



CCSBT-EC/1510/16

## Cooperating Non-members

### Purpose

To discuss the on-going status of existing Cooperating Non-Members (CNMs) and consider any new applications for CNM status.

### Existing Cooperating Non-Members

The CCSBT has three Cooperating Non-Members, the European Union (EU), the Philippines and South Africa. The Resolution establishing the status of Cooperating Non-Membership requires annual confirmation of that status after the Extended Commission (EC) has evaluated the performance of CNMs against commitments given to the Extended Commission.

CCSBT 21 considered the performance of CNMs during 2014 and confirmed the continuing CNM status of all three CNMs. CCSBT 21 also requested that:

- “South Africa continue to address any over-catch issues;
- The EU submit the appropriate CDS documentation to the Secretariat; and
- The Philippines respond to the questions posed to it by the Compliance Committee.”

South Africa over-caught its allocation for each allocation period from 2010 to 2014 inclusive. The latest 2015 figures for South Africa that are available to the Secretariat are its monthly catch reports. These reports indicate that South Africa’s catch at the end of July 2015 was 31.061 tonnes. It is too early to determine whether South Africa’s catch as at December 2015 is likely to exceed its 40 tonne allocation.

The Secretariat has not received any CDS documents from the EU. However, because the EU has not reported any catch of SBT since 2012, it would not need to issue any CDS Catch Monitoring Forms (CMFs). In this situation, the only CDS documents the EU is required to submit to the Secretariat are the CDS documents for the EU’s imports of SBT. CCSBT CDS documents for 2014 and the first three months of 2015 indicate that 0.48t tonnes of SBT was exported to Italy (EU) on two different CMFs in 2014 only. The EU would also need to submit CDS documents for any exports or re-exports of SBT, but it is not known if exports or re-exports have occurred from the EU.

The Philippines responded to the questions posed to it by the Compliance Committee with a revised annual report, which was submitted to Members in CCSBT Circular #2015/002.

The September 2015 meeting of the Extended Scientific Committee “noted that South Africa and the Philippines did not provide national reports to the meeting and requested that reports be provided in the future”. This request has been forwarded to both South Africa and the Philippines. In addition, the Secretariat routinely reminds CNMs to submit national reports to relevant meetings in advance of those meetings.

Annual assessments of compliance with CCSBT management measures are conducted by the Compliance Committee. Consequently, for information concerning any current significant issues of non-compliance by CNMs, the EC is referred to the report of the 2015 annual

meeting of the Compliance Committee, which is being held immediately before the annual meeting of the EC. In the interim, Attachments A and B of paper CCSBT-CC/1510/04 provide information concerning the compliance of both Members and CNMs with CCSBT measures (particularly reporting requirements and the TAC).

### **New Cooperating Non-Members**

At CCSBT 21, Fiji confirmed its interest in applying to become a CNM of the CCSBT, and its application was encouraged and supported by Members. The meeting proposed that Fiji liaise with the Executive Secretary concerning application requirements. The Secretariat wrote to Fiji on this matter on 1 December 2014 (see **Attachment A**) and provided reminders on 15 April 2015 and 25 May 2015. Apart from acknowledging the correspondence, no further responses have been received from Fiji. The due date for applying to become a CNM for consideration by CCSBT 22 was 14 June 2015. Fiji has been invited to attend CCSBT 22 as an observer.

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなみまぐろ保存委員会

Mr George Madden.  
Acting Director of Fisheries  
Ministry of Fisheries and Forestry  
Takayawa Building  
Toorak Road  
Suva  
FIJI

1 December 2014

Dear Mr Madden,

At the Twenty First Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT 21), CCSBT Members encouraged and supported Fiji's interest in applying to become a Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) of the CCSBT. CCSBT 21 recommended that Fiji liaise with the CCSBT Executive Secretary concerning the application requirements for Fiji to become a CNM.

CCSBT 21 also requested that Fiji provide information on the amount of southern bluefin tuna (SBT) catch, type of fisheries, number of fishing vessels involved, and other relevant SBT statistical information as part of its application.

I have attached a copy of CCSBT's "Resolution to Establish the Status of Cooperating Non-Member of the Extended Commission and the Extended Scientific Committee". In accordance with this Resolution, I invite Fiji apply to the Extended Commission to be admitted in the capacity of a Cooperating Non-Member to the Extended Commission. This application must be received at least one hundred and twenty (120) days before the Annual Meeting of the Extended Commission (i.e. by 14 June 2015).

Fiji's application should include a formal written statement of Fiji's commitment to the items at paragraphs 4(a) to 4(e) of the attached Resolution and to any specific criteria determined by the extended Commission in relation to paragraph 4(f) of the Resolution. The application should also include the information requested by CCSBT 21 in relation to Fiji's catch and fishing for SBT that I mentioned above.

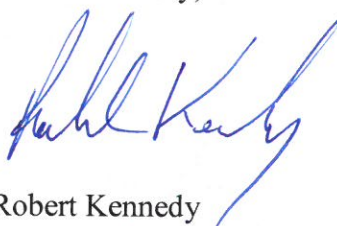
Please contact me if you have any questions in relation to Fiji's application to become a CNM of the CCSBT.

Finally, on behalf of the CCSBT, I have the honour of inviting Fiji to attend the following meetings of the CCSBT as an observer during 2015:

- Tenth meeting of the Compliance Committee, from 8-10 October 2015; and
- Twenty Second Annual Meeting of the Commission (incorporating the Extended Commission), from 12-15 October 2015.

Both meetings are being held in Yeosu, South Korea.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Kennedy', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Robert Kennedy  
Executive Secretary