



## **Guidelines for the Preparation of National Tuna Fishery Reports**

The national tuna fishery reports will be presented at SCTB 15 (brief verbal presentation), and each presenter will be asked to summarize his/her presentation in written form for inclusion in the report of the meeting. Tabling of the national tuna fishery report in a background paper would be desirable.

The report should present catch statistics for year 2001 and the four previous years, if possible; recent developments in each fishery for tropical tunas (skipjack, yellowfin, bigeye and albacore) should be highlighted, and where important, fisheries for small tunas and billfish. National fishery reports by SPC members should give highest priority to information concerning their domestic fleets, whereas reports by distant water fishing nations should present information concerning the activities of their fleets within the Western and Central Pacific (to 1500 W) and the entire Pacific, where appropriate.

The catch statistics should consist of annual catches (metric tonnes), by species, for the 2001 calendar year (by gear - longline, pole-and-line, purse seine, multi-gear domestic fisheries of Indonesia and Philippines) or the 2000/2001 season (troll fishery for albacore). If possible, preliminary statistics for the 2001/2002 albacore season would be of interest. Where possible, the number of vessels by gear type should be included. As well as information on catches of the main tuna species, information on catches of billfish and other by-catch species, including species of special interest (sharks, marine reptiles, marine mammals and birds) should be included where possible.

Possible headings to assist in the preparation and presentation of the national reports are as follows:

1. Brief introduction/background to the fishery/fisheries
2. Total catch, for all species and all gears combined - 1997-2001
3. Fleet structure
4. Catch by species, for each gear type
5. Final market destination of catches / disposal of catch
6. Onshore developments (transshipment, processing etc)
7. Future prospects and developments