



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS

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Report by CCSBT

**CCSBT Report on Intersessional Developments in fishery statistics
since CWP 20 (Jan 2003)**

The CCSBT Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBF) Statistical Document Program (SDP) continues to operate. Summaries of the SDP data are now published on the CCSBT web site and are updated on a six monthly basis. The SDP has also been modified to incorporate minimum standards that specify the responsibilities of exporters, importers and the CCSBT Secretariat in relation completion of the documents and the action required in response to missing or inaccurate information.

At its annual meeting in October 2003, the CCSBT agreed to a resolution to establish a list of vessels over 24 metres in length which are approved to fish for SBT. The list came into effect on 1 July 2004 and can be accessed from the CCSBT web site. At its annual meeting in October 2004, the CCSBT amended the resolution to remove the 24 metre threshold with effect from 1 July 2005. The purpose of the amendment is to strengthen the vessel list as a fishery management measure by extending coverage to small longliners, which are fishing outside the CCSBT's management and conservation objectives.

Standards for CCSBT Scientific Observer programs were finalised in October 2003. These standards include information on the type of data that should be collected by such programs.

The CCSBT developed education pamphlets on seabirds and sharks in 4 languages (English, Japanese, Mandarin and Korean) and distributed these to SBF fishers. The seabird pamphlet was designed as a guide to reduce the incidental seabird catch in the SBF longline fisheries, and the shark pamphlet was designed as a handbook on sharks caught in the SBF fishing grounds.

Considerable progress was made in populating CCSBT's database of historical SBF catch effort, catch by fleet and catch at size data since CWP-20. This centralised database was used as the baseline stock assessment data for the first time¹ in the stock assessment conducted by CCSBT in 2004.

CCSBT has cooperated with FAO in the development of FIRMS. CCSBT signed the FIRMS partnership agreement in December 2003 and as part of this agreement, submitted a global southern bluefin tuna stock fact sheet² and SBF nominal catch data to FIGIS in late 2004. Most of this nominal catch data is now also available from the CCSBT web site. At the time of writing this report, the stock fact sheet submitted by CCSBT had yet to be moved to the public side of FIGIS due to technical issues within FIGIS.

¹ Instead of using datasets held by individual members.

² The stock fact sheet is based upon a summary stock status report that CCSBT produced for the first time in 2004 to provide to other RFMO's with an interest in SBF. This will be updated on an annual basis.

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