

Second International Meeting on the Establishment of the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

**Hobart, Australia
6-10 November 2006**

REPORT

1. The Second International Meeting to discuss the establishment of a South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation was held in Hobart, Australia, 6-10 November 2006. It was chaired by the independent Chair, elected at the First International Meeting, Bill Mansfield.
2. The meeting adopted SP/02/Inf01 as its agenda.
3. The Chair reported that, as requested at the First International Meeting, he had circulated the draft text of an Agreement and draft text for interim arrangements. The meeting discussed the draft text of an Agreement (SP/02/WP01) and draft text for interim arrangements (SP/02/WP02). The meeting requested the Chair to circulate a revision of the draft text of an Agreement taking into account the comments participants had made on SP/02/WP01 during the meeting. The meeting requested that the revision of the draft text of an Agreement be made available well in advance of the next meeting.
4. The co-convenor of the Science Working Group (SWG), Neville Smith, reported on the intersessional work of the SWG and advised that a summary of the report would be made available on the website of the proposed South Pacific Fisheries Management Organisation (www.southpacificrfmo.org). Mr Smith advised that the SWG had completed most of the tasks assigned to it at the First International Meeting and had made substantial progress on the remaining tasks. He noted that work completed to date has allowed an improved understanding of the current fisheries in the area and provided a sound framework for future scientific tasks.
5. The SWG met during the Second International Meeting. Members of the SWG discussed the necessary future work required, including the progression of co-operative research programmes in the region, the acceleration of progress in improving understanding of the biology and the status of commercially important bycatch species. They also recognised the importance of liaison with the Data and Information Working Group.
6. The Meeting requested the SWG to complete or advance the tasks listed in Annex 1 of this report prior to the Third International Meeting. Participants were encouraged actively to participate in the work of the SWG, to provide relevant information to the SWG in a timely manner and to involve their respective scientists in the planned work. It was agreed that the intersessional work of the SWG would be led by co-convenor Neville Smith (science@southpacificrfmo.org).
7. The Data and Information Working Group met during the Meeting. Dean Swanson facilitated the working group. The Meeting adopted the report of the Data and Information

Working Group (Annex 2) and subsequently adopted a revised annex to that report (Annex 3).

8. The Meeting noted that the Third International Meeting to discuss the establishment of the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation would be held in Chile, 30 April-4 May 2007.

9. The meeting noted that the data and information working group would meet 23 April, 24 April, and during the morning of 25 April 2007, and that the science working group would meet during the afternoon of 25 April, and on 26 and 27 April 2007.

10. The Meeting noted that New Zealand would continue to provide secretarial services, including management of the website, in the intersessional period.

11. The Meeting discussed interim measures that might apply in the period prior to the entry into force of the proposed Agreement to establish a South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation. It was not possible to reach agreement on such interim measures at this Meeting but the Meeting agreed that the matter would be discussed further, with the aim of reaching agreement on such interim measures, at the Third International Meeting.

12. The Meeting closed at 5.30pm on 10 November 2006.

13. The Meeting was attended by those representatives who appear in the List of Participants (Annex 4).

Tasks to be completed intersessionally by the Science Working Group

It is intended that these tasks be completed largely by email and via the www.southpacificrfmo.org site. An iterative process will be required to complete these tasks comprehensively and in time for the next meeting. It is intended that a meeting be held immediately prior to the Third International Meeting on the Establishment of the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation to help complete these tasks.

1. Update as required the templates for target species, for habitat, and for associated and dependent species.
2. Follow-up on information offers from participants at the Second International Meeting on the Establishment of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation to inform its work.
3. Further develop the species profiles including identifying future research needs for:
 - a. Orange roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*);
 - b. Jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*);
 - c. Jumbo flying squid (*Dosidicus gigas*);
 - d. Blue mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*);
 - e. Oreos (*Oreosomatidae*);
 - f. Alfonsino (*Beryx splendens*);
 - g. Pelagic armourhead (*Pseudopentaceros richardsoni*);
 - h. Bluenose (*Hyperoglyphe antarctica*);
 - i. Toothfish (*Dissostichus eleginoides*);
 - j. Cardinalfish (*Epigonus telescopus*);
 - k. Wreckfish (*Polyprion americanus*, *P. oxygeneios*);
 - l. Rock lobsters (*Jasus caveorum*, *Projasus bahamondei*); and
 - m. As many other relevant species as possible.
4. Develop a template for compilation of historical catch and effort data in co-operation with the Data and Information Working Group.
5. Develop profiles using habitat template including identifying future research needs for:
 - a. Seamounts
 - b. Ridge/plateau areas
6. Develop further profiles using the associated and dependent species template including identifying future research needs for:
 - a. Seabirds
 - b. Corals
7. Maintain a list of habitats and associated and dependent species for profile development.
8. Review and comment on any submitted scientific proposals relating to the area.

Annex I (cont)

9. Participate, to the extent possible, in a proposed workshop to synthesise information describing secondary commercially-exploited demersal species across the Southern Hemisphere.
10. Co-operate on collaborative research proposals in the region (initial priorities include jack mackerel and jumbo flying squid).
11. Liaise closely with the Data and Information Working Group in particular on the development of specification of the science data requirements.

**Report of the Data and Information Working Group
Hobart, Australia
7, 8 November 2006**

1 The D&I Working Group recommended that the terms of reference for it be as follows:

The Data and Information Working Group shall in consultation with other working groups and subsidiary bodies of the SPRFMO consultations, and having regard to the existing standards of other RFMOs:

- 1) Identify the types of data to be collected;**
- 2) Develop standards for the collection, verification exchange and reporting of data;**
- 3) Develop standards for data security, and terms and conditions for making data available.**

2 The D&I Working Group discussed a process for developing the SPRFMO's data management arrangements and recommends a workplan to progress these issues as follows:

<p>By Chile meeting April 2007</p>	<p>(a) Agree on a [interim] list of data types that will be collected by the SPRFMO (b) Agree on standards for compiling and managing catch history and effort history data (c) Agree on standards for operational level catch and effort data for trawling, purse-seining and bottom longlining (d) Agree on standards for vessel authorisation (e) Agree on standards for data security and terms and conditions for access to data</p>
<p>By the 4th SPRFMO consultations</p>	<p>(a) Agree on standards for operational catch and effort data for other fishing methods (b) Agree on standards for trip report data (c) Agree on standards for landing and transshipment data (d) Agree on a work programme for subsequent years, which is likely to include the development of standards for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market (catch documentation) data • VMS data • Observer data, etc.

Annex 2 (cont)

3 Subject to approval by the Plenary, the D&I Working Group indicated that in order to accomplish the task assigned to it, an intersessional meeting would be needed. The group recommends that the Plenary approve such a meeting to be held before the next Plenary. The group discussed three possibilities for such a meeting:

- 1) 19-23 February 2007; or
- 2) at least three weeks before the next Plenary; or,
- 3) the week immediately preceding the SPRFMO consultations in Chile, April 2007.

4 The D&I Working Group had a discussion about the identification of data collection needs of high importance and urgent need. Australia undertook to use the SEAFO text as a basis to extract those elements of the SEAFO text that seemed to be of high importance and urgent need and bring that work back to the D&I Working Group. This work is attached as Annex 1 for further consideration in the Plenary. The sentiment was expressed that initially the data to be collected shall include total annual catch by species, by country and total number of vessels by country.

5 It was noted by the D&I Working Group that the uncertainty surrounding a potential central repository of collected data made their immediate and long-term planning and operation difficult. The group requested guidance on this issue and urged the plenary to consider this problem in respect of data collection:

- (i) in the immediate future (up to the Chile meeting); and
- (ii) in the longer term (both the interim period pending the Agreement's entry into force and once the Agreement becomes binding).

6 There is a need to elect a new Chair of the D&I Working Group.

Annex 1**AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL – IMMEDIATE MINIMUM DATA NEEDS**

States, territories, regional economic integration organisations and fishing entities that have carried out or carry out fishing activities for non-highly migratory fishery resources in the area will:

- (a) collect information on fishing activities in the area for non-highly migratory fishery resources, including current data on catch and effort, fishing vessel and fishing research vessel movements and catches as set out in Part 1 and Part 2 below; and
- (b) collate historical catch and effort data concerning fishing activities in the area for non-highly migratory fishery resources undertaken by their present or previously flagged fishing vessels and fishing research vessels; and

provide such data to the Data and Information Working Group two months prior to the next Meeting of the Parties, and thereafter at least once every year, in accordance with the standards specified by the Data and Information Working Group.

PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHING ACTIVITIES FOR NON-HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISHERY RESOURCES IN THE AREA

1. States, territories, regional economic integration organisations and fishing entities represented at the Second International Meeting should ensure that all fishing vessels and fishing research vessels flying their flag and authorised to carry out fishing activities in the area from 1 January 2007 keep a fishing logbook with consecutively numbered pages and, where appropriate, a production logbook, storage plan or a scientific plan.
2. Fishing logbooks should contain the following:
 - (a) each entry into and exit from the area;
 - (b) the cumulative catches by species (FAO 3 Alfa Code) by live weight (Kg), the proportion of the catch by live weight (Kg) retained on board; and
 - (c) for each fishing event:
 - i. catch by species in live weight (Kg), catch retained on board by species in live weight (Kg) and an estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded (Kg) by species;
 - ii. the target species and type of gear used (trawl, longline, purse seine, etc);
 - iii. the effort used (duration of tow, number of hooks etc);
 - iv. the longitude and latitude co-ordinates (10th of a minute) of the start and end of each fishing event; and
 - v. the date and time of the start and end of each fishing event (UTC); and
 - vi. the identity of the fishing vessel.
3. Fishing vessels, and if appropriate, fishing research vessels engaged in fishing activities which process and/or freeze their catch should either:
 - (a) record their cumulative production by species (FAO 3 Alfa Code), by live weight (Kg), and product form in a production logbook; or
 - (b) stow in the hold all processed catch in such a way that the location of each species can be identified from a stowage plan maintained by the master of the fishing vessel.
4. The quantities recorded in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 should correspond accurately to the quantities kept on board. The original recordings contained in the fishing logbooks and production logbooks should be kept on board the fishing vessel and if appropriate, fishing research vessel, for a period of at least 12 months. An electronic version of the information contained in the fishing log books and production logbooks should be made available to the Interim Secretariat within 6 months of the end of the calendar year in which the fishing occurred.
6. The Data and Information Working Group should collate the information received and circulate it in an appropriate form to the States, territories, regional economic integration organisations and fishing entities represented at the Second International Meeting.

PART 2: VESSEL AUTHORISATION

States, territories, regional economic integration organisations and fishing entities represented at the Second International Meeting should:

Annex 2 (cont)

(a) authorise the use of fishing vessels entitled to fly their flags for fishing activities in the area and the use of fishing research vessels entitled to fly their flags for conducting fisheries research activities in the area; and

(b) by 31 March 2007 and thereafter on an annual basis notify the Interim Secretariat of all fishing vessels and fishing research vessels they have authorised to carry out fishing activities in the area. This notification should include for each fishing vessel and fishing research vessel:

- i. name of vessel, registration number, Lloyd's IMO number (if allocated), previous names (if known), and port of registry;
- ii. previous flag (if any);
- iii. International Radio Call Sign (if any);
- iv. name and address of owner or owners;
- v. where and when built;
- vi. type of vessel;
- vii. length;
- viii. name and address of operator (manager) or operators (managers) (if any);
- ix. type of fishing method or methods;
- x. moulded depth;
- xi. beam;
- xii. gross register tonnage; and
- xiii. power of main engine or engines.

DATA COLLECTION

States, territories, regional economic integration organisations and fishing entities that have carried out or carry out fishing activities for non-highly migratory fishery resources in the area will:

- (a) collect information on fishing activities in the area for non-highly migratory fishery resources, including current data on catch and effort, fishing vessel and fishing research vessel movements and catches as set out in Part 1 and Part 2 below; and
- (b) collate historical catch and effort data concerning fishing activities in the area for non-highly migratory fishery resources undertaken by their present or previously flagged fishing vessels and fishing research vessels; and

provide such data to the Data and Information Working Group two months prior to the next Meeting of the Parties, and thereafter at least once every year, in accordance with the standards specified by the Data and Information Working Group.

PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHING ACTIVITIES FOR NON-HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISHERY RESOURCES IN THE AREA

1. States, regional economic integration organisations, territories and fishing entities represented at the Second International Meeting should ensure that all fishing vessels and fishing research vessels flying their flag and authorised to carry out fishing activities in the area from 1 January 2007 keep a fishing logbook with consecutively numbered pages and, where appropriate, a production logbook, storage plan or a scientific plan.
2. Fishing logbooks should contain the following:
 - (a) each entry into and exit from the area;
 - (b) the cumulative catches by species (FAO 3 Alfa Code) by live weight (Kg), the proportion of the catch by live weight (Kg) retained on board; and
 - (c) for each fishing event:
 - i. catch by species in live weight (Kg), catch retained on board by species in live weight (Kg) and, if possible an estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded (Kg) by species;
 - ii. the target species and type of gear used (trawl, longline, purse seine, etc);
 - iii. the effort used (duration of tow, number of hooks etc);
 - iv. the longitude and latitude co-ordinates (10th of a minute) of the start and end of each fishing event; and
 - v. the date and time of the start and end of each fishing event (UTC); and
 - vi. the identity of the fishing vessel.
3. Fishing vessels, and if appropriate, fishing research vessels engaged in fishing activities which process and/or freeze their catch should either:
 - (a) record their cumulative production by species (FAO 3 Alfa Code), by live weight (Kg), and product form in a production logbook; or

Annex 3 (cont)

(b) stow in the hold all processed catch in such a way that the location of each species can be identified from a stowage plan maintained by the master of the fishing vessel;

4. Collect data on the nature and extent of interactions with associated and dependent species, by species and area.
5. The quantities recorded in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 should correspond accurately to the quantities kept on board. The original recordings contained in the fishing logbooks and production logbooks should be kept on board the fishing vessel and if appropriate, fishing research vessel, for a period of at least 12 months. An electronic version of the information contained in the fishing log books and production logbooks may be made available to the meeting, and in any event, should be retained by the flag state in order that it may be made available to an appropriate institution once established by the Meeting.
6. The Data and Information Working Group should collate the information received and circulate it in an appropriate form to the States, regional economic integration organisations, territories and fishing entities represented at the Meeting.

PART 2: VESSEL AUTHORISATION

7. States, regional economic integration organisations, territories and fishing entities represented at the Second International Meeting should:

(a) authorise the use of fishing vessels entitled to fly their flags for fishing activities in the area and the use of fishing research vessels entitled to fly their flags for conducting fisheries research activities in the area; and

(b) by 31 March 2007 and thereafter on an annual basis notify the Meeting of all fishing vessels and fishing research vessels they have authorised to carry out fishing activities in the area. This notification should include for each fishing vessel and fishing research vessel:

- i. name of vessel, registration number, Lloyd's/IMO number (if allocated), previous names (if known), and port of registry;
- ii. previous flag (if any);
- iii. International Radio Call Sign (if any);
- iv. name and address of owner or owners;
- v. where and when built;
- vi. type of vessel;
- vii. length;
- viii. name and address of operator (manager) or operators (managers) (if any);
- ix. type of fishing method or methods;
- x. moulded depth;
- xi. beam;
- xii. gross register tonnage; and
- xiii. power of main engine or engines.