



THIRD REGULAR SESSION
Apia, Samoa
11-15 December 2006

DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE SECRETARIATS OF
THE PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM FISHERIES AGENCY
AND
THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION

WCPFC3-2006-DP11
10th November 2006

Amendments proposed by Japan

The Secretariats of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the Executive Director of Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC);

Recognising the cooperative relationship between FFA and the WCPFC in respect of their responsibilities and activities in supporting the development, conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean;

Recalling that the function of the FFA as provided for in Article VII of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency Convention is, *inter alia*, to seek to establish working arrangements with relevant regional and international organisations;

Further recalling the FFA mission as defined by its Strategic Plan 2005-2020 is to support and enable its members to achieve sustainable fisheries and the highest levels of social and economic benefits in harmony with the broader environment;

Acknowledging that the objective of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean is to ensure, through effective management, the long term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the western and central Pacific Ocean;

Further noting Article 22.5 of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean which provides that the Commission may enter into relationship agreements with the organizations including the FFA with a view to obtaining the best available scientific and other fisheries-related information to further the attainment of the objective of WCPF Convention and to minimize duplication with respect to their work;

Desiring to put in place an arrangement to support the implementation of Article VII(e) of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency Convention and Article 22.5 of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean,

The FFA and the WCPFC Secretariats record the following understandings with a view to obtaining the best available scientific and other fisheries-related information and to minimize duplication with respect to their work;

1. The FFA is the lead agency with responsibility for advising and supporting its members on the

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development and implementation of policies for the conservation and management of stocks of highly migratory species within the areas under the national jurisdiction of its members, in conformity with the WCPFC Convention and its decisions;

2. The WCPFC is the international organization established under the WCPF Convention to ensure, through effective management, the long-term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the western and central pacific ocean in accordance with the 1982 Convention and the Agreement;

3. In order to maximise the effectiveness of the scientific, compliance and policy activities, FFA and WCPFC agree, within the scope of the Article 22.5 of the WCPFC Convention, to exchange information relating to their activities and programmes of work on highly migratory fish stocks, associated and dependent species in the Pacific Islands region, subject to arrangements concerning the confidentiality of information held by each organisation.

5. WCPFC and FFA agree to hold a meeting between the Secretariats at least once-annually at a venue and time that minimises the cost of participation, for the purpose to exchange information, on activities of mutual interest and minimize duplication of their works.

6. Where necessary and at the request of either of them, any meeting can review this MOU and agree upon amendments to take effect upon signature by the Director-General of the FFA and the Executive Secretary of the WCPFC.

This MOU is effective upon signature by both parties.

Either party may terminate this MOU by giving twelve (12) months' notice in writing.

Signed and duly dated:

Feleti P. Teo
Director-General
Forum Fisheries Agency

Andrew Wright
Executive Secretary
Commission for the Conservation of Highly
Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and
Central Pacific Ocean

Date: _____

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o vessel monitoring systems;
o vessel registries;
o observer programmes;
o port State Schemes;
o procedures for verifying transshipment;
o compliance and compliance reporting;
o data, and data reporting and formats;
o procedures for boarding and inspection of vessels on the high seas;
o catch, fishing capacity and fishing technology;
o capacity building, especially in relation to the SIDS Special Requirements Fund;
o economic issues associated with regional tuna fisheries;
o meeting arrangements; and
o activities with other organisations.

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