

Report from the CCSBT Observer to the 2022 Discussions on Essential Commission
Business in Lieu of The 23rd Special Meeting of
The International Commission for The Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

CCSBT Observer (Japan)

1. Introduction

The 23rd Special Meeting of the Commission was held in a hybrid format, in Portugal and online, in which 47 Contracting Parties, 5 Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities and observers from 2 Non-Contracting Party, 6 international governmental organizations and 25 NGOs participated.

2. Management Measures

(1) Bluefin Tuna

(Western Atlantic)

The TAC for the Western Atlantic Bluefin Tuna is maintained at 2,726 t for 2023.

(Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean)

The TAC for the Eastern Atlantic Bluefin Tuna is increased to 40,570t for 2023 from 36,000 for 2022.

(Both Western and Eastern stocks)

Management Procedure (MP) was discussed and adopted at the Commission meeting of 2022. The specification of MP is probability of the stock being in the green zone of the Kobe plot (PGK) (60%); management period duration (3 years); percent change in TAC between management periods (+20%/-35%).

(2) Tropical tunas

The multi-annual conservation and management programme for tropical tunas was rolled over, with the maintained TAC for bigeye tuna of 62,000 t for 2023 t as well as maintained FADs closure period of 72days in 2023. The annual TAC for yellowfin was maintained at the current level of 110,000 t. Additional measures for yellowfin tuna, including TAC and allocation of yellowfin tuna, will be discussed at the Commission meeting in 2023 based on the stock assessment.

3. Next meeting

The 28th Regular meeting of the Commission will be held in November 2023 in Egypt. Online participation to the meeting would be available as well.