

## Japan National Report to the Scientific Committee of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2015

National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries, Fisheries Research Agency  
and  
Fisheries Agency, Government of Japan

### Executive Summary

This Japanese national report describes following 8 issues in recent five years (2011-2015), i.e., (1) tuna fisheries (longline fishery and purse seine fishery) (2) fleet information, (3) catch and effort by species and gear, (4) ecosystem and bycatch, (5) national data collection and processing systems including “logbook data collection and verification”, “vessel monitoring system”, “scientific observer program”, “port sampling program” and “unloading and transshipment”, (6) national research programs and (7) Implementation of Scientific Committee recommendations & resolutions of the IOTC relevant to the Scientific Committee and (8) working documents.

### INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

<p>In accordance with IOTC Resolution 15/02, final scientific data for the previous year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the current year, <b>for all fleets other than longline</b> [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2015, final data for the 2014 calendar year must be provided to the Secretariat by 30 June 2015)</p>	<p>YES 30/June/2015</p>
<p>In accordance with IOTC Resolution 15/02, provisional <b>longline data</b> for the previous year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the current year [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2015, preliminary data for the 2014 calendar year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June 2015).</p> <p><b>REMINDER:</b> Final longline data for the previous year is due to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 Dec of the current year [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2015, final data for the 2014 calendar year must be provided to the Secretariat by 30 December 2015).</p>	<p>YES 30/June/2015</p>
<p>If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:</p>	

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## 1. BACKGROUND/GENERAL FISHERY INFORMATION

Longline and purse seine fisheries are two types of Japanese tuna fisheries currently operating in the Indian Ocean. Longline fishery started its operation in 1952 when the limitation of operational area imposed by the GHQ\*<sup>1</sup>, was removed. On the other hand, commercial purse seine fleet commenced fishing in the Indian Ocean in 1991 after several years of experimental fishing.

The total fishing effort (the number of hooks) of Japanese longliners in the Indian Ocean had been keeping at similar level with fluctuation since 1971, i.e., around 100 million hooks, until 2007. Thereafter, it has been decreasing down to about 29 million hooks in 2011 due to piracy activities. It is slightly increasing after that and was 32 million hooks in 2014. Percentage of effort used in this Ocean in the total effort in all oceans fluctuated around 20% until 2003 after when it increased to 35% in 2006 and 2007. Thereafter it has drastically decreased to 16% in 2010 and kept in a low level after that, mainly because of increasing activity of piracy off Somalia.

As for the purse seine fishery, fishing took place mainly in the tropical western Indian Ocean until 1993 after when fishing effort shifted almost completely to the eastern Indian Ocean mainly because of economic problem derived from rise of Japanese Yen during that time.

## 2. FLEET STRUCTURE

All Japanese longline vessels operating in the Indian Ocean have been the distant water category (120-500GRT) with some exceptional offshore vessels (10-120GRT). Historical change in the number of longline vessels from 1987 to 2014 is shown in Table 1. In the last fifteen years, the number of vessels operated in this Ocean was around 170-250 per year until 2008. Although the number of operating vessels was relatively large in number (224-251) during 1995-1999, after that it decreased to less than 200 except for 228 in 2002. Although the number of vessels in 2007 increased to 250, it decreased rapidly year by year until 2011 due to effect of piracy activities. The number of longline vessels in 2014 was 53.

Japanese purse seine vessels operating in the Indian Ocean are 350-700 GRT class (700-1000 carrying capacity). Historical change in the number of purse seine vessels from 1987 to 2014 is shown in Table 1. Although more than 10 Japanese purse seiners operated during 1991-1994, it decreased year by year and commercial purse seiner retreated from the Indian Ocean in 2001 leaving only one vessel “Nippon-Marū”, the research vessel of Fisheries Research Agency (FRA), which was replaced by another research vessel “No.1 Taikei-Marū” in 2013. A few commercial vessels have been operating since 2006. The number of purse seine vessels operated in 2014 was 1.

**Table 1. Number of vessels operating in the IOTC area of competence, by gear type**

Fleet/Year	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Longliners	272	235	245	216	184	181	206	206	224	251	243	242	223	192
Purse seiners	1	1	3	4	11	12	11	11	8	5	3	4	3	2
Fleet/Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Longliners	199	228	172	189	184	188	250	173	130	84	72	75	57	53
Purse seiners	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1

\* GHQ (General Headquarters) of the occupying forces of the Allies after the World War II

### 3. CATCH AND EFFORT (BY SPECIES AND GEAR)

#### 3.1 Longline fishery

The latest available longline data is that of 2014 (data for 2014 are preliminary).

##### Fishing effort

The longline fishery commenced in 1952 in the eastern equatorial waters in the Indian Ocean. In the late 1960s, the effort covered entire fishing ground of the longline in the Indian Ocean. The annual amount of the effort has increased until the late 1960s and fluctuated after that. However, fishing effort had been dramatically decreasing since 2008 and then kept in a low level (Table 2) because of the effect of piracy activities off Somalia. Fishing effort in 2014 (32 thousand hooks) was only about 27% of that in 2007.

**Table 2. Annual catch and effort and primary species in the IOTC area of competence (longline fishery, 2010-2014).**

(catch in mt and hooks in thousand)

Year	Sets	Hooks	SBF	ALB	BET	YFT	SWO	MLS	BLZ	BLM	SFA	SPF	SKJ
2010	11,004	36,569	1,480	3,839	4,159	3,284	622	203	243	61	84	105	16
2011	8,804	28,454	1,497	2,427	3,696	4,415	571	319	242	51	68	188	26
2012	9,635	31,466	1,388	2,918	5,474	3,330	619	158	238	53	56	94	15
2013	8,926	29,127	953	2,275	5,582	4,158	657	94	195	51	56	88	24
2014	9,817	31,857	1,276	3,741	5,327	3,644	771	56	173	51	72	112	26

Geographical distributions of longline effort for 2014 and average of 2010-2014 are shown in Fig. 1. In 2014, the effort in African offshore area from off Cape Town to Mozambique and in the eastern part west off Australia and Indonesia seems relatively larger than that for 2010-2014. The effort in the northwestern area has dramatically decreased since 2008 and the effort in 2014 is still few because of the expanded activity of piracy off Somalia.

##### Catch

Historical catch in weight by species and catch statistics for 2010-2014 by Japanese longliners in the Indian Ocean are shown in Fig. 2 and Table 2, respectively, and geographical distributions of catch in 2014 and average of 2010-2014 for major tuna and billfish species are shown in Fig. 3. Catch of albacore, yellowfin and southern bluefin tunas were very high during 1950s and 1960s, and then sharply decreased. After mid 1990s bigeye and yellowfin tunas have been main components of the catch.

Total catch (the catch of southern bluefin tuna, albacore, bigeye, yellowfin, swordfish, striped marlin, blue marlin, black marlin, sailfish, shortbill spearfish, and skipjack) in 2013 and 2014 was 14,133MT and 15,249MT, respectively. It should be noted that the catch of yellowfin and bigeye drastically decreased during 2007-2010, although the catch of albacore was roughly at the same level during this period. Furthermore, bigeye catch in 2011 and yellowfin catch in 2010 were lowest after 1980s, and this decrease was mainly derived from decrease in effort especially in the tropical area.

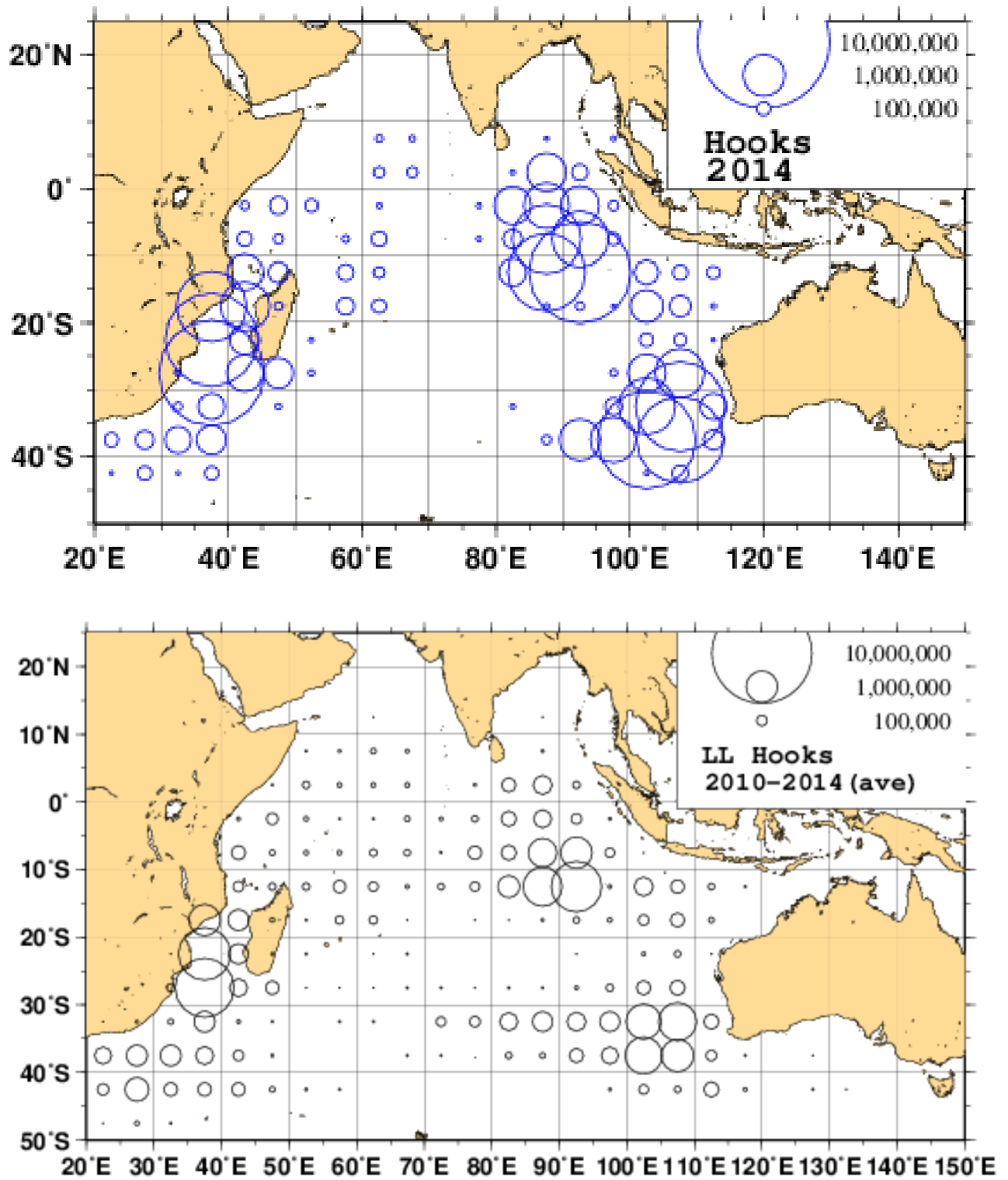
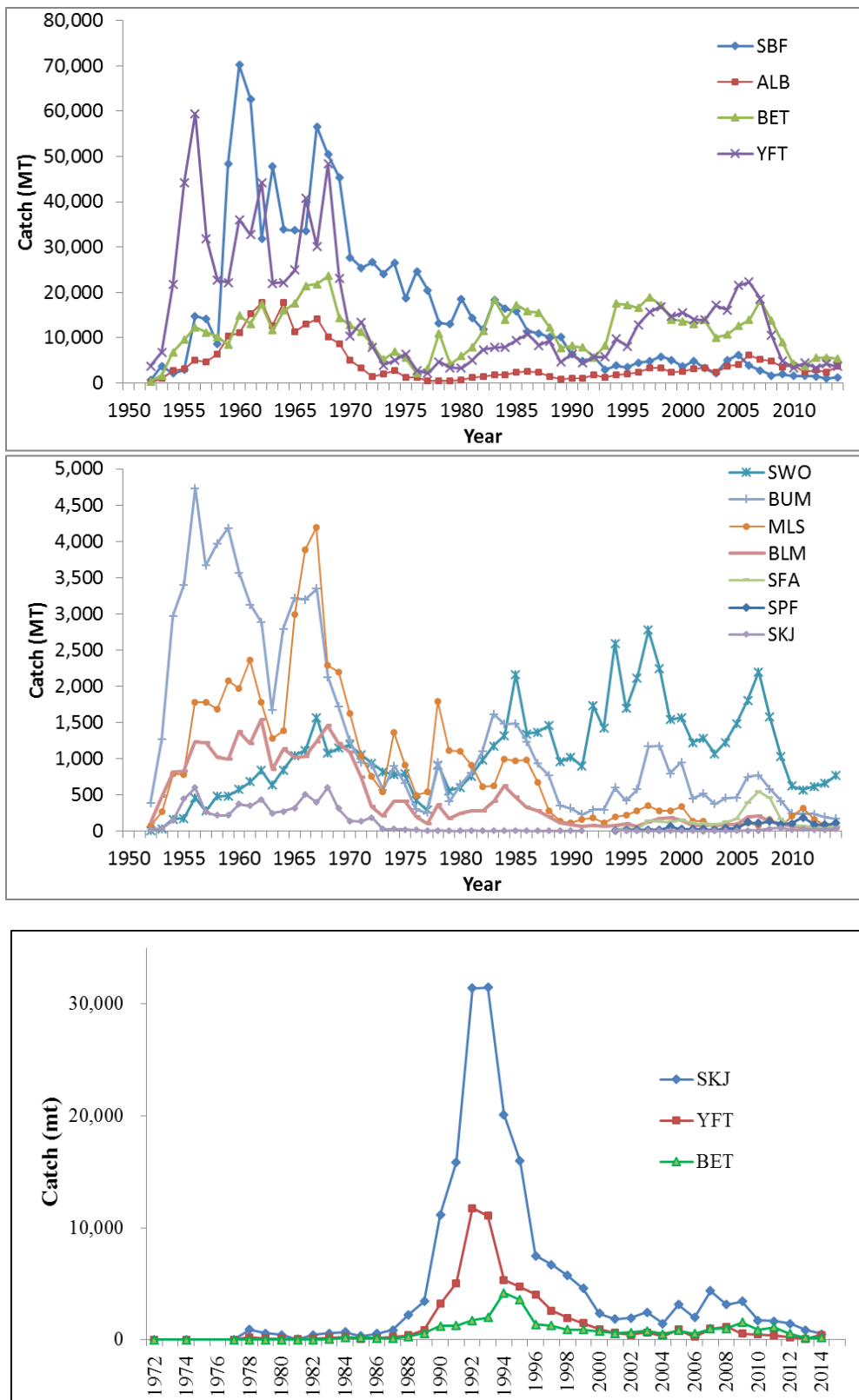
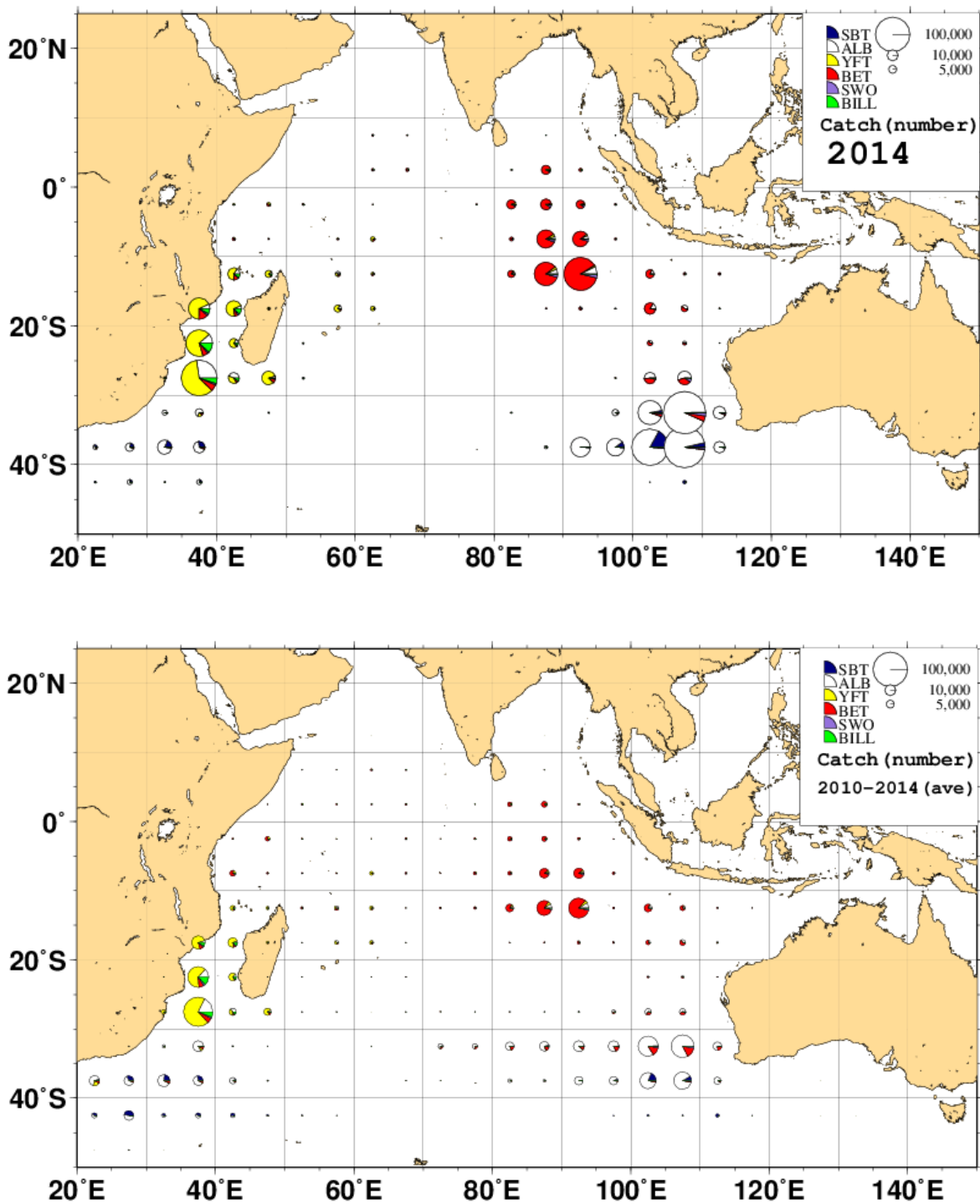


Fig 1. Geographical distributions of longline effort for 2014 (above) and average of 2010-2014 (below)



**Fig. 2. Historical change in longline and purse seine catch of main tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean. Upper: longline (tuna species), middle: longline (skipjack and billfish species), lower: purse seine.**



**Fig. 3** Geographical distributions of longline catch (in number) of major species in 2014 (upper) and in average of 2010-2014 (lower). Southern bluefin tuna (SBT), albacore (ALB), bigeye tuna (BET), yellowfin tuna (YFT), swordfish (SWO) and billfishes (BILL).

Seeing geographical distribution of the catch, yellowfin and bigeye tunas are mainly caught in the western and eastern part, respectively. Albacore is mainly caught in the temperate area west off Australia and subsequently around South Africa, where this species is one of main components of the catch. In 2014 there was little effort in the northwestern area and so yellowfin was mainly caught in the area around Madagascar.

### 3.2 Purse seine fishery

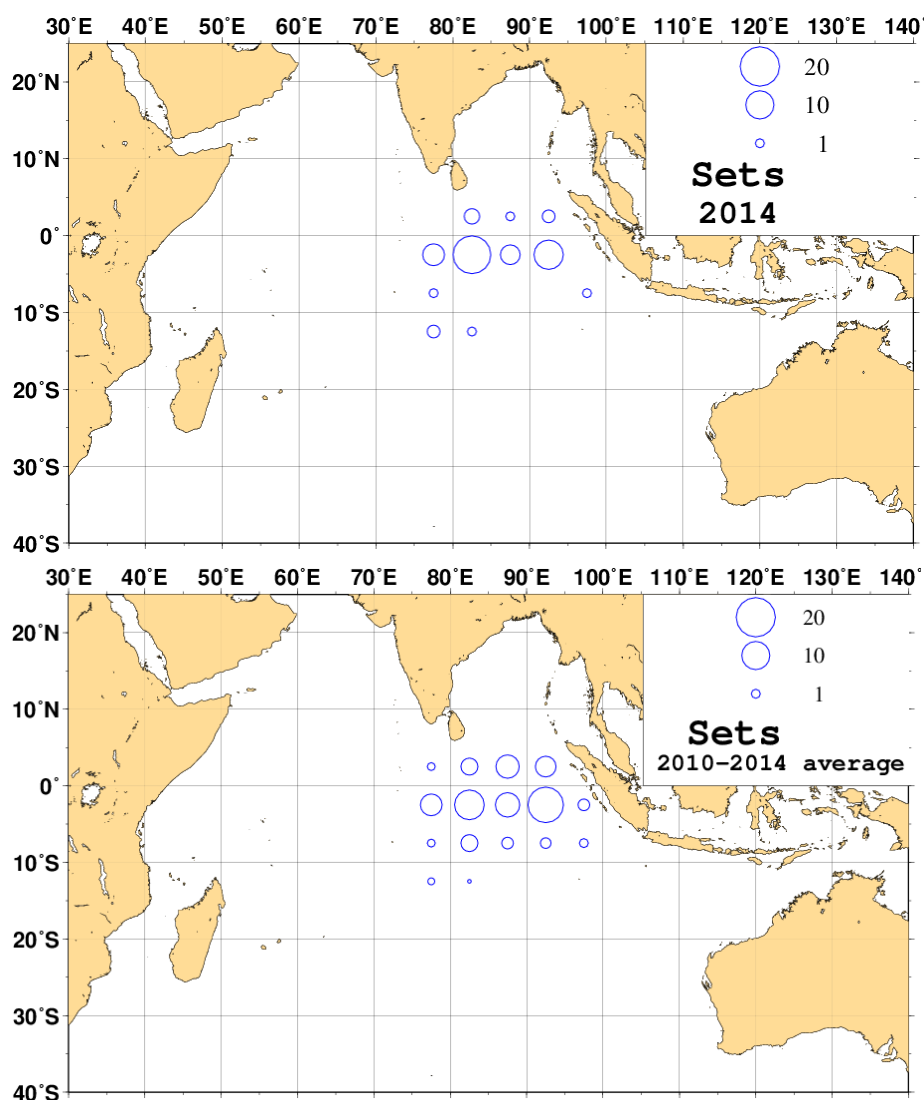
The latest available data for Japanese purse seine fishery is that for 2014.

#### Fishing Effort

Total fishing effort (number of set) was 27 in 2013 and 51 in 2014 (Table 3). Geographical distributions of effort for 2014 and the average of 2010-2014 are shown in Fig. 4. Operations were conducted almost only in the eastern part in recent years.

**Table 3. Annual catch and effort and primary species in the IOTC area of competence (2010-2014) (purse seine fisheries).**

Year	Number of set	Catch (mt)				Total
		SKJ	YFT	BET	others	
2010	92	1,731	481	868	0	3,080
2011	105	1,675	352	1,130	0	3,157
2012	72	1,437	232	536	0	2,205
2013	27	861	95	197	0	1,153
2014	51	496	433	192	0	1,121



**Fig. 4. Distributions of purse seine fishing effort in the Indian Ocean in 2014 (upper) and average of 2010-2014 (lower).**

### Catch

Total catch was low (around 1,000 MT or less) until mid-1980s, then increased rapidly to about 45 thousand MT in 1992 and 1993 after when it decreased to 10 thousand MT in 1997 and 10 thousand MT in 1999 (Fig. 1). Thereafter it has fluctuated between 2.0 and 8.6 thousand MT until 2012 and total catch in 2014 decreased to 1.1 thousand MT. Catch in weight of skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye in 2014 (2013) was 496 (861) MT, 433 (95) MT and 192 (197) MT, respectively. Geographical distributions of catch in 2014 and average of 2010–2014 for major tuna species are shown in Fig. 5. Main component of the catch was usually skipjack tuna in all the area operating, and was partly yellowfin and/or bigeye tuna.

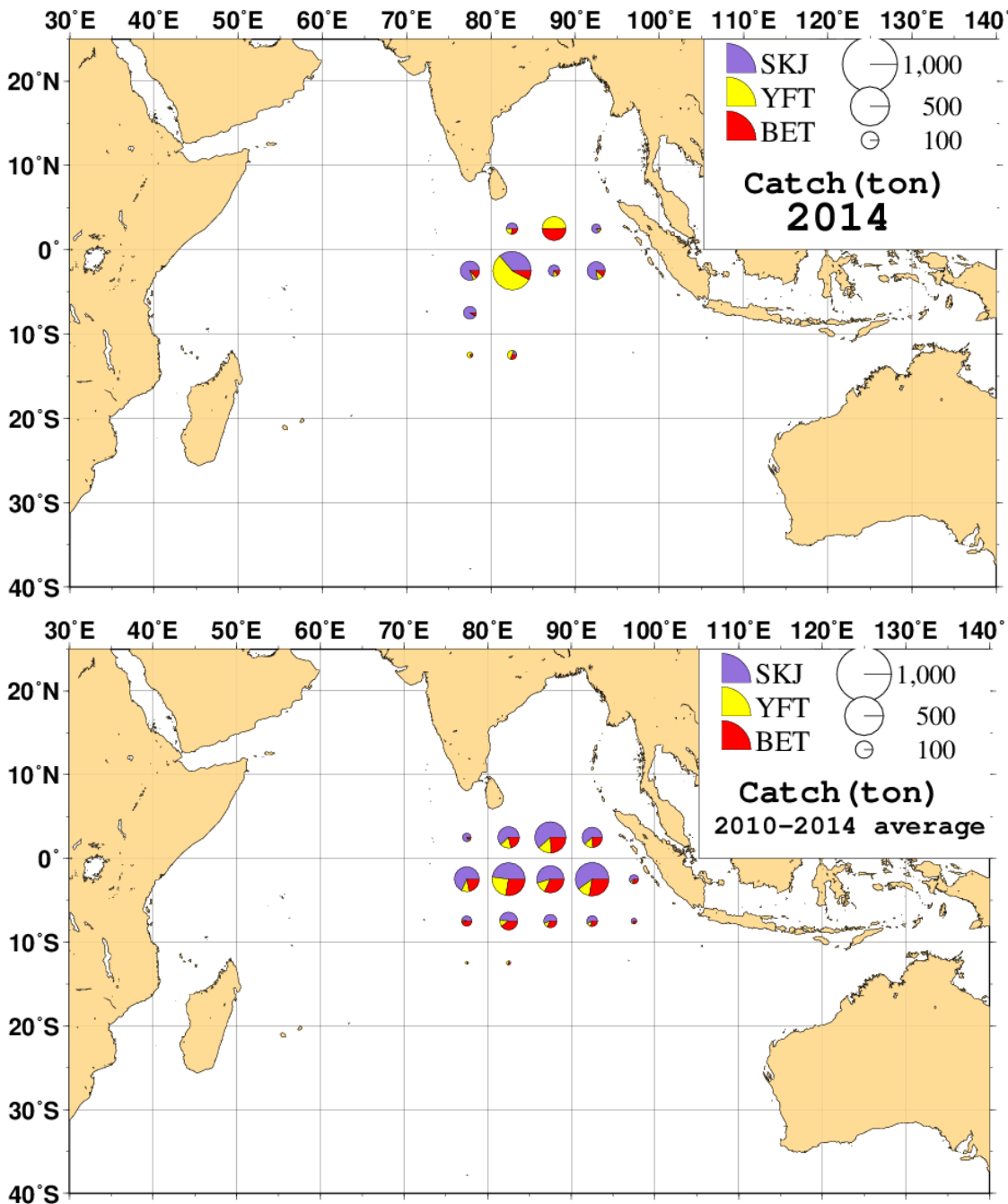


Fig. 5 Geographical distributions of purse seine catch of major species in 2014(upper) and average of 2010-2014 (lower).



#### 4. RECREATIONAL FISHERY

None

#### 5. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH ISSUES

##### 5.1 National Action Plans

In accordance with FAO International Action Plans on sharks and seabirds, Japan established the National Action Plans on sharks and seabirds in 2001 then revised in 2009 and 2011. In addition, Japan has been taking actions in accordance with the FAO Guidelines on sea turtle by-catch. Japan has been taking actions in accordance with IOTC conservation and management measures on by-catch of sharks, sea turtles and seabirds.

##### 5.2 Logbooks information (Sharks)

Table 4 shows annual catch of three major shark species by Japanese tuna longliners (1994-2014). These catch data were collected through the logbook and compiled in the National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries (NRIFSF). In August 2008, the Japanese government obliged Japanese distant water longliners to land all the parts of sharks (although heading, gutting and skinning are allowed) and the quantities given in Table 4 represents the whole weight including the weight of fins. These figures are based on the new conversion factors introduced in 2013 (for details on the new conversion factors, refer to National Report in 2013). In April 2013, silky and hammerhead sharks were added into shark species to be recorded in the logbooks for longline fishery, in addition to blue, Porbeagle, shortfin mako, oceanic whitetip, thresher and other sharks. Statistics of newly added species will be available in the near future.

**Table 4. Reported annual catch (tons) of three major sharks species caught by Japanese tuna longliners in the Indian Ocean (1994 -2014). (\*) 2014 is preliminary.**

Year	Blue shark	Porbeagle	Shortfin mako
1994	414	145	425
1995	724	47	328
1996	736	51	666
1997	805	62	494
1998	645	48	283
1999	557	37	372
2000	530	39	310
2001	477	33	246
2002	433	25	224
2003	355	10	126
2004	330	10	297
2005	577	20	276
2006	398	24	216
2007	790	12	162
2008	2240	53	208
2009	2657	26	154
2010	1503	13	170
2011	1390	18	155
2012	1557	8	148
2013	1102	2	99
2014	834	2	113

## 5.2 Observer data

Under the IOTC ROS starting July 1, 2010, scientific observers have been deployed to the Japanese tuna longliners and collecting bycatch data in the Indian Ocean as a part of the southern bluefin tuna observer program. Observers take photo of bycatch species according to the procedures given in the observer manual made by the NRIFSF scientists. Bycatch experts in the NRIFSF identified species using these photos. Table 5 shows the summary of bycatch information (2010-2013).

Table 5 Summary of bycatch information observed by scientific observers on board to Japanese tuna longline vessels

IOTC code	English name	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Sharks</b>					
BSH	Blue shark	833	2621	611	829
BTH	Bigeye thresher	161	0	0	0
FAL	Silky shark	19	2	7	7
LMA	Longfin mako	0	1	2	15
OCS	Oceanic whitetip shark	10	1	1	4
POR	Porbeagle	153	367	113	52
PSK	Crocodile shark	78	109	33	63
SMA	Shortfin mako	68	142	88	79
SPL	Scalloped hammerhead	2	0	1	0
SPZ	Smooth hammerhead	0	0	0	1
TIG	Tiger shark	2	0	0	0
<b>Manta and Rays</b>					
PSL	Pelagic stingray	309	193	234	169
RAJ	Rays and skates nei	5	0	16	0
MAM	Mantas and devil rays nei	0	3	0	0
<b>Unidentified sharks, rays and skates</b>					
SKH	Sharks, rays, skates, etc. nei	45	42	26	33
<b>Sea turtles</b>					
TTX	Marine turtles nei	11	0	4	33
<b>Sea birds</b>					
	Sea bird	38	184	34	28

## **6. NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING SYSTEMS**

### **6.1 Logbook data collection and verification**

#### **Longline**

In the logbook of longline, set by set data on catch number and weight in each species, and other information data such as fishing date and location, fishing effort (the number of basket and hooks used), water temperature and time of starting and setting the gear are included. The number of hooks per basket is important information as it suggests the depth of the gear and target species. As for tuna and tuna-like fishes, six tunas (bluefin, southern bluefin, albacore, bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack), and six billfishes (swordfish, striped marlin, blue marlin, black marlin, sailfish and shortbill spearfish) are recorded by species in the logbook. Additionally, information on the cruise (date and port of departure and arrival of the cruise), vessel (name, size, license number and call sign), number of crew and the configurations of the fishing gear (material of main and branch lines) are asked to fill on the top part of the sheet by each cruise. Japan revised the logbook format for distant water fishing vessels in accordance with IOTC Resolution 12/03,13/03 and 15/01.

Submitted logbooks are processed into electronic data files. Various error checks, such as date, location, range of weight of the fish, CPUE, are conducted before these data are finalized. Vessel characteristics (call sign, name, license number, etc) are verified with a register.

#### **Purse seine**

The logbooks of purse seiners are required to be submitted every month to the Japanese government. The reported catch by species could be verified by comparing with the landing data, which were obtained from market receipts of three major unloading ports (Yaizu, Makurazaki, and Yamagawa).

### **6.2 Vessel Monitoring System**

VMS installation on all distant water and offshore longline and distant water purse seine vessels is obligated since 1<sup>st</sup> August in 2007.

### **6.3 Scientific Observer programme**

In July, 2010 Japan started the observer programs under IOTC ROS. During 2010-2013, 6, 8, 10 and 9 observers were dispatched to the IOTC area respectively. They covered 5.7% in average of the total operations (Table 6). Japanese observer program in the IOTC area is a part of the southern bluefin tuna one. Data in 2010-2013 have been submitted to the IOTC Secretariat. Fig. 6 shows areas where observers covered in 2010-2013. Most areas monitored in 2011 are limited to the temperate waters in the southern hemisphere.

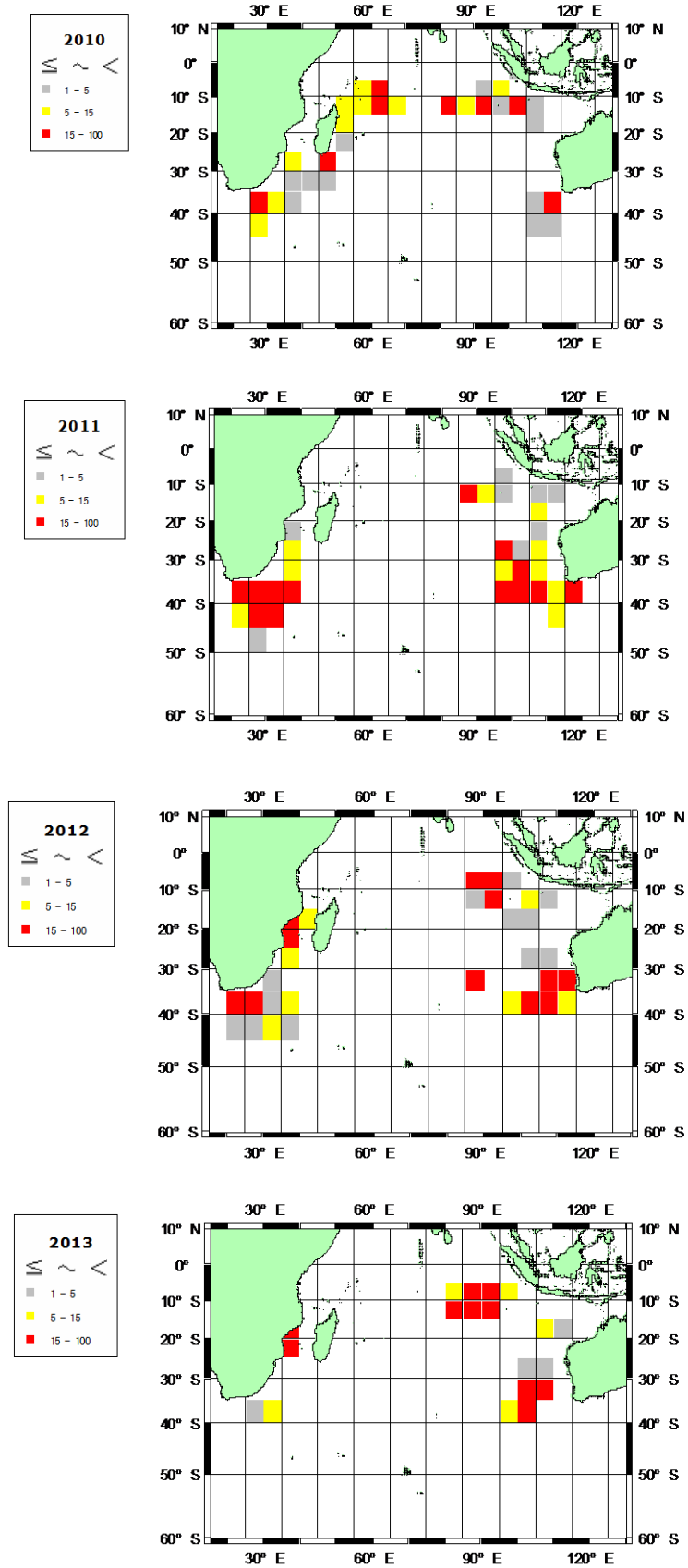


Fig. 6 5°x5° Areas monitored for Japanese tuna longline operations by scientific observers under IOTC ROS (2010-2013)  
 (Red: 15 operations or more, Yellow: 5-14 operations and Grey: 1-4 operation)

## **6.4 Port sampling program**

Because catch in the Indian Ocean is mainly unloaded abroad, the port sampling in Japanese ports was held only once in 2008 recently.

## **6.5 Unloading/Transshipment**

### **Unloading**

The owners of fishing vessels are required to submit relevant documents to the Japanese Government 10 days before the planned landing date including unloading abroad. In case of unloading abroad the owner of fishing vessels are required to obtain approval from the Government of Japan in advance.

### **Transshipment**

The owners of fishing vessels are required to obtain approval from the Government of Japan for at port transshipments in advance. To apply for at port transshipment, fishers have to submit relevant documents to the Government of Japan 10 days before the planned transshipment date. Fishers shall complete the IOTC transshipment declaration and transmit it to the Government of Japan not later than 15 days after the transshipment. Japan also controls at sea transshipments by its vessels in accordance with the Resolution 08/02 on establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels.

## **7. NATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS**

### **7.1 Research cruises by Marine Fisheries Research and Development Center (JAMARC), Fisheries Research Agency (2010-2015)**

In recent 5 years, JAMARC has been conducting the experimental purse seine fishing in the eastern Indian Ocean. RV Nippon Maru (2011-2012) and Taikei Maru No.1 (2013-2015) were used for the study. The main object of the research program is to mitigate bycatch of juvenile yellowfin and bigeye tunas in purse seining with FADs. Two kinds of study have been conducted; (a) Study on the application of light stimuli to force juvenile tuna escaping through large mesh panels of the purse seine net and (b) Study on preset estimation of species and size composition of schools associated with FADs using wide band echo sounder. With accurate estimation, sets on FADs with larger concentration of juvenile tunas could be avoided and would lead to protection of juveniles.

### **7.2 Development of Kobe plots I+II and ADMB\_SCAA/ASPM software (2009-2015)**

Since 2009, the project to develop software for ADMB implemented SCAA (Statistical-Catch-At-Age)/ASPM (Age Structure Production Model) and Kobe plots I + II has been implemented to 2015. This project was funded by Fisheries Research Agency (FRA) of Japan. Software is available at:

<http://ocean-info.ddo.jp/kobeaspm/kobeplot/KobePlot.zip>

<http://ocean-info.ddo.jp/kobeaspm/aspm/ASPM.zip>

### 7.3 Project to mitigate deprecations by toothed whales (2009-2014)

The international collaborative project to mitigate deprecations of longline caught tuna by toothed whales was implemented for 3 years (2009-2011) by a senior scientist in the NRIFSF (Dr Nishida). The counter part was Dr McPherson (James Cook University, Australia) who is the world outstanding expert in this area. The International Fishers Forum 5 (Taipei, Taiwan,China, 2010) provided the best research award to this project. This project was also funded by NRIFSF, Fisheries Research Agency (FRA) of Japan.

### 7.4 IOTC-OFCF projects (2002-2015)

The IOTC-OFCF joint project to improve tuna fisheries statistics in the IOTC water have been implemented for last 13 years in four phases, i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> phase for 5 years: 2002-2006, 2<sup>nd</sup> phase for 3 years: 2007-2009, 3<sup>rd</sup> phase: 2010-2012 and 4<sup>th</sup> phase: 2013-2015.

## 8. IMPLEMENTATION OF SC RECOMMENDATIONS & RESOLUTIONS OF THE IOTC RELEVANT TO THE SC.

Progress on the implementation of recommendations of the past SCs relating to Japan is as below:

### 8.1 Observer coverages

In accordance with the Resolution 11/04 (IOTC ROS), Japan started to deploy observers from July, 2010. The observer coverages (2010-2013) are 6.9%, 6.3%, 4.8% and 4.7 % respectively (average =5.7%) based on the number of operation (Table 6). Table 6 shows that coverages for 2 years (2012-2013) are less than 5%.

Table 6 Observer coverage rates of the Japanese tuna longline fisheries based on the number of operations (as of February, 2015).

year	Coverage rate	Background statistics (Number of operations covered by observers) /(Total number of operations)
2010 (July 1- )	7.5 %	360/4,770
2011	6.3 %	557/8,804
2012	4.9 %	472/9,635
2013	4.6 %	420/9,094
Average	5.8 %	

### 8.2 Collection of size data

Tuna longliners in Japan have been collecting size data voluntary basis except the observer program under the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme (ROS) started in July, 2010. In 1960-70's, size data were covered up to 20% of the total catch, afterwards the coverage decreased to a few %. In 1980-1990's, high school training vessels off Java Island, Indonesia collected high levels of coverage. For example, as for bigeye tuna, its coverage of size data was 10-20%

of the total catch in the Indian Ocean before 1992. But, afterwards it sharply decreased to only a few %. This is mainly because these training vessels shifted their operations to the Pacific Ocean due to the pirate problems in the Strait of Malacca. Under such situation, size data sampled have been limited. After the IOTC ROS started in July, 2010, Japanese observer started to collect more size data (Table 7). Except albacore, 1% criteria are not satisfied for other species (yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna and swordfish).

**Table 7 Number of size measured (4 major species) in 2010- 2013 under the IOTC ROS.**

( ) Numbers recommended by IOTC (1 fish per ton in the annual catch: based on the statistics as of February, 2015) and ( %) its coverage

Year	No of observers (vessels)	Yellowfin	Bigeye	Albacore	Swordfish
2010 (July 1 - )	6	2,195	2,794	2,628	232
2011	8	452 (4,893) (9%)	2,501 (4,884) (51%)	5,904 (2,442) (242%)	95 (576) (16%)
2012	10	1,784 (3,562) (50%)	4,096 (6,010) (68%)	3,316 (2,918) (114%)	234 (619) (38%)
2013	9	2,817 (4,519) (62%)	3,678 (5,716) (64%)	3,713 (2,293) (162%)	216 (661) (33%)
Average (%)		(41%)	(61%)	(172%)	(29%)

### 8.3 Modification of log-sheet collection system

The owners of fishing vessels larger than or equal to 10 GRT are required to submit the logbook on their operations and catch information to the Japanese government within three months after each cruise was finished. As the duration of one cruise for distant water longliners is long, sometimes longer than one year, it used to take about two years to complete compiling statistics of longline fishery. Starting in August 2008, distant water longliners are required to submit it every ten days. This change in submission rule of logbook has facilitated earlier compilation of tuna statistics.

### 8.4 Improvement to speed up to submit fisheries data to the IOTC

From August 1, 2008 Japan has mandated that all the long-distance longline vessels submit the logbook more quickly by revising the ministerial ordinance. This change facilitates more speedy data submission to the IOTC secretariat.

## 9. WORKING DOCUMENTS (total 21 Documents)

### 9.1 WPNT05 (Neritic tuna) (Zanzibar, Tanzania) (May, 2015) (2 documents)

IOTC–2015–WPNT05–28 Longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*) stock assessment in the Indian Ocean by ASPIC (A Stock–Production model Incorporating Covariates) using available CPUE information (T.Nishida and K. Iwasaki)

IOTC–2015–WPNT05–29 Kobe I (Kobe plot) +Kobe II (risk assessment) software (T. Nishida, T. Kitakado, K.

**9.2 WPB13 (Billfish) (Olhão, Portugal) (September, 2015) (4 documents)**

- IOTC–2015–WPB13–17 Standardization of CPUE for striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*) of Japanese longline fishery in Indian Ocean (Ijima H, Ochi D, Nishida T & Okamoto H)
- IOTC–2015–WPB13–19 Rev\_1 Stock assessments for striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*) in the Indian Ocean by A Stock-Production Model Incorporating Covariates (ASPIC) (Nishida T)
- IOTC–2015–WPB13–26 CPUE standardization of sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*) caught by Japanese longline fishery in the Indian Ocean from 1994 to 2014 (Okamoto H & Ijima H)
- IOTC–2015–WPB13–INF06 Systematics of the billfishes (Xiphiidae and Istiophoridae) (Nakamura I)

**9.3 WPEB11 (Ecosystem and Bycatch) (Olhão, Portugal) (September, 2015) (6 documents)**

- IOTC–2015–WPEB11–22 Distribution patterns of sizes and sex-ratios of blue shark in the Indian Ocean (Coelho R, Yokawa K, Liu K-M, Romanov E, da Silva C, Bach P, Lino PG, Ohshimo S, Tsai W-P & Santos MN)
- IOTC–2015–WPEB11–30 Rev\_1 Update of standardized CPUE of blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the Indian Ocean estimated from observer data in the period between 1992 and 2014 (Semba Y, Kanaiwa M & Yokawa K)
- IOTC–2015–WPEB11–37 Rev\_1 Preliminary analyses; evaluation of the effects of the newly employed seabird bycatch regulation for longline fisheries in IOTC conventional area with using current observer data (Inoue Y, Yokawa K & Minami H)
- IOTC–2015–WPEB11–38 Rev\_1 Progress of the development of the DNA identification for the southern albatross bycatch in longline fishery (Inoue Y, Alderman R, Taguchi M, Sakuma K, Kitamura T, Phillips RA, Burg TM, Small C, Sato M, Papworth W & Minami H)
- IOTC–2015–WPEB11–50 Update of CPUE and catch for blue shark caught by Japanese longliner during 1971-1993 in the Indian Ocean (Kai M & Okamoto H)
- IOTC–2015–WPEB11–51 Estimation of appropriate reporting ratio for the blue shark caught by Japanese longliner in the Indian Ocean (Kai M & Yoakawa K)

**9.4 WPTT17 (Tropical tuna) (Montpellier, France)(October, 2015) (6 documents)**

- IOTC–2015–WPTT17–23 Report of the 2nd CPUE Workshop on Longline Fisheries, 30 April – 2 May 2015 (Hoyle SD, Okamoto H, Yeh Y-M, Kim ZG, Lee SI & Sharma R)
- IOTC–2015–WPTT17–26 Rev\_1 Update of standardized Japanese longline CPUE for yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean and consideration of standardization methods (Ochi D, Matsumoto T, Nishida T & Kitakado T)
- IOTC–2015–WPTT17–28 Rev\_2 Stock assessment of yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) in the Indian Ocean by SCAA (Statistical-Catch-At-Age) (1950-2014) (Nishida T & Kitakado T)
- IOTC–2015–WPTT17–29 Stock assessment of yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) in the Indian Ocean by SCAS (Statistical-Catch-At-Size) (Kitakado T & Nishida T)
- IOTC–2015–WPTT17–34 Japanese longline CPUE for bigeye tuna in the Indian Ocean standardized by GLM (Matsumoto T, Ochi D & Satoh K)
- IOTC–2015–WPTT17–INF08 Descriptive analyses of the Japanese Indian Ocean longline fishery, focusing on tropical areas (Hoyle SD & Okamoto H)

**9.5 WPM (Method) (Montpellier, France) (October, 2015) (3 documents)**



- IOTC–2015–WPM06–16 Adoption of a table of performance indicators for the evaluation of Management Procedures for IOTC stocks (Mosqueira I & Kitakado T)
- IOTC–2015–WPM06–INF08 Report of the 2nd CPUE Workshop on Longline Fisheries, 30 April – 2 May 2015 (Hoyle SD, Okamoto H, Yeh Y-M, Kim ZG, Lee SI & Sharma R)
- IOTC–2015–WPM06–INF10 Proposal for a special session on Management Strategy Evaluation at the 18th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Scientific Committee (Mosqueira I & Kitakado T)