



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

6 April 2009

Dear Colleagues

The Sixth International Meeting on the Establishment of the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation requested the Chair to prepare a fifth revision of the draft text of a Convention taking into account the comments participants had made on the fourth revision of that draft Convention (SP/06/WP1) during the Sixth Meeting in Canberra, Australia.

I have now completed this revision (SP-07-WP-1) and it is attached to this letter. It is also being posted on the website (www.southpacificfmo.org).

In preparing this revision I have, as requested, endeavoured to take account of the discussions in Canberra 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 Lima, Peru, I believe we are most likely to make progress if we continue our work, as in Canberra and 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 Canberra and Guayaquil I would expect to convene appropriately regular plenary sessions where reports on progress can be made to the wider group.

As in the past I would be pleased to receive any comments or suggestions from delegations by email (chair@southpacificfmo.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 Lima on Thursday night, 14 May, and will be available to meet informally with delegations in advance of the meeting.

I look forward to our next meeting in Lima, 18 – 22 May 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 the previous week 11 – 15 May.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Mansfield". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Bill Mansfield

Chair

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Regional Fisheries Management Organisation