



CCSBT-EC/2010/13

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 27

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 27.

Interactions with Non-Members

In accordance with the decision of CCSBT 26 and as advised in CCSBT Circular #2019/065, the Secretariat has invited China, Fiji, Mauritius, Namibia, Singapore and the USA to attend the October 2020 Annual Meetings of the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission. The letters of invitation are provided at **Attachments A to F**. The Secretariat sent invitation reminders together with advice on the change from physical to virtual meetings on 7 August 2020, which is the date that the decision to cancel the physical meetings was announced.

CCSBT 26 agreed that the that the CCSBT should write a letter to China asking for confirmation of the implementation of its regulations concerning SBT area closures and non-retention of SBT, including whether China is using VMS to monitor compliance of its vessels with the closures and China's level of SBT discarding. The invitation to China included a request for this information. As at the time of finalising this paper, no response had been received from China in relation to the invitation or the request for advice.

In mid-July, the Secretariat sought information from Namibia concerning possible catches of southern bluefin tuna by Namibia in recent years. As at the time of finalising this paper, no response has been received from Namibia.

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 in the compliance area are reported in paper CCSBT-CC/2010/10 and 13.

Prepared by the Secretariat