



**SIXTH REGULAR SESSION**

**Papeete, French Polynesia**

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**Japan's Vessel Reduction Program for the implementation of  
CMM 2008-01**

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**WCPFC6-2009/IP20**

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**Submitted by Japan**

Following the adoption of Conservation and Management Measure on Bigeye and Yellowfin Tuna (CMM 2008-01) at the 5<sup>th</sup> WCPFC Regular Meeting in December, 2008, the Japanese government established a Vessel Reduction Program in early 2009 for the purpose of the implementation of a 30% reduction in bigeye catch by its longline fishery.

Since then, the government held a series of consultations with tuna fishing associations, vessel owners and related prefectural governments. As a result of the consultations, **87 vessels** were confirmed to participate in the program: **64 vessels** out of the 87 vessels were distant-water longline fishing vessels and the rest of **23 vessels** were off-shore longline fishing vessels.

These fishing vessels participating in the program ceased their fishing operation before the end of March, 2009 and then were sent to shipyards for scrapping. The government compensated the subject vessel owners for fishing licenses and a part of financial losses caused by the scrapping.

