



TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

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**United States Assistance Provided to SIDS as Related to Article 30 and other Relevant
Activities Related to Resolution 2008-01**

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Paper prepared by USA

United States Assistance Provided to SIDS¹ as Related to Article 30 and other Relevant Activities Related to Resolution 2008-01

During the past 12 months the United States has provided the following support to the WCPFC and various SIDS:

Direct contributions to the WCPFC:

- Additional contribution to the Article 30 fund².
- Support for SPC OFP and Pacific Island Country (PIC) participation in purse seine sampling meeting (Tokyo, March 2009).
- Financial and technical support for convening of observer debriefing standards meeting (Cairns, July 2009)
- Support for Pacific Island Countries to attend observer program coordinators meeting (location and dates to be determined).
- Support for WCPFC Regional Observer Program (ROP) Coordinator to travel to PICs' observer program offices for audits.
- Continued support for the Indonesia/Philippines Data Capacity Building Project.

Direct support to PICs for Observer Program Capacity Building Activities:

- Technical and financial support for observer program training and capacity building (through cooperation with FFA and SPC OFP), with Philippines, Indonesia, and Vanuatu.
- Technical and financial support for observer program training and capacity building under the Coral Triangle Initiative.

Direct support to PICs for Enforcement-related Activities:

- Active Ship Rider Agreements with Palau, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Kiribati, Cook Islands, and Tonga.
- Support for regional fishery enforcement efforts, including, but not limited to, Operation Island Chief (including the provision of vessels, aircraft and personnel).
- Support for in-country enforcement training (e.g., RMI).

Direct Support to PICs on projects of Interest:

- Cook Islands: 2nd year of support under a direct grant for swordfish tagging and research.
- Niue: Technical and financial support for wahoo tagging and biological research.
- Fiji: Support for loggerhead tagging project.

¹ Does not include support to Guam, American Samoa or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

² Prior to 2009, approximately \$220,000 USD has been previously provided to support the participation of SIDS in the work of the Commission through U.S. contributions to the Special Requirements Fund.

- RMI: Integration of marine turtle biology and conservation into grade school curricula on Majuro and Wotje Atolls.
- New Caledonia: Support for education/outreach projects conducted at the Aquarium Des Lagoons in Noumea, New Caledonia, and in New Caledonian communities, focused on loggerhead sea turtle issues.
- Solomon Islands: Assessment of existing marine turtle conservation program in Solomon Islands.
- French Polynesia: Outer island nesting green turtle sampling project.
- Indonesia: Papua/Indonesia leatherback turtle conservation and management support, including tagging studies.

Capacity Building and Related Efforts:

- RMI: Purse seine sampling contract and technical assistance.
- Federated States of Micronesia: Purse seine sampling contract and technical assistance.
- Support for the Micronesia Challenge and All Islands Committee.