



CCSBT-EC/2310/14

Relationship with Non-Members

Purpose

To provide an update concerning discussion or issues with Non-Member and Non-CNM (Cooperating Non-Member) States/Entities.

Identification of States that have or are likely to become important port or market States for SBT, for consideration at CCSBT 30.

CCSBT 18 agreed that the following process would be used for nominating States that have or are likely to become important port or market States for SBT:

- Members nominate important States whose cooperation is desired, together with background information supporting that nomination and provide this information to the Executive Secretary at least 6 weeks in advance of the Annual Meeting.
- The Executive Secretary incorporates this information in the Secretariat's agenda paper for the standing agenda item on "Relationship with Non-Members" for consideration by the Extended Commission.
- With the Extended Commission's endorsement, the Executive Secretary write to the nominated State(s) seeking their cooperation.
- The nominating Member follow-up the Executive Secretary's letter with bilateral discussion. This is an important step because experience has shown that many States do not respond to written communication.

No nominations were provided to the Secretariat in advance of CCSBT 30.

Interactions with Non-Members

In accordance with the decision of CCSBT 29, the Secretariat has invited China, Fiji, Mauritius, Panama, Singapore and the USA to attend the October 2023 Annual Meetings of the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission. The Secretariat sent invitation reminders to all these non-Members in August.

There has been additional interaction between the CCSBT Secretariat and non-Member States in the compliance area, particularly the USA's continued cooperation with the CCSBT's CDS. Interactions with non-Members and other organisations in the compliance area are reported in papers CCSBT-CC/2310/14 and 15 respectively.

Following a request from New Zealand, the Secretariat also engaged with Viet Nam to explore the possibility of cooperation with the CCSBT CDS. Although Viet Nam officials have expressed an initial interest in cooperating with the CCSBT on CDS matters, those

officials needed to undertake internal consultations before engaging further. Viet Nam has indicated that it will provide the Secretariat with an update on this process in the future.

Prepared by the Secretariat