

# Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association

C/- P.O. Box 2143, Kolonia,  
Pohnpei FM 96941  
Federated States of Micronesia

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Tel +691 320-8101; 320-8373 Fax 320-8373 Email: mbps@mail.fm

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October 25, 2005

Mr Andrew Wright  
Executive Director  
Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission  
Interim Offices, Congress Delegation Building  
Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941

Dear Executive Director Wright:

We respectfully request your kind consideration and assistance to accept this application for Observer status to be accorded to the Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association, for consideration by the Parties to the WCP Fisheries Management Convention, with a view to participate in the forthcoming Technical Compliance meeting and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Session of the Commission in Pohnpei from December 4 – 16, 2005..

The Pacific Islands Tuna Industry Association is comprised of the national commercial tuna industry associations from the Pacific Island Countries that are members of the Pacific Islands Forum. The Association was established at a meeting of tuna industry representatives from 11 of the 14 Pacific Island Countries that was held in Suva, Fiji, in September, 2004.

The principal purpose of PITIA is to organize the Pacific Islands commercial tuna industry to be a more effective player in regional fisheries management and development issues. The principal impetus to the creation of the Association was the evolution of regional tuna fisheries management toward the WCP FMC.

Attached is a copy of the Articles of Association, By-laws and its Non-Profit Corporate Charter issued by the President of the Federated States of Micronesia. The PITIA is registered in the Federated States of Micronesia because of the location of the WCPFC in Pohnpei.

It may be noted some countries are still in the process of creating national representative associations or are still organizing the existing industry associations under a single representative focal point representative mechanism. These on-going establishment arrangements do not obviate the authority with which the Association can act for its members nor the distinct experience, expertise and perspective that regional industry parties can bring into the WCPFC decision and implementation –process on behalf of the general regional domestic tuna industry.

It is also particularly noted that the WCP Fisheries Management Convention provides for special consideration to be accorded to the developmental needs of the small Pacific Island states, which would include the specific interests and needs of the domestic commercial tuna industry

*participants. The regional tuna industry players are confident that our own independent voice will be helpful to WCPFC governmental decision-makers to reach decisions that do give full and appropriate effect to the objectives and purposes that have already been agreed and set out of the Convention..*

*We look forward to your favourable assistance to accept this application and to the favourable decision of the WCPFC membership to accord our Association Observer Status.*

*Sincerely yours,*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James T. Movick', is written over a light pink rectangular background.

*James T. Movick  
Chairman  
PITIA Steering Committee*

*Cc     Mr Maurice Brownjohn OBE, Steering Committee Member  
         Mr Robert Stone, Steering Committee Member  
         Contact persons, PITIA Members*