

# The Organization for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries Business Report of 2023 Fiscal Year (April 01, 2023 - March 31, 2024)

## 1. Membership

Membership to the OPRT as of the end of March 2024 is as follows:

<b>(1) Full-members:</b>	23 organizations
<b>(2) Officers:</b>	15 (13 Directors and 2 Auditors)
<b>(3) Staff members:</b>	4

## 2. Registered Fishing Vessels

The state of registered fishing vessels as of the end of March 2024 is as follows:

Members	Number of Fishing Vessels (As of the end of March 2024)	Number of Fishing Vessels (As of the end of March 2023)
(1) Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperative Association (JapanTuna)	<b>125</b>	<b>131</b>
(2) National Ocean Tuna Fishery Association (Enkatsukyo)	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
(3) National Offshore Tuna Fisheries Association (Kinkatsukyo)	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
(Sub Total)	<b>144</b>	<b>151</b>
(4) Taiwan Deep Sea Tuna long-line Boatowners And Exporters Association	<b>313</b>	<b>296</b>
(5) Korea Overseas Fisheries Association (Tuna Longline Fisheries Committee)	<b>104</b>	<b>103</b>
(6) Philippine International Tuna Longline Association Inc.	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
(7) Indonesia Tuna Association (ASTUIN)	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
(8) China Overseas Fisheries Association (COFA)	<b>222</b>	<b>222</b>
(9) Foundation for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries (FUNDATUNA)	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
(10) Deepsea Fisheries Management of Republic of Seychelles	<b>47</b>	<b>50</b>
(11) FSM National Offshore Fisheries Association (FSM-NOFA)	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
(12) Tuvalu Tuna Association (TuTA) <i>Withdrew from OPRT in Sep 11, 2023</i>	—	<b>0</b>
(13) Nareau Tuna Boat Owners Association of Kiribati (NTA)	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
(14) Marshall Islands Tuna Fisheries Association (MITFA)	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
(15) Ming Dar Fishery (Vanuatu) Co., Ltd.	<b>49</b>	<b>55</b>
(16) Cook Islands Commercial Fishing Association Inc. (CICFA)	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
(17) Kenya Tuna Fisheries Association	<b>0</b>	—
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>900</b>

### 3. Business Report of 2023 Fiscal Year

Plans	Results
<p><b>1. Monitoring and analysis of the state of tuna resources and the trend of international stock management</b></p> <p>(1) Monitoring, analysis and dissemination of information related to RFMOs</p> <p>(2) Monitoring, analysis and dissemination of information related to environmental NGOs</p> <p><b>2. Promotion of effective resources management</b></p> <p>(1) Prevention and elimination of IUU fishing activities</p> <p>(a) Monitoring of tunas imported to Japan</p> <p>(b) Monitoring of Positive Lists of RFMOs</p> <p>(c) Implementation of part of work related to the prior confirmation system for tuna import</p> <p>(d) DNA analysis</p> <p>(2) Promotion of fishing capacity control</p> <p>(3) Management of OPRT-registered fishing vessels</p> <p>(4) Monitoring of the international transactions of second-hand tuna longline fishing vessels and investigation on the status of exported second-hand vessels</p> <p>(5) Measures to mitigate bycatch and collection of related information</p>	<p>- Participation in the RFMOs' annual meeting (IOTC, WCPFC, ICCAT). Participation in the ICCAT Intersessional Meeting of Panel 1 (Tropical Tunas). Participation in the 2nd Workshop on Western and Central Pacific Tropical Tuna Longline Fishery Management. Participation in the ICCAT Working Group on Labor Standards and the WCPFC Intersessional Working Group on Labour Standards. Participation in the informal intersessional meeting on the Review of WCPFC's Seabird Measure.</p> <p>The results were sent to foreign Members as Reports from the Secretariat.</p> <p>- Monitoring of discussions on the management of FADs (fish aggregation devices) at RFMO meetings to address the issue of juvenile tunas caught by FADs operations and providing information to members.</p> <p>- Attendance at a briefing session on the result of the project on research and analysis of tuna stocks by the Fisheries Resources Institute in 2023 (WEB meeting)</p> <p>- Meeting with Environmental Justice Foundation as a part of monitoring the activities of environmental NGOs related to labor issues. The results were provided to foreign Members as Reports from the Secretariat, and a warning was issued about the report published by EJF.</p> <p>- Analysis on import data of approx. 13,500 cases (Entry of all the data into the OPRT database.)</p> <p>- Monitoring of change in fishing capacity, etc. (Avg. 7,500 vessels /month)</p> <p>- Confirmation and demanding "Report on the import of frozen tuna to Japan" according to the instruction of MAFF. (Confirmation: approx.8,700 cases / year, Demanding: approx. 25,000 cases/</p> <p>- DNA analysis: Project entrusted by the Fisheries Agency of Japan Project Partners: Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, Tokai University and Nihon Kaiji Kentei Kyokai Target of analysis: round fish and processed products imported by reefer carriers, reefer containers, etc. Analyzed species: Bigeye (60 vessels) Number of specimens analyzed: 1,500 specimens from 60 vessels (54 vessels via reefer carriers or longliners and 6 vessels via reefer containers) Flag of vessels analyzed: Taiwan, Vanuatu, Seychelles, China &amp; Japan</p> <p>- Organized the informal meeting to exchange views among OPRT Members about "Capacity management of tuna longline vessels by OPRT and the future direction". Discussed how to handle transactions of second-hand tuna longline fishing vessels.</p> <p>- Updating the list of OPRT registered vessels and publishing in the OPRT web site.</p> <p>- Monitoring of trade of second-hand fishing vessels among OPRT Members (2 vessels from Japan to Korea, 1 vessel from Kiribati to Vanuatu)</p> <p>- " OPRT Policy on Bycatch Issues " was adopted and posted on the OPRT web site. A draft revision was made reflecting the revised bycatch measures in the RFMOs</p>

Plans	Results
<p><b>3. Promotion of responsible tuna fisheries through promotion of sustainable use of tuna resources</b></p> <p>(1) Implementation of campaigns for sashimi tunas, with a focus on "October 10 Tuna Day".</p> <p>(2) Support and strengthening of events related to the tuna campaign</p>	<p>Summary of the 20th campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The campaign was conducted from Oct. 1 to Oct. 10, 2023, using a slogan "October 10th is Day of Tuna. Let's enjoy sashimi tuna more!".</li> <li>- It was conducted through 132 fish retailers belonging to the All Japan Fish Retailers Union, with the cooperation of the All Japan Fish Retailers Union, Japan Fish Wholesalers' Association, All Japan Fish Brokers Union and Japan Fisheries Association as well as producers' organizations in Japan and OPRT overseas Members.</li> <li>- The OPRT distributed leaflets (19,000), posters (500), gift entry boxes (150).</li> <li>- The total applications were 2,872 consisting of 2,436 by post card and 436 by e-mail.</li> </ul> <p>A total of 150 sets of frozen sashimi tuna sakus (700g or more) were presented through a lucky draw for people who filled out questionnaire forms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The OPRT staff visited 3 stores participating in the campaign.</li> <li>- A press conference was held on Sep. 20, 2023, jointly by All Japan Fish Retailers Union and OPRT.</li> <li>- A press release was made on Sep. 20, 2023.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Research and studies on management, trade and market of tuna resources</b></p> <p>(1) Monitoring of the distribution of tunas imported to Japan</p> <p>(2) Survey on international distribution of tunas</p>	<p>(i) Research and analysis of tuna distribution entrusted by the Fisheries Agency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project Partners: Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, Tokai University and Nihon Kaiji Kentei Kyokai</li> <li>- Holding of Research Planning Committee (2 times)</li> <li>- Collection of statistical data on market</li> <li>- Analysis of handling volume data on market</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Research on SBT domestic marketing and distribution entrusted by CCSBT (Management Tag Survey and Market Survey in Toyosu Market).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Collection and analysis of information printed on tags attached to SBT by the year of production and by country (Twice a month at Toyosu Market).</li> <li>-Quantitative market survey of SBT handlers (individual surveys of wholesale marketers, importers, etc.).</li> <li>-Interview with 4 wholesalers and 2 importer as well as questionnaire survey of 44 importers</li> </ul> <p>(iii) Project on management of tuna distribution using electronic tags, which had been entrusted by the government of Japan until 2019 FY and has been carried out since 2020 FY at the OPRT's own expense.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Project Partners: Tomioka Seisakusho Co., Ltd and Tanaka Senyohin Co., Ltd.</li> <li>-Development, introduction and verification of new electronic tags (IC chips for UHF band only) as well as improvement of the compiling method of scanned data Experimental operation: 250 tags were distributed to 1 school training vessel and information on the tags were collected.</li> <li>-550 tags were distributed to 1 Japanese vessel and information on the tags were collected (the vessel owner paid the actual cost incurred).</li> <li>-Demonstration test of traceability using QR code attached on the electronic tags.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring of import data on frozen tunas by fishing vessels of OPRT Members, and monthly report of such data to OPRT Members and the related governments</li> <li>- Monitoring of the compliance status of RFMO fishery quota</li> <li>- Analysis of information on trade statistics and other sources</li> </ul>

Plans	Results
<p><b>5. Promotion of international exchange and cooperation among fishers for contributing to conservation and management of tuna resources</b></p> <p>(1) Holding of meetings for exchange of views</p> <p>(2) Provision of related information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Informal meeting to exchange views among OPRT Members about “Capacity management of tuna longline vessels by OPRT and the future direction”</li> <li>- Seminars for OPRT members (was held as 6.(4) OPRT seminar)</li> <li>- Issuance of Report from the Secretariat (11 times, 1 warning as an additional information)</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Promotion of and education on responsible tuna fisheries</b></p> <p>(1) Publication of OPRT Newsletters (in Japanese and English)</p> <p>(2) Renewal of OPRT website</p> <p>(3) Provision of information through OPRT website</p> <p>(4) Holding of OPRT seminars, etc.</p> <p>(5) Recruitment of new Supporting Members</p> <p>(6) Publicity activities through cooperation with friendly organizations</p>	<p>Publication of OPRT newsletters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Japanese version: 6 issues Sent approx.570 copies each by mail or hand delivery and approx. 160 by e-mail (also posted on the OPRT website)</li> <li>- English version: 4 issues Sent to approx. 100 persons by e-mail, and approx. 80 copies printed and sent to foreign embassies, reporters etc. mainly in Tokyo (also posted on the OPRT website)</li> </ul> <p>- Totally renewal of OPRT website The structure has been renewed to make it easier to search for information. The Japanese site and English one has become the same structure, and the viewers can jump from one to another by changing the language. Compatible with the vertical scrolling of searching by Smartphone. Enhanced security with encryption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update of OPRT Websites (Japanese and English): cumulative numbers of visitors are 6,739 for Japanese version and 2,826 for English version as of the end of March 2024.</li> <li>- OPRT press release: 4 times, including "The 20th Wild sashimi tuna campaign", "OPRT home page has been totally renewed" etc.</li> <li>- 1st OPRT Seminar: "2023 NOAA's Report to US Congress on Improving International Fisheries Management" Shingo OTA, OPRT Managing Director (posting of the documents on the website from Sep.27-29)</li> <li>- 246 members (59 corporate members, 2 foreign corporate members, 185 individual members) (Number of registered members as of the end of March 2024)</li> <li>- Cooperation to Umi-no-sachi: Cooperation with the public relations activities</li> <li>- Lectures to OFCF trainees on “responsible tuna fisheries” (2 times)</li> </ul>

Plans	Results						
<p><b>7. Management of the fund for FOC vessel scrapping project</b></p> <p>(1) Payment to OFCF</p>	<p>JPY 29,260,322 (June 26, 2023)  (In accordance with the decision of the Ordinary General Meeting in 2023)  (details)</p> <table data-bbox="654 392 1380 526"> <tr> <td>Amount collected during 2022 FY</td> <td>JPY 30,437,995</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>(Include deposit interest JPY 246 )</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expense for collection (Including outsourcing costs)</td> <td>JPY -1,177,673</td> </tr> </table> <hr/> <p>Total JPY 29,260,322</p> <p>The amount due for payment after this payment</p> <p>JPY211,828,747</p>	Amount collected during 2022 FY	JPY 30,437,995		(Include deposit interest JPY 246 )	Expense for collection (Including outsourcing costs)	JPY -1,177,673
Amount collected during 2022 FY	JPY 30,437,995						
	(Include deposit interest JPY 246 )						
Expense for collection (Including outsourcing costs)	JPY -1,177,673						
<p>(2) Amount transferred to the Fund</p>	<p>Amount collected during 2023 FY (for payment in 2024)  JPY 33,433,032  (details)</p> <table data-bbox="654 739 1380 873"> <tr> <td>Amount collected during 2023 FY</td> <td>JPY 34,600,644</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>(Include deposit interest JPY 249)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expense for collection (Including outsourcing costs)</td> <td>JPY -1,167,612</td> </tr> </table> <hr/> <p>Total JPY 33,433,032</p>	Amount collected during 2023 FY	JPY 34,600,644		(Include deposit interest JPY 249)	Expense for collection (Including outsourcing costs)	JPY -1,167,612
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