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**EU REPORT ON ARTICLE 30 OF THE CONVENTION AND RESOLUTION 2008-01  
OF WCPFC**

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**Paper prepared by the European Union, December 2010**

# Report on Article 30 of the Convention and Resolution 2008-01 of WCPFC

Presented by the European Union, December 2010

The EU indicated its strong support for this reporting process when it was agreed at WCPFC6 and already presented a preliminary report on the matter at TCC6. We also welcome the inclusion of this item early on the agenda of the Meeting and would like to thank FFA members for suggesting areas on which reporting could focus.

The main EU source of support to the Pacific region is the European Development Fund and for the period 2008-2012 some 42 million USD are allocated for fisheries projects in the Pacific to pursue the double objective of promoting sustainable management and ensuring maximum economic benefits for the region from these resources. The projects funded by the EU are in their majority implemented by the two regional agencies: FFA and SPC and directly benefit the work of WCPFC. In addition, individual EU Member States also provide assistance to the region, for example the Netherlands have in 2010 contributed nearly 26 000 USD to the WCPFC Western Pacific East Asia Oceanic Fisheries Management Project.

The projects funded by the EU are along 4 axes:

## **1. domestic industry development in the Pacific**

- 1.1. the DEVFISH project has just begun its second cycle with a budget of 11 million USD. DEVFISH contributes to the establishment of a policy and economic environment conducive to the further development of Pacific islands owned fishing and processing operations and to an increased contribution of foreign fleets to the economic development of those countries. On regional level it provides assistance with analysis, consultation and training on shared and common aspects of tuna development. On national level it helps strengthening the cooperation between government and private sector, understanding and complying with seafood safety requirements.
- 1.2. The EU as part of its WTO commitments provides SPS trade related technical assistance to Pacific countries, for example PNG. The EU contributes for funding the participation of representatives of Pacific island countries in work of the three international standard setting bodies in the fields of animal health, plant health and food safety and quality. Technical assistance is also provided under the Better Training for Safer Food Programme (BTSF) of the EU.
- 1.3. The EU has bilateral Fisheries Partnership Agreements with three island states in the Pacific, which contain explicit commitment that 'the Parties shall endeavour to create conditions favourable to the promotion of relations between their enterprises in the technical, economic and commercial spheres, by encouraging the establishment of an environment favourable to the development of business

and investments.' Those Agreements contain an important funding component for the fisheries sector of the partner countries.

**2. improved conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks through collection, reporting, verification, exchange and analysis of fisheries data and related information**

2.1. The ongoing SCIFISH Project implemented by FFA of a value of 9 million USD is focused on enhanced oceanic fisheries monitoring and enhanced stock assessment with a strong contribution of the project towards the development of WCPFC conservation and management measures, national tuna management plans and regional tuna stock assessments.

2.2. Among the completed projects, let us mention the COFISH project which provided funding for Niue, Nauru, Palau, FSM, Marshall Islands and Cook Islands to develop database GIS for the comparative assessment of the reef fish resources, as well as for capacity building for technical fisheries assessment indicators for monitoring the status of reefs, handbooks and national reports for each country.

**3. stock assessment and scientific research**

3.1. the SCICOFISH project provides 12 and a half million USD for 4 years up to 2011. It is implemented by SPC-OFP and will provide much of the scientific basis for future decisions on management of tuna and related stocks in the WCPFC Convention Area. A number of documents submitted to SC6 this year were based on research funded by this project, including the Pacific Tuna Tagging Project.

**4. monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement, including training and capacity-building at the local level, development and funding of national and regional observer programmes and access to technology and equipment**

4.1. Under the SCICOFICSH project the EU contributes to the enhancement of the ROP of WCPFC: during the first half of 2010, 8 workshops for training of observers and training in port sampling were held in FSM, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, PNG from which 109 new observers were trained for deployment. Another training workshop for observer debriefers was held in July. 4 participants (from Kiribati, Tuvalu and Tokelau) were introduced to the WCPFC fishery data collection procedures.

4.2. This project has also funded the purchase and instalation of new network servers in Palau, Kiribati, Nauru and Tuvalu to support the observer programmes.

4.3. The EU also funded the strenghtening of existing technologies and trial of new technologies for improvement of detection of IUU fishing.

4.4. The DEVFISH II Project improves capacity at the national and regional level to monitor and combat IUU fishing. Activities include real-time exchange and joint operations with the navies of the US, NZ, AUS and FR. It also includes integrating fishery data with the FFA's EOPS system for at-sea surveillance.

The EU strongly supports the process of reviewing the steps taken in recognising the special requirements of Small Island Developing States and Territories. The EU will continue to report regularly on relevant new initiatives.