

PACIFIC ISLANDS  
Forum Fisheries Agency



06



ANNUAL REPORT

## FFA MEMBERS

Australia  
Cook Islands  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Fiji  
Kiribati  
Marshall Islands  
Nauru  
New Zealand  
Niue  
Palau  
Papua New Guinea  
Samoa  
Solomon Islands  
Tokelau  
Tonga  
Tuvalu  
Vanuatu



### FFA VISION

We will enjoy the highest levels of social and economic benefits for our people through the sustainable development of our fisheries resources.

### FFA MISSION

To support and enable our members to achieve sustainable fisheries and the highest levels of social and economic benefits in harmony with the broader environment.



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It is a privilege and honour to present the Director-General's Annual Report for 2006. The presentation of the Annual Report is required under Article IV of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency Convention. The Report provides an overview of the major activities of the FFA<sup>1</sup> in 2006, including the state of the FFA's finances, and staff movement during the year.

2006 was another busy year for the FFA as it continued to strive towards improving the management and conservation of the region's lucrative tuna resource. The region's tuna stocks are part of global tuna stocks that are coming under increasing pressure due to the increase in demand for food supplies. Global fisheries continue to be in a state of flux with catches increasing each year. According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), of the 600 stocks monitored by the FAO, 3% are underexploited, 20% are moderately exploited, 52% are fully exploited, 17% are overexploited, 7% are depleted and 1% are recovering from depletion. Total world fish production has continued to increase from 19.3 million tonnes in 1950 to more than 100 million tonnes in 1989 and 134 million tonnes in 2002. Although in global terms, fisheries production from the FFA region is small, the proportion of tuna taken from the FFA region as a percentage of world tuna catch is by far the largest. While the region's tuna stocks are generally in a healthy state, there are indications that bigeye and yellowfin tuna are nearing a state of overexploitation which implies that FFA Members must make concerted effort to prevent their overexploitation.

2006 was a seminal year for the FFA. The new organisational structure under the 15- year Strategic Plan was implemented. With the removal of the ceiling on staff recruitment, staff numbers have increased stemming largely from the creation of new positions aimed at achieving targets set out in the Strategic Plan. This was, however, offset by the departure of key staff members during the year. Staff who left during the year included the Director-General, Deputy Director-General and the Director, Corporate Services. Hence the gain in terms of new staff was offset by the departure of personnel closely aligned with the development of the new business planning and programming framework and the Strategic Plan.

2006 was also a busy year for FFA Members with the volume of regional and international meetings increasing each year impinging on the management and conservation of the region's fisheries resources. There are no indications that the heavy meeting schedules will abate. The establishment of the Western and Central Pacific Tuna Commission (WCPFC Commission) has imposed an additional tier of responsibilities to FFA. Given the importance of conservation issues addressed by the WCPFC Commission, FFA Members cannot afford not to engage actively in the affairs of the Commission because they impact significantly on them.

The expansion of the FFA Secretariat is intended to achieve two objectives, namely improved national measures and regulations, and increased regional engagement. At

national level, FFA Members should be well prepared in terms of the measures needed to manage and conserve tuna stocks in their EEZs. This means having the necessary measures, policies and regulations that would put them in good stead in the overall scheme of the regional fisheries management arrangements underpinned by the Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific (WCPFC Convention). This is to be achieved through the application of the ecosystems approach to fisheries management (EAFM) as well as greater harmonisation of fisheries regulations through the implementation of standardised provisions based on the model fisheries legislative framework. At the regional and international level, FFA Members should be equipped to engage with distant water fishing nations (DWFNs) on the complex issues pertaining to the conservation and management of the tuna stocks.

FFA Members should not lose sight of the strategic importance of fisheries to the international community. Simultaneously, they should also be conscious of the significance of fisheries to the men, women and children of the Pacific.

### Main Achievements and Challenges in 2006

The following section summarises the main achievements and challenges faced by the FFA during 2006. Fundamental to the main achievements of FFA is the close working relationship maintained between the Secretariat, Forum Fisheries Committee and FFA Members. This ensures that FFA Members maintain close scrutiny and influence on the strategic policy and administrative directions of the FFA, in particular, in so far as arrangements for conservation and management of the tuna stocks are concerned.

#### MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

The FFA can point to a number of achievements throughout 2006. These are detailed below:

Adoption of the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS): The adoption of the VDS by Ministers of the Parties to the Palau Arrangement through the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for the provisional application of amendments to the Palau Arrangement effectively assuring the application of the VDS was a major achievement. The VDS is the most ambitious management arrangement embarked on by the FFA since the application and implementation of the harmonised minimum terms and conditions of access for foreign fishing vessels and the Regional Register of Foreign Fishing Vessels. The application of the VDS in the form and shape in which it has

<sup>1</sup> A list of acronyms is included at the end of this report

been spawned is unprecedented in international fisheries, and represents a major contribution to the fisheries management paradigm for the surface fishery. Its adoption by Ministers paves the way for its full implementation as agreed to by the WCPF Commission in December 2005 (WCPFC-Conservation and Management Measure 2005-01) in which the WCPF Commission decreed that purse seine effort levels do not exceed either 2004 levels, or the average of 2001 to 2004 levels, in waters under their national jurisdiction, beginning in 2006. In terms of its application to FFA Members, the WCPF Commission also agreed that FFA Members who are Parties to the Nauru Agreement will apply the effort controls through the implementation of a VDS that will limit days fished to a level no greater than 2004 levels and will be fully implemented by 1 December 2007. Until that time, the current measures under the Palau Arrangement shall remain in force. Other non-PNA member countries shall implement similar measures to limit purse seine effort in waters under their jurisdiction to no greater than 2004 levels, or to the average of 2001 to 2004 levels. It is instructive to note that while the VDS is a major achievement, its implementation poses considerable challenges for FFA Members.

**Successful participation of FFA Members in the third WCPF Commission Meeting:** The preparation for the Third Meeting of the WCPF Commission in Apia, Samoa, in December 2006 is considered to be the best to date. As a result, FFA Members participated effectively by making comprehensive proposals to the WCPF Commission. Indeed, FFA Members participated proactively by submitting a number of proposals on key issues such as the Regional Observer Programme (ROP) and the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS). A key part of the success of the FFA Members participation was the preparation of a comprehensive Negotiation Brief which canvassed the entire spectrum of issues addressed by the WCPF Commission. The Management Options Workshop (MOW) which started in October 2004 continues to provide an effective forum for the preparation of FFA proposals for the conservation and management of the region's tuna stocks. At the same time, FFA Members are becoming more fully conversant with the increasingly complex issues canvassed by the WCPF Commission.

**Reorganisation of the Organisational Structure of the FFA:** The smooth transition from the old structure to the new structure with only four divisional Directors was achieved without too much difficulty. The previous structure had six divisional directors excluding the Director-General and Deputy Director-General. The seamless transition was achieved through a series of change management workshops and seminars. The new organisational structure of the FFA reflects the need to make it more programme oriented, rather than the activities-based focus which underlined its work previously. It is intended that the two main programme streams of fisheries management and fisheries development will underpin the work of the FFA. Corporate services and fisheries operations (treaty administration, IT and monitoring,

control and surveillance (MCS) provide service support to fisheries management and development. Management has two teams of advisers, with two to three staff in each team to assist FFA Members with their tuna management plans. The ecosystem approach to fisheries management provides the framework to guide the fisheries management program. The operational services such as VMS, treaties administration and IT will be done by Fisheries Operations with more of the compliance policy work to be done by the Fisheries Compliance Officer in the fisheries management division. Fisheries Development consists of two teams of two to three staff, with one team canvassing economic issues while the other covers fisheries development planning.

**Upgrade of the FFA VMS:** The upgrade of the FFA VMS was achieved during the year. The upgrade has increased the efficiency and improved the efficacy of the FFA VMS. There were, however, delays to the deployment of the new VMS to FFA Members. Between September and December 2006, the Secretariat experienced two main delays with the deployment of the upgrade. In September there were delays with the supply from the manufacturer of the VPN hardware (used to secure network between the VMS Clients and the FFA VMS Hub). The units were finally supplied in early November 2006. In addition throughout the deployment of the upgrade there was a shortage of IT staff to work on the FFA VMS to facilitate the upgrade.

**Completion of the Model fisheries legislation framework:** The model legislative framework for fisheries legislation was completed during the year. The model is intended to be used as a benchmark to evaluate FFA Members fisheries legislations to ensure that greater harmonisation of legislation and regulations is achieved throughout the region. In the past, fisheries legislation were developed in FFA Members without recourse to any minimum guidelines as to best practice to achieve effective fisheries management and development. The model guidelines provides a benchmark against which legislative drafters can test to see if fisheries legislation encompass principles to ensure effective conservation, management and development of fisheries resources.

#### MAIN CHALLENGES

The FFA also faced a number of challenges in 2006. Some of these challenges arose from the new direction taken by FFA, while others are a result of factors beyond the control of FFA. The mid-year change in leadership and the end of the year departures of the Deputy Director-General, Steve Dunn, and Director-General, Feleti P. Teo respectively also created its own difficulties since the two were instrumental in getting the reforms to the FFA. Other major challenges faced by the FFA in 2006 were as follows:

**Continuing concerns about state of tuna stocks:** The key to a viable and productive fishery is to ensure that stocks remain biologically and economically sustainable. In this respect, it is important that FFA Members ensure that the region's tuna stocks remain healthy. Concerns persist about the state

of yellowfin and bigeye tuna. Conservation and management measures adopted by the WCPF Commission in December 2006 at least got some way to addressing these concerns although a more concerted effort to reduce fishing mortality is required to avoid overexploiting the two stocks. One of the biggest challenges facing FFA Members is agreeing to conservation measures that are equitable and do not impose a disproportionate burden on some of the smaller island countries given the level of dependence that some countries have on revenue generated from the tuna resources. Ensuring fish stocks remain healthy while extracting an adequate level of economic benefits will continue to be a challenge facing FFA.

**Ensuring financial viability of the Agency:** Ensuring the effective financial viability of the organisation in the light of the expansion of the FFA Secretariat was one of the challenges in 2006. This means providing effective services while ensuring costs are recovered from services provided by the FFA Secretariat. The organisation has to be financially viable if it is to continue to provide the level of services required for FFA Members to manage and conserve tuna stocks responsibly. A 66 percent cost-recovery mechanism was introduced to the FFA budgetary process in 2005. In 2006, a number of FFA Members expressed concerns about not fully understanding the rationale behind the application of the cost-recovery mechanism. Most of the operational services provided by the Secretariat are cost-recovered. There is a need for FFA to diversify its sources of funds and approach non-traditional donors.

**Maintaining the reforms:** In 2006, the Secretariat implemented the new organisational structure to align the organisation to the Strategic Plan and the focus of the FFA on fisheries management and development. Maintaining the momentum of the reforms is one of the challenges facing the FFA. While a lot of staff were recruited throughout the year as part of the change at FFA, key staff involved in the reforms also departed during the year. It is important that the reforms be maintained in order to achieve the vision in the Strategic Plan.

**Balancing national country work with the increasing regional work:** One of the challenges in 2006 was maintaining the balance between delivering effective assistance and services at the national level while meeting the increasing demand on the resources of the Secretariat to service WCPF Commission associated meetings. One of the key reasons for the reforms was to enhance the services provided at national level. Ultimately, the Secretariat's responsibility is to its Members and priority is given to national requests for assistance. It is important that the increasing demands on the resources of the Secretariat for regional work does not compromise the assistance provided at the national level. It is important that the momentum in increasing interaction with the private sector be maintained, noting initial work already done through DEVFISH and GEF.



This section of the report documents activities of the FFA and its members during 2006 that relate to the fisheries management program. It covers services provided in support of the following FFA fisheries management sub-programmes: (i) Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management; (ii) Monitoring and Compliance; (iii) Treaties and Sub-regional Arrangements Administration; and (iv) Legal Frameworks and International Law.

The Fisheries Management Division was established in 2006 under the new corporate structure approved by FFC in 2005. During 2006, the following positions were filled to support the new FFA structure: Director, Fisheries Management; three Fisheries Management Advisor positions; two Fisheries Management Officer positions; one WCPFC Liaison Officer position; and one additional Legal Officer position (Prosecutions).

Additional support to the Division is provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Global Environment Facility (GEF) Project which funds one of the Fisheries Management Advisor positions, a Project Coordinator and a Project Finance and Administration Officer.

Activities conducted by the Fisheries Management Division have been funded by the UNDP-funded GEF Project as well as from other resources made available through the FFA Trust and General Fund.

### Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management

#### NATIONAL EAFM WORKSHOPS

The United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA) requires all Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) to assess the impacts of fishing on species that belong to the same ecosystem, or species that are associated with, or dependent upon target stocks. This requirement is recognised as fundamental to an Ecosystem Approach to fisheries management (EAFM) and is embodied in the WCPF Convention. In simple terms, EAFM requires that fish stocks are managed more holistically, as components of the wider ecosystem and that all of the ecological, social and economic consequences associated with fishing are taken into account in the management process.

Using the EAFM guiding framework endorsed by the Forum Fisheries Committee (FFC) in 2005, FFA members have been working to operationalise an ecosystem approach to managing the fisheries resources, and the ecosystems that support them, in their national waters throughout the WCPO. FFA members have been implementing EAFM in their national waters through a staged process during 2006, with several countries now in the final stages of implementing revised management plans that embody an EAFM approach.

During 2006, EAFM training workshops for FFA members and the FFA Secretariat were held in Samoa and Vanuatu. Following this process, the first stakeholder workshops were held in Vanuatu, Palau and the Cook Islands using the EAFM framework to guide development of national EAFM assessment reports. Except the Cook Islands workshop, these were facilitated by Mr Moses Amos of the Vanuatu Ministry of Agriculture, Quarantine, Forestry and Fisheries and Mr Bernard Thoulag of the Federated States of Micronesia.

The FFA Secretariat is planning to visit other FFA Members in 2007 to assist the progress of implementation of the EAFM across FFA member jurisdictions.

#### NON-TARGET SPECIES INTERACTIONS

During 2006, the FFA Secretariat coordinated independent reviews to assess fisheries interactions with seabirds, turtles and sharks within FFA Members' national waters. These review processes were aimed at addressing the wider ecosystem impacts associated with fishing, developing by-catch mitigation measures, as well as addressing other international obligations such as those set out in International Plans of Action for seabirds, turtles and sharks. On the basis of this work, FFA Members proposed new



conservation and management measures for seabirds and sharks at the 3rd Regular Session of the WCPFC Commission, in Apia, Samoa, in December 2006.

#### MANAGEMENT OPTIONS WORKSHOP

The FFA Secretariat convened the 3rd Annual Management Options Workshop (MOW) in Nadi, Fiji, in October 2006 to assist FFA Members preparation for the annual Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) meeting. The MOW was followed by a special Forum Fisheries Committee (FFC62) meeting to allow an FFC mandate to be taken to the upcoming Commission meeting. The MOW was held over the course of a week and covered a wide range of conservation and management issues facing FFA Members. The workshop allowed FFA Members to develop draft proposals for conservation and management measures, to be taken to the WCPFC Commission meeting. The MOW has become an essential part of the annual planning process for FFA Members in their preparation for Commission meetings.

#### WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION

The Third Regular Session of the WCPFC Commission met in Apia, Samoa from 11 – 15 December under the Chairmanship of Mr Glenn Hurry. A number of meetings related to the WCPFC Commission were held during the year. The Ad Hoc Task Group [Data] was held in Manila, Philippines from 31 July – 4 August under the Chairmanship of Mr Kim Duckworth. The Second Regular Session of the Scientific Committee was held in Manila, Philippines, from 7 to 18 August under the Chairmanship of Dr. Dae Yeon Moon. The Second Regular Session of the Northern Committee was held in Tokyo, Japan, from 11 to 13 September under the Chairmanship of Mr Masanori Miyahara. The Second Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee was held in Brisbane, Australia, from 28 September to 3 October under the Chairmanship of Mr Apolosi Turaganivalu. The Secretariat provided FFA briefs to all five WCPFC meetings, and convened preparatory meetings for the major WCPFC meetings.

The FFA Secretariat provided assistance to members during the full course of the Commission meeting. The third session of the WCPFC Commission agreed a number of decisions as follows:

- A further Conservation and Management Measure for Bigeye and Yellowfin tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean;
- Conservation and Management Measure to Mitigate the Impact of Fishing for Highly Migratory Fish Stocks on Seabirds;
- Conservation and Management Measure for Swordfish in the South West Pacific;
- Conservation and Management Measure for Striped Marlin in the Southwest Pacific;
- Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean;
- Conservation and Management Measure for Commission Vessel Monitoring System;

- Conservation and Management Measure for the Regional Observer Programme;
- Conservation and Management Measure for the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Boarding and Inspection Procedures;
- Conservation and Management Measure to Establish a List of Vessels Presumed to have carried out Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Activities in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean;
- Adoption of the outcomes of the work of the Ad Hoc Task Group [Data]; and
- Adoption of Guidelines for capacity building among developing States using the Special Requirements Fund.

#### PACIFIC ISLANDS OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Throughout the process of drafting the WCPFC Convention and the establishment of the Commission, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has supported Pacific island countries participation through the Oceanic Fisheries Management component of UNDP-GEF support to implementation of the Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Strategic Action Programme. In May 2005, the GEF Council approved a second phase of assistance to support Pacific SIDS in the implementation of the Convention and the initial operations of the new Commission.

The Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project funds total almost US\$11 million over a 5-year period and commenced operation in the last quarter of 2005. Implemented through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and executed by the FFA, the project allows Pacific Islands members of FFA to reform, restructure, realign and strengthen their national laws, policies, institutions and programmes to take up new opportunities which the WCPFC creates. It also allows FFA Members to discharge their legal responsibilities under the WCPFC Convention.

Other participating partners in the project include the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and The World Conservation Union (IUCN). The SPC has primary responsibility for activities relating to stock assessment and scientific monitoring work that should contribute to a platform of knowledge about the status of regional stocks and the impact of fishing. This work also supports the initial phases of ecosystem analysis to characterise the Western Tropical Pacific Large Marine Ecosystem, including a new focus on seamounts which will involve the participation of IUCN. Preparation and in-country work commenced on an institutional strengthening scoping study of the Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority in November 2006, using GEF funds.

The Project Coordination Unit was established at the FFA in early 2006 with the recruitment of the Project Co-ordinator, Barbara Hanchard; and the Project Finance and Administration Officer, Royden Gholomo.



#### Monitoring and Compliance

The Monitoring and Compliance Sub-Programme continued to support efforts to augment conservation and management measures and monitor the activities of fishing vessels in the region. This was done through support at national level as well as the investigation of new technologies to enhance monitoring capability of FFA Members. Key meetings organised and/or supported by FFA staff in this area were:

- Vessel Monitoring Symposium in April in Beijing, China;
- Vessel Day Scheme Committee meeting in September, Brisbane;
- 9th MCS Working Group in September, Brisbane,
- TCC in September, Brisbane;
- Micronesian Maritime Surveillance group meeting, Palau;
- FAO/FFA Port State Enforcement Workshop in September, Nadi; and
- IUU Network in November, London.

Below is a summary of some of the activities.

#### VESSEL DAY SCHEME

Staff of the MCS section were extensively involved in the development of the Vessel Day Scheme including a study to prepare a business model for the Scheme and a workshop held in November. They also worked closely with staff of the Fisheries Management Division on the overall implementation of the Scheme.

A VDS Workshop was held at the FFA Conference Centre in Honiara on 8 November 2006 which was attended by all the Parties to the Palau Arrangement (with the exception of the Marshall Islands) and Tuvalu. The Workshop included an overview of the provisions of the VDS management scheme and discussions on the preliminary requirements for the VDS trial.

#### VMS

Specific work undertaken in the operation and implementation of the FFA VMS included:

- travel to Japan to resolve reporting problems being experienced by Japanese vessels that were delaying the issuance of Registration Certificates;
- combining the Regional Register and the VMS Register;
- creation of a monitoring system to control excessive data reporting rates that were affecting the VMS Communications budget;
- Replacement of Hardware at the FFA VMS Hub;
- creation of the OTRS Help system for VMS and Registration issues;
- creation of the FFA VMS website;
- creation of the Thin Client VMS backup systems; and
- creation of the VMS VPN (Secure network between FFA and all the FFA VMS Computers).

A noteworthy prosecution occurred when the Fijian Armed Forces apprehended a Belize-registered vessel inside the archipelagic waters in the eastern area of Fiji's EEZ. The vessel had been tracked inside the archipelagic by the FFA VMS, carrying out activities that were alleged to be fishing, which is an offence under Fijian law. This was one of the first cases known in the world where VMS was used to attempt to prove fishing activity. This was a major success for Fiji and the FFA VMS, and requests have been made for the details of the case from the authorities in the USA, and also the FAO as it is considered to be a landmark decision.

By far the greatest challenge has been the Implementation of the FFA VMS Review. Some progress was made and the VMS hub was completely replaced and is working satisfactorily. The VMS website has been established and was hailed as a success by the users. The FFA VMS Training plan has been developed and was sent to the Australian Maritime College for their comment and quote to develop training modules. The FFA VMS Status console (a real-time system that monitors the operation of the FFA VMS) was completed and installed and has proved invaluable in proactively maintaining the FFA VMS.

## OBSERVER PROGRAMME

During 2006 the following observer training courses were conducted:

- National courses for Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea and Palau (including participants from the Federated States Micronesia); and
- a course in Nelson, New Zealand, for participants from Fiji, Samoa, Kiribati, Nauru, Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea.

Other activities included:

- a sub-regional debriefers course in the Marshall Islands for participants from there and the Federated States of Micronesia;
- a visit to American Samoa to review port sampling protocols; and
- the conduct of the 6th Regional observer coordinators meeting.

During 2006, 94 observer placements were made with 80 of these being on FSM Arrangement vessels and 14 on US Treaty vessels.

## SURVEILLANCE OPERATIONS

A total of three sub-regional surveillance operations were conducted during 2006. These are listed below:

- **Operation Island Chief in May 2006:** This involved the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand and the United States. There were 36 boarding's of foreign fishing vessels from which six apprehensions were achieved.
- **Operation Tui Moana:** This involved Cook Islands, Samoa, Australia and New Zealand.
- **Operation Kurukuru in August 2006:** This involved Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Australia and New Zealand. In total, 287 vessels were examined using the regional Vessel Monitoring Systems, and of these 5 vessels were assessed as conducting potentially illegal activities. There are a further 12 vessels that require ongoing investigation. 124 vessels were identified by aircraft and 5 boarding's were conducted by Patrol Boat crews.

## FFA/FAO PORT STATE ENFORCEMENT WORKSHOP

The Secretariat was involved in the organisation of the FFA/FAO Port State Enforcement Workshop in September in Nadi, Fiji. The purpose of the workshop was to examine the implications of the FAO Model Port State Scheme and its applicability to the region. Resource persons for the Workshop were sourced from FAO and FFA Staff. The Workshop considered the threat posed by IUU fishing to effective fisheries conservation and management, and the role that port states can play in ensuring compliance with fisheries conservation and management measures. The workshop also considered the tools currently available to FFA Members such as transshipment reports, loading and unloading logs, and the FFA Vessel Register.

## Treaties and Sub-Regional Arrangements Administration

### MULTILATERAL TREATY ON FISHERIES WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The 18th Licensing Period of the Treaty ended on 14th June 2006, which marked the end of the third year of the extension of the Treaty arrangements. It also marked the eighteenth year of operation of the Treaty since it was first implemented in June 1988, as well as the start of the eighteenth year of operation of the Treaty on 15 June 2006. The extended Treaty arrangements will continue for the next ten years – that is, until 14 June 2013.

Implementation of the Treaty by the FFA Secretariat in its capacity as the Administrator of the Treaty continued to form part of the major activities of the Secretariat during the period. Distribution of funds under the Treaty based on catches made in the waters of the Pacific Island Parties constituted the bulk of the activities of the Treaties division. The division has four core staff who are supported from Treaty funds.

A further decline in the number of vessels to 17 vessels from a total of 25 vessels in the previous period was experienced during the year. To assist the US Tuna Industry in addressing this situation, the Pacific Island Parties decided at their 17th annual consultation with the United States in March 2005 (in Tonga) to apply a rebate scheme whereby a fixed licence fee of US\$133,000 per vessel is agreed. Depending on the number of licences issued, any shortfall amount from an annual total of US\$3 million required from the industry would be considered a suspended payment. This will be reviewed during the mid-term evaluation of the Treaty in 2008. As a result of this scheme, three vessels, which would have otherwise left, remained in the United States fleet during the period. In addition, the period also witnessed the revival of the American Tunaboat Association (ATA) with membership by vessel owners and operators only and authority to deal directly with the Pacific Island Parties and the FFA Secretariat.

At the annual consultation in Tonga, the Pacific Island Parties finally reached agreement on the modified Niue amendment which authorised an increased total annual amount of the Project Development Fund (PDF) from US\$1.778 million to US\$2.5 million. Furthermore, the Pacific Island Parties and the United States accepted the notification about a revised Closed Area of the Solomon Islands as agreed between the governments of the Solomon Islands and the United States. However, the pace of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty and Internal Agreement were slow. At the beginning of 2006, only three Parties had ratified the consequential amendments to the Internal Agreement; one Party had ratified the Niue amendment to the Internal Agreement, and only twelve Parties had ratified the agreements agreed to in 2002. By the end of 2006, the amendments had still not entered into force. At the 61st Meeting of the Committee, it was agreed that those Parties who had ratified all the amendments would

be eligible to receive the full portion of their share of the Project Development Fund (PDF).

A number of achievements in the implementation of the Treaty were made during the period and these included; (i) payments and distribution of funds done in accordance with established schedules; (ii) agreement on a rebate payment approach to assist in the financial difficulty of the industry to meet its financial obligation under the Treaty; (iii) improved compliance with FFA VMS requirements by United States vessels and other reporting requirements and obligations; and (iv) attainment of 28% observer coverage, which is above the target of 20% coverage.

These achievements were made as a result of the continued cooperation between the Pacific Island Parties, the United States and the Administrator in the implementation of the

Treaty. Some major challenges were also faced during the period and these included the: (i) continued decline in the number of United States vessels; (ii) refund of overpayment by the industry in previous periods; (iii) exceptionally slow progress towards ratification of the outstanding amendments to the Treaty and the Internal Agreement; (iv) management of observer placement with respect to non-possession of US visa; and (v) continued delay in the distribution of additional annual US\$3 million pending ratification of the related amendments to the Internal Agreement between the Pacific Island Parties.

A summary of the financial benefits to the parties to the Treaty for the 18th licensing period (14 June 2006) is shown in Table 1. A total of US\$291,461,799.001 had been distributed since the beginning of the 1st licensing period up until the end of 2006.

**TABLE 1: Accrued Financial Benefits to the Pacific Island Parties of the Multilateral Treaty on Fisheries<sup>2</sup> (from 15 June 1988 to 14 June 2006, all figures in US\$)**

Country	Cash Shares	EDF/TAF/PDF	Total Benefits
Australia	2,651,563.14	1,333,500.00	3,985,063.14
Cook Islands	3,710,174.00	2,074,709.80	5,784,883.80
Federated States of Micronesia	19,279,131.47	2,049,920.32	21,329,051.79
Fiji	3,817,874.79	2,243,491.91	6,061,366.70
Kiribati	105,812,498.29	2,099,708.14	107,912,206.43
Marshall Islands	6,427,196.81	2,112,732.23	8,539,929.04
Nauru	15,863,508.00	2,174,039.95	18,037,547.95
New Zealand	8,944,318.06	2,066,907.62	11,011,225.68
Niue	2,651,724.31	2,073,162.33	4,724,886.64
Palau	3,984,293.68	2,089,312.03	6,073,605.71
Papua New Guinea	51,253,897.01	2,111,537.69	53,365,434.70
Samoa	2,703,336.84	2,096,423.23	4,799,760.07
Solomon Islands	7,332,274.62	2,106,469.85	9,438,744.47
Tonga	2,512,275.85	2,115,888.15	4,628,164.00
Tuvalu	36,914,662.07	2,088,999.71	39,003,661.78
Vanuatu	2,698,299.19	2,082,296.07	4,780,595.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>276,557,028.13</b>	<b>32,919,099.03</b>	<b>309,476,127.16</b>

<sup>2</sup> Included 15% share and PDF allocation for the 19th licensing period but excluded 85% shares for the same period which will be distributed in December 2007.



### SUB-REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The FFA Secretariat continues to administer the Agreement between the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (the PNA) and the two associated sub-regional Arrangements, namely, the Federated States of Micronesia Arrangement for Regional Fisheries Access (the FSM Arrangement), and the Palau Arrangement for the Management of the Western Pacific Purse Seine Fishery.

### NAURU AGREEMENT CONCERNING COOPERATION IN MANAGING FISHERIES OF COMMON INTEREST

The 26th Annual Meeting of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA26) was held during 10-12 May 2006 in Nadi, Fiji. The Meeting discussed a range of issues including those pertaining to conservation and management measures adopted by the WCPF Commission and how they impact on the PNA. The major item considered at the meeting was the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the provisional application of amendments to the Palau Arrangement. The intended purpose of the MOU is to expedite adoption of the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS). The signing by Palau on 19 May 2006, meant all PNA Members have now signed onto the memorandum of understanding.

An informal meeting of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA27) was also held in Manila, Philippines, on 6 August 2006, to provide information on the implementation of the VDS and Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) issues. A 28th Special PNA meeting was also held on 8 November 2006, to discuss proposed measures and resolutions put forward to the WCPFC for its Third Regular Session in Apia, Samoa.

In addition, to these meetings four meetings of the Vessel Day Scheme Committee (VDSC) were held during the year. The purpose of these meetings was to provide advice on the VDS trial to be undertaken in 2007 and general application of the VDS.

### PALAU ARRANGEMENT FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC PURSE SEINE FISHERY (PALAU ARRANGEMENT)

The 11th Annual Meeting of the Parties was held in Nadi, Fiji on 11 May 2006. The main issues discussed in the meeting were the status of amendments to the Palau Arrangement, the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS), the implications of the VDS on the FSM Arrangement and the Review of the Vessel Numbers under Annex 1 of the Palau Arrangement.

In addition to the annual meeting, four meetings of the Vessel Day Scheme Committee (VDSC) were held during the year. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss the implementation of the VDS trial, which commenced on 1 December 2006, to provide

Parties with advice on the amendments required to bilateral arrangements and/or license conditions to enact the VDS Management Scheme and provide Parties with advice on the interpretation of the VDS Management Scheme. Furthermore, a meeting was held in Nadi, Fiji, on 22 October 2006 to brief Distant Water Fishing Nations (DWFNs) on the VDS.

### FSM ARRANGEMENT FOR REGIONAL ACCESS

The 11th Annual Meeting of the Parties to the FSM Arrangement was held from 11 to 12 May 2006 in Nadi, Fiji. Some of the major decisions reached by the Parties include agreements: i) to a new schedule of fees for 2006/2007; ii) to have the Secretariat investigate further ways in which administrative penalties may be imposed for minor infractions; iii) to undertake a comprehensive review of the FSM Arrangement; iv) to a change in payment dates; v) to have the Secretariat investigate alternative methods for determining the capacity of vessels with respect to the current Vessel Gross Tonnage Measurement; and vi) to the proposed administrative budgets of US\$106,750 for January to June of 2006 and US\$192,017 for the 2006/2007 fiscal year.

Some of the major achievements made under the Arrangement during the year included the following: i) payment and distribution of the funds in accordance with the established

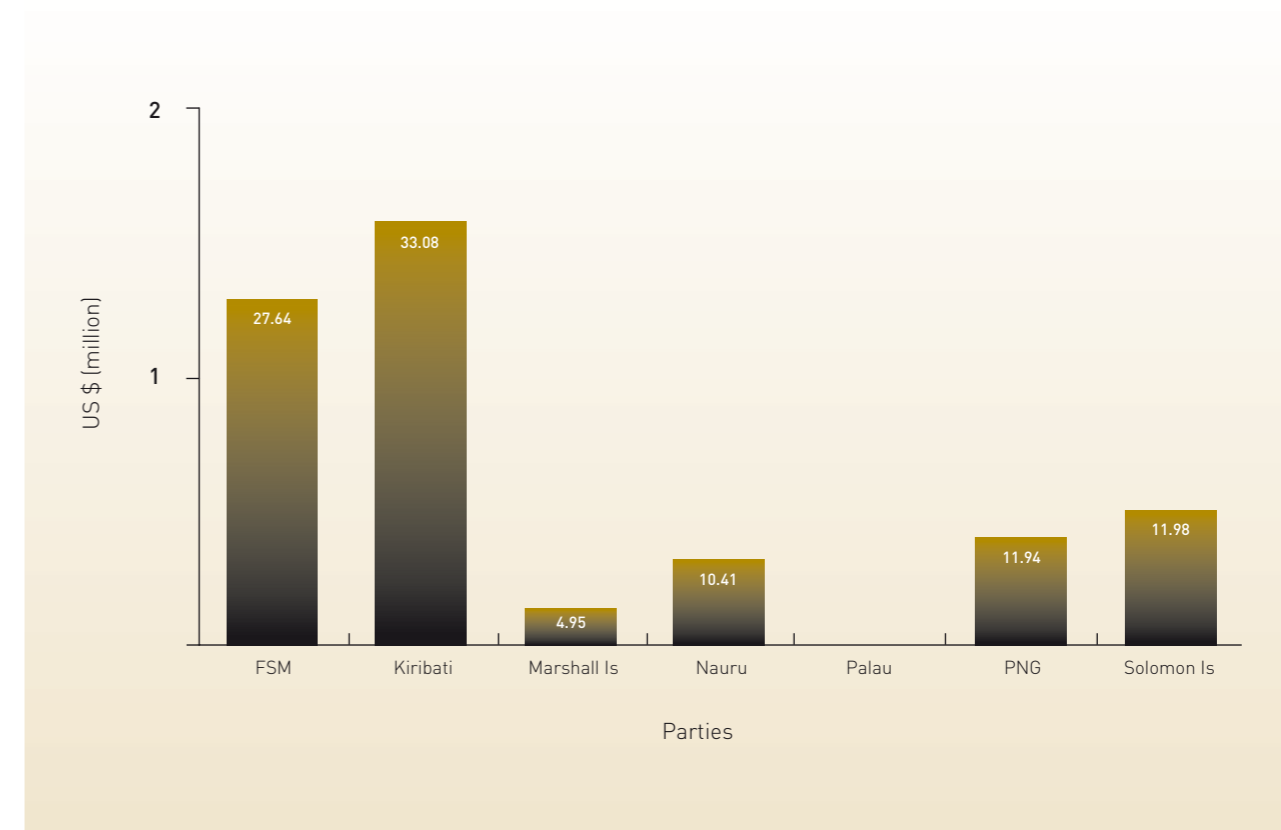
schedule; ii) audits carried out on 31 sponsored vessels; and iii) improvement of FFA VMS compliance by the vessels, as well as with the reporting requirements and obligations.

During the 11th Distribution Period ending 31st December a total sum of US\$7,266,312.61 was collected from the licensing fees. After taking into account the administration cost and bank charge, the balance of US\$6,983,044.15 was available for distribution. Less the Arrangement's contribution to the PNA Coordinator's post, the balance of US\$6,908,044.15 was distributed to the Parties in 2006. The distribution of the balance to all parties is shown in Figure 1.

### FFC SUB-COMMITTEE ON SOUTHERN TUNA AND BILLFISH

The FFC Sub-committee on Southern Tuna and Billfish met informally in Manila in the margins of the WCPFC Scientific Committee. This meeting was used as a starting point to confirm terms of reference for the Sub-committee and to define membership. The meeting also considered a set of management options for South Pacific albacore to start the process of refining management of this species across the region. During 2007, the Sub-committee will meet again to progress the development of a legal framework for the group and to further refine the management options, to also include swordfish.

FIGURE 1: Funds Distributed for 2006





## ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS OF OTHER REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

During 2006, the FFA Secretariat continued the practice of attending meetings of other regional fisheries management organisations. Observing at such meetings is an important opportunity to keep abreast of developments within these organisations and gain experience from their performance and function. The FFA Director General and WCPFC Liaison Officer attended the annual meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, held at Busan, Korea, in June 2006. Unfortunately in 2006 it was not possible to make arrangements for FFA Members to have first hand knowledge of the functions of other tuna commissions, but the practice is intended to be continued in 2007.

In November 2006, the FFA staff visited the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) to gather information on catch and trade documentation schemes.

The FFA Secretariat was represented at the United Nations Review Conference for the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement by the Director-General and Legal Counsel. FFA Members represented at the same meeting included Australia, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu. The Director-General delivered a statement to the Conference on behalf of the FFA Secretariat. In his statement, the Director-General spoke of the challenges and difficulties experienced by FFA Members in the implementation of their obligations under the UN Fish Stocks Agreement. The Director-General mentioned the innovative steps taken by FFA Members in the Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations of the WCPF Commission to ensure the effective participation of small-island developing state members of the WCPF Commission.

FFA Members also attended the Sharing the Fish Conference organised by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Western Australia Department of Fisheries. Papers were presented by Legal Counsel on moving towards a rights based fisheries management regime in the western and central Pacific; and Fisheries Economic0s Adviser on the economic implications of an implicit allocation of bigeye harvest rights through an across-the-board reduction in effort levels in the western and central Pacific tuna fishery.

The FFA Secretariat and FFA Members were also involved in the negotiation for the establishment of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) in 2006. Two formal consultations were held in 2006. The first was convened in Wellington, New Zealand, during 14-17 February 2006; and the second was held in Hobart, Australia, during 6-10 November 2006. The proposed geographic area of the SPRFMO covers only high seas areas in the South Pacific

Ocean. The tentative northern boundary abuts the EEZs of the southern Pacific Island States, extending northwards to 1°30'North.<sup>3</sup> FFA Members involved through the current proposed area are the Cook Islands, Niue, Tonga, Fiji, Kiribati, Australia and New Zealand. However, the remaining FFA Members could also become involved if a proposal that the northern boundary be shifted northwards in recognition of an ecological boundary around the equator is accepted. Such countries are Tokelau, Tuvalu, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, FSM, PNG, and depending how far west the western boundary is extended, Palau. This proposed northern boundary would, therefore, include the high seas enclaves between several of these countries.

The species to be covered by the SPRFMO are non-highly migratory species such as fish, molluscs, crustaceans and other sedentary species within the proposed geographic area.<sup>4</sup> Other issues for FFA Members are the moves from some DWFNs such as the EU and Russia to mobilise their fleets to target small pelagic species in the South Pacific. This may emerge as a significant issue for FFA Members due to the important role that species such as jumbo flying squid, jack mackerel and blue mackerel may play in the pelagic food web and, in particular, their importance as a food source for the larger highly migratory tuna and billfish species being managed under the auspices of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. Advice was sought from SPC on *inter alia* what impacts may arise in the wider pelagic ecosystem if large fractions of small pelagic stocks in the South Pacific are removed through targeted fishing.

The Legal Counsel attended the 14th Annual Conference of the Australia New Zealand International Law Society in Wellington, New Zealand. The Legal Counsel presented a paper on the "Prospects and Challenges for Effective Fisheries Management in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean".

## Legal Frameworks & International Law

### DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AND COMMISSION MEASURES

Under the WCPF Convention, each member of the Commission is obliged to promptly implement the provisions of the Convention and any conservation and management measures which may be agreed from time to time. Beyond the specific requirements of the WCPF Convention, almost all Pacific Island States Members of the FFA need to amend their legislation to provide for broader changes in principles, policies and institutional arrangements to align their laws more closely with the WCPF Convention, or to review regulations, licence conditions and access agreements to provide the detailed regulatory framework for implementation of the WCPF Convention.

In 2006, four WCPFC in-country workshops were conducted in the Republic of Fiji, Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea and the Republic of Vanuatu specifically presenting the WCPF Convention legal framework and identifying the respective national legal obligations arising from the Convention text and

decisions of the Commission. Another output of this workshop is a national report which identifies the gaps in the country's national legislation that need to be filled in order to meet the Commission's obligations. A matrix table was developed to facilitate the identification of such gaps. Legislative assistance is also available to address these gaps.

### DOCKSIDE BOARDING AND INSPECTION

During 2006, as part of the Secretariat's ongoing endeavours to strengthen the capacity of FFA Members to investigate fisheries violations and enforce their fisheries management and conservation measures, a number of in-country dockside boarding, inspection and prosecution workshops were conducted in the Federated States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea and the Republic of Vanuatu.

These workshops involve familiarising the participants with their respective countries' fisheries legislation, in particular their powers as fisheries officers, and the extent to which they may board, inspect, arrest and prosecute fishing vessels and their operators, including owners, captains and crews. These in-country workshops also provide a solid understanding of the international, regional and sub-regional treaties under which these Pacific Island countries operate.

To enhance these workshops, a national Fisheries Offences Workbook based on national legislation was circulated. This is aimed at facilitating the identification and prosecution of fisheries offences. A moot court component has also been added to facilitate participants' understanding of legal processes, including evidence collection and presentation in court.

### NATIONAL LEGISLATION

The review of national fisheries legislation remains a key responsibility and function of the Secretariat. Pursuant to the approach to a fisheries management legislation framework endorsed by FFC61, a small group of fisheries management and legal experts met to discuss proposed guidelines to fisheries legislation. A consultant was engaged to draft these guidelines, which have now been completed. These guidelines, which set out best practice for fisheries legislation, will allow for a systematic programme of assistance to FFA Members to

benchmark their fisheries legislation and provide support for the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management.

These guidelines are underpinned by the following principles: statutory objectives that support the long-term sustainability of fisheries resource and allow for the application of the ecosystem approach towards fisheries management; sovereign rights of coastal States; participation in international fisheries bodies and the implementation of conservation and management measures adopted by such organisations; comprehensive MCS framework; effective sanctions; and consultation between relevant parties.

Legislative assistance to Samoa and Fiji that had been commenced in early 2006 were put on hold until the guidelines were completed.

### ENHANCEMENT OF LEGAL CAPACITY

In order to continue to enhance capacity, wherever possible, two legal fellowships were offered in 2006 to Beverleigh Kanas of the Vanuatu Department of Fisheries and Viliami Mo'ale of Tonga Ministry of Fisheries. The fellowship allowed Beverleigh Kanas to familiarise herself with the work of the Secretariat, and in particular the obligations under the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. In addition, she observed the 61st Meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee, and its discussions on the outcomes of the second session of the WCPF Commission. The fellowship also allowed Viliami Mo'ale to attend the Law of the Sea Course at the Centre of Maritime Policy, University of Wollongong. This was followed up with an attachment to the Secretariat.

The programme for attachment to the Secretariat now commences with a half day seminar with the fellow to go through the international, regional and sub-regional fisheries instruments. This provides a useful context for their work during the attachment.

The Secretariat continues to update its holdings of fisheries cases and materials, which were provided through the internet and in response to the FFA Secretariat's request for cases. The cases provide a useful resource and aid as precedents for use by member countries.

<sup>3</sup> Southern boundary: coincide with the northern boundary in the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) 55° South – between 120° East and 150° East; and 60° South – east of 150° East; Western boundary: extend to the eastern boundary in the South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement 120° East; Eastern boundary: extend to the EEZs of South American states.

<sup>4</sup> A non-exhaustive list of the species that may be considered a priority for this new RFMO was tabled at the first meeting. Pelagic species are Chilean jack mackerel, kingfish, rudderfish; demersal species are alfonsino, cardinalfish, nazca cardinalfish, bluenose, orange roughy, oreos, Patagonian toothfish, such as the EU and Russia to mobilise their fleets to target small pelagic species in the South Pacific. This may emerge as a significant issue for FFA Members due to the important role that species such as jumbo flying squid, jack mackerel and blue mackerel may play in the pelagic food web and, in particular, their importance as a food source for the larger highly migratory tuna and billfish species being managed under the auspices of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. Advice was sought from SPC on *inter alia* what impacts may arise in the wider pelagic ecosystem if large fractions of small pelagic stocks in the South Pacific are removed through targeted fishing.

Southern boarfish/pelagic armourhead, bass/grouper, ribaldo, rubyfish, snappers; and invertebrates are lobsters, namely *jasus caveorum* and *projasus bahamondei*. Squid has subsequently been added to the list. The SPRFMO will not cover sedentary species under the jurisdiction of coastal States [pursuant to Article 77(4) of the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention] and highly migratory species (listed in Annex 1 of the 1982 Convention). The major fishery in terms of volume is the jack mackerel and in terms of economic returns is the orange roughy.



The Fisheries Development Division was established in 2006 with the positions of Fisheries Development Adviser and Fisheries Economic Adviser being filled in May 2006. The Director Fisheries Development was appointed in June 2006. A further appointment, that of Fisheries Development Officer was made in December 2006 and it is hoped to have the Division fully staffed early in 2007. Additional support to the Division is provided by the EU-funded DEVFISH Project which funds two positions, a Project Coordinator and a Fisheries Development Policy Specialist. It is hoped that the remaining vacant positions of Industry Liaison Officer, Trade Liaison Officer and a second Fisheries Development Officer will be filled in 2007.

Activities conducted by the Fisheries Development Division was funded by the EU DEVFISH Project as well as from other resources made available through the FFA Trust and General Fund.

While continuing to work through Official and Fisheries Contacts, the Division has also strengthened links with the private sector in recognition of its key role as the primary vehicle for domestic tuna industry development.

This part of the report documents activities undertaken by FFA in 2006 that relate to Fisheries Development. It covers services provided in support of (i) Economic Development and Marketing Support; (ii) Domestic Tuna Industry Development Support; and (iii) Treaty, Access and Trade Negotiations.

### Economic Development and Marketing Support

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FISHERY

A brief overview of the fishery of interest in 2006 may be summarised as follows:

A precise estimate of the 2006 purse seine catch was not yet available at the time of writing this report. The 2005 catch was a record high of approximately 1,560,000 metric tonnes (mt) and based on the information available, it is expected that total catch in the purse seine fishery for all fleets will once again be well in excess of 1,000,000 mt in 2006 and probably at a similar level to 2004, with skipjack catches expected to increase and yellowfin catches expected to decline. Of the major fleets, Japan Taiwan and Korea are expected to show an increase while the catch of the largest domestic fleet, that of Papua New Guinea is expected to decline.

- The distant water purse seine fleet operating in the western and central Pacific at the end of 2006 was made up of 12 American, 34 Taiwanese, 35 Japanese, 28 Korean, 4 European Union, 13 Filipino and 9 Chinese, making a total of 135 vessels.
- The total tuna catch in the longline fishery in 2005 was approximately 238,400 mt, a decline on the 2004 catch, which was approximately 260,500 mt. Catches of all key species declined, although the largest proportional decline was bigeye.
- For Pacific island countries, significant domestic and locally-based longline fisheries have been established in the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, and Tonga. The domestic and locally-based tuna longline fishery in the region continued to face challenging economic conditions during the year. This resulted in some consolidation of the industry, with several small local companies closing down. On a more promising note, there was significant investment in processing of longline caught fish, particularly in Fiji. A study funded by DevFish confirmed that value addition of this kind is important for increasing financial and economic returns from the fishery.
- The Japanese distant water pole and line catch for 2006 was estimated at 44,800 mt, a decrease of approximately 19,300 mt from the previous year. The decline was reportedly due to a decrease in the number of operating vessels and a decrease in the albacore catch in waters off Japan. A small fleet of pole and line vessels continues to operate in Solomon Islands supplying the cannery operating in the Western Province and two new vessels were brought in to replace older vessels in 2006. The total catch for the Solomon Islands pole and line fleet for this year was approximately 7,000 mt.

#### TUNA MARKET INFORMATION

FFA provides regular monthly reports on price movement for major tuna products in key markets, as well as a comprehensive annual review of global markets. These reports are available in full on the FFA website [www.ffa.int](http://www.ffa.int). Selected fishery and market information is highlighted below:

#### CANNING MARKETS

Movements of prices in the canning markets are as follows:

##### Skipjack

- Bangkok skipjack prices (4-7.5 lbs, c.i.f.) were relatively stable in 2006 trading in the range from US\$780/mt to US\$1000/mt. Prices commenced 2006 at US\$780-800/mt and finished the year at around US\$1000/mt.
- Average Thai import prices for frozen skipjack for 2006 rose 5 per cent to US\$918/mt (c.i.f.), while import volumes rose by 9 per cent to 639,372 mt.

##### Yellowfin

- Bangkok yellowfin prices (20 lbs and up, c.i.f.) started the year at US\$1180-1200/mt then trended up over the period to mid-September to reach US\$1600-1650/mt where they remained stable until late November then declined and finished the year at around US\$1500/mt. The 2006 peak of US\$1600-1650/mt was the highest price level since at least 1995, when FFA records of Bangkok yellowfin prices began.
- Average Thai import prices for frozen yellowfin for 2006 rose 8 per cent to US\$1375/mt (c.i.f.), while import volumes fell 11 per cent to 93,986 mt.

##### Albacore

- Bangkok albacore prices (10 kg and up, c.i.f.) continued to increase in the first half of 2006 reaching US\$2850-2900/mt in June and then fluctuated over the period to mid-October in the range US\$2500-2850/mt. From late 2002 when the Bangkok albacore price stood at around US\$1700/mt up to this time, Bangkok albacore prices had been on a steady upward trend. In late October prices fell precipitously declining within one week from US\$2850/mt to US\$2200-2300/mt reportedly due to good catches by the Taiwanese fleet. Prices declined further in late-November/early-December reportedly as a result of low demand and good catches in the Indian Ocean and finished 2006 at US\$2000-2100/mt their lowest level since September 2003.
- Average Thai import prices for frozen albacore for 2006 rose by 10 per cent to US\$2674/mt (c.i.f.), while import volumes rose 19 per cent to 33,046 mt.

#### SASHIMI MARKET

Movements of prices in the sashimi markets of interest are as follows:

##### Japan – Yellowfin

- Prices at 10 major Japanese wholesale markets in 2006 averaged 1,097 JPY/kg for fresh yellowfin, up 10 per cent on the corresponding period in 2005, and 799 JPY/kg for frozen yellowfin, up 24 per cent. Volumes fell 11 and 22 per cent respectively for fresh and frozen yellowfin.
- Japanese import volumes of fresh yellowfin continued to decline in 2006 falling 11 per cent to 19,012 mt. Since 2001 imports into Japan of fresh yellowfin have fallen nearly 50 per cent. The average price of Japanese imports of fresh yellowfin over 2006 was 779 JPY/kg (US\$6.70/kg) (c.i.f.) a fall of 3 per cent (8 per cent in US\$ terms).

##### Japan – Bigeye

- Prices at 10 major Japanese wholesale markets in 2006 averaged 1262 JPY/kg for fresh bigeye, up 6 per cent on 2005, and 915 JPY/kg for frozen bigeye, up 9 per cent. Volumes for fresh bigeye rose 4 per cent while frozen bigeye volumes fell 6 per cent.

- Japanese imports of fresh bigeye were 15,787 mt in 2006, down 7 per cent, while the average price rose 4 per cent to 895 JPY/kg (c.i.f.) (in US\$ terms prices declined 2 per cent US\$7.48/kg).

#### US – Fresh albacore, bigeye and yellowfin

- US import volumes of fresh albacore in 2006 rose 24 per cent to 876 mt while import prices (f.a.s.) rose 20 per cent to US\$4.05/kg.
- US import volumes of fresh bigeye in 2006 fell 2 per cent to 4,920 mt while import prices (f.a.s.) also fell 2 per cent to US\$7.43/kg.
- US import volumes of fresh yellowfin in 2006 rose 4 per cent to 17,792 mt while import prices (f.a.s.) also rose 4 per cent to US\$7.11/kg.

### Domestic Tuna Industry Development Support

The major pieces of work undertaken in 2006 at the regional and sub-regional level are listed below:

- The convening of three sub-regional workshops (Melanesian, Micronesian and Polynesian sub-regions) to identify priorities for the work of the Fisheries Development Division. The workshops were funded by DEVFISH, but the activities identified were not limited to those eligible for funding under DEVFISH.
- The completion of regional studies on (i) gender issues in the tuna industry, and (ii) development options in the tuna longline industry. The latter is the first in a series of studies analysing the economic benefits from different tuna fishing and processing operations.
- Participation of a delegation of FFA Members at the February 2006 “Sharing the Fish” Conference as a capacity building exercise on allocation issues for FFA Members’ personnel.
- Liaison with the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), leading to the development of a project for the pre-assessment of the western and central Pacific tuna fishery to ascertain whether it is likely to meet MSC requirements. This project was developed in response to reports from the EU and the US that major buyers in these markets are moving to purchase only MSC certified tuna in three to five years time.
- Commencement of work on a Sustainable Development Framework so as to ensure national tuna development plans are drafted in accordance with an agreed framework. This project was approved by FFC61 in May 2006 and will be completed in early 2007 after which the framework will be trialed at national level.
- The completion of the first report on Economic Indicators for the western and central Pacific tuna fishery. Linked to this is a study which commenced in late 2006 and will be completed in early 2007 on the implementation of a more systematic approach to the collection of economic data including the conduct of surveys.

- Participation in a US-sponsored workshop on South Pacific albacore, including a presentation on the economic factors affecting the fishery.
- The successful convening of the DEVFISH Project Steering Committee Meeting.
- Participation in the Pacific Islands Regional Economic Integration Project (PACREIP) steering committee given this project’s linkages with the DEVFISH Project in terms of promoting regional economic integration.
- Participation in a SFP workshop organised in Nadi in December 2006. The workshop theme was “The Synthesis of Results of Assessments of National Fisheries in the Pacific Region” and was organised as a follow up from the visits made by two teams visiting the region undertaking the review and assessment of the current Fishery Products Sanitary (SFP) Conditions in the Pacific Region, aspects of which are included in the DEVFISH work programme.
- Participation of staff at an ANU fisheries economics workshop.

The major pieces of work undertaken at national level are listed below:

- The commencement of work on a Tuna Development Action Plan for Papua New Guinea, with consultations and visits to industry centres.
- The commencement of a study on the economics of the Samoan alia fishery, scheduled for completion in March 2006.
- In-country consultancy projects were completed in Samoa (mission to the competent authority), Solomon Islands (cannery waste disposal and refrigeration upgrade) and Tonga (fishing port management).
- A trial of satellite fish finding technology was sponsored for the longline fleet in Tonga.
- Technical training for fishing skippers from five countries, as well as a training attachment on small-scale tuna processing for entrepreneurs from three countries.
- Assistance was provided to fisheries associations in seven countries – ranging from providing model constitutions to holding a major national workshop and supporting a position of executive officer.

It should be noted that the latter three activities were part of the DEVFISH Project, but were managed by the SPC-based component of the project.

### Treaty, Access and Trade Negotiations

The major pieces of work undertaken at the regional and sub-regional level are listed below:

- Ongoing implementation of the trade research project. This is a major project looking at the implications for FFA Members of developments in international trade and their potential effect on the western and central Pacific tuna fishery. Of particular importance is the issue of trade liberalisation, free trade agreements and fisheries



subsidies. The report on the trade research project will be completed in early 2007.

- Input into the negotiation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the EU, culminating with the approval of a Draft Legal Text, which was approved by Fisheries and Trade Ministers at a joint meeting held at Port Vila in November 2006. This work was undertaken in cooperation with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.
- A review of bilateral access arrangements within the context of introducing VDS for PNA members was undertaken in December 2006. This piece of work will assist FFA Members implement the VDS at national level.
- Work on the economic analysis of management options analysis undertaken by the WCPF Commission Scientific Committee. This work is important to ensure that FFA Members have a clear understanding of the consequences of various management options being considered by the Commission. Linked to this has been participation in the FAO Workshop on Fishing Capacity given discussion on the issue of fishing capacity at the Commission level.

At the national level the activities listed below were undertaken:

- Preparation of various access briefs for Nauru, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. In addition, Solomon Islands requested the participation of the FFA Secretariat in its access negotiations with Korea and Taiwan. Feedback from this exercise was positive and it is anticipated that similar assistance will be available to Solomon Islands in 2007. The FFA Secretariat also stands ready to provide this assistance to other FFA Members as required.
- The preparation of a report reviewing the structure of an approach to access agreements for Solomon Islands, the final draft of which will be available in early 2007. A similar request was also made by Tuvalu; the terms of reference of which were forwarded in late December 2006 for consideration by the government.
- In relation to WCPF Commission issues, a brief was prepared for Marshall Islands in relation to Overcapacity resolution

and actions taken by Taiwan with regard to the refusal to issue export permits for vessels, thereby restricting options for domestic industry development in Marshall Islands. A brief was also prepared for Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia and Palau in relation to Belize-flagged vessels and WCPFC requirements for licensing of non CCM flagged vessels, given the importance of these vessels to the locally based longline fleets in these countries.

### BILATERAL FISHERIES ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

Bilateral licensing arrangements with DWFNs continued to be the main form of licensing in the purse seine fishery in 2006. There were no bilateral new entrants in the purse seine fishery during the year, although the fisheries agreement with the EU entered into force in the second half of 2006. The other major change was the conclusion of an agreement between Papua New Guinea and Japan for purse seine access, the first such agreement between the two countries since 1987.

Access for foreign longline vessels continues to be dominated by fleets from Japan, Korea and Taiwan operating large freezer vessels. Restrictions on the catch of bigeye imposed by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission are likely to restrict any expansion of these longline fleets in future.

The Japanese pole and line fleet is the only fleet operating under bilateral access arrangements with a total of 38 vessels, concentrating their operations in and around the Marshall Islands EEZ. Total catch by the Japanese distant water fleet totalled approximately 44,100 mt in 2006 with approximately 23,000 mt in the EEZs of FFA Members or adjacent waters and the balance of the catch taken in eastern Japanese waters. This fleet appears to be in decline as vessel numbers are down to 27 compared to 38 in 2005.

This part of the report covers the corporate services activities of the FFA in support of its Fisheries Management and Fisheries Development programmes; and the direct support to FFA Members' needs. It also includes internal funding arrangements and administrative issues in the year under review.



### Communication

In 2006 FFA applied for two ADSL connections to service the internet and email communications requirements of the Secretariat. The services provide redundant links to the agency Secretariat, one via the Chinatown route and the other via the East Kola'a Ridge road.

A permanent telephone cabling was laid between the main conference centre and the Secretariat building. In addition to the permanent fibre optic cable network, this facility provides a reliable communication link between the two office complexes. The communications upgrade services additional office space provided at the conference centre; which currently accommodates the US Treaty Section.

Structured cabling methodology was adopted at FFA and a communication hub room was set up to centrally manage the network. This methodology now enables flexibility of connections for both telephones and data through the same lines. Expansion and movement of staff is very easy and flexible.

The FFA website continued to provide a major public face for FFA. A theme change was made in 2006, thus giving a new professional look to the website and structure. Another theme is proposed for 2007.

FFA signed up to a Telstra Bigpond account in Australia for a global roaming internet access. This account will be used by staff while on duty travel outside of Honiara to access email and internet using dial-up connectivity from their hotel rooms. This account can be accessed using IpassConnect client from more than 26,000 locations in 160 countries. In the Pacific Island countries, only Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Samoa provide access for global roaming. Other countries' Internet Services Providers (ISP) are yet to get any presence. In countries where this facility is not present, staff use internet cafés to stay in touch with internet and email.

### Information Technology Support

The Information and Technology Section administered a range of projects in 2006 that include those listed below:

- Information Technology Services – This project's objective is to expand on essential and ad-hoc IT service requirements for the financial period, e.g. purchase of toners, memory sticks, docking stations, extra hard disks, network cabling etc.
- Information Technology Services Review – This project was targeted at an exchange server upgrade with the purchase of new exchange server hardware. The second component was the purchase of a mail firewall appliance to screen emails before it enters the internal network. The purchase was not made as the cost for the appliance had increased since the budget was formulated. An alternative is being considered including outsourcing to external vendors such as McAfee.
- Website Management – The website is maintained remotely by IT staff with appropriate access. Contents are updated by responsible staff. Anchor Systems Ltd of Sydney (Australia)

hosts the website on their fast servers and on a fast internet backbone.

- Library Services covers the purchases of journals and books.
- Thin Client implements diskless client workstations to enable most corporate software applications to run from central servers as well as ensuring all corporate data is stored on central servers. This minimises software licensing and ensures corporate data is backed up daily. Hardware and software have been ordered in 2006. Implementation is expected to be completed before the second half of 2007.
- The section is also undertaking a Knowledge and Information Management Project to improve the storage of information at FFA.

During 2006 the country visits listed below were completed:

- Samoa in November 2006 to assess the IT requirements for the Fisheries Department. The visit involved the conduct of a review of Samoa Fisheries' IT, which is the subject of a separate report and liaison with Samoan Maritime police regarding the FFA VMS. Information was provided on VMS training options including fellowship opportunities at FFA and in-country training opportunities associated with the VMS upgrade. Broadband connection for VMS was also researched with several providers canvassed. Each provider was essentially price and service equal but SamoaTel offered the option of ADSL which is the preferred FFA VMS communication means. A contract was entered into for the provision of a 1GB per month shaped/capped annual plan. Installation was not able to occur during the visit, but this lays the necessary preparation work for the VMS upgrade.
- Tonga to assist with the provision of IT services for the Surveillance Operation – Operation Kurukuru, followed by a visit to the SOPAC office in Suva, Fiji, for liaison on mapping applications and boundary data.
- Samoa in August 2006 to attend the PacINET 2006 conference and visit SPREP offices to discuss common IT initiatives with SPREP's IT staff.
- Nauru in March 2006 to review the IT services and communication requirements for VMS.
- Fiji in September for a series of meetings organised by the Forum Secretariat in Nadi. The first was the Telekom Regulators meeting, followed by the Task force on the implementation of the Digital Strategy of the Pacific Plan and a CROP ICT Working Group meeting.

### OTHER PROJECTS / ACTIVITIES FOR 2006

IT provided cabling and infrastructure arrangements for the movement of staff to the main conference centre to allow for the renovation of the Secretariat building. IT staff also assisted and supervised the installation and cabling of the Director's offices.

Assisted with the VMS server upgrades at the hub site that was completed at the end of 2006. Testing for the VPN technology for VMS was undertaken. It is expected to be completed and implemented within the first half of 2007.

## FFA Funding Arrangements

In developing the FFA Strategic Plan 2005-2020, the Agency reviewed its activities and in particular the historic focus on the delivery of services related to FFA VMS activities, the observer programme, treaties administration, and meeting and travel support and to a lesser extent on fishery management and fishery development. At the same time the Agency noted increasing costs through inflation, static levels of core funding and concluded that in such a climate inflationary pressures result in lower levels of services, greater dependence on donors, and stagnant planning processes.

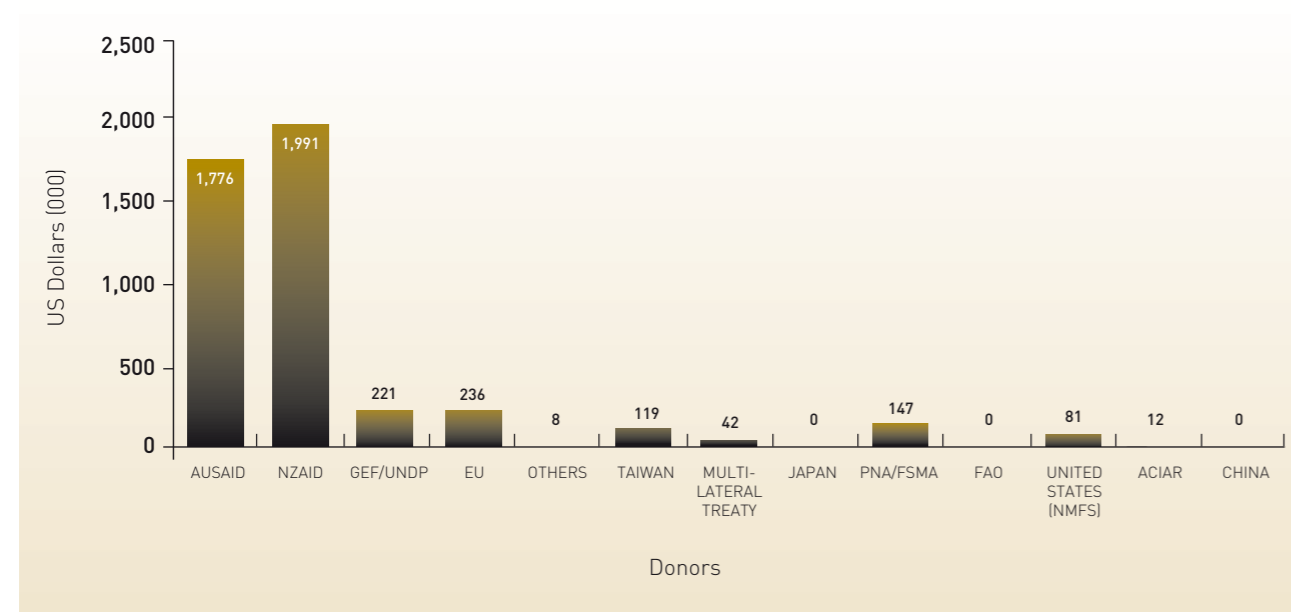
Rising costs were also indicating future budget deficits for 2006/07 and 2007/08. Therefore, the Secretariat pursued increases in annual revenue to arrest the rising inflationary pressures, address the priority areas in the Strategic Plan and to implement a new asset management program and new governance requirements.

FFC accepted the Secretariat's position that more resources were needed to deliver effectively on the priority areas of the new FFA Strategic Plan; and to mitigate the above mentioned effects approved a comprehensive and integrated funding strategy.

The first step towards implementing the strategy was the merging of the VMS and Regional Register fees into a single vessel register fee that was implemented successfully on 1 September 2005. The six (6) months actual revenue from January to June 2006 significantly increased when compared to the same period in the previous year.

Australia and New Zealand generously increased donor contributions to approximately USD\$1,790,000 (AUD2,300,000) and USD\$2,090,00 (NZD3,000,000) respectively for forward years under 3-year programme funding agreements,

FIGURE 2: Donor Contributions June 2006



positioning the Agency well to meet its new priorities. During the period, funds were also finally secured for both the GEF and EU projects.

## Summary of FFA Funding Arrangements

FFA's funding arrangements consist of FFA Members' contributions and donor funding. FFA Members' contributions are received annually and are used to fund the core business activities of the FFA. Donor funding is made available from member and non-member countries for specific projects of relevance to the region. FFA relies on donor funding for a significant proportion of its work. Member and donor contributions are greatly appreciated by the Agency. The figures below illustrate these contributions for the six months period ending 30th June 2006.

## Fund Administration and Management

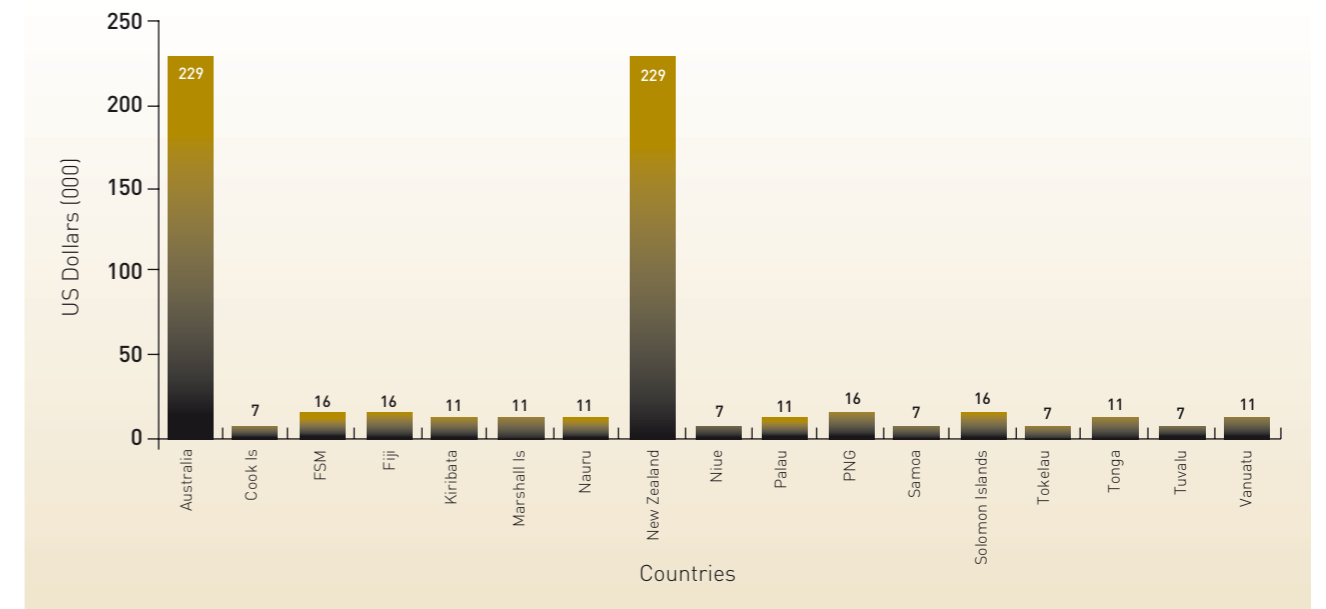
FFA has four operational funds: (1) the General Fund; (2) the Trust Fund; (3) the VMS Fund; and (4) the Housing Fund.

Surpluses in these funds are transferred to the respective Reserve accounts, being General Fund Reserve, VMS Fund Reserve and Housing Fund Reserve.

Member country contributions and fees from the Regional Registration are held in the General Fund, donor contributions are held in the Trust Fund. The fees generated from the VMS registration of fishing vessels are held in the VMS fund; and funds collected from the rental of FFA properties are held in the Housing Fund. Commencing from September 2005 the VMS and Regional Registers were combined to form the FFA Vessel Registration.

In addition to its operational funds, the FFA Secretariat also manages several other funds on behalf of member

FIGURE 3: Member Country Contributions



countries under certain regional fisheries agreements and arrangements. These include fees collected under the US Treaty from the US Tuna Foundation, Association, and the US Government, and license fees collected on behalf of the parties to the FSM Arrangement.

## Summary of Total Income and Expenditure in 2006

Total General Fund income for six months amounted to \$1,496,021. Apart from the member country contributions, other General Fund revenue comprising 59% of the total income were generated from regional registration fees, US Treaty service fee, programme support, Australian PDF contribution, transfer from reserves and other income. The total General Fund expenditure for the year amounted to \$1,471,000 resulting in a surplus net position of \$25,021 for the General Fund. The surplus was credited to the reserve account.

Total Trust Fund income including the donor funding amounted to \$2,392,007 in 2006. The non-donor funds represented 1% of total income, which comprised interest, programme support, and miscellaneous income. The total Trust Fund expenditure for the year was \$2,352,167 leaving a net surplus of \$39,840. The surplus was credited to the Reserve Fund account.

Total VMS Fund income for six months amounted to \$687,293 and the total expenditure was \$672,998 leaving a net surplus of \$14,295. The surplus is credited to the VMS Reserve Fund account.

Total Housing Fund income was \$209,641 and the total expenditure was \$156,488 leaving a surplus of \$53,153. Sufficient of the Fund's receipts are treated as income as necessary to meet expenditure and the balance of the Fund

is carried forward. The balance carried forward to 2006/07 was \$53,153 and is treated as Advance Funding in the Balance Sheet.

For 2006 the total General Reserve Fund amounted to \$466,425, the total VMS Reserve fund amounted to \$917,651 and the total Housing Fund Reserve amounted to \$7,967.

## THE US MULTILATERAL FISHERIES TREATY

The procedure for the distribution of Treaty payments is set out in Schedule 1 of the Internal Agreement among the Pacific Island Parties. From the total US contribution of US\$21 million received during the eighteenth licensing period<sup>5</sup>, the Administration budget (as approved annually by the Pacific Island Parties) and Project Development Fund (PDF) are deducted, and the balance is divided as follows: 15% shared equally between the Pacific Island Parties and 85% shared according to the volume of catch reported in the waters of the Pacific Island Parties during a licensing period.

A total of US\$21,861,481 was received from the US as payment for the 18th licensing period, which included bank interest in the amount of US\$861,481. From this amount, the US Government contributed US\$18 million, of which \$17,856,000 was received on 22nd June 2005, and the balance of \$144,000 was received on 17th October 2005. The reason for the non-receipt of the full amount in the first instance was the across-the-board budget recession by the Department of Oceans and Fisheries in the US. Distribution of the funds was made based on the current procedures provided in Article 1 of Schedule 1 of the Internal Agreement. The procedures require that a total of US\$18 million is to be distributed, as follows:

- Administration budget is deducted first;
- A total of US\$1.778 million for Project Development Fund (PDF) is also deducted first;

<sup>5</sup> Licensing periods under the US Treaty do not follow the calendar year. They extend from June of a year to June of the following year. The 18th licensing period was from 15 June 2005 to 14 June 2006.

- 15 % from the balance is distributed equally to the sixteen Pacific Island parties; and
- 85 % from the balance is distributed based on the catch made in the parties' waters.

The total Administration budget approved for the period was US\$585,703. However, only US\$519,632 was drawn down from the Treaty funds because of the following: (a) a surplus of US\$48,187 from the 16th licensing period; (b) a surplus of \$9,135 from the 17th licensing period; and (c) interest receipts of \$8,749. These were used to balance the budget in accordance with the decision of the parties.

The total Project Development Fund (PDF) of US\$1.778 million was distributed equally to the Pacific Island parties in June 2005 through fifteen established individual PDF accounts that are currently administered by the FFA Secretariat on behalf of the parties. Australia's PDF share of US\$111,125 was given back to the FFA Secretariat's core fund, while New Zealand's share was transferred to Tokelau in accordance with standing instructions from New Zealand.

The 15% share allocation (total US\$2,355,360) was also distributed equally to the Pacific Island parties in June 2005 as required under the Treaty. Each of the sixteen Pacific Island parties received a share of US\$147,210. The 85% allocation (total US\$13,347,008) was distributed to the Pacific Island parties on 15 December 2006 based on the catch, agreed overpayment adjusted cost, and in accordance with the requirement under the Treaty.

#### THE FSM ARRANGEMENT

119. The procedure for distribution of the payment under the FSM Arrangement is set out in Annex VI of the Arrangement. From the total license fees received, the Administration budget (as approved annually by the Parties) for the implementation of the Arrangement is deducted, and the balance is distributed to each of the Parties based on the sum of the regional catch for each of the Parties, multiplied by the regional price per tonne. The regional catch for a Party means the aggregate catch in each distribution period reported in that Party's exclusive economic zones less the catch made by that Party's sponsored vessels in its own waters.

A total of USD\$4,536,383 was received during the twelfth distribution period<sup>6</sup>, as at 31 December 2006. This was made up of USD\$7,004,645 as the total license fees received during the period and USD\$261,668 as interest earned on the fund from the term deposit.

After deducting the Administration budget of USD\$283,268, a total of USD\$6,983,045 was available for distribution to the Parties based on their respective regional catches.

**TABLE 2: Summary of Income and Expenditure for the Six Months Ended 30th June 2006 (US\$)**

	GENERAL FUND	TRUST FUND	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>			
Member contributions	626,427		626,427
Donor		2,350,112	2,350,112
Interest	18,174	35,360	53,534
Programme support	280,968		280,968
US Treaty Service Fee	0	0	0
FSM Arrangement	0		0
PDFund (Aust.)	111,125		111,125
Regional Registration Fee	434,548		434,548
Conference centre	0		0
Miscellaneous	24,779	6,535	31,314
Transfer from Reserves	0		0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,496,021</b>	<b>2,392,007</b>	<b>3,887,694</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Executive Management	255,602	26,631	282,233
Fisheries Management	63,485	563,131	626,616
Fisheries Development	46,945	539,023	585,951
Fisheries Operation	304,178	322,404	626,582
Corporate Services	800,790	900,978	1,701,013
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,471,000</b>	<b>2,352,167</b>	<b>3,823,151</b>
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>25,021</b>	<b>39,840</b>	<b>64,861</b>
<b>Housing Fund</b>			
Income	209,641		209,641
Expenditure	156,488		156,488
Net Surplus (transferred to advance funding)	53,153		53,153
<b>VMS Fund</b>			
Income	687,293		687,293
Expenditure	672,998		672,998
Net Surplus	14,295		14,295

**Table 3: Balance Sheet for six months period as at 31 December 2006 (US\$)**

	TOTAL
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash	5,358,401
Receivables	27,869
Others	851,005
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>6,237,275</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Creditors & Other liabilities	1,531,738
Provisions	381,388
Advance funding	2,932,106
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>4,845,232</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>1,392,043</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>	
General Funds	466,425
VMS Funds	917,651
Housing Fund	7,967
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>1,392,043</b>

#### Staff Issues

In late 2005, the Secretariat introduced a change management program and embarked on a major expansion program. 2006 was a very busy year as the Secretariat filled many of the new positions under the new organisational structure. Added to that was the departure of some key senior staff members. By the end of 2006, a full new Executive Management team was on board. See Attachment A for the staff list as at 31 December 2006.

#### Executive Management

After leading the Secretariat for six years, the Director-General, Mr Feleti P. Teo, departed FFA in November 2006. He was replaced by Mr Tanielu Su'a of Samoa. Mr Su'a was initially the Secretariat's Fisheries Management Adviser before being appointed Director Fisheries Management in February. He then took up his new position as Director-General in November 2006.

In June, the position of Deputy Director-General became vacant following the resignation of Mr Steve Dunn who returned to Australia after serving the Secretariat for almost two years. Dr Transform Aqorau acted as the Deputy from September until he was appointed by FFC63 in December as the new Deputy Director-General.

#### Corporate Services Division

The two positions of Planning Coordinator and Management Accountant were filled by Ms Kakala Vave and Mr Rodney Rutepitu, respectively. Ms Vave was previously the Executive Planning Officer of the Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission in Fiji prior to joining the Secretariat in January. Mr Rutepitu was the Accountant and Assistant Manager of the Corporate Services Department of the Central Bank of Solomon Islands before taking up his appointment in September.

The position of Director Corporate Services was left vacant in February after the resignation of Ms Narelle Caldwell. Mr David Rupokets acted in this position until he applied for and was appointed Director Corporate Services in July. Prior to that, Mr Rupokets has been the Manager Finance for the Secretariat for the past ten years. This then left the position of Manager Finance vacant for the second half of the year. Mr Rutepitu has been Acting Manager Finance and the position is expected to be filled early 2007.

#### Fisheries Development Division

The position of Director Fisheries Development was vacant for some time until the appointment of Mr Len Rodwell in July. Mr Rodwell previously led the Economics and Marketing Division before being appointed as Industry Liaison Officer briefly in early 2006.

Other appointments were as follows:

- Fisheries Economics Adviser – Dr Chris Reid of Australia was appointed in May 2006. He was previously the Market Adviser for the Secretariat before the position was abolished.
- Fisheries Development Officer – Mr William Lakain of Papua New Guinea commenced in December. Mr Lakain was the Resource Planner for the Conservation International (CI). He was once the Principal Planner for the National Fisheries Authority of Papua New Guinea.
- Fisheries Economics Officer 1 – Mr Peter Terawasi will take up his duties in January 2007. Mr Terawasi is a Solomon Islands national who was working at the Otintaa Hotel in Kiribati. In the mid to late 80s, Mr Terawasi was the Statistical Coordinator of the Secretariat for five years and following that worked with the Central Bank of Solomon Islands.
- Fisheries Economics Officer 2 – Ms Linda Kaua is also expected to commence duties in January 2007. A Solomon Islands national, Ms Kaua was a lecturer at the Solomon Islands College of Higher Education.

#### Fisheries Management Division

Since Mr Tanielu Su'a was appointed the Director-General, the position of Director Fisheries Management was advertised. The offer was made to Mr Moses Amos of Vanuatu and he is expected to commence with the Secretariat in January 2007. Mr Amos was formerly the Vanuatu Director of Fisheries.

<sup>6</sup> Distribution Periods under the FSM Arrangement follow the calendar year, while the new financial year end for FFA is 30th June of each year.

Following the appointment of Dr Transform Aqorau as Deputy Director-General in December, the position of Legal Counsel became vacant and it has been advertised. It is expected that this position will be filled in early 2007.

During the year, the new positions listed below were also filled:

- Project Coordinator (Oceanic Fisheries Management Project) – Ms Barbara Hanchard of Cook Islands started in January 2006. She was formerly the Executive Officer of the Secretariat.
- Project Finance and Administration Officer (Oceanic Fisheries Management) – Mr Royden Gholomo also started in January. He is a Solomon Islands national who was working for the Adventist Development Relief Agency as Finance Officer for the AusAID-funded Communities Strengthening Reconciliation Project before joining the Secretariat.
- Fisheries Management Adviser (Oceanic Fisheries Management) – Mr Darren Cameron left his position as General Manager of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in Townsville Australia to join the Secretariat in March.
- Commission Liaison Officer – was filled by Ms Lara Manarangi-Trott of Cook Islands. Ms Manarangi-Trott was completing her PhD studies in NSW Australia before taking up her duties in April.
- Fisheries Management Adviser – Mr Steve Shanks of Australia started in June. He was the Fisheries Manager of the Primary Industries and Resources of South Australia.
- Fisheries Management Officer – Mr Maruia Kamatie of Kiribati left his position as Director of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development in Kiribati to take up his appointment at the Secretariat in July.
- Fisheries Management Adviser – Mr Sean Sloan of Australia was the Senior Fisheries Manager of the Fisheries Division of the Primary Industries and Resources of South Australia before assuming duties at the Secretariat in August.
- Fisheries Management Officer – Mr Samasoni Sauni of Tuvalu was appointed in August. In the last few years, Mr Sauni has been working for the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, first as Reef Fisheries Officer, then Senior Fisheries Scientist (Finfish).
- Legal Officer (Prosecutions) – Ms Jean Gordon of Solomon Islands joined the Secretariat in August. She was previously the Senior Crown Counsel in the Attorney General's Office of the Solomon Islands Government.
- Compliance Policy Officer – Mr Apolosi Turaganivalu of Fiji took up his appointment in December. Mr Turaganivalu was with the Fiji Fisheries Department for 27 years and his last position was Principal Fisheries Officer (Management Services). He was also the Chairman of the Technical and Compliance Committee of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

## Fisheries Operations Division

Mr Andrew Richards left the Secretariat after serving for 13 years. He led the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Division until the position was abolished in early 2006. Mr Richards is now with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission in Pohnpei.

In March, Mr Norman Kapun was re-appointed as the Manager Information Technology after re-applying for the position having completed six years service.

In the same month, the new position of Director Fisheries Operations was filled by Mr Marcel Kroese of South Africa. Mr Kroese was employed by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism as Director Monitoring and Surveillance in the Marine and Coastal Management branch in South Africa before taking up his appointment at FFA.

Mr Anton Jimwereiy was appointed as PNA Coordinator by the Parties to the Nauru Agreement and he is attached to the Secretariat in the Treaties Administration Section. Mr Jimwereiy was previously the CEO of the Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority.

Mr Mark Korsten, Surveillance Operations Officer, left the Secretariat in December and his replacement is LCDR Paul McCarthy, who will assume duties in January 2007. This position is an attachment from the Australian Defence Force.

Another attachment, the Fisheries Enforcement Adviser, Mr Kevin Painter of the United States Government departed on 31 December. It is unknown whether there will be a replacement.

Two positions in the Information Technology Section were advertised in mid year as the incumbents were completing six years service. The position of Systems Analyst Programmer was renamed Systems Analyst and Mr Bryan Scott was appointed to replace Mr Gurd Mar in early January 2007. Mr Henry Salonica of Papua New Guinea was appointed as Network Administrator in January 2007 replacing Mr Gerald Porowai. Mr Salonica was with the PNG Community Development Scheme Phase 2 funded by AusAID as Information and Communication Technology Advisor and Network and Systems Administrator.

Mr Bryan Scott had been the Secretariat's Data Quality Officer and the position has since been advertised. The Information Officer position has also been advertised after the resignation of Mr Ben Hall. Mr Hall left the Secretariat in October to take up further studies back in Australia. It is expected that the position will be filled in early 2007.

The position of Observers Program Manager was also advertised as the incumbent was completing six years service. However, the incumbent, Mr Karl Staisch decided to take up an employment offer from the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission hence withdrew his application in late 2006. It was decided to re-advertise the position of Observers Program Manager.

Several support staff positions were also appointed in the Fisheries Operations Division during the year:

- Assistant Observers Programme Officer – this is a new position filled by Mr Ambrose Orianiha'a.
- Vessel Monitoring System Administration Assistant – Ms Henrietta Panda was on short-term contract until she was offered a long term employment contract in November 2006.
- Librarian – this position has been vacant for several years. It was filled in September by Mr Eddie Marahare.

## Meeting and Conference Support

The FFA Secretariat supported FFA Members' participation in a number of international meetings. Apart from providing support to facilitate the annual sessions of the Forum Fisheries Committee and the sub-regional arrangements, the FFA Secretariat supported the participation of FFA Members at the Second Regular Session of the Scientific Committee of the WCPF Commission and the Second Regular Session of the WCPF Commission's Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC). The FFA Secretariat also supported FFA Members at the Third Regular Session of the WCPF Commission. The support included the provision of comprehensive negotiation briefs, and facilitation of discussions to develop common negotiating positions.

The Meetings that were planned for 2006 is appended as Attachment B.

## Pacific Islands Forum Issues

143. The Director-General, Feleti P. Teo and the Director-General-Designate, Mr Su'a Tanielu attended the 37th Annual Summit of the Forum Leaders in Nadi, Fiji, from the 24th to the 25th October 2006. A number of fisheries issues were considered by the Forum Leaders including a report on progress on their directive for greater ministerial oversight on regional fisheries matters. With respect to strategic fisheries issues, the Forum Leaders:-

noted the continued progress on their directive to seek greater sustainable returns from fisheries and to establish ministerial oversight of regional fisheries matters. They welcomed in particular the development of the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) Ecosystem Approach to fisheries management; the template for model fisheries management legislation; the regional fisheries compliance strategy; and the Sustainable Development Framework for Pacific Fisheries. They also noted the status of the negotiation of a possible Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the European Union; and the adoption of the Vessel Day Scheme by the parties to the Palau Arrangement.

Forum Leaders also considered a draft declaration on deep-sea bottom trawling endorsed by Fisheries Ministers at the 61st Meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee. The issue was first raised by Palau at the 36th Annual Summit of the Forum Leaders in Papua New Guinea. With respect to deep-sea bottom trawling, the Forum Leaders: –



reiterated their concerns regarding the destructive fishing practices on seamounts in the Western Tropical Pacific Island Area (WTPIA) and in other areas of high seas in the WTPIA and adopted a Declaration on Deep Sea Bottom Trawling to Protect Biodiversity in the High Seas, to manage this method of fishing and to protect biodiversity in the high seas.

Forum Leaders adopted a Declaration on Deep-Sea Bottom Trawling to Protect the Biodiversity in the High Seas. The Declaration commits the members of the Pacific Islands Forum to urgently take actions consistent with international law to prevent destructive fishing practices on seamounts in the Western Tropical Pacific Islands Area (WTPIA) and to prevent destructive fishing practices in other areas of high seas in the WTPIA until an appropriate environmental impact assessment has been carried out; effective conservation and management measures are implemented to protect affected ecosystems; and effective monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement measures are in place to ensure that the measures are properly implemented and adhered to. The Forum leaders also recommended:-

1. the possible inclusion of the high seas areas in the tropical Pacific within the area covered by the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation or another RFMO with the necessary competence;
2. the possible development of a separate arrangement for the WTPIA area including relevant areas of the high seas and the Pacific Island countries and territories' EEZs in the form of a convention to address the impacts of destructive fishing practices;
3. where the science supports, to investigate the potential to use multiple use Marine Protected Areas in the WTPIA to prevent destructive fishing practices in the high seas enclosures beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

One issue of pertinence to the FFA considered by the Forum Leaders was the Report on the Regional Integration Framework (RIF). The Report which was prepared by a Team under the Chairmanship of Kaliopate Tavola recommended that the policy and technical functions of the FFA be split between the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the Secretariat for the Pacific Community respectively. The Forum Fisheries Committee did not have an opportunity to consider the Report in 2006.

### CROP Activities

The Secretariat participated in a number of CROP-related activities throughout the year. The Secretariat was represented at the CROP 2006 Triennial Review in February in Suva, Fiji. The Secretariat's concerns with respect to the CROP Remuneration Working Group were the need to address alignment of CROP salaries with the average of the three reference markets, consideration of options for redundancy provisions in the harmonised terms and conditions, options for harmonising public holiday benefits and overseas school fees in relation to staff members whose home countries lack suitable education facilities.

The Director-General and Director, Corporate Services attended the CROP Heads Meeting in Apia, Samoa in August. The CROP Heads Meeting considered a range of issues including reports from the various CROP Working groups, and the Regional Integration Framework (RIF). With respect to the RIF review, the CROP Heads agreed to finalise their contribution towards the report on the regional institutional framework before the Forum Officials Committee (FOC) meeting and the Forum. With respect to the 10th EDF, the CROP Heads agreed that proposals developed through the various regional working groups be cleared by CROP Heads to ensure consistency, improve coordination of effort and promote joint projects where feasible.

The Secretariat was represented at the Annual Governing Council Meeting of SOPAC in Honiara, Solomon Islands, by the Director, Corporate Services, Manager Treaties Administration, and Data Quality Officer. One issue which FFA shares a common policy and technical interest with SOPAC is the delimitation of maritime boundaries in the region. In this regard, SOPAC and FFA have developed a working relationship to exchange information with respect to the baseline coordinates for their respective members. This information is also critical to ensuring the Secretariat and FFA Members have the correct information on the coordinates.

150. The CROP Marine Sector Working Group (MSWG) also met in September to discuss funding under EDF10. The Secretariat has submitted concept papers for a Phase II of DevFish and on IUU fishing. It is instructive to note that Phase I of DevFish is intended to contribute to the establishment of a concerted policy and economic environment conducive to the further development of Pacific ACP-owned fishing and processing operations, and to an increased contribution of foreign fleets to the economic development of these countries. Phase II is intended to transform these improved policies into real development through the promotion of improved governance in the fisheries sector, while supporting measures to increase the efficiency and competitiveness of locally-based tuna fishing and processing operations. This will hopefully lead to: -

- improvements in governance in national fisheries administrations, through capacity building, development of systems and procedures, greater transparency, and improved consultation with stakeholders;
- improved competitiveness of locally-based tuna fishing ventures. This will be achieved through short-term technical assistance, practical training of key staff (including attachments and mentoring), pilot projects to introduce new technology, and promotion of products in export markets;
- greater regional integration in the fisheries sector – reciprocal access to fishing areas, facilitation of port calls by vessels based in the region, and increased employment of crew from other Pacific Islands; and
- enhanced capacity at both national and enterprise levels to meet the health and quality requirements for export markets.



The Secretariat was represented at the Pacific Plan Action Committee (PPAC) meeting in Nadi, Fiji, in October by the Director, Corporate Services and Project Planning Officer. The PPAC examined the six monthly reports on the implementation of the Pacific Plan.

### Asset Management

At the FFA Regional Conference Centre, the 'Secretariat Room' was refurbished to house the Treaties Administration Section and modification was carried out to the 'Delegates Room' converting it to a meeting room. The Treaties Administration was previously accommodated in portable offices and the Conference Centre offered more secure accommodation. The site of the portable offices will be demolished as part of the site redevelopment project.

Major planned upgrade of the Regional Conference Centre to include replacing the air-conditioning will be carried out in 2007.

In the second half of the year, major works took place in the main office building. A mezzanine level was constructed and additional ergonomic furniture were installed on the ground floor. The mezzanine was expected to house the four division directors and the Legal Counsel.

Air-conditioning was also fitted out in the main office building and a new standby power generator was installed to replace the existing one. The new generator has a much bigger capacity to cope with the increased load of the headquarters compound. The roof of the main building was repainted instead of replacing with a new roof due to funding constraints.

No major renovations were carried out with FFA-owned houses but a lot of time and effort were spent on assisting new staff with locating and refurbishing rental houses during the year.

New rental rates were put into place in July for those staff living in FFA-owned houses.

Progress with the Site Redevelopment Project has been slow. The acquiring of land was part of the agenda when the new Director-General met with the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands. The Executive Management has continued to pursue funding for this project from donors.

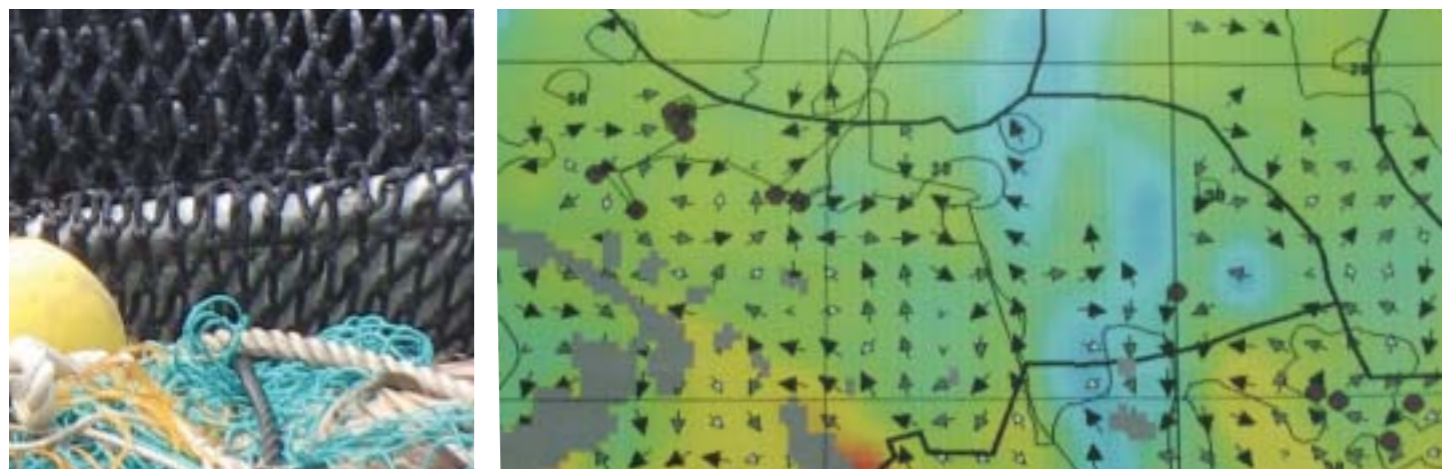
A new Administration vehicle was purchased to replace the current one.

### VIP Visitors

A number of VIP visitors called on the Director-General, Feleti P. Teo during the year. These included Honourable Rabbie Namaliu, Foreign Minister of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, Her Excellency Leslie Rowe, United States Ambassador to Solomon Islands and Jean Pierre Godart, Acting French Ambassador for Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.



# PART 05 CONCLUSION



In conclusion the support of the Committee throughout the year is acknowledged. One of the reasons why FFA has been successful is because FFA Members play a pivotal role in providing clear policy and administrative directives. Tribute must be paid to Mr Feleti P. Teo for his leadership of the FFA over the past six-years.

2006 was the year in which the new organisational structure of the FFA was implemented. The focus of the FFA on fisheries management and development provides the FFA with an opportunity to develop innovative management and conservation measures as well as explore new ways of developing the lucrative tuna resources. It is important that the Committee, FFA Members, and the Secretariat continue to build on the momentum of the reforms that have been undertaken to date. This is not going to be easy because of the backdrop against which FFA Members are attempting to manage the resources. Already within the WCPF Commission, there has been a particularly strong push to wrestle the controls that FFA Members have over the tuna resources in their EEZs away from FFA Members. This is being done through the WCPF Commission albeit in a very subtle way through the introduction of measures that effectively take the control that FFA Members have away from them.

The greatest strength that FFA Members have is in collaborating, cooperating with one another and negotiating as a block translating into being able to see the bigger picture and how the broader, high-level policy issues impact on national fisheries development. Tuna is a highly migratory resource and no single country can purport to manage and conserve it effectively. It requires the cooperation of all stakeholders in the fishery. FFA Members therefore cannot afford to be complacent about where they have got to in terms of the controls over the fishery. They must continue to be proactive in a constructive way.



# FFA STAFF ESTABLISHMENT

(as at 31 December 2006)

## ATTACHMENT A

DESIGNATION	NAME	NATIONALITY
<b>Executive Management</b>		
Director-General	Mr S N.F. Tanielu *	Samoa
Deputy Director-General	Dr T Aqorau *	Solomon Islands
Personal Assistant – Director-General	Ms A Vave	Solomon Islands
Personal Assistant – Deputy Director-General	Ms C Murdoch	Solomon Islands
<b>Corporate Services</b>		
Director, Corporate Services	Mr D Rupokets *	Papua New Guinea
Manager Finance	Vacant *	
Planning Coordinator	Ms K Vave *	Fiji
Management Accountant	Mr R Rutepitu*	Solomon Islands
Manager HR & Administration	Ms W Ho *	Solomon Islands
Assistant General Fund Officer	Mr L Galo	Solomon Islands
Accounts Officer	Mr W Maesugea	Solomon Islands
Assistant Trust Fund Officer	Ms G Haro	Solomon Islands
Accounts Assistant	Ms G Konia	Solomon Islands
Assistant Finance Officer	Mr J Huta	Solomon Islands
Accounts Payable Officer	Ms R Maeke	Solomon Islands
Personnel Services Officer	Mr G Keketaovia	Solomon Islands
Accounts Officer - Conference/Travel	Mr S Gu'urau	Solomon Islands
Conference Centre Assistant	Mr L Alufurai	Solomon Islands
Office Services Supervisor	Ms D Boso	Solomon Islands
Office Services Assistant 1	Ms S Olisukulu	Solomon Islands
Office Services Assistant 2	Ms E Suri	Solomon Islands
Tea Attendant/Cleaner	Ms I Mae	Solomon Islands
Driver/Courier	Mr A Aratara	Solomon Islands
Property Manager	Mr S Havea	Solomon Islands
Maintenance Officer	Mr J Tommy	Solomon Islands
Maintenance Assistant	Mr K Noda	Solomon Islands
General Hand 1	Mr S Wini	Solomon Islands
General Hand 2	Mr H Tolo	Solomon Islands
<b>Fisheries Development</b>		
Director, Fisheries Development	Mr L Rodwell *	Australia
Fisheries Economics Adviser	Dr C Reid *	Australia
Fisheries Economics Officer 1	Vacant *	
Fisheries Economics Officer 2	Vacant *	
Fisheries Development Adviser	Ms A Hamilton *	Australia
Fisheries Development Officer 1	Mr W Lakain *	Papua New Guinea
Fisheries Development Officer 2	Vacant *	
Industry Liaison Officer	Vacant *	
Trade Liaison Officer	Vacant *	
Fisheries Development Policy Specialist	Mr M Batty *	United Kingdom
Project Coordinator	Mr T Tabe *	Solomon Islands
Tuna Industry Adviser	Mr M Nakada *	Japan

\* Denotes Professional Staff. Out of a total of 36 professional staff, 7 are females and 29 males.

The positions shown in italics (Tuna Industry Adviser and Fisheries Enforcement Adviser) are not FFC established positions.

DESIGNATION	NAME	NATIONALITY
<b>Fisheries Management</b>		
Director, Fisheries Management	Vacant *	
Fisheries Management Adviser 1	Mr S Shanks *	Australia
Fisheries Management Officer 1	Mr M Kamatie *	Kiribati
Fisheries Management Officer 2	Vacant	
Fisheries Management Adviser 2	Mr S Sloan *	Australia
Fisheries Management Officer 3	Mr S Sauni *	Tuvalu
Fisheries Management Officer 4	Vacant	
Commission Liaison Officer	Ms L Manarangi-Trott *	Cook Islands
Legal Counsel	Vacant *	
Legal Officer	Dr M Tupou-Roosen *	Tonga
Legal Officer (Prosecutions)	Ms J Gordon *	Solomon Islands
Compliance Policy Officer	Mr A Turaganivalu *	Fiji
Project Coordinator (OFM)	Ms B Hanchard *	Cook Islands
Fisheries Management Adviser (OFM)	Mr D Cameron *	Australia
Project Finance & Admin Officer (OFM)	Mr R Gholomo	Solomon Islands
<b>Fisheries Operations</b>		
Director, Fisheries Operations	Mr M Kroese *	South Africa
Manager, Information & Technology	Mr N Kapun *	Papua New Guinea
Senior Analyst Programmer	Mr G Mar *	Fiji
Database Administrator	Mr R Chand *	Fiji
Network Administrator	Mr G Porowai *	Solomon Islands
Data Quality Officer	Mr B Scott *	Australia
ITC Helpdesk Officer	Ms C Wini	Solomon Islands
Information Officer	Vacant *	
Librarian	Mr E Marahare	Solomon Islands
Observers Programme Manager	Mr K Staisch *	Australia
Assistant Observer Placement Officer	Mr A Orianiha'a	Solomon Islands
Observer Data Entry Officer	Ms J Kwainarara	Solomon Islands
Data Clerk	Ms D Kari	Solomon Islands
Surveillance Operations Officer	Mr L Pawut *	Papua New Guinea
Register Data Officer 1	Ms S Mauli	Solomon Islands
Register Data Officer 2	Ms G Harold	Solomon Islands
Manager, Vessel Monitoring System	Mr K Hurst *	Australia
Vessel Monitoring System Liaison Officer	Mr D Koroi	Solomon Islands
VMS Assistant Officer	Mr S Masika	Solomon Islands
VMS Administration Assistant	Ms H Panda	Solomon Islands
Fisheries Enforcement Adviser	Mr K Painter *	US of America
Multilateral Treaty Manager	Mr K Ruaia *	Kiribati
Project Development Officer	Mr D Papaol *	Papua New Guinea
Senior Treaties Data Clerk	Ms R Marsh	Solomon Islands
Treaties Data Clerk	Ms J Inito	Solomon Islands
PNA Coordinator	Mr A Jimwereiy *	Nauru

# FFA CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2006

## ATTACHMENT B

DATE	MEETING	VENUE
23-29 January	FFA/SPC Observer Coordinators Workshop	FFA Secretariat, Honiara
13 February – 3 March	Marshall Islands National Observer Training	Majuro, Republic of Marshall Islands
2 March	2006 Conference "Sharing the Fish" – Allocation Issues in Fisheries Management	Esplanade Hotel Fremantle, Western Australia
6-7 March	18th Annual Internal Meeting of the Pacific Island Parties to the US Treaty	Honolulu, USA
8-9 March	18th Annual Consultation between the Pacific Island Parties and the US	Honolulu, USA
20-24 March	Sub-regional Workshop 1: Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management	Port Vila, Vanuatu
23-24 March	DevFish Project Coordination Meeting (FFA/SPC)	Noumea, New Caledonia
27 March – 7 April	SPC Head of Fisheries Meeting	Noumea, New Caledonia
27-28 April	Subcommittee on Review of FFA Convention	FFA Secretariat
3-7 April	Sub-regional Workshop 2: Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management	Tokelau
3-7 April	Prosecution & Dockside Training Workshop	Pohnpei, Federated States of M
5-7 April	DevFish Private Sector Workshop #1	Apia, Samoa
24-27 April	EAFM Sub-regional Workshop	Apia, Samoa
8-12 May	Methodological Workshop on the Management of Tuna Fishing Capacity	La Jolla, California
8-18 May	Prosecution & Dockside Training workshop	Papua New Guinea
15-19 May	SPC/Nelson Polytec-Pacific Islands Fisheries Observer Training	Nelson, New Zealand
10 May (am)	25th Meeting of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA)	Tanoa International, Nadi
10 May (pm)	11th Annual Meeting of the Parties to the Palau Arrangement (PA)	Tanoa International, Nadi
11 May (am)	11th Annual Meeting of the Parties to the Palau Arrangement (PA)	Tanoa International, Nadi
11 May (pm)	11th Annual Meeting of the Parties to the Federated States of Micronesia Access Arrangement on Fisheries (FSMA)	Tanoa International, Nadi
12 May (am)	11th Annual Meeting of the Parties to the Federated States of Micronesia Access Arrangement on Fisheries (FSMA)	Tanoa International, Nadi
12 May (pm)	VDS Committee meeting	Tanoa International, Nadi
13 May (am)	DEVFISH Project – Steering Committee	Tanoa International, Nadi
13 May (pm)	GEF Steering Committee Meeting	Tanoa International, Nadi
15-18 May	FFC61 Officials Meeting	Tanoa International, Nadi
19 May (am)	FFC61 Ministerial Meeting	Tanoa International, Nadi
19 May (pm)	FFC61 Ministerial PNA	Tanoa International, Nadi
23-25 May	2006 CROP Remuneration Review	Forum Secretariat, Fiji
19-20 June	Forum Trade Officials Meeting (FTOM)	Tanoa International Hotel, Fiji
3-14 July	Prosecution & Dockside Training workshop	Papua New Guinea

DATE	MEETING	VENUE
4-5 August	FFA Science Working Group	Manila, Philippines
7-18 August	2nd regular session of the Scientific Committee	Manila, Philippines
22-23 August	EAFM Scoping Exercise	Koror, Palau
28 August – 1 September	FFA/FAO Port State Enforcement Workshop	Nadi, Fiji
4-6 September	Devfish Tuna Industry Meeting	Tradewinds Hotel, Lami, Fiji
11-13 September	2nd regular session of the Northern Committee	Tokyo, Japan
25-27 September	MCS Working Group (PreTCC2)	Brisbane, Australia
28-30 September	2nd regular session of the Technical and Compliance Committee	Brisbane, Australia
October	2nd Meeting of the Oceanic Fisheries Management Project Regional Steering Committee	FFA Secretariat, Honiara
2-6 October	Prosecution & Dockside Training workshop (Fiji/Tuvalu)	Fiji
5-14 October	Management Options Workshop & Special FFC62	FFA Secretariat, Honiara
23 October	SIS Leaders' Summit	Fiji
24 October	Pacific ACP Leaders Summit Official opening of the 37th Pacific Islands Forum	Fiji
25 October	Forum Leaders Retreat	Fiji
26 October	37th Pacific Islands Forum	Fiji
27-28 October	18th Post-Forum Dialogue Partners Meeting	Fiji
27 November – 1 December	National Fisheries Officers Surveillance Course	FFA Secretariat, Honiara
4-15 December	Prosecution and Dockside boarding workshop	Port Vila, Vanuatu
4-8 December	Officials Special 63rd Forum Fisheries Committee Meeting (Pre-Comm3)	Apia, Samoa
11-15 December	3rd Regular Session of the WCPF Commission	Apia, Samoa

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

## ATTACHMENT C

<b>ACP</b>	African, Caribbean, Pacific	<b>mt</b>	metric tonne
<b>ANU</b>	Australian National University	<b>PA</b>	Palau Arrangement
<b>ATA</b>	American Tunaboat Association	<b>PACREIP</b>	Pacific Islands Regional Economic Integration Project
<b>AusAID</b>	Australian Agency for International Development	<b>PDF</b>	Project Development Fund
<b>CCAMLR</b>	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources	<b>PNA</b>	Parties to the Nauru Agreement
<b>CCSBT</b>	Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna	<b>PNG</b>	Papua New Guinea
<b>CI</b>	Conservation International	<b>PPAC</b>	Pacific Plan Action Committee
<b>c.i.f</b>	cost, insurance, freight	<b>RFMO</b>	Regional Fisheries Management Organisations
<b>CROP</b>	Council of Regional Organisation of the Pacific	<b>RIF</b>	Regional Institutional Framework
<b>DWFN</b>	Distant Water Fishing Nations	<b>ROP</b>	Regional Observer Programme
<b>EAFM</b>	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management	<b>SFP</b>	Fishery Products Sanitary
<b>EDF</b>	European Development Fund	<b>SIDS</b>	Small Island Developing States
<b>EEZ</b>	Exclusive Economic Zone	<b>SIS</b>	Small Island States
<b>EU</b>	European Union	<b>SOPAC</b>	Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission
<b>f.a.s</b>	free alongside ship	<b>SPC</b>	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organisation	<b>SPREP</b>	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
<b>FFA</b>	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency	<b>SPRFMO</b>	South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
<b>FFC</b>	Forum Fisheries Committee	<b>TCC</b>	Technical and Compliance Committee
<b>FOC</b>	Forum Officials Committee	<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>FSM</b>	Federated States of Micronesia	<b>UNFSA</b>	United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement
<b>FSMA</b>	Federated States of Micronesia Arrangement for Regional Fisheries Access	<b>VDS</b>	Vessel Day Scheme
<b>FTOM</b>	Forum Trade Officials Meeting	<b>VDSC</b>	Vessel Day Scheme Committee
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility	<b>VMS</b>	Vessel Monitoring System
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communication Technologies	<b>WCPF</b>	Western and Central Pacific
<b>ISP</b>	Internet Services Provider	<b>WCPFC</b>	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology	<b>WCPF Convention</b>	Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific
<b>IUCN</b>	The World Conservation Union	<b>WTPIA</b>	Western Tropical Pacific Island Area
<b>IUU</b>	Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing		
<b>MCS</b>	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance		
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding		
<b>MOW</b>	Management Options Workshop		
<b>MSC</b>	Marine Stewardship Council		
<b>MSWG</b>	Marine Sector Working Group (CROP)		

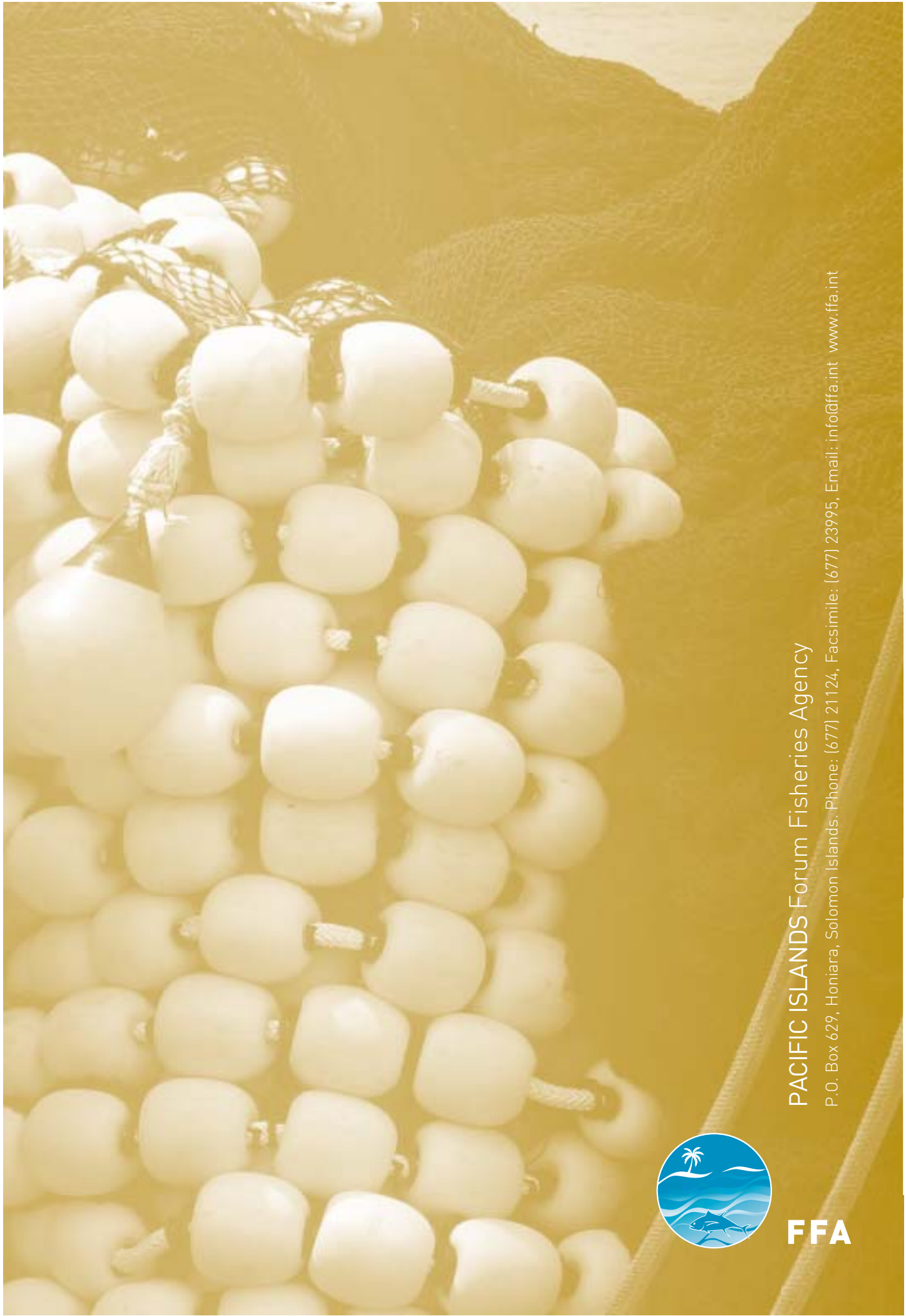
## MAP OF FFA MEMBERS



### Photographs by FFA Staff:

Amanda Hamilton, Mike Batty, Darren Cameron, Kakala Vave and PNG Observer, Philip Lens.

Produced for publication by Image Centre, Auckland, New Zealand.



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