

Working Draft CMM/Resolution for Pacific Bluefin tuna CDS for Agenda Item 2.3

Small Working Group under the CDS Technical Meeting

Background

■ 5th CDS Technical Meeting (2024)

- The Small Working Group was tasked to produce an amended draft CMM and to present it at the 6th Technical Meeting

■ 102nd meeting of the IATTC and 21st Regular Session of the WCPFC (2024)

- Agreed to consider establishment of a CDS for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in the EPO/WCPO **by 31 December 2026**

▶ IATTC-NC-CDS06-2025/02 Working Draft CMM/Resolution for Pacific Bluefin tuna CDS

- For the purpose of having a basis for discussion at the 6th CDS Technical Meeting and thereafter
- Not received any authorization from the Small Working Group

What has been agreed upon

■ 3rd CDS Technical Meeting (2022)

- not include seafood traceability and not go beyond the scope of the bluefin tuna CDSs utilized by the CCSBT and ICCAT
- not include specific monitoring, controlling and surveillance measures

■ 5th CDS Technical Meeting (2024)

- To take a stepwise approach to determining the scope of the application and to initially set the scope as covering international transactions
- To exclude heads, eyes, roes, guts and tails from the scope of the production coverage
- To mandate registration of fishing vessels targeting PBF and farms
- To include information on vessel, catch, trade, caging, harvesting and transshipment and continue to discuss the exact definition of transfers
- Tagging should be an option, rather than mandatory, and exempt tagged fish from validation
- Validation must be conducted by government authorities or organizations to which government authorities have delegated this responsibility

What has been agreed upon

■ 5th CDS Technical Meeting (2024) - continued

- To continue to discuss data confidentiality arrangements and what kind of contribution can be made to the ISC through the CDS system
- Verification system for PBF will generally follow that of other RFMOs, particularly the ICCAT, whereby validation of catch, farm or export information is conducted by the flag Member, fanning Member or exporting Member, while verification is conducted by the importing Member
- To further discuss the appropriate kinds of communication and means of communication
- To continue to discuss potential exceptional arrangements, including the case of the malfunction of the ePBCD
- To discuss “Implementation and Review” further at a later stage
- A reconciliation process for checking validity of data entered into the CDS system is required and such a process is expected to be carried out by the system automatically
- To discuss what kind of form(s) would be most appropriate at a later stage

Part I : General Provisions and Application

■ Objective & Scope (Para. 1, 2)

- Exclude PBF captured in sport and recreational fisheries when their sales are prohibited

■ Definition (Para. 3)

- “Catch”, “Caging”, “Export”, “Harvest”, “Import”, “Re-export” and “Transshipment” are defined for the purpose of the CMM/Resolution

■ International Transactions (Para. 4)

- Export, import or re-export without a completed and validated ePBCD or ePBRC (Re-export Certificate) shall be prohibited, except for head, eyes, roes, guts and tails

■ ePBCD System (Para. 5)

- A pilot testing phase at least for X years to implement ePBCD system, involving CCMs/CPCs on a voluntary basis
- Mandatory use of the ePBCD system
- Paper PBCD/PBRC or printed ePBCD/ePBRC may be used under exceptional circumstances (Para26)
- Automatic reconciliation for checking validity of data entered into the CDS system

Part II : Documents and Information Required

■ Information on ePBCD (Para. 6)

- Catch
- Transshipment
- Harvest
- First sale after catch
- Export and import

■ Information on ePBRC (Para. 7)

- Imported PBF, including information on related ePBCD(s)
- Re-export and import

Part III : Validation

■ Record in ePBCD and ePBRC (Para. 8)

- Information shall be recorded on each occasion PBF is caught, transshipped, harvested, first sold or exported by
 - master/operator of a vessel, trap/farm operator + authorized representative
 - exporter
 - authorized representative of flag/trap/farm/export CCM/CPC
- For PBF that is not exported, following the recording of catch and transshipment, the recording of information afterwards is not required
- Catch shall be recorded within [] days of the landing, with special treatment for small landings less than [1] metric ton
- When PBF is caged, catch shall be recorded within [] days, with prohibition of any transfer until the catch is recorded

■ Validation of ePBCD and ePBRC (Para. 9)

- eBPCD and ePBRC must be validated by
 - (i) authorized governmental official
 - (ii) other authorized individual or institution } of the flag, trap, farm, export or re-export CCM/CPC
- Conditions for validating ePBCD or ePBRC

Part IV : Tag

I Tag (Para. 10-12)

- Validation shall not be required when PBF is tagged in accordance with the following criteria:
 - (i) All PBF in the ePBCD concerned are individually tagged
 - (ii) The minimum information associated with the tag includes:
 - a. Identifying information on the vessel/trap
 - b. Date of catch or landing
 - c. Area of catch
 - d. Type of product and weight
 - e. Information on the exporter and importer (where applicable)
 - f. Point of export (where applicable)
 - (iii) Information on tagged fish is compiled by the responsible CCM/CPC and made available to the Secretariat upon its request
- Tags shall have unique country-specific numbers and be tamper proof
- Tags shall only be used when the catch is within catch quota or catch limit

Part V : Verification for PBF trade

■ Examination & Verification (Para. 13)

- CCM/CPC shall ensure that competent authorities or other authorized individuals or institutions take steps
 - to identify each consignment of PBF imported, exported or re-exported
 - to request and examine ePBCD(s) and ePBRC(s) as well as other related documents
- They may examine the contents of the consignment and, where necessary, shall carry out verifications with the operator concerned

■ Cooperation & Notification (Para. 14, 15)

- If [a doubt arises] [questions arise], importing CCM/CPC and validating CCM/CPC shall cooperate
- If CCM/CPC identifies a consignment in violation of para 4, it shall notify to the [Secretariat], export CCM/CPC, re-export CCM/CPC and, where known, flag CCM/CPC

■ Trade Monitoring (Para 16, 17)

- CCM/CPC shall not grant its release for export, import and re-export, pending the examinations or verifications under para 13 to confirm compliance
- Import, export or re-export shall be prohibited where a CCM/CPC determines that an ePBCD/ePBRC is invalid

Part VI : Communication

■ Validator Notification (Para. 18)

- CCM/CPC shall notify the Secretariat of the validator's information

■ Contact Point Notification (Para. 19)

- CCM/CPC shall notify the Secretariat of the contact point information

■ ePBCD System Registration (Para. 20)

- CCM/CPC concerned shall submit to the Secretariat the necessary data to ensure users' registration in the ePBCD system

■ Non-CCM/CPC (Para. 21, 22)

- The Commission shall request non-CCMs/CPCs to cooperate with the implementation of the program
- Access to the ePBCD system shall be granted to non-CCMs/non-CPCs
- Until the functionality is developed that allows non-CCMs/non-CPCs access to the system, this shall be accomplished through completion of paper PBCD/PBRC and submission to the Secretariat for entry into the ePBCD system

Part VII : Data Sharing and Confidentiality

■ Data Sharing & Confidentiality (Para. 23-25)

- Validator information: non-public domain data and accessible through the secure pages of the Commission website
- Contact point information: accessible through the public pages of the Commission website

Part VIII : Exceptional Arrangements

■ Paper PBCD/PBRC (Para. 26-28)

- Paper PBCDs/PBRCs or printed ePBCD/ePBRC may be used if any of the following circumstances apply:
 - (i) The landing or caging by one vessel/trap at a time is less than [1] metric ton.
In this case, the logbook or the sales note may be used as a temporary PBCD. Such paper PBCDs, printed ePBCDs or temporary PBCDs shall be converted to ePBCD within [] days or prior to export
 - (ii) PBF is caught prior to the full implementation of the ePBCD system
 - (iii) Technical difficulties arise with ePBCD system.
In this case, the CCM/CPC shall follow the procedures in Annex E
 - (iv) In the case of trade between non-CCMs/non-CPCs, where access to the ePBCD system by non-CCMs/non-CPCs is not possible or not timely enough to ensure that trade is not unduly delayed or disrupted
- The Secretariat shall facilitate the conversion to ePBCD/ePBRC, where requested

Annexes

Annex A: Format of Paper PBCD

Annex B: Format of Paper PBRC

Annex C: Information to be Recorded in ePBCD

Annex D: Information to be Recorded in ePBRC

Annex E: Procedures for Technical Difficulties with the ePBCD system

Annex F: Artificial Fry

► Need to be considered based on the discussion in the main text