

Report of Implementation for the year 2012

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT 7 MARCH 2013

Reporting CPC: Japan

Date: 12 March

Please NOTE: this document is composed of 3 sections to report on the implementation of IOTC resolutions

Part A. *Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission at its sixteenth Session.*

1. Resolution 12-01 On The Implementation Of The Precautionary Approach
Japan has already ratified UNFSA and been implementing Resolution 12-01.
2. Resolution 12-02 Data Confidentiality Policy And Procedures
N/A (Resolution 12-02 shows only policy and procedures.)
3. Resolution 12-03 On The Recording Of Catch And Effort By Fishing Vessels In The IOTC Area Of Competence
Japan will develop and apply a new format of logbooks according to the Resolution 12-03 by 18th March 2013.
4. Resolution 12-04 On The Conservation Of Marine Turtles (Including in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, their progress of implementation of the FAO Guidelines and this Resolution)
Japan collects data on their vessels' interactions with marine turtles by observers and report it through the National Report for SC. Japan has also been taking actions in accordance with the FAO Guidelines on sea turtle.
5. Resolution 12-05 On Establishing A Programme For Transshipment By Large-Scale Fishing Vessels
Japan has been implementing Resolution 12-05.
6. Resolution 12-06 On Reducing The Incidental Bycatch Of Seabirds In Longline Fisheries
In force in July 2014
7. Resolution 12-07 Concerning A Record Of Licensed Foreign Vessels Fishing For IOTC Species In The IOTC Area Of Competence And Access Agreement Information
N/A (Japan does not currently have any applicable "government to government access agreement".)
8. Resolution 12-08 Procedures On A Fish Aggregation Devices (FADs) Management Plan
Japan will submit Management Plans for the use of FADs by the end of 2013.
9. Resolution 12-09 On The Conservation Of Thresher Sharks (Family Alopiidae) Caught In Association With Fisheries In The IOTC Area Of Competence
Japan has introduced domestic rule and regulations to implement the Resolution 12-09 amending the Resolution 10-12 which prohibit fishing vessels from retaining Thresher sharks on board.

Japan collects data on their vessels' interactions with Thresher sharks by observers and report it through the National Report for SC.

10. Resolution 12-10 To Promote Implementation Of Conservation And Management Measures Already Adopted By IOTC

Japan has been implementing Resolution 12-10 and will submit proposals prior to each annual meeting if we want to submit them.

11. Resolution 12-11 On The Implementation Of A Limitation Of Fishing Capacity Of Contracting Parties And Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties

In accordance with Resolution 12-11, Japan continues to limit its fishing capacity.

12. Resolution 12-12 To Prohibit The Use Of Large-Scale Driftnets On The High Seas In The IOTC Area (Including a summary of monitoring, control, and surveillance actions related to large-scale driftnet fishing on the high seas in the IOTC Area of Competence)

In spite of Resolution, Japan has complied with the rule which prohibit the use of large-scale driftnet in the high seas by domestic law.

13. Resolution 12-13 For The Conservation And Management Of Tropical Tuna Stocks In The IOTC Area Of Competence (Including a summary of VMS records related to their fleet operation in the previous year for the consideration of the Compliance Committee)

In accordance with Resolution 12-13, Japan continues to comply the conservation and management of tropical tuna stocks..

14. Recommendation 12/15 On The Best Available Science

Japan has been responding to almost of all items of the Recommendation.



Part B. *Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions, and which have not been reported previously.*

N/A

Part C. Data and information reporting requirements for CPCs to be included in this report (please refer to the *section March 2013 of the Guide on data and information reporting requirements for Members and Cooperating Non-contracting Parties*).

- Resolution 01/06 *Concerning the IOTC bigeye tuna statistical document programme*

CPCs which export bigeye tuna shall examine export data upon receiving the import data from the Secretary, and report the results to the Commission annually.

The summary report by IOTC Secretariat shows that Japan exported 6,341 tons of BET to Republic of Korea between January and June 2012.

But, in our investigation, 7,979 tons of BET were exported from Japan to Republic of Korea during the same period.

The cause of this difference might be below,

1. Some exports were canceled after being authorized.
2. There are some time-lags between exports and imports and crossing the reporting point.

In order to avoid any confusion at trade data, Japan has developed our database of exporting tuna to easily and accurately check and analyze them .

- Recommendation 05/07 *Concerning a management standard for the tuna fishing vessels*

The CPC flag states which issues licenses to their AFVs should report annually to the Commission all measures taken to meet the minimum management standards when they issue fishing licenses to their “authorised fishing vessels”.

Japan has not recognized the needs to report on this issue.

- Resolution 10/06 *On Reducing the Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries*

CPCs shall provide to the Commission, as part of their annual reports, information on how they are implementing this measure and all available information on interactions with seabirds, including bycatch by fishing vessels carrying their flag or authorised to fish by them. This is to include details of species where available to enable the Scientific Committee to annually estimate seabird mortality in all fisheries within the IOTC Area of Competence.

Japan has the domestic rule to impose reducing the incidental bycatch of Seabirds on our fishing vessels. Japan collects and reports information of interaction with Seabirds.

- Resolution 10/10 *Concerning market related measures*

For CPCs that import tuna and tuna-like fish products, or in whose ports those products are landed or transhipped, should report, a range of information (e.g. information on vessels / owners, product data (species, weight), point of export) annually.

Japan believes that reporting contents on this Resolution are secured by the reporting on other Resolutions.

- Resolution 11/04 On a Regional observer scheme

CPCs shall provide to the Executive Secretary and the Scientific Committee annually a report of the number of vessels monitored and the coverage achieved by gear type in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution.

In 2012, 8 observers for longliners were dispatched, which covered more than 5% of the total operations. Those observer reports for 2011 will be provided to the Executive Secretary in March 2013. It is quite difficult for Japan to submit an observer report within 150 days of completion of each trip in line with Resolution 11-04 because we need sufficient time to input and analyze the data contained in the report.