



TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

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**LETTER FROM THAILAND ON COOPERATION FOR DATA COLLECTION FROM
CANNERIES**

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Paper prepared by Thailand

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๑๘ July B.E. 2553 (2010)

Dear Sir,

Subject: Conservation and Management Measure to Monitor Landing of Purse Seine at Ports

Reference is made to your letter dated 18th February 2010 and the fruitful consultation among senior officials from Thailand, Japan and Chinese Taipei taken place at the Department of Fisheries, Thailand on 26th February 2010. We are very pleased once again to reiterate our intention to work closely and cooperatively with WCPFC and its member with regard to conservation and management measure to monitor landing of purse seine at ports to ensure reliable catch data. It was agreed in principle that Thailand was willing to cooperate with Japan and Chinese Taipei to ensure collection of data from canneries with a view to implementing the conservation and management measure adopted at the 6th Meeting of WCPFC in December 2009 (CMM 2009-10). It was also agreed that the Thai Department of Fisheries shall be the responsible agency to collect and provide data to Japan and Chinese Taipei.

In pursuant to the provision of existing species and size data sorted by Thai tuna canneries, the Thai Food Processor's Association conducted a meeting of Tuna Group on 19th March 2010 which resulted in diversified opinions, and a consensus to provide the sorted data from canneries could not be reached. Some canneries do not possess data and find it troublesome to collect such comprehensive information. Some are not sure of what legal responsibility in releasing data is going to be. Some are uncertain on how the data will be used in accordingly. Some already sent their sorted data to IOTC for further scientific and technical usage. Nevertheless, a series of meetings were hold after that when the decision was finalized in the last meeting in June. At the initial stage, only data of bigeye tuna will be collected on the 3-month basis starting from July 2010 and will be submitted to the Department of Fisheries for compilation and sending to Japan and Chinese Taipei. Enclosed herewith please find the template of sorting and sizing report of bigeye tuna.

Last but not least, I am highly appreciated to receive your appointed focal point for this particular matter and the list of Japanese purse seiners. For our future data collection and submission procedure, I would like to request your true office to send a letter

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authorizing the officials of the Thai Department of Fisheries to board those purse seiners and conduct sampling program on your behalf, whenever they land their catches at ports in Thailand as well as to have legitimate right to submit the collected data back to your office.

Please be assured on our fullest cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



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