

Annex

Private-brand canned tuna

In accordance with its Sustainable Fisheries Policy, the principles, main criteria and commitments of that policy also apply to canned products that contain fish and seafood. Efforts will be carried out progressively with priority given to the issues that affect species that are present in private-brand canned products. Metro acknowledges the great challenges facing the worldwide procurement of tuna intended for canned products. In response to those issues and by respecting the principles of its policy, Metro's decisions related to sustainable fisheries will be based on official scientific opinions and will take into account the point of view of all stakeholders.

Worldwide issues involving the fishing of tuna intended for canned products

- The various species of tuna intended for canned products are highly migratory, making management and conservation measures more complex, because those species require measures taken by all stakeholders and the various nations.
- There is a consensus within the scientific community concerning the current overcapacity of commercial fishing of most tuna fisheries, requiring attention from all stakeholders.
- Certain organizations responsible for managing stocks are flawed with respect to control measures that are, or will be, put into place in order to ensure the sustainability of the resource, in the event that a stock approaches or is fished beyond the value deemed to be critical by scientific advice.
- The main fishing techniques currently used to meet almost all of the international demand require major changes to their control and to the understanding of their impact on the ecosystem.

The various tuna stocks placed in continuous improvement

In accordance with the application of the diagnostic and commitment principle aimed at continuous improvement, all of the tuna stocks intended for private-brand products have been placed in continuous improvement. Some of those stocks have been overfished, are subject to overfishing and/or the fishing techniques require that the nations responsible for the resource agree on greater framework and follow-up. However, Metro acknowledges that major efforts have begun to be made by various nations and organizations, such as the Maldives, the countries that signed the Nauru Agreement and the ISSF (International Seafood Sustainability Foundation). For all of these species, Metro has decided to take a continuous improvement approach with its partners, in order to better follow the species and the progress of the various practices and keep their customers informed.

**Skipjack Tuna (light tuna)**

Katsuwonis pelamis

Fishing Zone:

Central and Western Pacific Ocean

Type of Fishing:

Wild, Purse Seine with or without FADs*

Description

- The resource is deemed to be « fully » to « moderately » exploited.
- Need for greater control and a better understanding of bycatches associated with the use of FADs (fish aggregating devices), particularly in the Central and Western Pacific Ocean.
- Need for the management organizations in place to set up regulations based on clearly defined benchmarks.
- * The rapid growth, early maturity and high fecundity of this species make it resilient to fishing pressure.

Skipjack tuna products currently under contract for the procurement of private-brand canned tuna:

- 1- Selection wat.chunk light tuna 170g
- 2- Selection wat.flaked light tuna170g
- 3- Selection sp.tha.ch.flaked light tuna85g
- 4- Selection peper/lemon light tuna 85g
- 5- Selection tomato onion light tuna 85g

**Yellowfin Tuna**

Thunnus albacares

Fishing Zone:

All

Type of Fishing:

Wild, Purse Seine with or without FADs*

Description

- As a result of great fishing pressure, there is little or no room for increased fishing pressure.
- Population affected by the bycatches of juvenile yellowfin tuna by purse seine fishing using FADs.
- Need for greater control and a better understanding of bycatches associated with the use of FADs (fish aggregating devices), particularly in the Central and Western Pacific Ocean.
- Need for the management organizations in place to set up regulations based on clearly defined benchmarks.
- * The rapid growth, early maturity and high fecundity of this species make it resilient to fishing pressure.

N.B. Purchases of yellowfin tuna intended for private-brand canned tuna products have been temporarily interrupted; the situation will be re-evaluated as stipulated in the diagnostic updating of species principle of our policy, and because of our commitment to continuous improvement.

**Albacore Tuna (white tuna)**

Thunnus alalunga

Fishing Zone:

All

Type of Fishing:

Longline

Description

- A great deal of uncertainty with respect to the size of the stocks and the fishing pressure for several stocks of this species.
- Longline fishing presents issues concerning bycatches and requires setting up mitigation measures.
- Illegal, undeclared and unregulated fishing (IUU) represents a threat to the conservation of this species.

N.B. Purchases of albacore tuna intended for private-brand canned tuna products have been temporarily interrupted; the situation will be re-evaluated as stipulated in the diagnostic updating of species principle of our policy, and because of our commitment to continuous improvement.

Metro's position related to purse seine fishing using fish aggregating devices.

Metro acknowledges that purse seine fishing using drifting fish aggregating devices, as practiced today in commercial fishing, represents a real risk to the stability and the re-establishment of species populations with a special status, such as bigeye tuna.

Metro supports the steps taken by organizations that pressure those nations for increased control and greater regulation of fishing, such as the ISSF (International Seafood Sustainability Foundation).

In accordance with the sustainable exploitation methods principle of its policy, in 2013 Metro will commercialize a skipjack tuna product caught using poles and lines, a fishing technique known for having a very low bycatch rate, in order to develop its expertise in procuring tuna using alternative fishing methods.

Furthermore, in the absence of measures aimed at better regulating the use of FADs taken by the nations responsible for managing tuna stocks, Metro is committed to progressively reviewing its procurement in order to favour fishing that is better regulated.

To know more about the use of FADs

- Questions and Answers Document concerning FADs prepared by the ISSF
<http://iss-foundation.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2011/05/ISSF-2011-03-FAD-QA.pdf>
- International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) Action Plan.
<http://iss-foundation.org/2012/08/16/a-coordinated-approach-to-improving-fads/>
- WWF position regarding use of FADs
[http://awsassets.panda.org/downloads/tuna_fad_position_november_2011 .pdf](http://awsassets.panda.org/downloads/tuna_fad_position_november_2011.pdf)

Metro's position related to marine reserves

In accordance with its Sustainable Fisheries Policy, Metro publicly supports the United Nations 2011-2020 strategic plan for biological diversity, including the Aichi Targets for Biodiversity. Metro acknowledges that improving the state of biological diversity takes place through safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity. Metro supports, among others, Aichi's Target 11, which states that by 2020, at least 10% of marine and coastal zones should be conserved through protected areas.

Metro supports the protected areas and marine reserves projects, in territorial and international waters, that meet the criteria of the United Nations program for the environment. Metro acknowledges the great importance of the control measures to be put in place associated with such measures in order to avoid "displacing" the fishing effort. Metro is committed to supporting, through its actions, projects that meet the conservation objectives that have been set.

To know more about protected areas

- FAO definitions
<http://www.fao.org/fishery/topic/13502/en>
- Aichi Targets for Biodiversity
<http://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>
- United Nations Program for the Environment and Protected marine areas
http://www.unep-wcmc.org/marine-protected-areas_470.html