



# **WTPO'S Opinion on New Tropical Tuna CMM**

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# The Introduction of the WTPO



- **W**orld **T**una **P**urse sein **O**rganizaiton
- Established on Mar. 2001
- Members : 8 countries with 302 Purse seiners  
(55% of world tuna purse seiners)



# The Introduction of the WTPO



## ■ *Objective*

- Promote the general implementation of the principles of responsible and sustainable fishing.
- Establish strategy to develop and expand the tuna market.
- Exchange information among members.

## ■ *Activities for the long-term conservation of tuna resource*

- Since the WCPF convention took effect in 2004, WTPO is a fundamental partner for the establishment of conservation and management measures for highly migratory fish stocks in the WCPO.
- WTPO supports the Scientific Advice related to the reduction of fishing mortality of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tuna from the fishery while recognizes the need to ensure reasonable market supply of Skipjack.

# Review for Two Options of FAD Management



## 1) Option 1 : FAD Closure

### ■ *Effectiveness*

- At this moment, it seems early to make sure that FAD closure is the most effective measure to reduce BET.
  - Further in-depth study is required with consideration for many variables.
- Nevertheless, during FAD closure period of 2009-2010, BET and SKJ catch declined and YFT was stable as a result. In 2011, also all three species showed declines in catch.

**Note:** Japan will make a presentation on FAD set limitations based on the experience this year

# Review for Two Options of FAD Management



## 1) Option 1 : FAD Closure

### ■ *Compliance and Monitoring issue*

- FAD closure is clear and an easy to manage measure for all CCMs to control and comply with.
- Also it is obviously applied to all CCMs fairly.
- To relieve the problems in SJ supply and market price instability due to the simultaneous FAD closure of all tuna purse seiners, WTPO proposes to consider to divide its term into twice a year by two months.

☞ *Recently other commercial fisheries has increased tremendously targeting Big eye and Yellowfin.*

*The deepest attention required for the overfishing issue of BE and YF is the necessity to cap the number of vessels in other fisheries.*



# Review for Two Options of FAD Management



## 2) Option 2 : FAD Set Limit

### ■ *Effectiveness and Compliance Issue*

- It is not clearly verified yet that the limited number of FAD sets is effective on reducing BET fishing mortality.
  - how will proper number of FAD sets be evaluated to meet sustainability.
- Limited FAD sets could restrict fishing area, which makes some coastal countries suffer.
- The efficient procedure and manner for the compliance and monitoring
  - FAD set limits might have compliance and transparency problems.
  - FAD set ratio of total set numbers should be allocated to all CCMs fairly.

# FAD Management



## ■ WTPO's proposal for additional FAD Management

- WTPO agrees and supports the fishing mortality rate for BET should be reached under 1.0 ( $F/F_{msy} \leq 1$ )
  - To achieve, new CMM implementing additional one month FAD closure
  - Before discussing new measures, WTPO suggests to review its result through Stock Assessment of 2014 for BE, YF and SJ
- WTPO would like to draw the attention on other fisheries
  - Their fishing efforts seems to affect BET fishing mortality seriously, and accordingly the catch data should be reviewed.
  - WTPO request other fisheries should participate more actively in conservation efforts to reduce BET fishing mortality.

# FAD Management



## ■ WTPO's proposal for additional FAD Management

- Reference points of F/Fmsy with current CMM level

F/Fmsy Bigeye Tuna 1.30 ~ 1.33

Yellowfin Tuna 0.70 ~ 0.71

**Skipjack Tuna 0.41**

- Excessive FAD management on purse seine industry can disturb the utilization of healthy SKJ tuna resources
- It's required to consider the vulnerable economic situation of SIDs which highly depends on skipjack tuna resources.



# FAD Management



## ■ WTPO's proposal for additional FAD Management

- Accurate evaluation is required for the compliance and effectiveness of FAD set limit which has been progressed in 2013.
  - also efficiency of monitoring and reporting should be reviewed
- Considering the impact on all stakeholders, additional management in 2014 should be evaluated combined with stock assessment.
- This objective  $BET \ F/F_{msy} \leq 1$  should be achieved on a step by step approach without undermining the SJ fishery.

# Capacity Management



## ■ Capacity freezing and reduction

- Freezing Capacity at the current level is highly essential for sustainability.
  - the number of vessels in WCPO keeps increasing.
- There's no exemption for freezing capacity, however, for the SIDS development aspirations, vessel transfers from non-SIDS CCMs can also be considered.

With the increase in capacity, more stringent CMMs will be put in place that will in turn cause disproportionate burdens to SIDS.

**Even with the VDS in place, total annual catch keeps increasing as the number of vessels increase.**

# High Seas Management



## ■ Fishing Right in High Seas

- UNCLOS (UN Convention on the Law of the Sea) allows all states to have fishing rights in High Seas in Article 87 and 116.
  - Article 87 Freedom of the high seas
  - Article 116 Right to fish on the high seas
- For the compatibility of Conservation Measures,
  - WTPO proposes to consider adopting a compatible measure to re-open the high seas.
  - WTPO would like to request the PNA countries to re-consider this approach.