

Proposed Interim Allocation Arrangement for WCPO PBF Catch Limit

IATTC-WCPFC NC Joint Working Group on the Management
of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (JWG-09)

Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries
Republic of Korea

OUR REQUEST

- **515 tons large fish catch limit** for Korea, under “15% increase in small fish catch limit and 50% increase in large fish catch limit” scenario in WCPO

CCM	Small fish	Large fish	Total	%
Japan	4,007 4,608	5,614 8,421	9,621 13,029	78 75
Korea	718 825.7	305 515	748 1,340.7	68
Chinese Taipei	0 []	1,965 2,947.5	1,965 2,947.5	16 17
Total	4,725 5433.7	7,609 11,883.5	12,334 17,317.2	

- 515t needs to be adjusted depending on the overall increase

THE DIFFICULTIES KOREA HAS BEEN FACING



PBF discards that beached in the east coast areas

515 tons

- **515 tons** as “**Minimum**” amount of increase, on an **interim basis**
- **Highest catch level of large fish in recent 5 years** (`18~`22)

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
24.5	16.9	412.7	57.7	515.7	337.1

The Reason Why Allocation Based on '02-'04 Historical Catch is Unfair – Korea's view

- The development of Korea's PBF fishery was in its **infant stage**, whereas certain countries already had a long history of established fisheries
- Korea's PBF fishery was not developed very much, largely due to relatively **small amount of PBF migration** into its waters, in particular **large fish**

Korea's Cooperation and Sacrifice

- Korea has **little to do with the collapse of PBF stock** in the first place because its **historical catch is small**
- Nevertheless, Korea joined the mandatory restriction of catch limits and accepted a **zero-catch limit for large PBF**
- Again, Korea accepted very small increase of large PBF catch limit **30 tons** in 2021, while other countries' catch limits increased by hundreds and thousands of tons
 - Korea deserved decent amount of increase, as it substantially contributed to the PBF stock recovery by having a **zero-catch limit for large PBF**

Necessary Changes

- Things have changed and are changing
 - Large amount of large PBF migration into Korean waters, in **territorial seas** in particular
 - Korean PBF Fisheries as well as fishermen's demands are growing
- Allocation based on historical catch of `02-`04 is obsolete and does not reflect the reality at present

Necessary Changes

- For now, Korea is trying not to affect the amount of catch limit increase for other countries
 - For example, if certain % of overall increase is agreed, all countries' catch limit will increase based on that %
 - After that, certain amount of catch limit, for example 515t, should be allocated to Korea
- Considering the current stock status and future projections, we believe that the additional 500+ tons catch of large PBF would have negligible impact on the stock

Catch or catch limit proportion in WCPO

Period		Korea	Japan	Chinese Taipei	total
`02-`04	Catch	1,436	12,889	1,709	16,034
	Proportion(%)	8.956	80.385	10.659	100
`22-`24	Catch limit	748	9,621	1,965	12,334
	Proportion(%)	6.1	78.0	15.9	100
`25-`27(KR)	Catch limit	1,341	13,029	2,948	17,318
	Proportion(%)	7.7	75.2	17.0	100

* 15% increase in small fish, 50% increase in large fish, 515t large fish for Korea

Korea firmly believes its proportion must increase compared to `02-`04 period

Territorial Seas

- **WCPFC CMMs do not apply to territorial seas**
- **Coastal State's right**

Thank you very much.