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**PROPOSAL FOR AMENDING CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR  
PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA (CMM2017-08)**

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**WCPFC15-2018-DP25  
8 December 2018**

**Japan**

Proposal for amending Conservation and Management Measure for Pacific Bluefin Tuna (CMM2017-08)

2 CCMs shall take measures necessary to ensure that:

(1) Total fishing effort by their vessel fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna in the area north of the 20° N shall stay below the 2002–2004 annual average levels.

(2) All catches of Pacific bluefin tuna less than 30 kg shall be reduced to 50% of the 2002– 2004 annual average levels. Any overage or underage of the catch limit shall be deducted from or may be added to the catch limit for the following year. The maximum underage that a CCM may carry over in any given year shall not exceed 5% of its annual initial catch limit.

3 CCMs shall take measures necessary to ensure that all catches of Pacific Bluefin tuna 30kg or larger shall not be increased from the 2002-2004 annual average levels<sup>1</sup>. Any overage or underage of the catch limit shall be deducted from or may be added to the catch limit for the following year. The maximum underage that a CCM may carry over in any given year shall not exceed 5% of its annual initial catch limit. However, in ~~2017~~, 2018, 2019, and 2020 CCMs may use part of the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg stipulated in paragraph 2 (2) above to catch Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger in the same year. In this case, the amount of catch 30 kg or larger shall be counted against the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg. CCMs shall not use the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger to catch Pacific bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg. The ISC is requested to review, in its work referred to in Section 5 of Harvest Strategy, the implications of this special provision in terms of PBF mortality and stock rebuilding probabilities in 2020. Based on that review, in 2020 the Northern Committee will determine whether it should be continued past 2020, and if so, recommend changes to the CMM as appropriate.

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<sup>1</sup> CCMs with a base line catch of 10 t or less may increase its catch as long as it does not exceed 10 t.

In accordance with CMM2013-06 Conservation and Management Measure on the criteria for the consideration of Conservation and Management proposals the following assessment has been undertaken.

a. Who is required to implement the proposal?

The current CMM (CMM2017-08) are addressed to all CCMs to implement it, although Pacific Bluefin tuna catch has not been reported by SIDS CCMs. Also, for possible extension of fisheries for SIDS in the future, the CMM states in its paragraph 13 that “The provisions of paragraph 2 and 3 shall not prejudice the legitimate rights and obligations under international law of those small island developing State Members and participating territories in the Convention area whose current fishing activity for Pacific Bluefin tuna is limited, but that have a real interest in fishing for the species, that may wish to develop their own fisheries for Pacific Bluefin tuna in the future”.

Japan’s proposal does not change above mentioned nature of the current CMM.

- b. Which CCMs would this proposal impact and in what way(s) and what proportion?
- c. Are there linkages with other proposals or instruments in other regional fisheries management organizations or international organizations that reduce the burden of implementation?
- d. Does the proposal affect development opportunities for SIDS?
- e. Does the proposal affect SIDS domestic access to resources and development aspirations?
- f. What resources, including financial and human capacity, are needed by SIDS to implement the proposal?
- g. What mitigation measures are included in the proposal?
- h. What assistance mechanisms and associated timeframe, including training and financial support, are included in the proposal to avoid a disproportionate burden on SIDS?

As described in a. above, Japan’s new proposal does not impact fisheries by SIDS, so no special consideration for SIDS is required.