Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna

みなみまぐろ保存委員会

CCSBT-EC/2610/18

Relationship with Non-Members

Purpose

To provide an update concerning discussion or issues with 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 33.

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 given that experience has shown that many States nay not initially respond to the Secretariat's written communications.

No nominations were provided to the Secretariat in advance of CCSBT 33.

Interactions with Non-Members

In accordance with the decision of CCSBT 32, the Secretariat has invited China, Fiji, the Philippines, Seychelles, Thailand and the USA to attend the October 2026 Annual Meetings of the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission. The Secretariat also sent reminders to invited non-Members in July.

Formal responses were received from China, Fiji, Seychelles, and the USA. China expressed an initial interest in participating in the work of CCSBT but were not in a position to attend this year's meetings. Fiji has confirmed its attendance at this year's meetings and continues to engage constructively with the Secretariat. At the time of writing, Seychelles had yet to confirm its attendance while the USA has resumed its attendance at the Compliance Committee.

Given the lack of response and limited level of imports from the Philippines and Thailand, the Secretariat does not recommend extending their invitation to next year's meetings.

Based on the most recent export destination statistics (see **Attachment C** of CCSBT-CC/2610/04), there were no destinations where imports have exceeded 10 tonnes in the previous year that would, therefore, warrant an invitation to next year's meetings.

Additional details on interactions with non-Members and other organisations in the compliance area are reported in papers CCSBT-CC/2610/16 and 17 respectively.

Recommendations

The Secretariat recommends that Members:

- Note that no additional States were identified by Members as "likely to become important port or market States";
- Consider inviting the following countries to attend the 2027 meetings of the Compliance Committee and Extended Commission:

    - China;
    - Fiji;
    - Seychelles; and
    - United States of America

Prepared by the Secretariat