

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE Fifteenth Session Electronic Meeting November 29 – 7 December 2021

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF OTHER FUNDS FOR 2021

WCPFC18-2021-FAC15-07 Rev 2 6 December 2021

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to table for the information of the FAC the income and expenditures of Funds other than the General Account Fund.

Introduction

2. The Commission's Financial Regulations 6.2 and 7.7 require a report to each Regular Session of WCPFC on the Special Requirements Fund (SRF) as well as any funds established by the Executive Director. The Commission has eight funds other than the General Account Fund which include:

- i) the Special Requirements Fund;
- ii) the Japan Trust Fund;
- iii) the Chinese Taipei Trust Fund;
- iv) the CNM Contributions Fund;
- v) the Voluntary Contributions Fund;
- vi) the West Pacific East Asia Project Fund; and
- vii) the Working Capital Fund.

Special Requirements Fund

3. The Special Requirements Fund (SRF) has been established in accordance with the Commission's Financial Regulation 7 for the purposes identified in Article 30 of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. As of 1 November 2021, the balance was:

Income	
• Balance brought forward from 2020	USD423,355
Donation from US	USD40,000

Donation from China	USD24,000
• Interest	USD84
Total Income	USD487,439
Less Expenditures	
Funded activities	USD78,450
Total Remaining	USD408,989

4. The activities funded out of the SRF for 2021 were:

- USD30,000 for Marshal Islands for FIMS development; and
- USD48,450 for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) to Support the Development of NORMA's Electronic Monitoring Program.

Japanese Trust Fund

5. The Japanese Trust Fund (JTF) was established in 2007 to facilitate management of funds provided by Japan to support "WCPFC Project on Capacity Building in Fisheries Statistics, Regulation and Enforcement for Small Island Developing States". As of 1 November 2021, the balance of the fund was:

Income	
Balance brought forward from 2020	USD272,661
Contribution from Japan	USD0
• Interest	USD26
Total Income	USD272,687
Less Expenditures	
Funded activities and fees	USD232,821
Total Remaining	USD39,866

- 6. The 2021 funded activities supported by the JTF include:
 - USD39,769 for Solomon Islands for training supporting Solomon Islands Electronic Monitoring (EM) Analysts to continue analyzing EM records from EM systems installed on longline fishing vessels;
 - USD41,291 for Solomon Islands for training of Solomon Islands fisheries observers on the Electronic Reporting Observer eObs application;
 - USD39,515 for Tonga Support and maintain high level data collection and to improve management of tuna fisheries in Tonga;
 - USD37,800 for Tonga for Capacity building and strengthening of Tonga National Observer Program;

- USD5,697 for Tonga for Capacity building and strengthening of Tonga's Fisheries Legal Section; and
- USD51,287 for Vanuatu for Capacity building and strengthening of Tonga's Fisheries Legal Section.

Chinese Taipei Trust Fund

7. The Chinese Taipei Trust Fund established in 2017 to facilitate management of funds provided by Chinese Taipei to support projects for capacity building in Small Island Developing States. As of 1 November 2021, the balance of the fund was:

Income	
• Balance brought forward from 2020	USD741,344
• Interest	USD143
Total	USD741,487
Less Expenditures	
• Funded activities and fees	USD174,007
Total Remaining	USD567,480

- 8. The 2021 activities supported by the CTTF include:
 - USD40,100 for Palau for Observer Recruitment and Training project;
 - USD31,400 for FSM for Development of Federated States of Micronesia's National Electronic Monitoring Program;
 - USD18,000 for PNA for the International Fisheries Observer and Monitoring Conference (IOFM); and
 - USD48,000 for Vanuatu for Strengthening of VMS Arrangements to Support Improved Tuna Longline Fishery Management and Control in Vanuatu Waters.

CNM Contributions Fund

9. The CNM Contributions Fund is used to hold funds from CNM Contributions and Observer Fees. As of 1 November 2021 the balance was:

Income	
• Balance brought forward from 2020	USD146,716
Assessed Contribution from CNMs	USD168,842
• Interest	USD56
Total Income	USD315,614
Less Expenditures	
• Funded activities	USD141,050

Current Year Uncollected from CNMS	Contributions	USD32,082
Total Remaining		USD142,482

10. The assessed and paid contribution for CNMs as of 1 December 2021 are as follows:

Cooperating Non-Member	2021 Assessed Contribution	2021 payments
Bahamas	USD22,982	USD22,969
Curacao	USD19,081	USD19,006
Ecuador	USD43,863	USD43,863
El Salvador	USD20,282	USD20,256
Liberia	USD13,001	USD13,001
Nicaragua	USD14,013	USD14,013
Panama	USD22,474	USD22,474
Thailand	USD19,472	USD19,472
Viet Nam	USD15,483	USD15,483

Voluntary Contributions Fund

11. The Voluntary Contributions Fund was established to manage contributions earmarked for purposes not catered for by any of the other funds or the General Account Fund. As of 1 November 2021 the balance was:

Income	
• Balance brought forward from 2020	USD2,133,047
Contribution from Korea for the Tuna Tagging Project	USD167,936
• Contribution from the USA for training for WCPFC-IATTC cross-endorsed observers and development and distribution of graphics illustrating the new cetacean bycatch guidelines	USD45,000
Contribution from the EU	USD151,492
• Contribution from ISSF for Non-entangling and biodegradable FADs	USD17,000
• Interest	USD322
Total Income	USD2,363,305

Less Expenditures	
Funded activities	USD440,010
Total Remaining	USD1,923,295

12. In 2020 the EU funded two projects that were approved after FAC14 and WCPFC17. The projects were for the assessment of blue sharks in the amount of USD41,337 and on Biodegradable FADs in the amount of USD454,518. The funding was provided in 2020 and the projects started in 2021.

Western Pacific East Asia Fund

13. This Fund facilitates management of the funds provided by New Zealand to finance the Western Pacific East Asia– Improved Tuna Monitoring Project. As of 1 November 2021, the balance was:

Income	
• Balance brought forward from 2020	USD2,310,609
• Interest	USD366
Total Income	USD2,310,975
Less Expenditures	
• Funded activities	USD533,365
Total Remaining	USD1,777,610

Working Capital Fund

14. The Working Capital Fund was established in accordance with the Commission's Financial Regulation 4.4 for the purposes of accommodating normal operating expenditures prior to receipt of assessed contributions from members of the Commission and to accommodate extenuating circumstances as approved by the Commission. As of 1 November 2021, the balance was:

Income	
• Balance brought forward from 2020	USD3,481,012
• Interest and other income	USD720
Total Income	USD3,481,732
Less Expenditures	
• Funded activities	USD1,350,000
Total Remaining	USD2,131,732

15. The Fund balance is above the level of USD1,000,000 which itself represents approximately 6 weeks' average expenditure. Member contributions are due approximately eight weeks into a new financial year. However, a small number of the Commission's members pay their assessed contributions on or before the due date.

Recommendation

16. The Committee is invited to note the status of the Funds.