



CCSBT-ERS/2406/06

Report Against Strategic Plan (ERSWG Agenda Item 6)

Background

At CCSBT 30, Members adopted a revised Strategic Plan¹ that outlines a common vision for how the Commission will operate in order to meet the overall objective of the Convention. The Strategic Plan also provides the following vision and set of goals in support of the overall objective.

Vision and goals

Management of SBT

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.

- 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.

Operation/Administration of the Commission and Secretariat

It was agreed the Commission should operate effectively and efficiently, to responsibly manage fishing for SBT.

- This includes strategies for effective and efficient operation of Commission, its 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.

- This includes strategies concerning MCS, sanctions and assistance to developing countries.

¹ www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/operational_resolutions/CCSBT_Strategic_Plan.pdf

Strategic Plan Items of Relevance to ERSWG

The Strategy also includes several actions that are to be carried out by the Commission's various subsidiary bodies. The following elements of the Action Plan and Ongoing Work Plan have been identified as relevant to the work of the ERSWG.

Action Plan

- Noting the Multi-year Seabird Strategy adopted at ERSWG 14, develop an Ecologically Related Species and Bycatch Action Plan based on the recommendations from the Performance Review.

Ongoing Work Plan

- **PR2021-24:** CCSBT should continue to implement CMMs based on ESC and ERSWG advice for both target and non-target species.
- **PR2021-25:** CCSBT members should continue to strengthen the implementation of the IPOAs and FAO guidelines in fishing operations.
- **PR2021-13:** Achieve a better balance between the scientific efforts dedicated to SBT and ERS.

Monitoring and Implementation

To ensure that the objectives of the Strategic Plan are met, the plan outlines a process that commits to annual monitoring and reporting against the actions agreed under the plan. The Extend Commission (EC) will review the progress made with the Secretariat holding responsibility for compiling the information necessary for the EC to conduct its annual monitoring review.

The Strategic Plan states that "Subsidiary bodies holding responsibility for particular action items are expected to report back on the progress of those activities as part of their respective meeting reports". The ERSWG is the first subsidiary body to meet since the adoption of the new Strategic Plan and therefore is also the first to provide a report back to the EC. The Secretariat has created a reporting template (provided at **Attachment A**) to support and harmonise the reporting process for Subsidiary Bodies.

Next Steps

Members are asked to consider the reporting template at **Attachment A** along with some of the preliminary responses provided by the Secretariat (in red text).

Once agreed, the completed template will be included as an attachment to the report of ERSWG 15.

Prepared by the Secretariat

Report from CCSBT Subsidiary Bodies on Progress Against Strategic Plan

Subsidiary Body: ERSWG

Year: 2024

Vision and Goals

Comments from Subsidiary Body

Management of SBT

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.

- 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.

Operation/Administration of the Commission and Secretariat

It was agreed the Commission should operate effectively and efficiently, to responsibly manage fishing for SBT.

- This includes strategies for effective and efficient operation of Commission, its subsidiary bodies and Secretariat, including harmonisation with other RFMOs.

[ERSWG 15 has developed and agreed on new Terms of Reference for the ERS Technical Group.]

<p>Participation and implementation by Members, including Compliance</p> <p>Members are actively participating in management of SBT through the Commission and implementing its decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This includes strategies concerning MCS, sanctions and assistance to developing countries. 	<p>[The inability of some Members to reach the agreed target level of observer coverage is constraining the ERSWG's ability to fulfill its mandate as described in the TORs of the ERSWG]</p>	
<p>Action Plan</p>		
<p>Action</p>	<p>Progress since previous report</p>	<p>Planned work</p>
<p>Noting the Multi-year Seabird Strategy adopted at ERSWG 14, develop an Ecologically Related Species and Bycatch Action Plan based on the recommendations from the Performance Review.</p>	<p>[ERSWG has developed and agreed to an ERS and Bycatch Action Plan]</p>	
<p>Ongoing Work Plan</p>		
<p>Action</p>	<p>Changes since previous report</p>	<p>Planned work</p>
<p>PR2021-24: CCSBT should continue to implement CMMs based on ESC and ERSWG advice for both target and non-target species.</p>		
<p>PR2021-25: CCSBT members should continue to strengthen the implementation of the IPOAs and FAO guidelines in fishing operations.</p>		
<p>PR2021-13: Achieve a better balance between the scientific efforts dedicated to SBT and ERS.</p>		