



CCSBT-EC/0610/13

## 15. Cooperating Non-members

### Purpose

To discuss:

- the on-going status of existing cooperating non-members
- the situation with other countries of interest to the CCSBT

### Discussion

#### On Going Status

The resolution establishing the status of cooperating non-membership requires annual confirmation of that status after evaluation by the Extended Commission of the performance of cooperating non-members against commitments given to the Extended Commission.

The Philippines is complying with the processes of the Authorised Vessel List and the Trade Information Scheme. However at the time of writing this report, the Philippines had not supplied monthly catch data for March to June 2006 inclusive. The Philippines was given a catch limit of 50 tonnes at CCSBT11 for 2005 and the reported catch was within this limit.

The Extended Commission will need to consider whether the absence of monthly catch data represents a breach of the undertakings given by the Philippines.

South Africa has been accorded Cooperating Non-member status which will be effective from CCSBT13. On going status for South Africa will be considered at CCSBT14

#### Other Countries of Interest

There are two countries are of interest – Indonesia and Belize.

Indonesia has formally indicated that it does not wish to become a Cooperating Non-member. However the Executive Secretary has been advised that this position is being reviewed by the Indonesian Government. Apparently, the closure of CCSBT member markets to Indonesia is having an effect on Indonesia's consideration of this matter.

This informal advice prompted the Executive Secretary to write to Indonesia and a copy of this letter is at Attachment A. No reply has been received other than advice that the addressee has moved elsewhere in the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the letter has been referred to someone appropriate for consideration.

The Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) wrote to the Executive Secretary seeking advice on the requirements for Cooperating Non-membership. The Registry is part of the Belize Department of Finance. The Executive Secretary

provided advice on the requirements of the CCSBT as set out in the relevant Resolution. The Registry was also informed that an application for Cooperating Non-membership would have to be made by the Government of Belize as undertakings would have to be given by the flag state. Copies of the exchange of correspondence with Belize is at Attachment B.

The Extended Commission might wish to consider whether:

further representation needs to be made to Indonesia

a direct approach should be made to the Government of Belize in the light of the request from the Belize vessel register.

**Prepared by the Secretariat**

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



Attachment A

みなみまぐろ保存委員会

5 July 2006

Ms Esti Andayani  
Director of Commodity and Standardisation  
Directorate-General of Multilateral on  
Economy, Finance and Development  
J1 Taman Pejambon No 6  
Jakarta 10110  
INDONESIA

Dear Ms Andayani

The purpose of this letter is to invite Indonesia to participate in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna as an observer. The meeting will be held in Miyazaki, Japan on 8-13 October 2006. The first two days have been set aside for a meeting of the Compliance Committee, where Indonesia's involvement in the fishery will be discussed as part of a general assessment of compliance with the Commission's management and conservation measures.

The Commission will meet the cost of the Indonesian observer. It will pay for an economy return airfare, accommodation and a daily allowance for meals and miscellaneous expenses.

I would also appreciate your advice on whether Indonesia intends to maintain its position of not becoming a cooperating non-member of the Commission. We are aware that this decision has caused some difficulty for the Indonesian fishing industry because it has effectively closed access to markets in Commission members and the United States. Reversal of Indonesia's policy would result in re-opening of access and provide a platform for increased cooperation and support from the Commission.

Yours sincerely

Brian Macdonald  
Executive Secretary



**INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT MARINE REGISTRY OF BELIZE  
"IMMARBE"**

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Belize City, Belize  
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Dear Mr. Brian Macdonald:

I am writing on behalf of the International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE). We are interested in becoming Co-operating non-Members of your Commission and would appreciate if you can provide us with the following information.

1. What comprises your regulated area? Is there a map of the area where SBT cannot be harvested?
2. What are the names of the countries that are Contracting Parties and Co-operating non-Members of this Commission?
3. What are the procedure(s) for becoming a Cooperating non-Member of this Commission?
4. What type of data are required to be submitted annually to the Commission in addition to the list of vessel targeting SBT?

Any additional information you can provide us regarding the above matter would be greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to your earliest response.

Regards,

Valerie Savery  
Fishing Vessels Manager  
IMMARBE- Belize  
tel: 501-22-35026/35031/35047  
fax:501-22-35070/35048



3 July 2006

Ms Valerie Savery  
Fishing Vessels Manager  
International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize  
Marina Towers, Suite 204, Newtown Barracks  
Belize City  
BELIZE

Dear Ms Savery

I refer to your letter 28 June 2006 seeking advice on Cooperating Non-member status in the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT).

Cooperating Non-membership of the CCSBT is a formal status, which entitles full participation in the activities of the CCSBT except for the right to take part in decisions and voting. Cooperating Non-members must give undertakings to the CCSBT that they will abide by all of the CCSBT's management and conservation measures, including adherence to catch limits. Financial contributions are not required.

Applications must be made by the national government of the country concerned.

When considering an application, the CCSBT would take into account the applicant country's involvement in the fishery and its catch history. In this regard I would be grateful if you could provide me with Belize's involvement in the southern bluefin tuna fishery including the catch history of the Belize fleet and where fish are being marketed.

In regard to the specific questions in your letter I provide the following information:

1. The CCSBT does not have a regulated area defined by geographical coordinates. The CCSBT defines its area of interest as any fishing where southern bluefin tuna may be caught across the geographical range of southern bluefin tuna. I have attached a map, which outlines the geographical range of southern bluefin tuna.
2. The Members of the CCSBT are Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Korea and the Fishing Entity of Taiwan. The Philippines is a Cooperating Non-member.
3. The procedure and undertakings that are required for becoming a Cooperating Non-member are outlined in the attached resolution of the CCSBT.
4. In broad summary, a Cooperating Non-member would be required to provide
  - a. monthly catch data
  - b. a list of vessels, which are authorised to catch southern bluefin tuna, either through targeted fishing or through bycatch

- c. completion of CCSBT trade documents for all consignments of traded southern bluefin tuna – CCSBT trade documents are not valid if the catching vessel is not on the CCSBT vessel list and CCSBT Members are not permitted to import product without a valid trade document. The USA recognises the CCSBT's trade document and will also not allow importation of southern bluefin tuna without a valid CCSBT trade document.

I hope this letter responds to your questions. If you require further information, please don't hesitate to ask.

I would appreciate your response as soon as possible. The CCSBT will hold its annual meeting in Tokyo on 10-13 October 2006. Belize's interest in the CCSBT will be discussed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Macdonald". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Brian Macdonald  
Executive Secretary