

Pre - FFC Meeting for the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project

(UNDP/GEF PIMS No. 2992)

Adopted PROGRAMME

Tanoa International Hotel, Nadi, Fiji – 13 May 2006

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		Presented by:
2pm	Introduction	Meeting facilitator
2.10pm	Overview of Progress and Issues for Component One – Scientific Assessment and Monitoring Enhancement covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishery monitoring, Coordination and Enhancement; • Stock Assessment; and • Ecosystem Analysis 	SPC Don Bromhead
2.50pm	Overview of Progress and Issues for Component Two – Law Policy and Institutional Reform, Realignment and Strengthening covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Reform • Policy Reform, including consideration of prioritisation of in - country EAFM planning activities by the FFA Secretariat • Institutional Reform • Compliance Strengthening 	FFA Transform Aqorau Dan Sua Dan Sua Marcel Kroese
3.30pm	Afternoon Break	
3.50pm	Overview of Progress and Issues for Component Two - continued	
4.15 pm	Overview of Progress and Issues for Component Three – Coordination, Participation and Information Services covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Strategy • Monitoring and Evaluation • Stakeholder Participation and Awareness Raising • Project Management & Coordination 	FFA Project Coordinator
	Project Financial Overview	Project Financial & Administration Officer
4.45pm	Close	Meeting facilitator



FFA



IUCN
The World Conservation Union

* Lunch will be provided at the venue after the morning DEVFISH session.



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Adopted PROGRAMME & RECORD OF DISCUSSION

Tanoa International Hotel, Nadi, Fiji - 13 May 2006

		Presented by:	Questions and Discussions
2pm	Introduction	<i>Meeting facilitator</i>	<p>Barbara Hanchard, OFM Project Coordinator introduced and facilitated meeting.</p> <p>An introduction of new GEF funded project staff was made - Darren Cameron, Fisheries Management Advisor and Roydon Gholomo, Project Finance and Administration Officer (FFA) and Don Bromhead, Stock Assessment Scientist (SPC).</p>
2.10pm	<p>Overview of Progress and Issues for Component One - Scientific Assessment and Monitoring Enhancement covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishery monitoring, Coordination and Enhancement; • Stock Assessment; and • Ecosystem Analysis 	<i>SPC</i>	<p>SPC made a presentation on the progress of activities in Component One of the project.</p> <p>Tuvalu inquired about progress of the status report for Tuvalu's tuna fisheries resources that Tuvalu had already requested and understood would be completed in 2005.</p> <p>SPC replied that the status report for Tuvalu's tuna fisheries resources was scheduled for 2007.</p> <p>Tonga advised that it understood it was scheduled to be the first country that was to receive such a status report in 2007.</p>

SPC briefly advised members of the process for in-country installation and utilisation of the Tuna Fisheries Management Database System (TUFMAN). They advised that in most circumstances it was necessary for an SPC officer to be in-country for at least 3-4 weeks for integration and installation of the TUFMAN system. SPC also discussed the prioritization of status reports and advised that preparation of such reports once every 3 years for each country was an achievable target. SPC added that while countries were keen to see status reports completed it should be noted that there are resourcing constraints to the delivery of such quality reports for each country.

The meeting facilitator reiterated that constraints on resourcing fisheries science issues also applied to other activities in the project making it essential for countries to complete their national work plans for project activities, which would help with planning and implementation.

The Marshall Islands expressed appreciation of SPC efforts and as a recipient of the TUFMAN system recommended creation and uptake of opportunities by member countries in related training attachments. Marshall Islands commented on the need for a workshop to facilitate the development of tuna fisheries resources status reports. SPC advised that there was a fisheries data and statistics workshop planned for later in 2006 to upgrade skills of users of the TUFMAN system.

A PNG industry representative commented that they had participated in several scientific tagging programs. They perceived that like several other industry representatives, that they have received very little feedback on how their cooperation had assisted scientific research of tuna. The representative asked how such scientific information is used to assist the fishing industry and how they can further assist fisheries scientists in appropriate data collections.

The PNG industry representative advised on his knowledge of

			<p>inaccurate reporting of fishing practices e.g., the non-reporting and dumping of small tuna which did not assist the quality of stock assessments. He said there needed to be a greater cooperation between industry and scientists on a range of fronts.</p> <p>The meeting facilitator advised that the better links between industry, all NGOs, scientists and management were an entrenched part of the OFM project.</p>
2.50pm	<p>Overview of Progress and Issues for Component Two - Law Policy and Institutional Reform, Realignment and Strengthening covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Reform • Policy Reform including consideration of prioritisation of in - country EAFM planning activities by the FFA Secretariat • Institutional Reform • Compliance Strengthening 	<p><i>FFA</i></p> <p><i>Transform Aqorau</i></p> <p><i>Dan Sua</i></p> <p><i>Dan Sua</i></p> <p><i>Marcel Kroese</i></p>	<p><u>Presentations on Component two activities were provided by the relevant staff of the FFA Secretariat.</u></p> <p>The FFA advised that work has been progressed with Marshall Islands and Tuvalu to update legal arrangements to implement the Convention.</p> <p>The FFA advised on in-training legal fellowship available and currently be completed. The FFA advised on the flexibility in the location of such legal training fellowships under the project.</p> <p>The FFA stated that any individual country's review of fisheries legislation to be assisted by the FFA, will only be optimized when the member country in question has undertaken a comprehensive review of their country's fisheries policies. This will ultimately define the revised fisheries legislation.</p> <p>Such comprehensive reviews, prior to the fisheries legislation reviews, should determine amongst other matters, how each country wants to implement international obligations, where the country wants to go with its management and utilization of its fisheries resources, how each country wants its fisheries managed and what sort of licencing regime the country may require.</p> <p>The FFA advised it is extremely difficult to review each country's fisheries legislation in the absence of clear fisheries policy and future directions for each country.</p>

Vanuatu thanked the FFA officers for their assistance in legal matters and fellowship attachment.

No questions

Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management

No questions

Institutional Reform

No questions

The FFA commented that the project should be thought of at two levels - One at a regional level and another at a national level and encouraged countries to decide and advised what each wanted at a national level.

Compliance strengthening

AUSAID asked the FFA that in the recent expression of interest advertisement relating to the development of a regional strategy; would such a strategy include a forensic capacity?

The FFA agreed that it would include such a capacity.

The Greenpeace Pacific representative stated in relation to a recent national workshop in Fiji noted that there were outstanding fisheries commission resolutions, including those relating to the VMS system and high seas boarding procedures.

The Greenpeace representative said that Fiji was encouraged to move ahead on their own with assistance from Greenpeace and asked if the FFA would be offering any support to countries to address such outstanding obligations.

The FFA advised that the underpinning premise of the OFM

		<i>Administration Officer</i>	The FFA advised that under-spending of projects is not viewed favourably by most donors but that it is sometimes difficult to avoid expenditure peaks and troughs. This has resulted in difficulties when trying to gain advance quarterly payment of funds and impacts on salaries and operating expenditures that are spaced over a 12 month period. No questions
4.45pm	Close	<i>Meeting facilitator</i>	

The List of Participants is attached

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE PRE-FFC MEETING OF THE OCEANIC FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT PROJECT.**

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