

# Plan of the Research Cruise of R/V Shoyo-Maru

## Fisheries Agency of Japan

Fisheries Agency of Japan will carry out the research cruise “Fishery research of Tunas in Indian Ocean using long-line operation by Research vessel Shoyo-Maru” to collect biological data of large pelagic species and oceanographic information in the northwestern area of Indian Ocean.

We are asking Oman governments to issue a permission to make our research cruise in their EEZ.

Provisional research plan is as follows. When it is finalized, we will submit it to IOTC.

### I Research Vessel Information :

*Name of Vessel* : **Shoyo-Maru**

*Country of Registration(Flag)* : **Japan**

*Vessel Type* : **Scientific Research Vessel**

*Gross Tonnage* : **2,214tons (IGT 2,581tons)**

#### *Vessel Owner*

Name : **Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan**

Address : **1-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan**

Phone/Fax : **+81-3-502-8111(ext.7378) / +81-3-3592-0759**

E-mail : **naohito\_okazoe@nm.maff.go.jp**

#### *Vessel Operator*

Name : **Fisheries Agency of Japan**

Address : **1-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan**

Phone/Fax : **+81-3-502-8111(ext.7378) / +81-3-3592-0759**

E-mail : **naohito\_okazoe@nm.maff.go.jp**

### II Name of the research cruise :

Fishery research of Tunas in the northwestern Indian Ocean using long-line operation by R/V Shoyo-Maru.

### III Objectives of the research cruise :

Main purposes of this research cruise are,

To grasp species composition and catch rate of each species caught by longline operation at the research area.

To collect biological data and to clarify migration pattern of large pelagic species

### IV Research Duration and Area:

Duration: Sep. 2007 – Jan.2008 (for five months)

Detail plan of the research cruise including the schedule of port of call.

Table 1. Schedule of the research cruise.

Date	Item	Days				Comment
		In port	Cruising	Research	Reserve	
3 Sep. 2006	Dept. Tokyo		22			To Research area
24 Sep. 2006	Ent. Mutrah	3				
28 Sep. 2006	Dep. Mutrah		3	27		Start of 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg
			3			
30 Oct. 2006	Ent. Victoria	3				Finish of 1 <sup>st</sup> Leg
3 Nov. 2006	Dept. Victoria		3	27		Start of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Leg
			3			
5 Dec. 2006	Ent. Dubai	4				Finish of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Leg
10 Dec. 2006	Dept. Dubai		3	26		Start of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Leg
			3			
10 Jan. 2007	Ent. Mutrah	3				Finish of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Leg
14 Jan. 2007	Dept. Mutrah					To Tokyo
			22			
4 Feb. 2007	Ent. Tokyo					
	Total	13	62	80		Total cruise: 155days

Supposed research area: The exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of Oman and high sea in the northwestern Indian Ocean (Fig. 1).

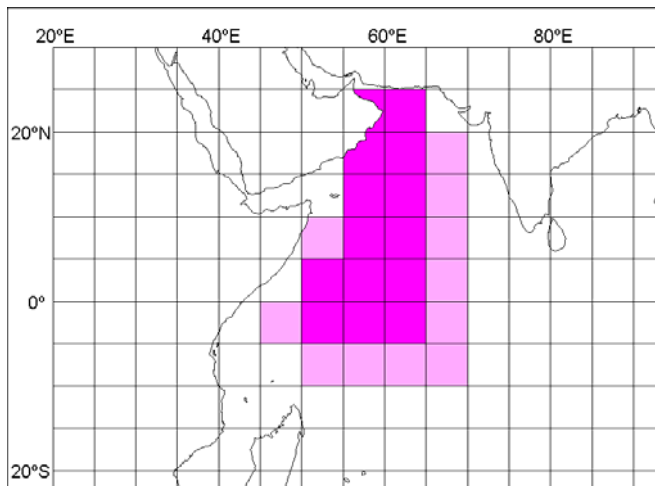


Fig. 1. Main research area supposed in this research cruise.

## V Method to be used:

- 1) Long-line operation
- 2) Tagging on tunas
- 3) Oceanographic research using XBT, XCTD and CTD
- 4) Other