



CCSBT-EC/0710/14

16 Action Plan and Relationships with Non Members

Purpose

To consider the situation in relation Indonesia, other identified non member countries and the Action Plan.

Discussion

Since CCSBT10 activity under the Action Plan has been held in abeyance.

After review of issues over the previous 3 years, CCSBT 13 again agreed that no action was required under the Action Plan.

Relationship with *Indonesia*

Indonesia has been invited to become a Member or Cooperating Non Member of the CCSBT but to date has declined to do so.

Catch monitoring in *Indonesia* is continuing to indicate that Indonesian fishing vessels have moved on to the high seas from traditional fishing grounds.

Indonesia has indicated it will cooperate with the CCSBT although it is not exercising management control over the SBT fishery as it is a bycatch fishery.

On 1 March 2007 after a request to the Secretariat from the Indonesian Government, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade provided the Secretariat a copy of the certified true copy of the CCSBT Convention which was provided to the Indonesian Embassy in Canberra.

The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade advised the Secretariat on 20 September 2007 that it would contact Indonesia in their role as depository of the CCSBT Convention.

The Secretariat was informed that the "Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia has sent a letter to President of Republic of Indonesia dated 3 September 2007 No. 202/PO/IX/2007/60/08/01 to issue a Presidential Decree for Indonesia to become a full member of CCSBT. We may consider this step as final step of the internal process required to become a full member of any International Organization."

These recent communications from *Indonesia* indicate that it may be close to finalising arrangements to take a formal position within the CCSBT.

Relationship with other Non Members

In 2007 *Belize* was the only non-member country that has made enquiries to the Secretariat concerning opportunities to fish for SBT. These enquiries have not resulted in action by *Belize* authorities.

Action Plan

Of the countries identified under the Action Plan, only *Indonesia* could be regarded as warranting attention under the Action Plan.

However, the actions comprehended by the action plan to ultimately take trade restrictive measures are already effectively in place. Through a combination of the authorised vessel list and the trade documentation scheme, the CCSBT is taking trade restrictive measures against *Indonesia*, which is no longer able to trade with CCSBT Members. Trade with the *United States* is also prohibited, which recognises the CCSBT trade documentation scheme

Recommendation

In these circumstances, and given current official Indonesian Government activity it is recommended that the Action Plan not be invoked for *Indonesia*.

Members might also consider whether the Action Plan be de-activated in the light of the more effective combination of the CCSBT authorised vessel list and trade documentation scheme.

For consideration

Prepared by the Secretariat