2 Review (on site)

Phase 2 is an on-site inspection of Indonesia's systems and processes documented in Phase 1 of the QAR. It may be conducted as a combined Phase 1 and 2 QAR. The purpose of Phase 2 is for the reviewer to independently verify the existence and effectiveness of Indonesia's systems and processes. During Phase 2, the reviewer is expected to assess:

- Whether the documentation of systems and processes described in Phase 1 is correct and whether Indonesia's provided documentation accurately reflects the systems and processes that are consistently implemented;
- Whether these systems and processes are effective to ensure that CCSBT transshipment obligations are being met;
- Whether the key staff involved in implementing these systems and processes have sufficient knowledge and understanding of the CCSBT transshipment obligations as they relate to the process step they are involved with; and

⁷ The Secretariat will continue to collaborate with the IOTC Secretariat, and phase one data requests will be aligned as much as possible with those made to support the IOTC review to avoid multiple requests to Indonesia for the same information.

- Whether there is any possible further improvement of Indonesia's compliance systems and processes, taking into account the results of the above assessments.

It is expected that Phase 2 will involve the following general steps:

- In collaboration with Indonesia, development of a site visit, interview and testing plan based on the outcomes of Phase 1, including development of an audit checklist for the site visit similar to that proposed in [CCSBT-CC/1610/18](#);
- A visit to the principal site(s) where Indonesia's main systems and processes are located and:
 - Interviews of the key personnel (including transshipment observers and industry participants as appropriate) involved in the operation of these systems and processes;
 - Verification of operations and the effectiveness of systems and processes with objective evidence such as demonstrations of how the systems function in practise in real-time; and
 - Verification that observers have satisfactory knowledge to identify SBT and understanding of the CCSBT conservation and management measures;
- Identify and document any differences between Phase 1 (documented and mapped systems and processes) and Phase 2 (system and process implementation) QAR findings along with any gaps or weakness in implementation of the Resolution;
- Modification and refinement of the process map and update the SWOT analysis from Phase 1 as necessary; and
- Preparation and completion of the final QAR report including an Executive Summary, recommendations and conclusions.

5. QAR REPORT

The final output from the reviewer will be a QAR Report.

The report should describe the findings of the review of Indonesia's systems, analysis of the suitability of the systems and recommendations for improvements. The information content of individual QAR Reports should be similar to QAR Reports from previous years.

The following process and timeline should be followed in preparing the QAR report⁸:

- The reviewer will provide the draft report to Indonesia and to the CCSBT Executive Secretary by 31/05/2025⁹;

⁸ These timeframes are necessary in order for the finalised individual QAR Reports to be commented on and distributed in time for consideration by the Annual Meeting of the CCSBT Compliance Committee.

⁹ It should be re-iterated that the QAR is intended to be for the benefit of the Member and that discussion and feedback between the Member and reviewer during the review period is encouraged. Consequently, the Member should be aware of any significant outcomes before receiving the draft report.

- Indonesia may seek clarification from the reviewer concerning the draft report and may provide comments to the reviewer on any aspect of the draft report, particularly in relation to factual errors and omissions. Indonesia's comments should be provided to the reviewer as soon as possible but no later than within 8 weeks of receiving the draft report and no later than 31/07/2025;
- The reviewer will correct any factual errors reported by Indonesia. The reviewer will also consider other comments provided by Indonesia and make modifications to the report as the reviewer considers appropriate;
- The reviewer will provide the finalised report to Indonesia and to the CCSBT Executive Secretary no later than six weeks before the commencement of the Compliance Committee meeting. The table of contents of the finalised individual QAR Report will include provision for an attachment at the end of the report to be provided by Indonesia containing comments it wishes to make in relation to the outcomes of the QAR; and

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

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

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

The final QAR report will be subject to the CCSBT confidentiality requirements for documents submitted to a meeting of a subsidiary or advisory body of the Commission as described in Rule 10 of the CCSBT's Rules of Procedure. The reviewer will be required to understand the CCSBT confidentiality requirements and ensure that they comply with these requirements at all times during the QAR process.

7. QUALIFICATIONS OF REVIEWER

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

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

8. MANAGEMENT OF QAR PROGRAMME

The following roles and responsibilities for the effective implementation of this QAR programme are as follows:

- i) **Executive Secretary** – to manage the QAR contract.
- ii) **Secretariat** – approve review methodology in consultation with Indonesia, provide technical advice to the reviewer and peer review the final overall report.
- iii) **Reviewer** – must complete this QAR based on these Terms of Reference, the established methodology and the direction of the Executive Secretary.
- iv) **Indonesia** –
 - a. appoint a suitably qualified official to coordinate the QAR activities, including providing technical support and advice;
 - b. provide advice and access to systems, processes and information to the reviewer;
 - c. make required arrangements for the on-site activities required to support the phase 2 processes, including (as agreed) to facilitate site visits, support access to key process locations and make key personnel available to speak to the reviewer.
 - d. provide the reviewer with feedback on the draft QAR Report; and
 - e. provide feedback on the performance of the reviewer to the Executive Secretary.

Distribution of Southern Bluefin Tuna in Japanese and Global markets

The Extended Commission (EC) of CCSBT held in October 2024 analysed the overall situation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) market as follows.

1. Global Distribution of SBT

<General situation>

According to the information obtained from the Catch Document scheme (CDS), the total amount of SBT that entered Japan's market in 2023 was 16,153 tons. This accounts for 87.22 % of all SBT caught or harvested by all CCSBT Members (18,519 tons) in 2023. The proportion of SBT entering Japan decreased by 0.25 % from the previous calendar year.

	SBT entered into Japan (t)	Proportion of SBT sold in Japanese markets (%) against all SBT caught/harvested by all CCSBT Members
2023	16,153.09	87.22%
2022	14,821.65	87.47%
2021	15,987.24	88.91%
2020	15,998.06	89.57%

*Data source: CDS

2. Distribution of SBT in Japanese Market

<General situation>

All the SBTs caught by Japanese vessels were landed in Japan in 2023. The SBTs were all frozen, and the amount was 6,335 tons according to the information obtained from CDS. The amount increased by 7.6 % from the previous year. The amount of SBT imported into the Japanese market in the year 2023 is shown below by product type and by exporting Member. In addition, the amount of import of farmed SBT, and the proportion of SBT traded in major markets (Toyosu and Yaizu) are also shown below.

a) Proportion of SBT imported into Japan by product type (2023)

Product Type	Proportions (%)
Fresh Wild	11.66%
Fresh Farmed	58.10%
Frozen Wild	15.32%
Frozen Farmed	14.93%
Total	100.00%

*Data source: CDS

b) SBTs imported into Japan by exporting Member (2023)

Exporting Member	The amount of imported SBTs (t)
Australia	7,949.49
Indonesia	34.46
Korea	1,081.29
New Zealand	687.76
South Africa	9.82
Taiwan	518.90

*Data source: CDS

c) Imported SBTs farmed in Australia

<General Situation>

In 2023, based on CDS, the total amount of SBT farmed in Australia and exported to Japan was 7,602 tons, and increased by 8.7 % from the previous year.

d) Proportion of SBTs traded in major markets in Japan (2023)

<General Situation>

In 2023, the proportion of SBTs traded in two major markets in Japan, Toyosu (Tokyo) and Yaizu (Shizuoka), among the total amount of SBTs entered Japan was 39.54 % and decreased by 1.78 % from the previous year. Please note that the transaction of a SBT that entered Japan in a particular year does not always occur in the same year.

*Data source: CDS data, Statistics of Tokyo Central wholesale market, and Yaizu Fisheries Cooperative Association.

3. Conclusion from comparison and verification between TAC, catch and distribution

- a) Analyses of the available information on the catch by all Members, including CDS data, have detected no over-catch from allocation or TAC in the 2023 fishing season. (From existing analysis; Attachment B of CCSBT-CC/2410/04).
- b) Verification of CDS data, trade statistics, surveys regarding the Japanese market and other data sets indicates no remarkable discrepancy between such data in relation to the distribution of SBT in the Japanese market in 2023, taking into account elements such as the time lag between catch and import/landing.

4. Future actions

EC recommends that the analyses of the distribution of Southern Bluefin Tuna in Japanese and Global markets be continued next year.

Report from CCSBT Subsidiary Bodies on Progress Against Strategic Plan

Subsidiary Body: CC	Year: 2024
Vision and Goals	
	Comments from Subsidiary Body
<p>Management of SBT</p> <p>The Commission agrees the SBT tuna stock is to be managed at a biomass level that supports the maximum sustainable yield, and the risks related to fishing for SBT and impacts from fishing for SBT on ecologically related species are mitigated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This includes strategies concerning stock rebuilding, allocation and ecologically related species. • This also includes consideration and review of all other risks including, but not limited to, marine pollution and human safety. 	<p>The CCSBT continues to collaborate with its Members to promote and provide educational training on seabird bycatch mitigation measures.</p> <p>MP targets are defined and a new Member allocation resolution is in place and monitored by the CC.</p>
<p>Operation/Administration of the Commission and Secretariat</p> <p>It was agreed the Commission should operate effectively and efficiently, to responsibly manage fishing for SBT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This includes strategies for effective and efficient operation of Commission, its 	<p>CC (and other meetings) could expand mix of in person/virtual discussion, noting budget constraints.</p>

subsidiary bodies and Secretariat, including harmonisation with other RFMOs.		
Participation and implementation by Members, including Compliance Members are actively participating in management of SBT through the Commission and implementing its decisions. <ul style="list-style-type: none">This includes strategies concerning MCS, sanctions and assistance to developing countries.	Most, but not all, Members are participating in CC meetings (EU not participating). Developing plan for Members capacity support programme. Note the recent support to SA around EM through the Seabird Project.	
Action Plan		
Action	Progress since previous report	Planned work
Further increase efforts, including analysis on the application of electronic monitoring, to improve and supplement observer coverage in accordance with Scientific Observer Program Standard (SOPS).	CC acknowledges the work of the ESC and ERSWG regarding EM and SOPS. CC regularly reviews Members report regarding their observer programme including work around EM.	This work is ongoing.
PR2021-36: Update or revise the 2018-2020 Action Plan to the next five-year phase as a matter of urgency based on the recommendations from the Performance Review.	C19 finalised an updated Compliance Action Plan 2025 – 2029 for consideration by CCSBT31.	Implement the Compliance Action Plan 2025 – 2029 (once agreed) and undertake annual monitoring and reporting to the Compliance Committee.
Improve arrangements to collect and analyse the information of SBT distributed in the global market, and consider strengthening relevant measures to monitor and control trade of SBT products in the markets.	CC regularly reviewed the Members report regarding their CDS implementation. Market analysis was conducted utilizing Tag survey data and was reviewed in CC19.	Preparation to introduce eCDS is ongoing. Tag Number Search website will be launched. Market survey proposed to continue.

Ongoing Work Plan		
Action	Changes since previous report	Planned work
PR2021-01: Members continue to support the MP, by remaining within their allocation limits, and eliminating areas of uncertainty such as Non-Member catches that could undermine its performance.	<p>CC regularly review Members' compliance with allocation limit. In the case of excessive catch, CC monitored the progress of pay-back plan.</p> <p>Through regular contacts with NCMs, CC reviewed related information such as SBT trade and suspected SBT catch.</p> <p>Also ongoing refinements to CDS and CC identification of vessels in CCSBT areas.</p>	Ongoing
PR2021-26: Continue monitoring to ensure the effectiveness of the rebuilding strategy for SBT.	<p>This work is conducted by ESC using stock assessment and the MP.</p> <p>CC regularly review Members' compliance with allocation limit. In the case of excessive catch, CC monitored the progress of pay-back plan.</p> <p>CC ongoing focus on CDS and improvements. Routine evaluation of non-Member reporting.</p>	This work is ongoing.
PR2021-25: CCSBT members should continue to strengthen the implementation of the IPOAs and FAO guidelines in fishing operations.	CC regularly reviews Members' report which also includes implementation of their IPOAs and FAO guidelines.	Ongoing, there is a need to encourage Members to develop and implement national plans of action
Apply the Quality Assurance Review (QAR) Program to countries and/or entities who join the Commission in the future.	In CC18 it was concluded that preferred approach is to utilise QARs for any new Members joining CCSBT and to also utilise targeted QARs if appropriate.	N/A (noting no new Members)

Ongoing QAR program for existing Members is subject to the decision by the EC based on further advice from the Compliance Committee.	CC19 finalised a draft Terms of Reference for a QAR in 2025 to examine Indonesia's at-sea transshipment activities for CCSBT.	Completion of the Indonesia Transshipment QAR and report to CC20/ CCSBT32.
PR2021-57: Process for review of external documents, including possible non-compliance on the part of Members, should be monitored to ensure that it does not create a barrier for external engagement with the CCSBT.	External documents can be reviewed in CC.	Ongoing
Encourage non-Members to increase engagement in CCSBT processes, including joining the CCSBT and utilising the CDS.	Continued engagement with non-Members, including inviting China, Fiji, Malaysia, Mauritius, Seychelles, Singapore and USA to participate as observers at CC19/CCSBT31.	
PR2021-44: Continue to formalise and strengthen information sharing with other RFMO secretariats and alternative information sources.	CC19 finalised an updated Memorandum of Understanding with ICCAT for consideration by CCSBT31.	Development of a high-level MOU with the UN FAO to support the further development of an updated IOTC collaboration agreement.
Ensure members are submitting high quality, clear, consistent and completed reporting.	Although some Members do not meet reporting requirements, each Member's reporting is reviewed in CC every year.	Members are considering the mechanism for capacity building to address their challenges in fulfilling report requirements.