



**COMMISSION
EIGHTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Electronic Meeting
1 – 7 December 2021

**VIEWS OF 17 ORGANIZATIONS OF JAPAN WHICH SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE
PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF TROPICAL TUNAS**

**WCPFC18-2021-OP12
27 November 2021**

Submitted by World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
18th Regular Session of the Commission,
29th November 2021

Dear Japanese Delegates and Ms. Jung-re Riley Kim WCPFC chair

We, the undersigned 17 organizations of Japan which support sustainable production and consumption of tropical tunas (Skipjack, Yellowfin and Bigeye tunas), request that the annual session of the WCPFC starting on November 29th, 2021 to implement Harvest Strategies in accordance with precautionary principle for sustainable use and conservation of tropical tuna stock.

Despite the stock of skipjack tuna of western-central Pacific region having fallen to their lowest level in history with rapid increase of the capture, the fishing pressure is still increasing. Yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna are also at risk of increasing fishing pressure and decreasing their stocks. Unless this situation is addressed, not only the global industries of tropical tunas but healthy ocean ecosystem will be at risk.

In order to resolve the above situation, we request that WCPFC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs) to develop and implement a precautionary harvest strategy approach that includes limit & target reference points, harvest control rules and other elements for tropical tunas in the area covered by WCPFC.

Tropical tunas are harvested in huge quantities around the world, and Western Central Pacific Ocean is the largest fishery ground for them in the world. Adaptation of CMMs requested above will also lead to the promotion of the sustainable fisheries of the world. We expect the WCPFC will make responsible decisions, as achieving the above at the WCPFC can also encourage sustainable fisheries management in the world.

Japan is one of the world's leading fishing and consuming countries for tropical tunas. In order to implement a precautionary harvest strategy approach, we expect the Japanese delegations will take a leadership role in the WCPFC.

Sincerely,

Requested companies and organizations

- AEON Co., Ltd.
- ISHIHARA MARINE PRODUCTS. Co., Ltd.
- Ishinomaki Fishery Co., Ltd.
- Japan Katsubushi Association
- JAPANESE CONSUMERS' CO-OPERATIVE UNION
- KIJIMA Co., Ltd.
- Kyowa Fishery co.,ltd.
- Maruha Nichiro Corporation
- MEIHOGYOGYO Co., Ltd.
- Mitsubishi Corporation
- NINBEN CO.,LTD.
- Nippon Suisan Kaisha, Ltd.
- Seafood Legacy Co., Ltd.
- Taiyo A&F Co., Ltd.
- Tokai Fishery co.,ltd.
- Toyo Reizo Co.,Ltd
- WWF Japan



JAPANESE CONSUMERS' CO-OPERATIVE UNION

