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Letter to WCPFC from Japan Tuna Industry 2025

WCPFC22-2025-OP19

26 November 2025

Submitted by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
22nd Regular Session of the Commission,
December 1, 2025

Dear Dr Josie Tamate WCPFC chair

We, the undersigned 20 organizations of Japan which support sustainable production and consumption of tuna, request that the annual session of the WCPFC starting on December 1, 2025, implement Harvest Strategies in accordance with a precautionary approach for sustainable use and conservation of the tunas' stock.

The catch of tuna species in the western and central Pacific has been increasing, and accordingly, the stock has declined significantly over the past 50 years. If this situation continues, both the global fishing industry that depends on tuna species and a healthy ocean ecosystem will be at risk.

In order to resolve the above situation, we request that the WCPFC urgently develop and implement a precautionary harvest strategy approach that includes limit & target reference points, harvest control rules and other elements for Yellowfin, Bigeye and South Pacific Albacore in the WCPO.

Tuna species are harvested in huge quantities around the globe, and the WCPO represents the largest fishery in the world. Adaptation of the Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) suggested above will lead the promotion of sustainable tuna fisheries around the world. We expect the WCPFC will make responsible decisions, as achieving these goals at the WCPFC will secure the future of the WCPO tuna stocks and also encourage sustainable fisheries management globally.

Japan is one of the world's leading fishing and consuming countries for tuna species. In order to implement a precautionary harvest strategy approach, we expect the Japanese delegations will take a leadership role in the WCPFC.

Sincerely,

Requested companies and organizations

- AEON Co., Ltd.
- Fukuichi Fishery Co., Ltd
- Ishinomaki Fishery Co., Ltd.
- Japan Katsuobushi Association
- JAPANESE CONSUMERS' CO-OPERATIVE UNION
- KIJIMA Co., Ltd.
- Kyowa Fishery co.,ltd.
- Maruha Nichiro Corporation
- MEIHOGYOGYO Co., Ltd.
- Mitsubishi Corporation
- MSC Japan
- NINBEN CO.,LTD.
- Nissui Corporation
- Owase Bussan Co., Ltd.
- Seafood Legacy Co., Ltd.
- Seven & i Holdings Co., Ltd.
- Taiyo A&F Co., Ltd.
- Tokai Fishery co.,ltd.
- Toyo Reizo Co.,Ltd
- WWF Japan



Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union

