

[Signed]
 W.M. Campbell
 Agent for the Government of
 Australia

[Signed]
 T. Caughley
 Agent for the Government of
 New Zealand

(d) Response to Tribunal's Questions by Japan submitted on 20 August 1999

Response to Tribunal's Questions
 Dated 20 August 1999

On behalf of the Government of Japan, I submit the following responses to the questions from the Tribunal dated 20 August 1999.

- (i) *The time of year when fishing for SBT commences, and whether the time is the same or varies for individual parties.*

The nominal start of Japan's fishing season is March 1 and ends February 28. The actual start for Japan generally is in April and the actual end date is in or before December. For the 1999 fishing season, Japan started fishing on April 15.

New Zealand's fishing year runs January 1 – December 31.

Australia's fishing year has varied from year-to-year, with start dates ranging from October 1 to December 15 (i.e., anywhere from 2–1/2 to 5 months before Japan's fishing season nominally starts). See Attachment A (from Report of the Fifth Annual Meeting of the CCSBT, 22–26 February 1999).

- (ii) *The length of the period (in months) during which parties fish for their allocated quotas of the TAC for the year, and whether this period is the same for all parties or varies from party to party.*

The Japanese fleet fishes as follows (numbered Areas are shown on the attached map):

Off Tasmania (Areas 4 and 7): 15 April – July.

Cape area (Area 9): 1 May – August

South Indian Ocean (Areas 2 and 8): 1 September – December

(iii) *The expected commencement date of the 1999/2000 fishing season for each of the parties.*

As indicated above, the nominal start of the next fishing year for the Japanese fleet is March 1, 2000, but the actual start is not anticipated until April 2000.

August 20, 1999

[Signed]
Kazuhiko Togo
Agent for the Government of Japan
Director-General, Treaties Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

– Domestic southern bluefin tuna catch by Australian state, gear and quota year, 1988–89 to 1997–98 (also submitted as Attachment A to Attachment 13 to Annex 18 to the Response of Japan)

Domestic southern bluefin tuna catch by Australian state, gear and quota year, 1988–89 to 1997–98.
(Prior to 1988–89 there was virtually no domestic longlining for SBT and no joint-venture arrangement.)

Quota year	Western Australia		South Australia		New South Wales		Tasmania		Large longliners		Australia total		Total all gears		
	Albany pole	Esperance pole	pole & purse seine	farm cages	pole & purse seine	long-line	troll	long-line	Aust charter	joint-venture	domestic surface	domestic long-line		RTMP	
1988–89	204	221	4872	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	684	1	685	0	5984
1989–90	133	97	4199	0	0	6	14	0	14	0	400	6	406	0	4849
1990–91	175	45	2588	0	0	15	57	0	57	255	881	15	1151	0	4316
1991–92	17	0	1629	138	14	34	90	20	36	59	2057	124	2240	800	4894
1992–93	0	0	716	722	68	1506	23	44	67	0	2735	350	3085	650	5212
1993–94	0	0	621	1294	55	1970	7	105	112	0	2299	446	2745	270	4937
1994–95	0	0	908	1954	2	2864	4	109	113	0	1295	268	1563	650	5080
1995–96	0	0	1447	3362	0	4809	28	89	117	0	0	4837	351	351	5188
1996–97	0	0	2000	2498	0	4498	7	229	236	0	0	4507	471	471	4978
1997–98	0	0	915	3487	34	4402	3	294	297	0	0	4439	648	648	5087

1997–98 catches are preliminary.

^[1] 1 October to 30 September for 1988–89 to 1990–91; 1 October 1991 to 31 October 1992 for 1991–92; 1 November to 31 October for 1992–93 and 1993–94; 1 November 1994 to 15 December 1995; 16 December 1995 to 15 December 1996 for 1995–96; and 16 December 1996 to 30 November 1997 for 1996–97; 1 December 1997 to 30 November 1998 for 1997–98.

^[2] Note that a further 700t of Australian quota was "frozen" (not allocated) in 1990–91.

^[3] Product caught by Western Australian and South Australian longliners are included in South Australian pole and purse seine catch.

- SBT Statistical Area

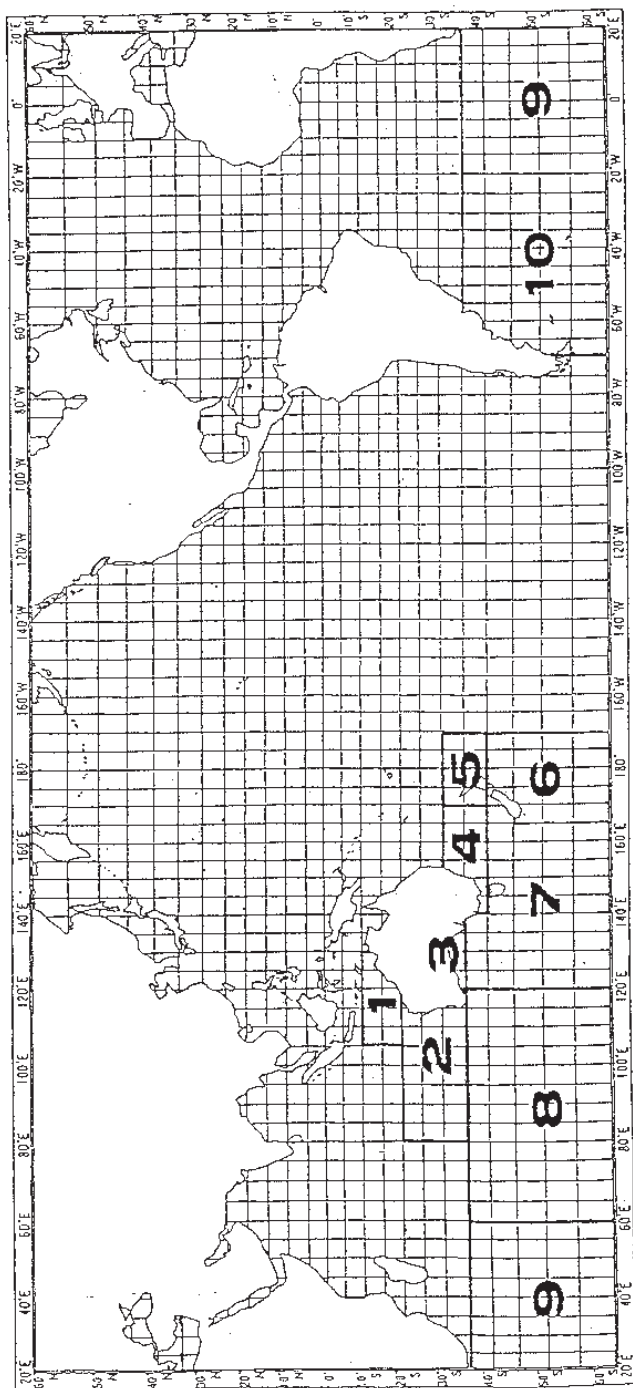


Fig. 2 SBT Statistical Area