



Memorandum of Understanding between the CCSBT¹ and ICCAT² Secretariats for Transhipment at sea by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels



Introduction

- 1. The ICCAT has adopted a Recommendation (12-06³) and implemented a program for transhipment at sea by large-scale pelagic longline fishing vessels (LSTLVs)⁴ within the ICCAT convention area. The CCSBT has adopted a similar Resolution⁵ for tuna longline fishing vessels with freezing capacity that applies globally to all transhipments involving southern bluefin tuna (SBT). Each Secretariat is in charge of administering the program within its jurisdiction.
- 2. The two Commissions have overlapping jurisdiction in the Atlantic Ocean, where the CCSBT Resolution and ICCAT Recommendation are almost identical and most vessels that are required to comply with the CCSBT Resolution are also required to comply with the ICCAT Recommendation.
- 3. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been established to minimise the duplication of work and to minimise the associated costs for those that are required to comply with both the CCSBT Resolution and ICCAT Recommendation.

Scope of this Memorandum of Understanding

- 4. This MOU applies to transhipments at sea involving southern bluefin tuna (SBT) within the ICCAT convention area, by LSTLVs with freezing capacity that are Members/Contracting Parties (CPCs)⁶ of both CCSBT and ICCAT, and is further restricted to CPCs that are participating in both CCSBT's and ICCAT's regional observer program. At present, this comprises:
 - Japan
 - Korea
 - Fishing Entity of Taiwan⁷ / Chinese Taipei⁸.
- 5. CCSBT and ICCAT will notify each other of any changes in their Members/CPCs that may affect this list.

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¹ Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna

² International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas

³ Recommendation 12-06 on establishing a programme for transshipment

⁴ ICCAT Recommendation 12-06 refers to large scale pelagic longline vessels (LSPLVs), while the CCSBT Resolution refers to large scale tuna longline vessels (LSTLVs). This MoU is understood to cover both sets of vessels in their respective contexts.

⁵ Resolution on establishing a program for transhipment by large-scale fishing vessels

⁶ "Members" includes Cooperating Non-Members and "CPCs" includes Cooperating non Contracting Parties, Entities and Fishing Entities

⁷ For CCSBT

⁸ For ICCAT

The Arrangement between CCSBT and ICCAT

- 6. All provisions of the ICCAT transhipment Recommendation will continue to apply to transhipments at sea that fall within this arrangement.
- 7. All provisions of the CCSBT transhipment Resolution will also apply to transhipments at sea that fall within this arrangement, except that:
 - a. To enable a single Transhipment Declaration form to be completed for transhipment by an LSTLV, an ICCAT Transhipment Declaration form may be used instead of the CCSBT Transhipment Declaration form. This only applies while the ICCAT and CCSBT forms remain compatible unless there is agreement to the contrary. Furthermore, transmission of this form by Carrier Vessel masters to the ICCAT Secretariat is deemed to also be a transmission to the CCSBT Secretariat. The ICCAT Secretariat will transmit these documents to the CCSBT Secretariat without delay.
 - b. ICCAT Register Numbers for LSTLVs and Carrier Vessels may be used instead of the CCSBT equivalents. The CCSBT Secretariat will conduct the necessary conversions between ICCAT and CCSBT registration numbers.
 - c. To enable a single set of Transhipment Observers to be used, ICCAT Transhipment Observers will be deemed to be CCSBT Transhipment Observers providing these observers meet the standards established in the CCSBT Transhipment Resolution and providing that the CCSBT Secretariat is informed. In no case will ICCAT Transhipment Observers be required to observe transhipments outside of the ICCAT Convention Area.
 - d. The Consortium that operates the ICCAT program will issue a second report dealing exclusively with transfers that include SBT (i.e. omitting any transfers where no SBT were transhipped) from vessels subject to this MOU. Transmission of such Observer Reports by the Transhipment Observer to the ICCAT Secretariat is deemed to also be a transmission to the CCSBT Secretariat. The ICCAT Secretariat will re-transmit these documents to the CCSBT Secretariat without delay.
- 8. The combined effect of paragraphs 6 and 7 is that the ICCAT Secretariat and Transhipment Observers will continue to follow the requirements of the ICCAT Recommendation with the additions that:
 - a. The ICCAT and CCSBT Secretariats will advise each other regarding any planned or actual changes to their Recommendations/Resolutions for at sea transhipment including the Transhipment Declaration form.
 - b. The ICCAT Secretariat will transmit copies of Observer Deployment requests, Transhipment Declarations and Observer Reports for all transhipments involving SBT to the CCSBT Secretariat without delay.
 - c. In addition to the experience and training required by the ICCAT Transhipment at sea Recommendation, ICCAT Transhipment Observers that observe transhipments of SBT will have sufficient experience and knowledge to:
 - identify southern bluefin tuna; and
 - have a satisfactory knowledge of the CCSBT conservation and management measures.
 - d. An up-to-date list of ICCAT Transhipment Observers will be maintained and annually provided to the CCSBT Secretariat by the ICCAT Secretariat.

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- e. When ICCAT is informed that an observer deployment will involve transhipments of SBT, ICCAT will notify CCSBT prior to dispatching the observer so that the CCSBT Secretariat can check the validity of authorisations of the Fishing Vessels and Carrier Vessels against the published list of CCSBT Authorised Fishing Vessels and CCSBT Authorised Carrier Vessels respectively.
- f. In addition to tasks specified in the ICCAT Transhipment Recommendation, Transhipment Observers that observe transhipments of SBT will:
 - Conduct checks on the Fishing Vessel intending to tranship in accordance with section 6ai) of Annex 2 of the CCSBT Transhipment Resolution.
 - From 1 January 2010, sign the transhipment verification section of the CCSBT CDS documentation to indicate that the transhipment details (date, name and registration of carrier vessel) were filled in correctly and that the transhipment of product was observed according to the CCSBT Transhipment Resolution⁹.
- 9. Additional costs imposed on the ICCAT observer program resulting from this MOU will be covered by CCSBT. The costs associated with additional training, additional reports, and insurance required for observers, will be calculated by the Consortium that operates the ICCAT program and transmitted to the CCSBT Secretariat via the ICCAT Secretariat. The CCSBT Secretariat will be responsible for recovering these costs from the CPCs concerned.
- 10. This MOU comes into effect for twelve months from the date of entry into force noted below. It will be automatically renewed for another twelve months each year, unless otherwise decided by either the CCSBT or ICCAT Secretariat and informed to the other in writing. Either of the Secretariats may terminate the MOU at any time by written notice to the other Secretariat.

Signed and duly dated:

Robert Kennedy

Executive Secretary

Commission for the Conservation of

Southern Bluefin Tuna

Driss Meski

Executive Secretary

International Commission for the

Conservation of Atlantic Tunas

Date: 25 June 2015

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⁹ A discrepancy between the stated product on the CDS document and the quantities recorded by the observer would be recorded in the observer's report (not the CDS document) and would not prevent the observer from signing the CDS document.