



**COMMISSION  
Twentieth Regular Session  
4-8 December 2023  
Rarotonga, Cook Islands (Hybrid)**

---

**Views of 17 Organizations of Japan that Support Sustainable Production and  
Consumption of Tropical Tunas**

---

**WCPFC20-2023-OP09  
27 November 2023**

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF Japan)

**Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission**  
**20th Regular Session of the Commission,**  
**December 4, 2023**

**Dear Japanese Delegates and Dr Josie Tamate WCPFC chair**

We, the undersigned 17 organizations of Japan which support sustainable production and consumption of tropical tunas (Yellowfin and Bigeye tunas), request that the annual session of the WCPFC starting on December 4, 2023, implement Harvest Strategies in accordance with a precautionary approach for sustainable use and conservation of the tropical tunas' stock.

The catch of tropical tunas in the western and central Pacific has been increasing, and accordingly, the stock has declined significantly over the past 50 years. If this situation continues, both the global fishing industry that depends on tropical tunas and a healthy ocean ecosystem will be at risk.

In order to resolve the above situation, we request that WCPFC urgently 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 WCPO.

Tropical tunas are harvested in huge quantities around the globe, and the WCPO represents the largest fishery in the world. Adaptation of the Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) suggested above will lead the promotion of sustainable tuna fisheries around the world. We expect the WCPFC will make responsible decisions, as achieving these goals at the WCPFC will secure the future of the WCPO tropical tuna stocks and also encourage sustainable fisheries management globally.

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.
- 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.
- Nissui Corporation
- Owase Bussan Co., Ltd.
- Seafood Legacy Co., Ltd.
- Taiyo A&F Co., Ltd.
- Tokai Fishery co.,ltd.
- Toyo Reizo Co.,Ltd
- WWF Japan

