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PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH, AND STATISTICS

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VIETNAM

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISION (WCPFC)

PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

VIETNAMESE ANNUAL FISHERY REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF CAPTURE FISHERIES AND RESOURCES PROTECTION

DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision relating to the provision of scientific data to the Commission by 30 April, 2014	Yes
If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:	

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Due to its long coastline, the sea is playing an important role in the lives of many Vietnamese, in terms of food security, job creation, income generation, poverty elimination and national economic growth. In the overall development of the country, the fisheries sector in general and tuna fisheries in particular have thus become an important industry.

The potential of the offshore fishery for tuna has been recognized in the general development trend of fisheries sector. Interest in realizing this potential was initially generated by resource surveys focusing on offshore areas in the early 1990s. Oceanic tuna fisheries are one of the main intentions in national key programs in recent years due to huge values that these fisheries created in term of economic and livelihood values. There are three fisheries targeting oceanic tuna species which are being managed by WCPFC. These are longline, purse seine and gillnet fishery catching the oceanic tunas such as bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna. The longline fishery appears only in the three central provinces of Vietnam (Binh Dinh, Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa). In contrast, the purses seines and gillnet fisheries present in many coastal provinces and their catches are mainly skipjack tuna and by catch species such as shark, rays, mackerel, swordfish, etc. Until now, oceanic tuna fisheries are still considered as one of the most significant contribution fisheries in Vietnam.

ANNUAL FISHERIES INFORMATION

A. FLEET STRUCTURE

Longlines/handline fishery (LL/HL) is the main fishing method used in tuna fisheries and this fishery is highly developed in the central provinces, e.g. Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa and Binh Dinh from many years ago. In 2013, there is a slight increase in total of number of LL/HL comparing to 2012. Total of LL/HL of 2013 is 1734 units. In addition, tuna species can also be caught by purse seine and gillnet fisheries targeting on skipjack tuna and other neritic tuna and bycatch species. In 2013, number of gillnet have been significantly reduced by about 25% of total vessels of 2012. Total of gillnet vessels in 2013 is 898 units. In contrast, there was a doubled increase of purse seine vessels in 2013. There were only more than 500 units of purse seine vessels in 2012 but increased 1014 in 2013. This may be due to insufficient vessel data obtained in 2012 and this year statistic of vessel number has been enhanced and thus more vessels were recorded into vessel database.

Table 1. Number of Tuna Fishing Vessels in Vietnam by Fisheries and Capacity

GEAR	TUNA LONGLINE/HANDLINE					
Size class (HP)	YEAR					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
50 - 89	609	271	280	161	122	7
90 - 149	325	214	99	97	513	144
150 - 249	317	326	382	326	738	384
250 - 399	81	22	209	227	251	663
> 400	31	31	7	54	54	536
Total	**1,363**	**864**	**977**	**714**	**1,678**	**1,734**

GEAR	GILLNET					
Size class (HP)	YEAR					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
50 - 89	693	819	709	627	605	212
90 - 149	145	210	245	261	200	307
150 - 249	77	152	160	184	174	175
250 - 399	255	249	222	216	204	132
> 400	14	23	33	24	21	72
Total	**1184**	**1453**	**1369**	**1312**	**1204**	**898**

GEAR	MARKERAL PURSE SEINE (DAILY PURSE SEINE)					
Size class (HP)	YEAR					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
50 - 89	205	80	139	134	136	131
90 - 149	199	106	115	184	194	118
150 - 249	79	130	117	44	56	114
250 - 399	101	108	131	233	206	242
> 400	3	0	5	20	0	409
Total	**587**	**424**	**507**	**595**	**592**	**1014**

B. ANNUAL TUNA CATCHES IN THE VIETNAM'S EEZ

Total catches as indicated in this report were derived from vessels fishing in the Vietnam's EEZ covering in the period of 2013. In the report, total catches of longline/handline fishery were estimated using data/information from West Pacific East Asian Oceanic Fisheries Management project (WPEA OFM) which has being collected at three central provinces (Binh Dinh, Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa) which is considered as a high reliable data source. This data was assumed to represent the total catch of yellowfin and bigeye tuna in whole the country since there is no any tuna longline/handline operating in other provinces. However, there is insufficient information to estimate total catches of purse seine and gillnet fisheries in some regions/provinces of Vietnam. This difficulty caused a problem with estimation of the skipjack tuna catch in 2013. It was however assumed that there are only purse seine and gillnet fishery catching this species and therefore, these tuna fisheries data

integrated from reports of local authorities (Sub-Department of Capture Fisheries and Resources Protection, Sub-DECAFIREP Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan and Ba Ria Vung Tau). A national workshop to estimate annual tuna total catches was convened from 19-21 June 2014 to estimate and evaluate total catches of all gears and species. Throughout this workshop, total catch of main tuna species and bycatch were produced by gears indicated in the table 2, 3 and 4.

Total catch of tuna longline/handline fishery estimated in 2013 in the Vietnam's EEZ was more than 17,000 MT. Of those, bigeye and yellowfin were about 16,000 MT accounting for approximately 80% in the total catches.

Total catch of purse seine fishery for tuna species in 2013 was 22,000 MT and SKJ and YET accounting for 19,600 and 2,000 MT, respectively.

Total catch of gillnet fishery for tuna and billfish species in 2013 was 42,500 MT. Of those, skipjack catch was 36.500 MT in 2013.

Table 2: Total catches by species in Vietnam's EEZ estimated for tuna Longline fishery by time series from 2000 - 2013

Year	Estimated Tuna Catch (metric tonnes)									Estimated Billfish Catch (metric tonnes)								TOTAL Tuna and Billfish
	Skipjack	%	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	Albacore	%	Total tuna	Blue Marlin	%	Black Marlin	%	Striped Marlin	%	Swordfish	%	
2000	0	0%	6,776	68%	2,479	25%	10	0%	9,266	323	3%	152	2%	0	0%	253	3%	9,993
2001	0	0%	8,292	79%	1,450	14%	11	0%	9,753	340	3%	160	2%	0	0%	266	3%	10,518
2002	0	0%	9,756	87%	614	5%	11	0%	10,382	362	3%	170	2%	0	0%	283	3%	11,197
2003	0	0%	8,179	73%	2,129	19%	11	0%	10,320	360	3%	169	2%	0	0%	281	3%	11,130
2004	0	0%	11,122	74%	2,781	19%	15	0%	13,918	486	3%	228	2%	0	0%	379	3%	15,010
2005	0	0%	10,895	70%	3,527	23%	16	0%	14,438	504	3%	236	2%	0	0%	394	3%	15,572
2006	0	0%	10,930	70%	3,538	23%	16	0%	14,483	505	3%	237	2%	0	0%	395	3%	15,621
2007	0	0%	11,270	70%	3,648	23%	16	0%	14,935	521	3%	244	2%	0	0%	407	3%	16,107
2008	0	0%	10,375	70%	3,358	23%	15	0%	13,748	480	3%	225	2%	0	0%	375	3%	14,827
2009	0	0%	9,244	70%	2,992	23%	13	0%	12,249	427	3%	200	2%	0	0%	334	3%	13,211
2010	0	0%	9,513	74%	2,441	19%	4	0%	11,958	418	3%	196	2%	0	0%	326	3%	12,898
2011	0	0%	9,031	70%	2,923	23%	13	0%	11,967	418	3%	196	2%	0	0%	326	3%	12,907
2012	0	0%	12,456	74%	3,761	22%	13	0%	16,230	130	1%	146	1%	0	0%	*372*	*2%*	16,878
2013	0	0%	13,917	71%	2,260	12%	251	1%	16,428	384	2%	385	2%	0	0%	388	2%	17,585

Table 3: Total catches by species in Vietnam's EEZ estimated for tuna Gillnet fishery by time series from 2000 - 2013

Year	Estimated Tuna Catch (metric tonnes)							Estimated Billfish Catch (metric			TOTAL Tuna and Billfish
	Skipjack	%	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	Total tuna	Blue Marlin	Black Marlin	Sword-fish	
2000	8,164	91%	522	6%	315	4%	9,001				
2001	8,593	91%	549	6%	332	4%	9,474				
2002	9,147	91%	585	6%	353	4%	10,085				
2003	9,093	91%	581	6%	351	4%	10,025				
2004	12,263	91%	784	6%	473	4%	13,520				
2005	12,371	88%	982	7%	673	5%	14,026				
2006	12,409	88%	985	7%	675	5%	14,070				
2007	12,796	88%	1,016	7%	696	5%	14,508				
2008	11,779	88%	935	7%	641	5%	13,355				
2009	13,016	88%	1,033	7%	708	5%	14,757				
2010	11,866	88%	942	7%	646	5%	13,454				
2011	11,866	88%	942	7%	646	5%	13,454				
2012	20,988	94%	1,024	5%	363	2%	22,375	*378*	*18*	*1,259*	*24,030*
2013	36,496	*92%*	2,823	*7%*	400	*1%*	39,720	657	31	2,189	42,597

Table 4: Total catches by species in Vietnam's EEZ estimated for tuna purse seine by time series from 2000 - 2013

Year	Estimated Tuna Catch (metric tonnes)						
	Skipjack	%	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	Total tuna
2000	11,525	75%	3,534	23%	307	2%	15,367
2001	12,130	75%	3,720	23%	323	2%	16,174
2002	12,913	75%	3,960	23%	344	2%	17,218
2003	12,836	75%	3,936	23%	342	2%	17,115
2004	17,312	75%	5,309	23%	462	2%	23,082
2005	17,959	75%	5,507	23%	479	2%	23,945
2006	18,015	75%	5,525	23%	480	2%	24,020
2007	18,576	75%	5,697	23%	495	2%	24,768
2008	17,100	75%	5,244	23%	456	2%	22,800
2009	12,926	75%	3,964	23%	345	2%	17,234
2010	12,190	75%	3,738	23%	325	2%	16,253
2011	12,926	75%	3,964	23%	345	2%	17,234
2012	22,638	84%	3,336	12%	965	4%	26,939
2013	19,655	87%	2,070	9%	760	3%	22,485

C. OTHER INFORMATION

1. West Pacific East Asian Oceanic Fisheries Management project (WPEA OFM)

The WPEA OFM Project, funded by the GEF and several co-financing partners, is executed by UNOPS and WCPFC. It is aimed at building capacity in Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam to fully engage in regional initiatives to conserve and manage fisheries for highly migratory fish stocks, by addressing tuna catch data gaps in the tuna fisheries of the WCPO, and by addressing compliance shortfalls through reforming policy, legal and institutional arrangements as per the various requirements of the WCPFC.

In 2013, activities of the project were focused only on data collection at three central provinces for longline/handline, purse seine and gillnet. Number of samples collected under this project was indicated in the following tables:

Table 5: Number of samples collected for LL/HL in Binh Dinh province in 2013

Month	Port sampling	Landing samples	Logsheet	No. unloading
1	31	191	180	501
2	31	184	218	463
3	31	226	262	661
4	30	277	440	719
5	30	149	200	485
6	30	208	201	522
7	30	234	210	503
8	30	173	172	431
9	26	131	132	284

10	30	149	112	255
11	21	130	98	217
12	27	162	87	275

Table 6: Number of samples collected for LL/HL in Phu Yen province in 2013

Month	No. unloading	Port sampling	Landing samples
01/2013	117	12	56
01/2013	123	13	62
4/2013	294	40	148
5,6,7,8	509	96	260
9/2013	07	04	07
9/2013	14	10	14
Total	**1.057**	**175**	**547**

Table 7: Number of samples collected for LL/HL in Khanh Hoa province in 2013

Month	No. unloading (time)	Samples		Logbook	
		Port sampling	Unloading	Delivered	Recovered
1/2012	**120**	30	120	98	35
2/2012	**180**	30	150	103	50
3/2013	**221**	30	150	90	40
4/2013	**141**	30	141	97	42
5/2013	**86**	30	86	85	37
6/2013	**150**	30	150	80	30
9/2013	**157**	30	150	50	25
10/2013	**114**	30	114	52	28
11/2013	**81**	30	81	48	21
12/2013	**120**	30	120	80	60
Total	***1,370***	***300***	***1.262***	***783***	***368***

Table 8: Number of samples collected for Gillnet in Binh Dinh province in 2013

Month	Port sampling	Landing samples	No. unloading	Logsheet
1	10	32	49	0
2	17	53	86	0
3	25	91	148	0
4	25	95	158	50
5	25	104	200	56
6	25	90	175	79
7	25	108	189	95
8	25	112	294	99
9	25	124	337	101
10	25	109	217	86
11	21	90	142	80
12	21	97	191	70

Table 9: Number of samples collected for Gillnet in Phu Yen province in 2013

Month	No. unloading	Port sampling	Landing samples
01/2013	05	05	05
02/2013	07	07	07
04/2013	06	06	06
5,6,7,8	15	13	15
9/2013	09	08	09
10,11/2013	20	14	20
12/2013	11	08	11
Total	**73**	**61**	**73**

Table 10: Number of samples collected for Gillnet in Khanh Hoa province in 2013

Month	No. unloading (time)	Sampled		Logbook	
		Port sampling	Landing samples	Delivered	Recovered
Jan-13	160	27	133	50	30
Feb-13	160	27	133	95	20
Mar-13	175	27	133	76	30
Apr-13	170	27	133	83	20
May-13	177	27	133	124	30
Jun-13	171	27	133	158	30
Jul-13	173	27	133	155	30
Aug-13	169	27	133	145	30
Sep-13	167	27	133	110	20
Oct-13	172	27	133	85	30
Nov-13	179	27	133	90	30
Dec-13	180	27	133	100	30
Total	**2,053**	**324**	**1,596**	**1.271**	**330**

Table 11: Number of samples collected for Purse seine in Binh Dinh province in 2013

Month	Port sampling	Landing samples	No. unloading
1	0	9	11
2	0	12	16
3	0	12	19
4	0	11	11
5	0	12	12
6	0	3	3
7	0	0	0
8	0	0	0
9	0	0	0
10	0	0	0
11	0	0	0
12	0	0	0

Table 12: Number of samples collected for Purse seine in Phu Yen province in 2013

Month	No. unloading	Port sampling	Landing samples
Nov-12	16	9	16
Jan-13	16	8	16
Feb-13	16	8	16
Apr-13	16	8	16
May -Aug 2013	165	84	165
Sep-13	5	0	5
Total	**234**	**117**	**234**

Table 13: Number of samples collected for Purse seine in Khanh Hoa province in 2013

Month	No. unloading (time)	Sampled		Logbook	
		Port sam-pling	Landing samples	Delivered	Recovered
01/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
02/2013	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**
3/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
4/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
5/2013	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**1**
6/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
7/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
8/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
9/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
10/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
11/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
12/2013	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
Total	***27***	***27***	***27***	***27***	***26***

2. National research programs

There was a few national survey programs conducted for tuna fisheries in Vietnam in 2013 but they were mostly regarding to tuna product quality control.

3. MSC Pre-Assessment and scoping of the Vietnam handline/longline fishery

A Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP) has been continued to implement in Vietnam in 2013. In the FIP, stakeholders agreed that there are four steps identified to develop and implement the FIP in order to obtain the MSC. These steps are: (i) Conducting rapid/pre-assessment based on MSC standard, (ii) FIP Scoping, (iii) FIP stakeholder workshop and work plan development and (iv) FIP implementation.

In 2013, action plans of the FIP have been developed to implement some priority activities for implementation in the future.

4. Socio-economic factors

In 2013, Vietnamese tuna exports reduced about 7.2 percent to 2012. This was a challenge for the tuna industry of Vietnam, which was facing lack of good quality raw material for processing to export, harder requirements on the global markets, lower demands for tuna products, stricter quality requirements from importing markets.

In 2012, tuna products took a remarkable position in Vietnam's total seafood exports. However, the fish was facing with difficulties in 2013. Compared to 2012, markets for Vietnamese tuna products increased by 16 markets to 112 markets in 2013, but total export amount decreased in value.

5. Disposal of catch

In 2013, Vietnam tuna products were shipped to 96 aboard markets. The U.S., the EU, Japan, ASEAN, Israel, Tunisia, Canada and Mexico were the 8 main markets for Vietnamese tuna products, accounting for 86 percent of total tuna export value.

More than 50 percent of markets have been increased by volume in tuna imports from Vietnam. However, three key importers - including the U.S., Japan and ASEAN – showed drop in imports, leading to a lower value of Vietnam's annual tuna sales.

There was a change in Vietnam's market structure: the U.S. was down over 7 percent; Japan down 1.5 percent and the EU with an increase up to 4 percent.