

Implementation plan of National Observer Project of Korea

One Korean observer will dispatch during late August to December in the Korean tune longline vessel in the Indian Ocean.

Observer will collect the data and information as follows :

- a) Vessel details and fishing operations
- b) Biological data of target and non-target species (size frequency, weight, sex, maturity, stomach contents, conversion factor etc.)
- c) Observations of protected species
- d) Implementation of mitigation measures
- e) Catch and catch composition data
- f) Monitoring of discards
- g) Scientific activities (hook timer etc.)

These observed data collected by one observer for the Indian Ocean will be reported in 2011.

Other relevant information

The National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) began to operate fisheries observer program in 2002 to monitor Korean distant-water fisheries including those for tunas and to meet the requirements of regional fisheries bodies. At the initial stage, the scale of observer program will be fairly small to cover only for the fisheries to be urgently implemented such as a southern bluefin tuna longline fishery in CCSBT convention area, but it will be gradually developed to a bigger scale to cover all required areas of fisheries.

The goal of the first stage of observer program development is to establish a domestic training system to educate national observers. In 2010, a total of 6 observer candidates received a trainship from Korean longline observer program provided by NFRDI and all 3 observers joined 2-5 months on-board Korean tuna longline fishing vessels in Atlantic Ocean and Indian Ocean. Of these, two observers were dispatched to monitor the Korean tuna longline vessels in the CCSBT area in the Indian Ocean.