Japan

Japan has actively participated in discussions at the relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) as below, in whose area of competence Japanese fishing vessels conduct deep sea fisheries. Japan has taken necessary measures to conserve and sustainably use fish stocks and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs), including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals based on scientific information and taking into account the characteristics of the species and areas. Those RFMOs have adopted various Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) which are available on their websites. Japan, through its domestic legislation, has ensured its deep sea fishing vessels to comply with those CMMs.

- North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC): Emperor Seamounts in the North Pacific (North Pacific armorhead, Splendid alfonsino, etc.)

- Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR): Southern Ocean (Toothfish)

- South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO): South East Atlantic (Toothfish and deep sea red crab)

- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO): Northwest Atlantic (Redfish and Greenland halibut)

- Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA): Southern Indian Ocean (Splendid alfonsino and toothfish)

Responding to the Resolution 64/72 (2009) and considering the absence of an RFMO to manage deep sea fisheries in the North Pacific, Japan commenced voluntary actions in 2009. These include data collection through scientific observer deployment and implementation of voluntary management of its deep sea fisheries in this area. In the meantime, Japan took its initiative together with the Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States towards the establishment of a new RFMO to manage deep sea fisheries in the north Pacific responding to the Resolution 64/72 (2009). As a result, the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC) was established in 2015.

Japan has taken domestic actions to ensure the compliance with CMMs adopted by the above-mentioned RFMOs including monitoring, control and surveillance measures and to deter IUU fishing. Detailed monitoring, control and surveillance measures adopted by RFMOs are available at the websites of the RFMOs. They include:

- Vessel Registration

- List of IUU fishing vessels
- Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)
- High Seas Boarding Inspection (HSBI)
- Transshipment monitoring measure
- Information sharing of vessels without nationality

Also, Japan has taken following actions to contribute to conservation and sustainable use of fish stocks and protection of VMEs, based on the best available scientific information.

- Deployment of scientific research vessels
- Deployment of patrol/inspection vessels
- Providing assistance for capacity building to developing countries directly and through international and regional organizations