



**CCSBT-EC/0410/18**

## **15. Recreational Fishing**

### **Purpose**

To provide background for discussion of this topic.

### **Discussion**

Australia has asked for this item to be placed on the CCSBT11 agenda. To assist in the discussion, the Secretariat has examined the documents in its possession (back to 1989) for earlier references to the subject matter.

The treatment of recreational fishing catch of SBT does not appear to have been the subject of a formal agenda item of the Commission. The Secretariat is aware that the topic of recreational fishing has been raised at various meetings in the past. At CCSBT 10 the agreed work plan required the Secretariat to research whether recreational fishing catch had been incorporated in stock assessments.

The Scientific Committee and its predecessor, the trilateral meetings of member scientists, also do not appear to have formally discussed recreational fishing and its impact on stock assessments. Estimates of recreational catch have not been factored into catch totals for stock assessments.

However, anecdotal reports from recreational fishers and some credible data provided from a charter vessel for recreational fishing, have been cited in the past when analysing fishing indicators to judge stock status.

For information

**Prepared by the Secretariat**