



11TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

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COMM 11 – Report ANNEX 9i

International Labour Organization intervention

ILO intervention

Promoting better working conditions in the fishing sector has become a key element to achieve comprehensive sustainable development.

It's necessary to integrate the three core pillars of sustainable development into the international and national efforts to achieve sustainability, and this includes promoting better working conditions to the people working in the fishing sector.

Fishing is one of the most challenging and hazardous occupations. According to ILO's research, over 58 million people are engaged in the primary sector of capture fisheries and aquaculture. Over 15 million people are working full-time on-board fishing vessels.

Better working conditions also contribute to address unsustainable practices which are threatening the fisheries sector such as the IUU fishing and overfishing, and also considering the great work that this Commission is doing to achieve sustainable fisheries in the South Pacific, the establishment of a working group with the objective to identify opportunities and analyses potential actions to improve the promotion of better working conditions in the fishing sector, will definitely be another piece in the whole puzzle.

The above has also been done in other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, such as the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

The International Labour Organization aims to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection, and strengthen dialogue on work-related issues.

International labour standards guide States to promote and ensure better working conditions in the fishing sector. Labour standards compliance is key to build a sustainable supply chain in the fishing sector.

ILO has been supporting other initiatives in terms of promoting decent work in fisheries at National, Regional and International levels, including the participation in other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations.

As a result, a common knowledge on decent work in the fishing sector has been achieved by States which has also promoted the improvement of their capacities to take further actions in order to promote better labour conditions in the sector.

A great advantage for this Commission if CPCs support the creation of this working group as a way of showing the commitment that CPCs conforming the SPRFMO have in terms of promoting better working conditions for the fishing sector.

ILO stands ready to support SPRFMO by providing, if necessary, technical assistance and international expertise in this area.