



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE
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CCM'S REPORT ON PARA 4 OF CMM 2010-04 (PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA)

WCPFC-NC7-2011 /DP-03

KOREA



Ministry For Food, Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
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July 28, 2011

Professor Glenn Hurry
Executive Director
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
P.O. Box 2356
Kolonia
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, 96940

Dear Executive Director Hurry,

The Republic of Korea hereby provides the following information pursuant to paragraph 4 of WCPFC CMM 2010-04, the Conservation and Management Measures for Pacific Bluefin Tuna.

Paragraph 2: The Republic of Korea established “The Ministerial Directive on Conservation and Management of Bluefin Tuna (Administrative Directive No. 2011-51 of the Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)” which entered into force on May 26th, 2011, to manage the species in Korea’s EEZ. The Directive prohibits the commercial catch of juvenile bluefin tuna (younger than 3 years old or weigh less than 20 kilograms) in Korea’s EEZ. The following processes took place for the establishment of the Directive.

- December 17, 2010: The Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MIFAFF) held a debriefing seminar to inform other relevant divisions of MIFAFF, the industry and fishermen’s associations on CMM 2010-04.
- January 5, 2010: The first draft of the Directive was completed.
- January 7, 2011: MIFAFF officials visited a fish market in Busan (designated sales point for Pacific Bluefin Tuna) and informed on the draft Directive.
- February 7, 2011: The final draft of the Directive was completed.
- March 7, 2011~: Administrative procedures (e.g. public notification) and public consultations for the effectuation of the Directive took place.
- May 26, 2011: The Ministerial Directive on Conservation and Management of Bluefin Tuna entered into force.

Paragraph 3: The aforementioned Directive obliges fishermen to collect and report data on bluefin tuna catch to the competent authorities.

To enhance the accuracy of data, Korea’s National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI), analyzed the statistics of Pacific Bluefin Tuna sold in the designated fish market in Busan to extract accurate catch data of the species, through which the NFRDI has modified the inaccurate previous data. This work was undertaken as part of the “Five-year Plan for Pacific Bluefin Tuna Research Project.”

Paragraph 6: Not Applicable.

Paragraph 7: There has been no bilateral cooperation regarding the conservation and management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna, but Korean scientists participated in the Scientific Advisory Committee of the IATTC held in La Jolla in May 2011 and discussed the conservation and management issues regarding bluefin tuna with the members. Also, at the 82nd IATTC annual meeting, Korea was one of co-sponsors of a proposed Pacific Bluefin Tuna Resolution, along with Japan, Chinese Taipei, the United States, Canada and China.

Korea is also making voluntary efforts to conserve the species. For instance, Korean purse seine operators have voluntarily set a closure period for a month between April and May, even though that period is when many Pacific Bluefin Tuna are caught, which is also the spawning period of chub mackerels.

I always appreciate your efforts in leading the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

Best Regards,

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Jang Woo Seo
Director of the International Fisheries Organization Division
of the Distant Water Fisheries Bureau
the Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Korea