

# Message from the Organization for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries and the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council

Organization for the Promotion of Responsible Tuna Fisheries (OPRT)

Welcome to Japan and thank you for participating in the International Tuna Fishers Conference on Responsible Fisheries and the Third International Fishers Forum!

Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council

This joint meeting is broad in its scope. We will continue the discussions from the two previous International Fishers Forums, focusing on preventing the incidental capture of seabirds and sea turtles in longline fisheries. We will also address other globally important issues including sustainable fisheries; shark fisheries; fishing capacity; production; marketing; consumption monitoring; and illegal, unregulated and unreported fisheries.

Japan Fisheries Association

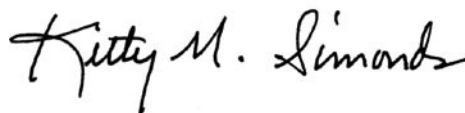
Hawaii Longline Association

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

It is important that fishermen and scientists gather to exchange ideas and respond to these issues. We greatly appreciate the time you have taken from your busy schedules as fishermen, researchers, gear manufacturers, fishery managers and wildlife conservation advocates to attend this joint conference.

Fisheries Agency of Japan

We thank you for coming to Japan from the many countries you represent and are encouraged that together we can continue to pursue solutions that ensure our fisheries are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner.



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