



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

Eighth International Meeting

SP-08-WP-02

Report of the Interim Secretariat

Introduction

The roles of the Interim Secretariat set out in the Reñaca Meeting Report are:

- (a) Data Management - The receipt, compilation, storage and dissemination (where appropriate) of data submitted by the Participants;
- (b) Document Management - The receipt, storage and dissemination of reports and documents submitted by the Participants;
- (c) Meetings - Providing assistance to the relevant host in organising meetings of the Consultations and of subsidiary bodies of the Consultations;
- (d) Website - The management of the contents of the SPRFMO website.

The offices of the Interim Secretariat are in a secure area of ASB House, 101-103 The Terrace, Wellington. [Contact details](#) are given on the SPRFMO web site.

Activities since the seventh meeting

Since May 2009, the Interim Secretariat has been involved in activities in each of the roles originally set out for it.

Since the seventh meeting additional data have been provided by participants and the report on data holdings that was requested at the sixth meeting has been updated.

The development of first stage of the new SPRFMO database has been completed but further acceptance testing is being carried out before it can be made available on the website. The development of a SPRFMO geospatial database of joint bottom trawl footprint, seamounts and VMEs, bathymetry and EEZ boundaries requested by the March 2008 meeting of the Scientific Committee is planned to be implemented in a later phase.

During the period the Interim Secretariat has maintained regular communications with the Participants on routine matters including those relating to data and meeting arrangements for the Seventh Round of meetings.

The website has been maintained as a vehicle for distribution of information and to facilitate meeting arrangements via its registration system.

Other activities

Liaison with other bodies

The Interim Secretariat has received and responded to requests for information on the activities of the international consultations from the United Nations Division of the Law of the Sea and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Budget

All figures are expressed in \$NZ (\$NZ 1 is approximately \$US 0.75)

The \$1 million provided by New Zealand to fund the initial operation of the Interim Secretariat and the funding of \$26,000 by China last year was mostly spent during the two initial years, but \$240,000 was carried over into the current financial year (ending 30 June 2010.) This year, participants have contributed \$219,000 (Table 1) and other funding has been pledged.

The expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2009, the expected expenditure for the current year (ending 30 June 2010), are shown in the table below.

The basic budget for the next financial year is a maintenance budget that assumes no change to staff numbers, nor significant new work on the database. The Science Working Group (SWG) has asked the Interim Secretariat to prepare budget proposals for the purchase of software for a geospatial database. The SWG paper (SP-08-SWG-04) has been provided in response. The entry-level system identified in the paper would cost \$13,500 to purchase, would require training costing \$5,400 and would incur an ongoing maintenance fee of \$3,713 in subsequent years. The purchase and training costs would, if agreed, add an additional \$18,900 to the budget.

Table 1: Income for year ended 30 June 2010	
Carry over from 2008-2009	\$240,000
Australia	\$99,885
Chile	\$26,142
China	\$31,097
United States	\$62,000
Total	\$459,124

Table 2: Expenditure for years ended 30 June 2009 and 2010

	Actual expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2009	Expected expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2010
Personnel cost	\$237,599	\$242,000
Information technology	\$12,784	\$20,000
Office occupancy	\$163	\$5,000
Plant and equipment	\$1,084	\$5,000
Travel and accommodation	\$61,088	\$65,000
Contracted services	\$98,407	\$40,000
Other operating costs	\$5,483	\$5,000
Building services	\$32,280	\$38,000
TOTAL	\$448,888	\$420,000

There are sufficient funds to continue the operation of the Interim Secretariat until July 2010.