

BACKGROUND FOR AGENDA ITEM VII.c.iv.¹

Topic: Market measures/CDS/trade tracking

As a follow-up to Kobe II, the *International Workshop on Improvement, Harmonization and Compatibility of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Measures, Including Monitoring Catches from Catching Vessels to Markets* was held in Barcelona in June 2010. Participants at the Workshop agreed with the principle of expanding coverage by catch documentation schemes (CDS) to other tuna species in addition to Atlantic bluefin tuna and southern bluefin tuna, as well as to sharks. They also noted that there would be several topics to be considered, such as utilization of modern technologies (e.g., electronic CDS), priority species to be covered, capacity building for implementation, use of tags, who validates catches in EEZs, how to treat purse-seine catches destined to canneries, how to treat fresh products, how to address catches made by artisanal fisheries, etc. In general, participants agreed that more discussion of these topics within RFMOs was needed, and that tuna RFMOs should be encouraged to do so and report to Kobe III on their consideration of these issues.

After the Workshop, CDS proposals were submitted to IATTC, ICCAT and IOTC, taking into consideration the discussions at the Workshop. For various reasons, none of the RFMOs adopted any of these proposals, but decided to continue discussions.

It should be noted that ICCAT has established a working group to develop an electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation System for strengthening the implementation of the existing scheme. The working group met in February 2011, and the results will be discussed at the next annual meeting of ICCAT in November.

WCPFC also agreed at its seventh annual meeting to form an intersessional CDS Working Group, to be coordinated by Papua New Guinea, to progress work on an inclusive WCPFC CDS that includes flag, coastal and market States, and enables certification and export. It was agreed that the first consultation would involve the development of Terms of Reference for the CDS Working Group.

At Kobe III, participants will be informed of the state of play and expected to exchange views on this issue.

¹ This background paper was developed to provide information and help frame the discussion on this agenda item. It does not necessarily reflect the position of any delegations participating in Kobe III, and is not meant to limit the discussions on this or any other topic.