



International Consultations on the Establishment of the
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

1 September 2008

Dear Colleagues

The Fifth International Meeting on the Establishment of the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation requested the Chair to prepare a fourth revision of the draft text of an Agreement taking into account the comments participants had made on the third revision of that draft Agreement (SP/05/WP1) during the Fifth Meeting in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

I have now completed this revision and it is attached to this letter. It is also being posted on the website (www.southpacificrfmo.org).

In preparing this revision I have, as requested, endeavoured to take account of the discussions in Guayaquil and the various proposals – general and specific, oral and written – that have been made by delegations. I have also included some additional articles and annexes as a contribution to the completeness of the text. My hope as always is that this draft may move us closer to a consensus.

With regard to our upcoming meeting in Canberra, Australia, I believe we are most likely to make progress if we continue our work, as in Guayaquil, as much as possible in smaller working group mode where we can focus more quickly and effectively on the issues and the text. But as in Guayaquil I would expect to convene appropriately regular plenary sessions where reports on progress can be made to the larger group.

As in the past I would be pleased to receive any comments or suggestions from delegations by email (chair@southpacificrfmo.org), in particular regarding the most effective way of taking our work forward. I would also be happy to arrange by email a mutually convenient time for a telephone discussion if that is preferred. I will be arriving in Canberra on Saturday morning, 4 October, and will be available on Saturday afternoon and Sunday to meet informally with delegations.

I look forward to our next meeting in Canberra 6 -10 October and I would again encourage delegations to come prepared to negotiate to agreement on all

issues. I would also remind you that the Data and Information Working Group and the Science working Group will be meeting in the same venue during the previous week 29 September - 3 October.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Mansfield". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B'.

Bill Mansfield
Chair
International Consultations on the Establishment of the proposed South Pacific
Regional Fisheries Management Organisation