



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Pohnpei, FSM
9-17 August 2011

**REPORT OF JAPAN TRUST FUND
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**
16 August 2011

**WCPFC-SC7-2011/JTF-IP13
16 August 2011**

Report of Steering Committee Meeting of Japan Trust Fund

Prepared by JTF Coordinator

The Steering Committee (SC) of the Japan Trust Fund (JTF) was held on 16 August 2011, during the SC7. The SC was attended by the SC members and most of the beneficiaries of the JTF. Inquiry about the fate of funding from Japan after termination of the current JTF was made, which would be dealt in the "Other Issues" section of the agenda (WCPFC-SC7-2011/JTF-IP-02).

1) Review of the project performance

Coordinator of the JTF, Dr Ziro Suzuki, noted that 2011 is the last year of the JTF that lasted the last five years. He briefed to all participants about the change of beneficiaries from the major roles played by SPC and FFA in early period to more roles from individual small island developing States (SIDS), although SPC and FFA continued to play their important roles. It was also mentioned that the change was mutually beneficial for both the SIDS and SPC/FFA because more people in SIDS were able to be involved in the project activities and SPC/FFA were provided detailed feedback from the SIDS on individual projects.

The meeting was followed by a series of brief oral reports from FSM, Samoa, Philippines, PNG, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands, Tonga, SPC, Nauru and the WCPFC Secretariat on behalf of WPEA OFM Project. Most of the beneficiaries acknowledged the importance and usefulness of the JTF and kept in touch with the SC as to the progress and problems, if any. Many SIDS appreciated the JTF and noted that the monitoring of their artisanal fisheries was very important but lack of funding support has been their problem. In this regard, SPC mentioned that they would put more emphasis on monitoring and management of the artisanal fisheries in the WCPFC waters. Finally it was underlined that the provision of the reports was requirement of the JTF projects but the submission of the beneficiary's report has

been low. The JTF Coordinator urged the beneficiaries to follow timely provision of their reports.

2) Review of the SC membership

JTF Coordinator introduced the composition of the current SC membership and noted that there were no changes from the current SC membership. The SC members include JTF Coordinator, WCPFC Executive Director, SPC-OFP representative, FFA representative, beneficiary representative, and the donor (Japan Fisheries Agency).

3) Other Issues

In responding to the FFA's inquiry about the extension of JTF, JFA representative responded that a new 5-year JTF will be available with a similar level of funding support from next year. It is expected that an administrative procedure will be made soon between WCPFC and JFA. The announcement was welcomed by all participants and the final information will be made available to all CCMs.