



CCSBT-EC/2210/15

## Activities with Other Organisations

### Purpose

To receive reports from meetings of other RFMOs, agree on the CCSBT observers to attend meetings of other RFMOs during 2023 and to consider any other relevant activities with other organisations.

### (1) CCSBT Observers at non-CCSBT meetings

CCSBT Members act as the CCSBT observer at RFMO meetings of interest (e.g. tuna RFMOs and CCAMLR<sup>1</sup>), and the observing Member provides a report back to the CCSBT on matters of relevance in order to improve coordination with other RFMO's. The following Members were nominated at CCSBT 28 to observe the next series of RFMO's annual meetings:

- Korea to observe meetings of WCPFC<sup>2</sup>;
- New Zealand to observe meetings of CCAMLR;
- Indonesia to observe meetings of IOTC<sup>3</sup>;
- Japan to observe meetings of ICCAT<sup>4</sup>; and
- Taiwan to observe meetings of IATTC<sup>5</sup>.

These CCSBT observers may have matters of relevance to report back to the CCSBT.

The EC should confirm which Members will act as CCSBT observers to the next series of RFMO annual meetings.

### (2) Arrangement between CCSBT and CCAMLR

CCSBT and CCAMLR entered into a formal three-year cooperative arrangement during November 2012. A modified Arrangement between CCAMLR and CCSBT was executed on 30 October 2015, and this was then renewed on 14 January 2019 (see **Attachment A**). The current Arrangement is due for review and a decision needs to be made by both Commissions on whether to renew the Arrangement.

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<sup>1</sup> Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

<sup>2</sup> Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

<sup>3</sup> Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

<sup>4</sup> International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

<sup>5</sup> Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission.

The main areas of collaboration between the CCSBT and CCAMLR under the current Arrangement have included:

- Annual CCSBT reports to CCAMLR covering the global stock assessment of southern bluefin tuna and the latest southern bluefin tuna catch data classified by ocean, gear and catching country.
- Annual advice from CCAMLR to CCSBT detailing any catches of southern bluefin tuna from vessels fishing within the CCAMLR Convention Area. There have been no such catches during the life of this agreement.
- Reciprocal invitations to meetings of the two organisations.
- Publicising CCAMLR's IUU vessel list on CCSBT's web site (CCSBT does not currently have any vessels on its IUU list for a reciprocal link).
- Exchanges of relevant information between the Secretariats on a broad range of secretariat-administrative matters.
- Technical discussions between Secretariat staff on data management and MCS systems.

The CCSBT and CCAMLR Secretariats consider that the cooperation between the two organisations has been beneficial.

The active areas of collaboration have not included all areas of cooperation that are listed in the arrangement. Nevertheless, all the areas of cooperation listed in the Arrangement remain relevant and the Arrangement contains the areas of cooperation between the two organisations that are most likely to occur during the term of a renewed Arrangement. Consequently, the CCSBT and CCAMLR Secretariats consider that the Arrangement is suitable as an overarching agreement and that it would be appropriate to renew the Arrangement in its current form.

The EC is invited to decide whether it wishes to renew the Arrangement with CCAMLR in its current form.

**Arrangement between  
The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna  
and  
The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources**

The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (hereafter CCSBT) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (hereafter CCAMLR);

**NOTING** that the objective of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (hereafter CSBT Convention) is to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of southern bluefin tuna;

**NOTING FURTHER** that the objective of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (hereafter CAMLR Convention) is the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources, which includes rational use;

**RECOGNISING** that Article 12 of the CSBT Convention requires the CCSBT to collaborate with other inter-governmental organisations which have related objectives to, among other things, obtain the best available information including scientific information to further the attainment of the objective of the Convention and seek to avoid duplication with respect to the work of the other organisations.

**CONSIDERING** that the Preamble to the CCAMLR Convention recognises that it is desirable for CCAMLR to establish suitable machinery for recommending, promoting, deciding on and co-ordinating the measures and scientific studies needed to ensure the conservation of Antarctic marine living organisms;

**NOTING** that provisions of the CCAMLR Convention address the conservation of non-target, associated or dependent species which belong to the same ecosystem as the target species;

**NOTING FURTHER** that the Preamble to the 2008 CCSBT Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on Ecologically Related Species of Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna identifies that the CCSBT is determined to mitigate incidental harm to ecologically related species caused by fishing for southern bluefin tuna;

**DESIRING** to put into place arrangements and procedures to promote cooperation in order to enhance the conservation and rational use of stocks and species which are within the competence and/or mutual interest of both organisations so as to avoid duplication or conflict between the activities of the two organisations;

**NOW THEREFORE** the CCSBT and CCAMLR record the following arrangements:

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## 1. OBJECTIVE OF THIS ARRANGEMENT

The objective of this Arrangement is to facilitate, where appropriate, cooperation between the CCSBT and CCAMLR ('the Commissions') with a view to enhancing the conservation and rational use of stocks and species which are of interest to both Commissions.

## 2. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The Commissions will establish and maintain consultation and cooperation in respect of matters of common interest to both organisations. In particular, the Commissions will:

- (i) exchange meeting reports, information, documents and publications regarding matters of mutual interest, consistent with the information sharing policies of each Commission;
- (ii) exchange data and scientific information in support of the work and objectives of both Commissions, consistent with the information sharing policies of each Commission including, but not limited to information on:
  - (a) vessels authorised to fish in accordance with the Commissions' conservation measures;
  - (b) illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing vessels;
  - (c) catch, bycatch and vessel information and/or data<sup>1</sup>;
  - (d) an annual CCSBT report to CCAMLR covering the global stock assessment of southern bluefin tuna for that year; and the latest southern bluefin tuna catch data classified by ocean, gear and catching country; and
  - (e) an annual CCAMLR report to CCSBT detailing any catches (by flag and gear) of southern bluefin tuna from vessels fishing within the CAMLR Convention area.
- (iii) cooperate to harmonise approaches in areas of mutual interest and concern, most notably on bycatch of non-target, associated and dependent species (ecologically related species);
- (iv) where appropriate, collaborate on analyses and research efforts relating to species of mutual interest;
- (v) consider methods of recognising and cooperating with each other's conservation and management measures; and
- (vi) consistent with each Commission's rules of procedure, grant permanent reciprocal observer status to representatives of the respective Commissions in relevant meetings of each Commission.

<sup>1</sup> Noting that publicly available CCSBT bycatch data is currently limited to information provided in reports to the CCSBT; that the confidentiality classification of bycatch data exchanged between CCSBT Members prevents its release without explicit approval of the Members providing the data together with a signed confidentiality agreement; and that catch data relating to individual vessels is classified as confidential.

- (vii) encourage cooperation between the Secretariats in areas of common interest such as information management, compliance evaluation, CDS, website developments, data modelling and infrastructure, database development, data exchange protocols and secretariat-administrative matters.

### 3. CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

To facilitate effective development, implementation and enhancement of cooperation, the Commissions may establish a consultative process between the two respective Secretariats that includes, telephone, email and similar means of communications. The consultative process may also proceed in the margins of meetings at which both Commissions' Secretariats are represented by appropriate staff.

### 4. MODIFICATION

This Arrangement may be modified at any time by the mutual written consent of both Commissions.

### 5. LEGAL STATUS

This Arrangement does not create legally binding rights or obligations.

This Arrangement does not alter the obligations of members of either body to comply with the management and conservation measures of those bodies.

### 6. OTHERS

- (i) This Arrangement will commence on the date of signature.
- (ii) Either Commission may terminate this Arrangement by giving six months prior written notice to the other Commission.
- (iii) This Arrangement will continue to operate for three (3) years. At that stage the Commissions will review the operation of the Arrangement and decide whether it will be renewed.

### 7. SIGNATURE

Signed at CAPE TOWN..... this 14...day of JANUARY..... 2019

Chair CCSBT

Chair CCAMLR