



CCSBT–CC/2510/18

Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with Other Bodies and Organisations

1. Introduction

This paper updates Members on CCSBT's compliance relationships with other RFMOs¹ and RFMO like organisations, including the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). The paper also details engagement with international organisations, including CCSBT's compliance relationships with the [IMCS Network](#) (IMCSN) and the networks that it supports, including the Tuna Compliance Network (TCN) and Pan-Pacific Tuna Compliance Network (PPFCN). An update is also included on the relationship with other organisations, including [TMT](#) (formerly Trygg Mat Tracking).

2. ICCAT and IOTC

The CCSBT Secretariat has had regular interactions with ICCAT and IOTC Secretariat compliance personnel since CC19, primarily concerning at-sea transshipment observer programmes and IUU Vessel Lists cross-listing matters.

2.1. ICCAT

The Compliance Manager has worked with ICCAT's Head of Compliance to support CCSBT access to ICCAT carrier vessel supply declaration information under the updated Transshipment Memorandum of Understanding². The Compliance Manager also had a focussed call with ICCAT staff early in 2025 to discuss ICCAT's transition to the eBCD in 2016 to help inform CCSBT planning for the eCDS transition. The Compliance Manager also liaised with ICCAT staff to support the development and completion of the IMCSN paper³ included as **Attachment D** of paper [CCSBT–CC/2510/09](#).

2.2. IOTC

The Compliance Manager collaborated extensively with the IOTC Secretariat during 2024, including to verify transshipment data received from Indonesia's through the CCSBT pilot at-sea transshipment programme and support the continued sharing of transshipment information. The IOTC Secretariat and CCSBT Secretariat's completed two joint meetings with officials from Indonesia in December 2024 and January 2025 to discuss and resolve implementation issues related to the pilot at-sea transshipment programme. The Compliance Manager and Executive Secretary have also been in regular contact with the IOTC Secretariat to progress the MOU with UN FAO, which is required to develop a new collaboration agreement to replace CCSBT's existing Transshipment LoU with the IOTC⁴. The Compliance Manager also virtually attended the IOTC Compliance Committee and Commission meetings in 2025.

¹ Regional Fisheries Management Organisations

² Paper [CCSBT–CC/2510/13](#).

³ Seabird Mitigation Measures and associated Data Collection and Procedures across tuna RFMOs

⁴ Discussed in paper [CCSBT–CC/2510/13](#).

3. WCPFC

A Transshipment Memorandum of Cooperation⁵ (MoC) with WCPFC was signed by the CCSBT and WCPFC Chairs during 2017 but has not yet been operationalised as WCPFC transshipment observers cannot be cross-endorsed by CCSBT until CCSBT's transshipment observer standards are met. In the interim, SBT remains unable to be transhipped at-sea within the WCPFC Convention Area.

Since CCSBT 31, the Compliance Manager has had further discussion with the WCPFC Secretariat on WCPFC developments around the transshipment data sharing, [Minimum Data Fields for Observer Transshipment Monitoring](#) and the training of transshipment observers. Whilst WCPFC have agreed minimum data fields for transshipment monitoring, there are fields that are not currently mandatory for WCPFC transshipment monitoring that will be required for SBT transshipments.⁶ The Minimum Data Fields for Observer Transshipment Monitoring are still being reviewed by the IWG-ROP⁷ and this review is scheduled to be completed in 2025. The CCSBT Secretariat remains in contact with the WCPFC Secretariat on this.

Consideration is also underway on standardised training for transshipment observers in the Pacific and the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the Pacific Community (SPC) are currently considering options for training and equipping transshipment observers in the region. This issue was recently discussed at the [Fourteenth Data Collection Committee Workshop \(DCC14\)](#). The Compliance Manager has been in contact with the key personnel at SPC and FFA to register CCSBTs interest in considering SBT transshipment needs as part of this process at the appropriate time.

In addition to this ongoing direct collaboration, the Compliance Manager also virtually attended the 21st Regular Session of the WCPFC Commission. The Compliance Manager and Data Manager also supported a meeting with the Chair of the Joint IATTC and WCPFC-Northern Committee Technical Working Group to develop an electronic catch documentation system (eCDS) for Pacific Bluefin tuna (ePBCD). This meeting was held in the margins of the TCN meeting in Tokyo during June 2025.

4. CCAMLR

The Compliance Manager continues to regularly liaise with the CCAMLR compliance and monitoring team on issues of mutual interest. Since CC19, this liaison has included sharing information on tolerance levels used in CDS discrepancy checks, longline fishing activity near the CCAMLR convention area boundary, eCDS implementation and IUU vessel listings.

5. IMCSN

The IMCSN is a non-profit and informal organisation, established to facilitate bilateral and multilateral co-operation on MCS, compliance and enforcement and to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and associated activities. The CCSBT became a member of the IMCSN in November 2013. The IMCSN RFMO membership includes six RFMOs/organisations with a conservation agreement with some of the attributes of an RFMO⁸. In addition to its 71 Member States, the IMCSN membership also includes the Inter-

⁵ Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on the Endorsement of WCPFC Regional Observer Programme Observers for Observing Transshipments of Southern Bluefin Tuna on the High Seas of the WCPFC Convention Area.

⁶ As an example, the processed code, estimated number of species transhipped and total weight of the transferred catch in kilograms are not currently mandatory data fields for WCPFC transshipment monitoring.

⁷ WCPFC's Intersessional Working Group – Regional Observer Programme and this review is an ongoing task in the IWG workplan across 2023-2025.

⁸ CCAMLR, CCSBT, NEAFC, NPFC, SIOFA and SPRFMO are currently members of the IMCSN

African Bureau for Animal Resources, the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Indian Ocean Commission and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) that all also have a regional fisheries focus or interest.

Since CCSBT31, the Compliance Manager has become part of the Executive Committee for the IMCSN. This provides greater opportunity to contribute to the work and direction of the Network and ensure that the interests of CCSBT and other RFMO members continue to be represented in this. The Secretariat has also received support from IMCSN this year in the compilation of the report on Seabird Mitigation Measures and associated Data Collection and Procedures across Tuna RFMOs (**Attachment D** of paper [CCSBT–CC/2510/09](#)) and the development of the template CCSBT Implementation Sheet (**Attachment B** of paper [CCSBT–CC/2510/07](#)).

The IMCSN is developing an IUU Vessel Hub tool to support RFMO secretariats to manage and exchange IUU vessel list data and information. The IUU Vessel List Hub will be a central repository of the most current data and information related to RFMO IUU listed vessels. The Hub will be hosted on a secure section of the IMCSN website and will only be accessed by RFMO secretariat staff. The Hub will include the data and information from the final IUU vessel lists adopted by the RFMOs and provide an automated mechanism for RFMO secretariats to share this information (including changes).

If the tool is utilised extensively by RFMOs, this development has the potential to significantly improve the efficiency and timeliness of the Secretariat's work to update the CCSBT IUU Vessel List with vessels cross-listed from other RFMOs (including updates). Testing of the IUU Vessel List Hub is due to commence in mid-September 2025 and CCSBT have shared data from the CCSBT IUU vessel list to support this testing. No CCSBT information, other than the publicly available CCSBT IUU Vessel List, will be shared as part of CCSBT's testing and use of this tool. At present, there is no plan to make any information from the tool publicly available, but this may be reassessed once the tool is operational and working effectively.

The IMCSN also hosts the [Combined Regional Authorised Vessels Tool \(CRAVT\)](#) which combines vessel and vessel authorisation data and information from different RFMOs and RFBs. CCSBT's list of authorised vessels is available within the CRAVT and this is discussed more in paper [CCSBT–CC/2510/10](#).

The IMCSN also coordinates the TCN and PPFCN and CCSBT has continued to engage extensively in these networks.

5.1. Tuna Compliance Network (TCN)

The TCN continues to function under the umbrella of the IMCSN. Mr Ricardo Belmontes from IATTC is the current Chair. The TCN held an in-person meeting in Tokyo, Japan between 9 – 13 May 2025. This meeting was planned to include members of the PPFCN also to support broader discussions in shared areas of interest. To support discussion on CCSBT's priority areas, particularly around eCDS Implementation, CCSBT advocated for the inclusion of RFMO Data Managers in the meeting. Consequently, the CCSBT Data Manager also attended the meeting in Tokyo with external funding support sourced through the IMCSN to support his participation.

As noted in previous papers, TCN meetings provide an opportunity for RFMO compliance personnel to exchange information on relevant issues and developments, in particular transshipment measure strengthening and associated issues, developments in the catch documentation scheme (CDS) area, port state measures, and opportunities for future collaboration and analysis support. Discussion topics during this meeting included RFMO

seabird mitigation measures and data collection procedures, eCDS processes and developments and corrective action procedures which all aligned with key CCSBT compliance actions.

The TCN members were supportive of planning an additional in-person meeting in 2026, with the venue and timing to be confirmed. The Secretariat proposes that there is significant benefit in the Compliance Manager continuing to attend this meeting.

5.2. *Pan-Pacific Fisheries Compliance Network (PPFCN)*

Ms. Lara Manarangi-Trott of WCPFC is the current Chair of the informal PPFCN and the group has met twice virtually since CCSBT31. The Compliance Manager attended both virtual meetings of the PPFCN. In addition to these virtual meetings, some Members of the PPFCN also attended the TCN in-person meeting in Tokyo. Those that attended the meeting agreed that the joint PPFCN/TCN gathering was a useful opportunity for broader information sharing and that similar meetings should be planned in the future around identified TCN/PPFCN topics of mutual interest. The PPFCN group continues to meet virtually every quarter (where possible) to promote communication and cooperation between the RFMOs that have overlapping waters in the Pacific Ocean region.

6. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (UN FAO)

Limited specific compliance engagement has been undertaken with UN FAO since CCSBT31. In late 2024, the Compliance Manager completed a questionnaire from the UN FAO PSMA Secretariat for Monitoring the Implementation of the PSMA, however there has been no further engagement on this topic since the completion of this questionnaire. Recent engagement with UN FAO has been focussed on the development of an MoU to facilitate an updated Cooperation Agreement with IOTC, however the majority of this has been directed through IOTC. This is discussed in paper [CCSBT-CC/2510/13](#) and broader Secretariat engagement with UN FAO is discussed in paper [CCSBT-EC/2510/18](#).

7. OECD Fisheries Committee (OECD COFI)

In May 2025, the Compliance Manager completed questionnaire from OECD supporting a mapping exercise to identify current legislation and practices regarding the collection, use and sharing of information on beneficial ownership in the fisheries sector. The intent of this exercise is to chart the different national, regional and multilateral initiatives aimed at improving transparency on beneficial ownership in the fisheries sector. This was followed by a call with OECD in July to discuss the responses and current CCSBT practices with regards beneficial ownership.

8. TMT (formerly Trygg Mat Tracking)

The Secretariat entered into an agreement for TMT to provide CCSBT with ad-hoc fishing vessel and company analysis on request in 2019. The funds provided to TMT under this agreement have yet to be exhausted and TMT remains available to provide analysis to CCSBT as required.

TMT have again supported the CCSBT Secretariat through informal monitoring and analysis of potential non-Member catches of SBT. Further information on this is included in paper [CCSBT-CC/2510/17](#).

8. Recommendations

CC19 is invited to:

- Note the CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with other bodies and organisations.

Prepared by the Secretariat