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**FIJI – NOMINATION FOR WCPFC CHAIR**

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**WCPFC5-2008/DP30**

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08<sup>th</sup> December, 2008

Mr. Glenn Hurry,  
Chairman, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission  
and Managing Director, Australian Fisheries Management Authority  
P.O. Box 7051  
Canberra, ACT 2610

Dear Glenn,

**Subject: Nominee of the Fiji Government for WCPFC Chair**

First of all, I take this opportunity to express on behalf of the Fiji Government, our profound appreciation for the sterling contribution that you have made to the Commission during your tenure as its Chair. I join the unified voice of fellow Commission members in thanking you for your most able Chairmanship and in recognising your key role as a trail-blazer in steering the Organisation during its first few formative years.

The position of Chairman for the Commission will become vacant at the end of WCPFC5 and I have the honour to inform you of the decision of the Government of the Republic of the Fiji Islands to present Ambassador Satya N. Nandan as its candidate for the position. His Curriculum Vitae is enclosed hereto.

As you would know, Ambassador Nandan is presently serving as the Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority. This month marks the end of His excellency's tenure in that position.

Ambassador Nandan has had a long and distinguished career serving the Fiji Government as a Diplomat. He has also had extensive experience as an international civil servant through his many years within the UN system. His career with the UN bears special significance with regard to the WCPFC, and indeed it's Chairmanship, given the Ambassador's pivotal role in the difficult and protracted negotiation of the Convention of the Law of the Sea, its universal acceptance and application. He was also instrumental in establishing two of its subsidiary bodies

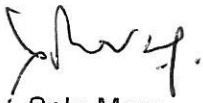
namely the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the International Seabed Authority. His appointment and/or election as Chair and President of the many associated Committees and Conferences throughout this time is testimony to the trust reposed in him as a fair and bold achiever in this very difficult area of international relations.

Ambassador Nandan is also an established lawyer and has lectured and written extensively on the Law of the Sea, the UN and related topics.

The Government of the Republic of the Fiji Islands is confident that Ambassador Nandan would not only make a significant contribution to the work of the Commission, but do so with a keen, firm and fair hand. I also sincerely believe that Ambassador Nandan is well suited to take up the mantle upon the conclusion of your tenure as Commission Chair.

I therefore present Ambassador Nandan as the candidate of the Government of the Republic of the Fiji Islands for the position of WCPFC Chair. I do so sincerely hoping that members of the Commission will indeed also endorse his candidature. I would also appreciate very much your assistance in notifying the WCPFC membership as appropriate.

Sincerely,



Solo Mara

**For Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs International Cooperation and Civil Aviation**



## Ambassador Satya N. Nandan



# FIJI

**Candidate to the Chair, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission**

Ambassador Satya N. Nandan is currently the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority. He was elected in 1996 and re-elected in 2000 and 2004. He served as Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea from 1983 to 1992. He was Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Fiji (1981-83) and Fiji's representative to the United Nations (1970-76 and 1993-96). Ambassador Nandan was also Fiji's Ambassador to the European Union, Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands (1976-1981).

In 1996 Ambassador Nandan was elected as the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority and was charged with the responsibility of establishing the Authority, developing its internal administrative structure, internal regulations and rules, establishing its main organs - the Assembly, the Council, the Legal and Technical Commission and the Finance Committee; guiding the development of Mining Regulations for the different types of mineral resources of the deep seabed, promoting marine scientific research and organizing scientific and technical workshops on deep seabed resources and the environment. The first ten years was a period for confidence building in the new regime for deep seabed mining, and the operations of the Authority. The Authority is now a fully functioning organization and is effectively discharging its mandate.

## [CURRICULUM VITAE]

From 1983 - 1992, as Under-Secretary-General and the head of United Nations Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea he was responsible for guiding the work of the Preparatory Commission for the establishment of the International Seabed Authority and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea.

As Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea he led a campaign for the universal acceptance of the Convention and for its uniform and consistent application in state practice. In 1990, he initiated, on behalf of the Secretary-General, a dialogue to resolve the outstanding issues relating to Part XI of the Convention and subsequently in 1993, as delegate of Fiji, was Chairman of the informal group (the "Boat Paper Group") that negotiated and drafted the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention adopted by the General Assembly on 28 July 1994. This Agreement resolved the outstanding issues and opened the door to universal participation in Convention.

Upon the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as the Representative of Fiji, he was elected the first President of the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Law of the Sea (1994 to 1996) and organized the first election of Judges for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (1996).

In 1993 he was elected Chairman of the United Nations Conference which successfully adopted the 1995 Agreement on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks. Subsequently, he chaired the Multilateral High Level Conference which negotiated the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (1997 - 2000).

He headed the Fiji delegation to the Seabed Committee, the Preparatory Committee for the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (1970 - 1973), and the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (1973 - 1982). He was among the Conference Leaders and played an active part in the negotiations on a number of most difficult issues during the protracted negotiations for the Convention.

## [CURRICULUM VITAE]

As Rapporteur of the Second Committee of the Conference (Maritime Jurisdiction of States and their Rights and Duties in those Zones), he composed the single negotiating text for the Chairman of the second Committee. He was a member of the Archipelagic and Islands States Group and negotiated the provisions of the Convention on those issues.

He also co-chaired a private informal group which negotiated the compromise on the critical issue of passage through straits used for international navigation and related "transit passage" and "archipelagic passage" regimes. In 1977, he was appointed Chairman of Negotiating Group 4 of the Conference which dealt with the participation by landlocked and geographically disadvantaged States in the exploitation of the living resources in the exclusive economic zones of neighbouring coastal states. He later chaired an informal group on the production policy relating to deep seabed mining.

He has participated in numerous international, regional and Commonwealth conferences and meetings and has lectured and written extensively on the Law of the Sea, the United Nations and related matters. He is a General Editor and Co-Author of the Law of the Sea Commentary series, a major reference work on the Law of the Sea consisting of six volumes of article by article commentary on the provisions of the Convention published by the University of Virginia Center for Oceans Law and Policy, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers.

He holds a Law degree from the University of London and is a Barrister-at-Law of Lincoln's Inn, England. He is also a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Fiji. He was a Visiting Distinguished Fellow at the US Institute of Peace (1992-93). He was awarded LL.D. (honoris causa) by the University of the South Pacific and the Memorial University of the Newfoundland. He received the Onassis Distinguished Scholar Award from the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, Greece in 2007.

He was honoured with the award of a C.B.E. in 1978. He received the honour of the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany from the President of Germany (1996) for "work in the service of the Law of the Sea and international relations". In 2001, he was awarded Fiji's highest honour, Companion of the Order of Fiji (C.F.)