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## THE CRITERIA TO USE IN ALLOCATING QUOTAS AMONGST CPCs OF IOTC

Submitted by Indonesia

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### Introduction

Fisheries resource management, for instance tuna resource management, is aimed to ensure the sustainable utilization of tuna resource for the interest of people event at present and for the future, both as food supply and income source. For that purpose, management measures to be adopted, such as quotas of catch (output control) approach, shall be directed to protect and to ensure the sustainability of the tuna fisheries business. This issue is very necessary to be discussed, as we presume that quotas of catch approach will directly influence the existing tuna fisheries business at several states. In broader context, implementation of quotas approach will cause a significant impact to the safety of food supply and life quality of peoples. By considering the above phenomena, it is proposed that criteria in allocation quotas of catch will refer the six (6) following spectrum:

### 1. Geographical Area

Geographical area of states will lead the economic development orientation of the said states. Logically, continental states tend to approach their development orientation by land basis, however the coastal states by maritime basis. Article 56 UNCLOS 1982 has declared an international community acknowledgment toward the sovereign right of coastal states for the purpose of exploring and exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources, whether living or non-living, of waters superjacent to the seabed and of the seabed and its subsoil. This acknowledgment becomes an important pillar for the concerned coastal state, for instance Indonesia, to develop their economic sector for the purpose of increasing prosperity of the people mainly fishers and their families.

As we may aware that Indonesia locates between two (2) Ocean namely Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean. These two oceans is connected by Indonesia archipelagic waters that well known with its rich potential of fisheries resources. Even though a comprehensive scientific evidence is not available, but there is assumption that the archipelagic waters connecting the two oceans contribute great influence to fisheries resources condition at IEEZ waters including high seas. The archipelagic water is predicted as a spawning ground and/or nursery ground of tuna species. And at a certain period, baby tuna and/or juvenile will migrate from the archipelagic water headed to IEEZ and high seas through territorial water.

At the other side, during tens years before IOTC establishment, orientation in tuna fisheries business has been developed for the purpose of utilizing fisheries resource at archipelagic and territorial waters including IEEZ and high seas. This business has made a significant contribution related to job absorption, income improvement, and poverty reduction of fishers, as these aspects are a part of fishers' right as a human being.

Besides a specific condition as described above, the other important aspect, such as length of coast line, contributes to number of people who depend on their life on fisheries activity. Commonly, more people will involve in fisheries business as their primary livelihood when their state having a long coast line.

### 2. Historical of Tunas Fisheries

Historical of tuna fisheries may be considered as one of the performance indicators of the fisheries development program of a state. Any state that has developed its tuna fisheries for long period, shall

be assumed has made a lot of related effort to utilize the tuna resources for the purpose of human prosperity both as food supply and other social needs. Of course, a lot of investment has been made in this effort.

In regards with Indonesia, tuna fisheries business has been developed since 1970, namely fishing and processing industries. During 40 years, a significant investment at this business has been made both by government, fishing and processing industries and fishers. This investment covering fisheries facilities improvement, vessels, fishing gear and auxiliaries gear, fish processing facilities, and other supporting facilities including human resource development for the exploration, conservation and exploitation. Nowadays, tuna fisheries have become a primary livelihood for a lot of people.

### **3. Historical Data of Nominal Catch**

Historical data of nominal catch reflects a description of fisheries activity that has been undertaken by a state. Therefore, Historical data of nominal catch shall be adopted as one of criteria in allocating quotas of catch. In this concern, Indonesia proposes to adopt Historical Data of Nominal Catch of tuna during the past 10 years (1999-2009).

### **4. Fleets and Fishing Gear**

Fleets characteristic will lead to significant impact to sustainability of the fishing business. This characteristic involving fishing vessels size, fishing gears and auxiliary fishing gears. Generally, large scale vessels will be equipped with a productive fishing gear as well as modern auxiliary fishing gear. These vessels were designed to having durability to fish at high seas (ocean going), highly productivity and efficiency and a large fish hold capacity (super lower temperature). IOTC classified these fishing vessels as large fishing vessels since they have LOA larger than 24 M. According to IOTC Resolution 10/08, these vessels have to be registered at the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels in case harvesting tuna and tuna like species managed by IOTC.

It is not similar to smaller fishing vessels or the vessels having LOA below 24 meters, despite these vessels are equipped with productive fishing gear, but it were rarely supported by modern auxiliary fishing gear. These vessels were not properly designed to having durability to reach EEZ and high seas (ocean going), as well as modern navigation equipment. Generally, these vessels are belonging to ordinary fishers where fishing activity has become the only primary livelihood for them and their families. According to IOTC Resolution 10/08, these vessels have only to be registered at the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels, in case harvesting tuna and tuna like species managed by IOTC outside the EEZ of their flag state.

In fact, fishing industry in Indonesia informed the government that export market for tuna and tuna product, require all fishing vessels event with LOA below 24 meter to be registered at the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels, despite they are harvesting tuna and tuna like species at the Indonesia territorial water and within Indonesia EEZ and not reach out for high seas of Indian Ocean. This market requirement (traceability measure) has lead Indonesia to register all fishing vessels at Indian Ocean (territorial water, IEEZ and high sea) to IOTC, so that number of Indonesia fishing vessels at the IOTC Record of Vessels has reflected a huge number. As additional, there are thousands of small scale fleets such as trolling line, mini purse-seine and hand line fisheries etc, that not need to be registered to IOTC since their catch is intended for domestic consumption only.

### **5. Economic and Social Context**

Commonly, coastal states are grouped as a developing country event as a poor country. These countries need to have resources for the economic growth as well providing job opportunity. In case

there is a lack ability of a state to present the above needs, it may cause a serious social problem that may lead to social unrest. In fact that fisheries sector is one of the development pillars at coastal states.

The role of fisheries sector in providing food, job opportunity and economic growth is appropriate significant at the certain states. In this regards, tuna fisheries business has contributed a significant benefit to a great number of people. Therefore, application of quotas of tuna catches shall not lead to a contra-productive benefit to a state. In other word, the issue of quotas approach shall ensure not to cause a reduction of job opportunity, economic growth and poverty alleviation effort that having strong connection to instability of a state. We therefore believe that quotas approach shall not affect the social stability of a state.

## **6. Environmental Concern**

This is a global issue need to be observed. The interest of a state in environmental concern may be shown in the national program development of its state including national regulation, as well as the involvement in international community initiative on marine environmental conservation.