



## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

### Eighteenth Session

Suva, Fiji (Hybrid)

27 November to 3 December 2024

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## REPORT ON THE STATUS OF OTHER FUNDS FOR 2024

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Submitted by the Secretariat

### Introduction and Purpose

1. This paper provides information on the incomes and expenditures of Funds other than the General Account Fund.
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 currently has the following seven funds other than the General Account Fund:
  - i. Special Requirements Fund
  - ii. Japan Trust Fund
  - iii. Chinese Taipei Trust Fund
  - iv. CNM Contributions Fund
  - v. Voluntary Contributions Fund
  - vi. West Pacific East Asia Project Fund
  - vii. Working Capital Fund

### Status of Funds

#### *Special Requirements Fund*

3. The SRF was 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 15 October 2024, the balance of the fund was:

| Income                            | Amount            |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance brought forward from 2023 | USD34,850         |
| Donation from Canada              | USD65,000         |
| Donation from China               | USD21,000         |
| Donation from USA                 | USD60,000         |
| Transfer from Fees and Trust Fund | USD100,000        |
| Interest                          | USD8              |
| <i>Total Income</i>               | <i>USD280,850</i> |

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Less Expenditures</b> |                   |
| Funded activities        | USD168,098        |
| <b>Total Remaining</b>   | <b>USD112,752</b> |

4. The activities funded out of the SRF for 2024 were:
- One SIDS participant to attend the 9th Joint IATTC-NC Working Group (JWG-09) and the 20th Northern Committee (NC20) in Hokkaido, Japan
  - Thirteen SIDS participants to attend SC20 in Manila, Philippines
  - Six SIDS participants to attend TCC20 in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia
  - Three SIDS participants to attend WCPFC21 in Suva, Fiji

*Japan Trust Fund*

5. The Japan 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 15 October 2024, the balance of the fund was:

| <b>Income</b>                     | <b>Amount</b>     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance brought forward from 2023 | USD35,451         |
| Contribution from Japan           | USD168,474        |
| Interest                          | USD16             |
| <i>Total Income</i>               | <i>USD203,941</i> |
| <b>Less Expenditures</b>          |                   |
| Funded activities and fees        | USD168,474        |
| <b>Total Remaining</b>            | <b>USD35,467</b>  |

6. The 2024 funded activities supported by the JTF include:
- USD50,000 for the South Pacific Group for Development of a Register of Fishing Rights and a Catch Estimation and Visualisation Tool to enable zone-based management of south Pacific albacore by the South Pacific Group
  - USD46,508 for Tonga for the support and maintain high level data collection and to improve management of tuna fisheries in Tonga, as well as providing timely feedback through monitoring programs on conservation of tuna Species (Port Sampling)
  - USD33,000 for Samoa for Enhancing Capacity and Strengthening Samoa National Observer Program
  - USD53,500 for Palau for Supplementing the continued Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring (ER/EM) Program for the Division of Oceanic Fisheries of the Bureau of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and the Environment.

*Chinese Taipei Trust Fund*

7. The Chinese Taipei Trust Fund was 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 15 October 2024<sup>1</sup>, the balance of the fund was:

| Income                            | Amount            |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance brought forward from 2023 | USD229,445        |
| Interest                          | USD118            |
| <i>Total Income</i>               | <i>USD229,563</i> |
| <b><i>Less Expenditures</i></b>   |                   |
| Funded activities and fees        | USD37,781         |
| <b>Total Remaining</b>            | <b>USD191,782</b> |

*Cooperating Non-Members (CNM) Contributions Fund*

8. The CNM Contributions Fund holds funds received from CNM's for their assessed contributions, and fees paid by Observer organizations for attending WCPFC meetings. As of 15 October 2024, the balance of the fund was:

| Income                            | Amount            |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance brought forward from 2023 | USD286,030        |
| Assessed Contribution from CNMs   | USD195,625        |
| Interest                          | USD81             |
| <i>Total Income</i>               | <i>USD481,736</i> |
| <b><i>Less Expenditures</i></b>   |                   |
| Funded activities                 | USD276,599        |
| <b>Total Remaining</b>            | <b>USD205,137</b> |

9. The assessed and paid contribution for each CNM as of 15 October 2024 is as follows:

| CNM                | 2024 assessed contribution | 2024 payments |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Curacao</b>     | 29,576                     | 29,501        |
| <b>Ecuador</b>     | 51,908                     | 51,908        |
| <b>El Salvador</b> | 26,649                     | 26,649        |
| <b>Nicaragua</b>   | 17,287                     | 17,262        |
| <b>Panama</b>      | 26,807                     | 26,807        |
| <b>Thailand</b>    | 23,162                     | 23,162        |
| <b>Viet Nam</b>    | 20,235                     | 20,235        |

<sup>1</sup> The Fund Manager has not yet issued a call for proposals for 2024.

### *Voluntary Contributions Fund*

10. 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 15 October 2024, the balance was:

| <b>Income</b>  | <b>Amount</b>       |
|--|---------------------|
| Balance brought forward from 2023                                | USD1,299,940        |
| Contribution from Canada <sup>2</sup>                            | USD132,126          |
| Contribution from the EU <sup>3</sup>                            | USD416,737          |
| Contribution from Korea for the Tuna Tagging Project             | USD148,969          |
| Contribution from Chinese Taipei for Climate Change Impact Study | USD20,000           |
| Contribution from the USA <sup>4</sup>                           | USD65,000           |
| Contribution from ISSF <sup>5</sup>                              | USD22,000           |
| Interest   | USD253              |
| <i>Total Income</i>  | <i>USD2,200,025</i> |
| <b><i>Less Expenditures</i></b>                                  |                     |
| Funded activities  | USD211,594          |
| <b>Total Remaining</b>   | <b>USD2,008,431</b> |

### *Western Pacific East Asia (WPEA) Fund*

11. This Fund facilitates management of funds provided by New Zealand to finance the Western Pacific East Asia– Improved Tuna Monitoring Project. As of 15 October 2024, the balance of the fund was:

| <b>Income</b>                     | <b>Amount</b>       |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Balance brought forward from 2023 | USD585,167          |
| Donation from New Zealand         | USD2,809,134        |
| Interest                          | USD98               |
| <i>Total Income</i>               | <i>USD3,394,399</i> |
| <b><i>Less Expenditures</i></b>   |                     |

<sup>2</sup> USD59,152 to Support the WCPFC Secretariat in the development of online application tool/s (i.e. dashboards) to facilitate members' awareness of reporting gaps; and USD72,974 to support for continuing the development and testing of online application tool/s (i.e. dashboards) to facilitate and support members awareness of reporting gaps and to commence the development of targeted guidance and learning aids.

<sup>3</sup> USD416,737 to support research into reproductive biology of tropical tunas for WCPFC stock assessment and enhancement of the western and central Pacific biodegradable FADs project.

<sup>4</sup> USD25,000 to support assessing the susceptibility of CMMs to the impacts of climate change; and USD40,000 conduct an external peer review of the Pacific bluefin tuna stock assessment.

<sup>5</sup> USD20,000 to support the EU project on Biodegradable FADs; and USD2,000 to support consultancy arrangements for the Electronic Monitoring and Electronic Reporting Intersessional Working Group Chair.

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Funded activities      | USD719,907          |
| <b>Total Remaining</b> | <b>USD2,674,492</b> |

*Working Capital Fund*

12. 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 15 October 2024, the balance of the fund was:

| <b>Income</b>                     | <b>Amount</b>       |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Balance brought forward from 2023 | USD2,134,125        |
| Interest and other income         | USD379              |
| <i>Total Income</i>               | <i>USD2,134,504</i> |
| <b><i>Less Expenditures</i></b>   |                     |
| Funded activities                 | USD800,000          |
| <b>Total Remaining</b>            | <b>USD1,334,504</b> |

13. 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 after the beginning of a new financial year. However, only a small number of the Commission’s members pay their assessed contributions on or before the due date (see [FAC18-2024-04](#) for an update of payment of Assessed Contributions for 2024).