

**JOINT IATTC AND WCPFC-NC WORKING GROUP
CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME (CDS) TECHNICAL MEETING**
2 September 2019
Portland, Oregon, USA

**CHAIR'S SUMMARY OF THE
2ND CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME (CDS) TECHNICAL MEETING**

1. Opening of Meeting

1.1 Welcome

1. Mr. Shingo Ota, Chair of the WG, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

1.2 Selection of rapporteur and adoption of agenda

2. Mr. Hirohide Matsushima of Japan was appointed the rapporteur for the meeting. The provisional agenda was adopted without any change (Appendix 1).

1.3 Meeting arrangements

2. Development of a Catch Documentation Scheme for Pacific Bluefin Tuna

2.1 Review of the 1st CDS Technical Meeting and intersessional work

2.1.1 Review of the 1st CDS Technical Meeting

3. Chair briefly reviewed the results of the 1st WG.

2.1.2 Possible cost

4. Japan provided the participants with information on the cost for establishing the ICCAT eBCD system, which was provided by the ICCAT Secretariat. The development of the ICCAT eBCD system was initiated in 2012, after a one-year feasibility study in 2011 which cost about € 20 thousand. After 4.5 years, the ICCAT eBCD system has been fully implemented since July 2016. A total of about € 1.2 million was spent between 2012 and 2015, so it could be considered a rough estimate of the minimum cost for a system development and preparation for implementation. ICCAT continued to upgrade the eBCD system even after the implementation, and between 2016 and 2018, a total of about €1.1 million was spent.

5. Japan also informed that while the cost was initially financed through three different sources (i.e. Working Capital Fund, voluntary contribution and regular budget), ICCAT agreed last year on an eBCD funding scheme in its regular budget, which was reflected in the Regulation 4 of ICCAT Financial Regulations. This scheme stipulates that a basic fee of US\$ 700 is paid by those members of the Commission that catch and/or trade Atlantic bluefin tuna, while a share of remaining cost is calculated based on the bluefin tuna catch, the total number of transactions (trades) in the eBCD system and the volume of bluefin tuna import by each Member.

6. Japan was requested to contact the ICCAT Secretariat to investigate on how the catch and/or trade data were applied retrospectively in the eBCD funding scheme.

2.1.3 A report from the virtual working group

2.2 Discussion on the draft CMM

7. The meeting participants discussed a paper submitted by Japan (IATTC-NC-CDS02-2019/02) (Appendix 2) and concluded the followings:

(1) Objectives (para 1.1)

Participants supported adding a paragraph specifying a scope of PBCD and clarifying that recreational catches would not be covered. For the time being, assuming that recreational catches are outside the scope, it was suggested the paragraph be revised as follows; “The objective of Pacific Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation (PBCD) scheme is to identify the origin of ~~any~~ Pacific bluefin tuna in order to support...”

(2) Electronic/paper (para 1.2)

Participants generally supported establishment of an electronic system, and that paper PBCDs should be allowed only in limited circumstances (e.g., malfunctions of electronic system), which would be subject to further discussion. A preparation period should be secured before a full implementation of an electronic system, while the duration of such period would be further considered.

(3) Definition of term (para 1.3)

Participants supported adding a definition of *Catch*, which is “*Catch means*: commercial capture of bluefin tuna resources”, while keeping the definition of *Harvest* as it is.

Regarding the definitions of *Export* and *Import*, the United States and Canada intended to work together to suggest any necessary revisions, as well as to add a new definition of *Landing*. These definitions would be provided for the review of the virtual working group.

The definition of *Transshipment* would be added, which would read that “*Transshipment means* the unloading of all or any of the dead fish on board a fishing vessel to another fishing vessel either at sea or in port”.

(4) Others (para 1.4)

It was clarified that collars were not included in the list of fish parts which would be exempted in the proposed text (i.e. heads, eyes, roes, guts and tails) which means that they are subject to the CDS and the text would be revised to make the point clear.

(5) General provisions (para 2.1)

The first bullet point of the section should be tentatively revised as follows; “(1) The catching or carrier vessel master or trap operator...”, pending further discussion on whether it should be appropriate for carrier vessel master to fill in an ePBCD.

On the second and third bullet points, the United States and Japan would work together to make more specific on what would be exempted from those provisions.

The fourth bullet point would be further discussed in the virtual working group on whether or not different treatment of small-scale fisheries should be established.

On the fifth bullet point, it was confirmed that Japan would develop detailed requirements of

tagging, as was provided in the relevant ICCAT Recommendation.

(6) Validator (para 2.3)

Japan would work with the United States to consider a new provision for the purpose of ensuring that authorized individuals or institutions other than government officials would perform appropriate validation procedures.

(7) Relationship with non-members (para 3)

With regard to the degree of access granted to non-members, Japan would investigate the case of ICCAT to be reported in the virtual working group.

(8) Others (para 4)

The Chair or somebody on his behalf will seek to raise awareness among the participants of Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group Meeting on the management of Pacific bluefin tuna as well as WCPFC16 and IATTC next annual meeting about the need of expert analysis on pros and cons from budgetary and administrative aspects of different options for establishing an ePBCD system, such as piggybacking the ICCAT eBCD system, developing an electronic system based on the ICCAT system for WCPFC/IATTC, or developing an original electronic system for WCPFC/IATTC. The Chair would also report to the Joint Working Group that without the results of such an analysis, it would likely not be possible to finalize a draft CMM by 2020 as envisioned in the work plan for the development of a CDS.

Participants supported dividing the total cost of an ePBCD system between WCPFC and IATTC, taking into account PBF catches in each Convention area, which would require further consultations and budgetary decisions in each RFMO.

Participants were generally comfortable pursuing a similar formula as ICCAT, which is mentioned in paragraph 5 above, in calculating a cost sharing of an ePBCD system among members in each organization, while it needs to be further considered with additional information in paragraph 6 above.

Participants noted the need to consider the potential expansion of a CDS to other species in either RFMO, which could have implications for the design of the scheme as well as its financing.

Japan would propose a provision on how to secure confidentiality of information contained in an ePBCD system.

Participants are encouraged to develop separate but compatible drafts for each RFMO and to consider the likely challenges related to coordination and administration of a scheme between both organizations.

3 Next Meeting

8. Participants recommended convening the next CDS technical meeting as a one-day meeting to be held before the Joint Working Group meeting in 2020.

4 Other Business

9. It was agreed to continue the virtual working group led by Japan (Mr. Hirohide Matsushima) in accordance with the following schedule;

By the end of February 2020	Japan will circulate a first round of draft CMM/Resolution among the working group members
By the end of March 2020	Comments on the first draft are to be submitted to Japan from the working group members
By the end of May 2020	Taking into account the comments, Japan will circulate the second draft CMM/Resolution among the working group
By the end of June 2020	Comments on the second draft are to be submitted to Japan from the working group members
One month before the next CDS technical meeting	A finalized draft CMM/Resolution will be submitted to the WCPFC Secretariat for circulation among members of the Joint IATTC-WCPFC NC WG

5 Report to the Joint WG

10. The Chair will provide his summary of the CDS technical meeting to the Joint Working Group.

6 Close of the Meeting

11. The meeting was closed at 5 pm.

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AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM 1 Opening of Meeting

- 1.1 Welcome
- 1.2 Selection of rapporteur and adoption of agenda
The rapporteur will be selected, and an agenda will be adopted.
- 1.3 Meeting arrangements
The Chair will brief background and any logistical arrangements to support the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 2 Development of a Catch Documentation Scheme for Pacific Bluefin Tuna

- 2.1 Review of the 1st CDS Technical Meeting and intersessional work
 - 2.1.1 Review of the 1st CDS Technical Meeting
The Chair will briefly review the discussion last year.
 - 2.1.2 Possible cost
Japan will inform the possible cost of an electronic system.
 - 2.1.3 A report from the virtual working group
Japan will report the results of the work conducted by the virtual working group, particularly definitions of technical terms and a draft CMM.
- 2.2 Discussion on the draft CMM
Japan will present the draft CMM with comments, if any, from the virtual working group. The Meeting will discuss each element contained in the draft CMM for further refinement.

AGENDA ITEM 3 Next Meeting

The date and place for the 3rd CDS Technical Meeting will be agreed.

AGENDA ITEM 4 Other Business

The meeting will discuss any other business and/or remaining issues.

AGENDA ITEM 5 Report to the Joint WG

The meeting will develop a brief summary on the progress of the 2nd Technical Meeting for reporting to the 4th Joint WG.

AGENDA ITEM 6 Close of the Meeting

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**Proposed outline on major elements to be included in
the draft WCPFC CMM for Pacific bluefin tuna CDS¹**

1 General Provisions

1.1 Objective

- The objective of Pacific Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation (PBCD) scheme is to identify the origin of any Pacific bluefin tuna in order to support the implementation of Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) for Pacific bluefin tuna, as well as to prevent the products incompliant with the CMM from entering into a supply chain.

1.2 Electric/paper

- Use of the electronic Pacific Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation (ePBCD) system is mandatory for all CCMs.
- Paper PBCDs shall not be accepted, except in the limited circumstances specified in XX.
**The schedule of the introduction of ePBCD system will be considered later, taking into account of capacities and resources available of developing countries including Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), as well as of the development of a Catch Documentation scheme for tropical tunas.*

1.3 Definition of term

For the purpose of this CMM, the following definition of terms applies: see the **Attachment 1**.

1.4 Others

- Any landing, transfer into cages, harvest, transshipment, import, export or re-export of Pacific bluefin tuna without a completed and validated ePBCD shall be prohibited.
- Import, export or re-export of fish parts other than the meat (i.e., heads, eyes, roes, guts and tails) shall be exempted from the requirement of this CMM.

2 Validation of ePBCDs

2.1 General provisions

- (1) The catching vessel master or trap operator, (2) its authorized representative, (3) the operator of farms, or (4) the authorized representative of the flag, farm, or trap CCM shall complete the ePBCD by providing the required information in appropriate sections and request validation for the ePBCD for catch landed, transferred to cages, harvested, transhipped or exported on each occasion that it lands, transfers, harvests, transships or exports Pacific bluefin tuna.

¹ A draft IATTC Resolution for Pacific Bluefin Tuna CDS will be developed in a same format as a WCPFC CMM.

- Validation shall not be required for transfer of live Pacific bluefin tuna between cages, while such transfer shall be recorded in the ePBCD.
- The ePBCD shall be validated for each landing, transfer to cages, harvest, transshipment or export. When Pacific bluefin tuna is not exported, sections of the ePBCD for transfer to cages and/or harvest can be validated at the end of each fishing season.
- Where the Pacific bluefin tuna quantities caught and landed are less than X metric ton or Y fish, the logbook or the sales note may be used as a temporary PBCD, pending conversion to the ePBCD and the validation within a period of Z working days or prior to export, whichever is first.
- Validation shall not be required in the event that all Pacific bluefin tuna available for sale are tagged by the flag CCM of the catching vessel or the trap CCM that fished the Pacific bluefin tuna.

2.2 Timing of validation

**A timing of validation after landing, transfer to cages, harvest, transshipment or export will be considered later, taking into account of specifications of the ePBCD system.*

2.3 Validator

The ePBCD must be validated by an authorized government official, or other authorized individual or institution, of the flag CCM of the catching vessel, the CCM of the seller/exporter, or the trap or farm CCM that caught, harvested or exported the Pacific bluefin tuna.

3 Relationship with non-members

Access to the ePBCD system shall be granted to WCPFC non-members to facilitate trade of Pacific bluefin tuna.

4 Others

- A cloud-based the ePBCD system shall be set up in the WCPFC/IATTC Secretariat. The WCPFC/IATTC Secretariat shall allocate necessary staff and resources to support, maintain and develop functions of the ePBCD system.
- A cost associated with support, maintenance and functionality development of the ePBCD system, which is calculated by dividing its total cost between WCPFC and IATTC in proportion to a Pacific bluefin tuna catch in each Convention area, shall be financed by additional annual contributions made by those CCMs that catch and/or trade Pacific bluefin tuna.

Attachment 1

Draft definition of terms	Reference
<p><i>Transfer means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - any transfer of live Pacific Bluefin tuna from the fishing vessel, its net, or the trap to the transport cage or other fishing vessels; - any transfer of live Pacific Bluefin tuna from the transport cage to another transport cage; - any transfer of live Pacific Bluefin tuna from one farm to another, or between different cages in the same farm; 	<p><ICCAT> Paragraph 3 of Recommendation 18-02.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from the catching vessel's net to the transport cage; - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from the transport cage to another transport cage; - any transfer of the cage with live bluefin tuna from a towing vessel to another towing vessel; - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from one farm to another, or between different cages in the same farm; - any transfer of live bluefin tuna from the trap to the transport cage independently of the presence of a towing vessel.
<p><i>Caging means:</i> The relocation of live Pacific Bluefin tuna from the transport cage or trap to the farming or fattening cages</p>	<p><ICCAT> Paragraph 3 of Recommendation 18-02. The relocation of live bluefin tuna from the transport cage or trap to the farming or fattening cages</p>
<p><i>Farming/fattening means:</i> Caging of Pacific Bluefin tuna in farms and subsequent feeding aiming to fatten and increase their total biomass.</p>	<p><ICCAT> Paragraph 3 of Recommendation 18-02 Caging of bluefin tuna in farms and subsequent feeding aiming to fatten and increase their total biomass.</p>
<p><i>Harvest means:</i> The killing of bluefin tuna in farms.</p>	<p><ICCAT> Paragraph 3 of Recommendation 18-02 The killing of bluefin tuna in farms or traps</p>
<p><i>Export means:</i> Any movement of Pacific Bluefin tuna from the territory of the CCM where the fishing vessel is flagged or where the trap or farm is established to the territory of another CCM or non-member of the Commission, or from the fishing grounds to the territory of a CCM which is not the flag CCM of the fishing vessel or to the territory of a non-member of the Commission.</p>	<p><ICCAT> Paragraph 2 b) of Recommendation 18-13 Any movement of bluefin tuna in its harvested or processed form (including farmed) from the territory of the CPC where the fishing vessel is flagged or where the trap or farm is established to the territory of another CPC or non-Contracting Party, or from the fishing grounds to the territory of a CPC which is not the flag CPC of the fishing vessel or to the territory of a non-Contracting Party.</p>

<p><i>Import means:</i> Any introduction of Pacific Bluefin tuna into the territory of a CCM, which is not the CCM where the fishing vessel is flagged or where the trap or the farm is established.</p>	<p><ICCAT> Paragraph 2 c) of Recommendation 18-13 Any introduction of bluefin tuna in its harvested or processed form (including farmed) into the territory of a CPC, which is not the CPC where the fishing vessel is flagged or where the trap or the farm is established.</p>
<p><i>Re-export means:</i> Any movement of Pacific Bluefin tuna from the territory of a CCM where it has been previously imported.</p>	<p><ICCAT> Paragraph 2 d) of Recommendation 18-13 Any movement of bluefin tuna in its harvested or processed form (including farmed) from the territory of a CPC where it has been previously imported.</p>
<p><i>Artificial fry means:</i> Fry of Pacific Bluefin tuna raised from fertilized eggs spawned by adult fish that are in an artificially controlled environment.</p>	<p>None</p>