

CCSBT-EC/1010/13

ADOPTION OF A MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

Purpose

To adopt a Management Procedure, including associated specifications, for implementation in 2011.

Background

The Resolution on the Total Allowable Catch and Future Management of Southern Bluefin Tuna adopted at CCSBT 16 specified that the CCSBT Management Procedure (MP) should be finalised in 2010 for agreement by the EC at its annual meeting in 2010.

The September 2010 meeting of the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) will be evaluating the performance of candidate MPs, finalising the MP selection for recommending to the Extended Commission and considering a metarule process for exceptional circumstances.

After reviewing the advice of the ESC, the Extended Commission will need to make a number of decisions in relation to the MP, including deciding on:

- Which MP to adopt (the ESC might provide more than one MP for consideration);
- The timeframe required to reach the interim rebuilding target of 20% of the unfished spawning biomass (20% of SSB₀) and any shorter term targets or checkpoints;
- The minimum acceptable rebuilding probability;
- The frequency of TAC changes;
- The maximum and minimum size of TAC changes to be allowed from the MP;
- Whether there needs to be a time lag for implementation of TAC changes, and if so, whether this applies for the initial TAC recommended by the MP;

Paper CCSBT-EC/1010/09 (Report from the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group Meeting) provided details of the values that the SFMWG contemplated in relation to the above matters.

In considering the above matters, it should be noted that the draft strategic plan specifies that parameters should be set for the MP that ensure the precautionary principle is applied and that ecosystem management is incorporated.