



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE
TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION**
Fukuoka, Japan
29 August – 2 September 2016

Japan's Proposal for the Emergency Rule

WCPFC-NC12-2016/DP-11

JAPAN

Japan's Proposal for the Emergency Rule

Paragraph 5 of CMM2015-04 should be replaced as follows:

“5. An emergency rule which stipulates specific rules all CCMs shall comply with when drastic drops of recruitment are detected is as follows:

- (1) The emergency rule shall be initiated when the recruitment has dropped to the lowest level in consecutive three years, given that even though the recruitment was extremely low in consecutive two years (1992 and 1993) the recruitment as well as stock drastically recovered thereafter.
- (2) For this purpose,
 - (a) The recruitment index of the cohort of the previous year shall be reported to the Northern Committee Members and the ISC by Japan by 30 October annually (standardized Catch Per Unit of Effort based abundance index mainly for age 0 fish of its troll fishery: used as input data in the ISC stock assessment).
 - (b) When the indexes mark below the level of 1992 and 1993 in the latest stock assessment for consecutive two years, the Northern Committee shall request the ISC to update the stock assessment in the following year in order to estimate the recruitments (in number of fish) of those two years.
 - (c) When 1) the ISC recruitments estimated by the ISC for the two years referred to in subparagraph (2)(b) above were both below the level and 2) the recruitment index of the cohort of the year reported by Japan when the Northern Committee requested ISC to conduct the assessment was also at or below the level of the previous two years, the CCMs shall tentatively reduce its catches of Pacific bluefin tuna by X% for two years from 1 January of the following year of the assessment.
- (3) This rule shall be applied until the initial recovery target referred to in paragraph 1 is accomplished.”