

**OUTLINE SAP II PROJECT:  
NATIONAL PROJECT PREPARATION REPORTS**

***REPUBLIC of the MARSHALL ISLANDS***

**Foreword**

This brief report was prepared by Dr. Tony Lewis during a visit to Majuro from 21st to 26th June 2004. It aims to assemble information relating to RMI necessary for the preparation of the GEF SAP II Project document.

The main aims of the report are:

- To make an assessment of the implications of the WCPF Convention for RMI
- To identify possible interventions to support implementation by RMI of the WCPF Convention
- To make an analysis of the incremental costs to RMI of activities related to the Convention
- To undertake an analysis of stakeholders in RMI with interests in the regional oceanic fisheries resources
- To identify relevant consultative mechanisms in RMI for the GEF SAP II Project
- To collect information relating to available indicators of performance in areas related to the WCPF Convention and to the financial sustainability of RMI's participation in the Commission and implementation of the WCPF Convention

The report is based on available published information and information provided in the consultations with stakeholders listed in Annex 3.

**1. Background**

***1.1 Status of Oceanic Fisheries***

The Exclusive Economic Zone of Marshall Islands, lying between 5<sup>0</sup>N and 15<sup>0</sup>N, is large (2.1 million km<sup>2</sup>) and moderately productive, with over 50% of the zone bordering international waters to the east and west. RMI has opted to promote onshore development, transshipment and processing, rather than the development of its own domestic tuna fleet. RMI has had long-standing access agreements with a variety of countries and industry associations, and operates a vessel registry, with six (6) RMI-flag purse seine vessels currently on the register.

Catches taken by foreign vessels fishing in the zone under access agreements are significant - purse seine catches (various fleets) have been as high as 70,000t p.a., longline catch (mostly Japanese) to 7,600t and Japanese pole-and-line vessel catch to 18,000t, but total catches (all gears) are usually less than 40,000t in most years.

ENSO effects on purse seine catches, typically taken in the southern parts of the zone, are marked.

A base for locally-based foreign longline vessels has operated in Majuro at various times, and was recently reactivated. 29 vessels, mostly of Chinese origin, are currently fishing, landing over 2,000t of mainly bigeye and yellowfin for airfreight export through Honolulu to the USA and Japan. A small shark longline fishery (5 vessels) commenced in recent times

Large volumes of transshipment have occurred in Majuro in recent years, involving up to 400 vessels in some years and possibly 300,000t of fish, a significant proportion of the regional catch. A loining plant was established in 2000, to produce product for

eventual canning in PagoPago, and processes around 10,000t of fish p.a, employing 300 people.

Tunas and related species remain an important food source, especially in the outer islands. There is an active sport fishery in Majuro and to a lesser extent Kwajalein, for blue marlin, yellowfin tuna, sailfish, etc. which has attracted international recognition.

### ***1.2 Oceanic Fisheries Management***

The recently revised Marine Resources Act (1997) and associated Regulations establish the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA) and direct it to, *inter alia*:

“conserve, manage and sustainably develop all resources in the Fishery Waters and seabed and subsoil thereunder, in accordance with the principles and provisions in this Act and in sub-regional, regional and international instruments to which the Republic of the Marshall Islands is party”.

With respect to the conservation, management and sustainable use of the fishery resources, “the Authority shall ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources, and to this end shall adopt management measures which promote the objective of optimum utilization”.

Whereas many other PINs have prepared a Tuna Management and Development Plan that has required revision of legislation and the creation of new administrative structures, the RMI already has in place the legislation and the implementing body ie MIMRA. Nonetheless, MIMRA intends to finalize a Tuna Management Plan before the end of 2004, and has completed much of the preparation for this, with the assistance of FFA, SPC/OFP and others.

No formal management measures or limits currently apply to tuna fishing within the EEZ. Waters inside 12 nautical miles of all islands are closed to longlining, whilst waters inside 50 nautical miles around three heavily-populated islands (Majuro, Kwajalein, Arno) are closed to longlining. These closures primarily apply to the locally-based foreign longline fishery.

### ***1.3 Oceanic Fisheries Institutional Arrangements***

The Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA) is the primary agency responsible for oceanic fisheries management in RMI. The Division has a staff establishment of around 50 posts, and an annual operating budget of US\$1.4 million (which includes coastal fisheries and the Fisheries and Nautical Training Center). Within MIMRA, sections with responsibilities for oceanic fisheries include:

- Oceanic and Industrial Affairs Division: licensing, national fisheries database (data collection and statistics), research and monitoring (port sampling and observer programmes), international liaison, and collaboration in national MCS
- Administration and Finance, Policy and Planning : policy and administration

Overall, oceanic fisheries has the highest priority in the work of MIMRA, although this is not reflected in staffing numbers. Oceanic fisheries work comprises all of the work of the OIA Division. Institutional strengthening of MIMRA is proposed, in association with the adoption of the Tuna Management Plan.

Other government agencies involved in oceanic fisheries are:

- Sea Patrol Division of the National Police, Ministry of Justice, who operate the patrol boat *Lmor*, with assistance from the RAN Maritime Surveillance Advisor
- Foreign Affairs, Asia Pacific Desk, which is active in international aspects of fisheries policy, including work related to the WCPF Convention and other regional and international aspects of fisheries affairs
- Office of the Attorney General (Ministry of Justice), which provides legal advice on issues pertaining to oceanic fisheries management Ministry of Resources and Development – oversight Ministry for MIMRA, with the Minister as Chairman of the MIMRABoard
- Environmental Protection Agency, and Office of Environmental Planning and Policy Coordination

There is currently no formal mechanism for consultation with stakeholders on OFM issues, but this is envisaged under the forthcoming Tuna Management Plan. The Board of MIMRA includes representatives from relevant government departments and the private sector. Fisheries policy is largely driven by MIMRA, with the approval of the Board, and where legislative change is involved, the National Parliament (Nitijela).

The Office of Environmental Planning and Policy Coordination is responsible for broader aspects of environmental management, including marine pollution, whilst EPA is concerned with grass roots environmental issues.

#### ***1.4 Donor involvement***

There is some OFCF involvement (but in the coastal fisheries development area), and Australian (RAN) support of the patrol vessel programme.

#### ***1.5 Other Oceanic Fisheries Management Issues***

Other oceanic fisheries management issues that arose in the mission to RMI include:

- Maritime boundary delimitation
- Details of flag state responsibility
- The need for a national coordination mechanism for MCS activity
- The need for improved national database and scientific monitoring capacity
- Interaction issues in the RMI EEZ – longline impacts on the sportfishery and tourist dive operations, purse seine impacts on longline viability
- The need to improve the capacity to relate regional information and catch trends to local conditions, especially to improve understanding of the kinds of oceanographic effects that affect RMI tuna fisheries and associated levels of transshipment and onshore activity.

## **2. RMI and the WCPF Convention**

### ***2.1 Overview***

RMI's primary aims in the MHLC and Prep Con process have been:

- The need for conservation of the regional tuna resources of all species. RMI licences fleets of all the main gears, is committed to the continuing development of its tuna base, and is a flag state.

As a Member of the Commission and a Party to the WCPF Convention, major short term implications arising for RMI are seen as follows:

- i) The need to collect unloading data (transshipment and landings), and improve monitoring (port sampling) of the locally-based foreign longline fishery, and possibly vessels licensed under access.
- ii) Developing an authorization process for RMI-flag vessels
- iii) strengthening of institutional capacities in statistics, monitoring, surveillance and enforcement;
- iv) additional responsibilities associated with presenting RMI's interests in the Commission, and interpreting regional analysis and Commission decisions to stakeholders in RMI; compilation of annual reports to the Commission
- v) improving the pattern of participation and understanding by the private sector and other stakeholders in the processes of the Commission.

Overall, RMI has a well-developed oceanic fisheries management framework, with MIMRA in place since the mid-80s and key legal instruments recently revised to take account of UNFSA, but will need to continue to update and strengthen it to respond to emerging needs associated with the Convention and the new Commission.

## **2.2 Implications of the Convention**

### **2.2.1 Legal**

The MIMRA Act has recently been revised (1997) to implement the requirements of relevant regional and international instruments, including the UN Fish Stocks Agreement and those anticipated for the WCPF Convention, and is regarded as very strong with respect to fulfilment of international obligations. A recent study (Tsamenyi, 2003) confirms that the provisions of the Act do adequately implement conservation and international obligations under the two instruments, but not flag state responsibility, inspecting state obligations and port state enforcement measures. Regulations can be promulgated to implement these obligations, and draft regulations have already been prepared.

<b>Instrument</b>	<b>Status</b>
WCPF Convention	Ratified (2001)
UN Convention on the Law of the Sea	Ratified
UN Fish Stocks Agreement	Ratified
FAO Code of Conduct	Accepted
WSSD fisheries targets	Not formally adopted
Convention on Biological Diversity	Ratified
FAO Compliance Agreement	Adopted
FAO International Plans of Action	NPOA being implemented for shark
FFA Minimum Terms & Conditions	Implemented
Driftnet Convention	Ratified

RMI has adequate legal capacity in its government legal offices (AG), to which MIMRA has access. MIMRA would like to develop in-house legal capacity to deal with the range of issues which it confronts. There is a need to make sure that the legal provisions can be interpreted by stakeholders, which could be done through national

workshops. There is also a need to enhance prosecution capability and capacity in RMI, probably through a series of regional or sub-regional training workshops.

### **2.2.2 Policy/Institutional**

RMI has a well-developed oceanic fisheries management framework but it needs further reform and strengthening to take account of the development that has taken place, and to meet the additional responsibilities associated with the WCPF Commission. Specific needs include:

- Strengthening the Oceanic Division within MIMRA, to include a Compliance Manager, additional IT staff associated with the development of an integrated national fishery database, and a Senior Observer, with additional observers, to enable observer coverage to be increased to around 5-10% in the short term, and to allow transshipments and landings to be regularly monitored.
- the possible appointment of an economist to the Policy and Planning section of MIMRA

RMI's participation in the WCPF Commission will continue to be led by MIMRA and Foreign Affairs, with consultation (in future) with stakeholders under a consultative mechanism to be established under the TMP. The MIMRA Board presently provides an interim consultative mechanism.

The cost of financial contributions for RMI to the WCPF commission is expected to be in the range of US\$23,000 per year once the Commission is fully established, although it may be more in the first year or two if major fishing states delay becoming Members of the Commission.

Possible interventions identified in the area of policy and institutional reform and institutional strengthening include:

- assistance with the implementation of the suggested MIMRA restructure and training for observers and port samplers
- regional workshops and national attachments to improve understanding of the strategic directions and implications of the new regional tuna management arrangements.

### **2.2.3 Compliance**

Compliance activities are carried out by the Police Sea Patrol Division, with assistance from MIMRA, and ongoing technical support from the RAN. Sea Patrol operates one Australian-provided patrol vessel, the *Lmor*, with an annual target of 120 days of seagoing patrols.

Vessels are currently licensed annually by MIMRA. There is a good database of vessel and gear characteristics. Control of RMI vessels fishing outside RMI waters is an issue (currently 6 purse seine vessels, plus several other p/s vessels which base there but are not RMI flag). A formal process for authorisation of high seas operations needs to be developed, and there may be other issues associated with the operation of the MI open register. There is almost complete inspection of landings and transshipments, but unloading data are not available.

The FFA VMS is under the control of the Police and is operational, although there is limited capacity within RMI to maintain and service VMS operations.

With RMI largely surrounded by productive international waters, there is believed to be an issue with IUU fishing in contiguous waters, and possibly in the northern parts of the EEZ. RMI operates one patrol vessel, and is assisted by periodic air patrols by Australia and New Zealand (although there has been a recent decline in the frequency of the former). The issue of whether RMI will undertake high seas patrols under the Convention has yet to be fully considered. RMI is involved in collaborative surveillance operations with its neighbours to the west (eg Operation Bigeye – FSM and Palau, and the forthcoming Operation Island Chief), undertakes contracted surveillance around Kwajalein Atoll, and also been approached by Nauru to contract patrols in its own zone, and possibly adjacent high seas areas.

Possible interventions in the compliance area include:

- technical assistance to strengthen enforcement and regulatory capacity, including building capacity in controlling RMI vessels outside RMI waters;
- support to collaborative surveillance operations with other Pacific Island states, both in-zone and on the high seas
- appointment of a compliance officer in MIMRA, to coordinate compliance activities and the compilation of various annual reports to the Commission

### ***Flag state responsibility***

A major new responsibility for RMI under the Convention is the need to regulate fishing by RMI vessels outside RMI waters. There are currently six large purse seiners on the RMI register (operated by the Trust Company) which fish widely throughout the region. There is currently no process of authorization for these vessels to fish on the high seas, and capability to discharge flag state responsibilities may be under-resourced at present.

### ***2.2.4 Monitoring***

There is a well-developed system for the collection and analysis of catch and effort data from all vessels licensed under access agreements, flag and locally-based foreign vessels. With the assistance of SPC, to whom scanned logsheet data are routinely sent, RMI has the capacity to produce catch and effort data by species/gear/fleet/area, as will be required by the Commission. Catches are however not yet fully verified.

There is an observer programme focusing on the locally based foreign longline vessels, RMI-flagged purse seine vessels, and FSM Arrangement vessels, managed by a full-time Observer and Port Sampling Coordinator. Coverage is currently low, but there is a firm commitment to increasing this to 5-10% in the short term, and 15-20% in the medium term. The observer programme is supported by SPC under the IW SAP Project and by the EU-Procfish Project (check).

There are elements of a port sampling programme, but establishment of the observer programme has been given priority at this stage. Regular port sampling of the locally-based foreign vessels should be undertaken as the first priority.

The large number of transshipments and landings in Majuro provides an excellent opportunity for catch verification; whilst these are currently inspected, some port sampling occurs, but unloadings information seems not to be routinely collected.

Possible interventions in the monitoring area include:

- development of a larger observer programme, with increased funding and a plan for eventual transfer of full costs to RMI (costs are partially met from observer levies in access agreements)
- advice on ensuring the expansion and ongoing funding of the port sampling programme
- commitment to monitoring of all transshipments and landings (unloadings data)

### **2.2.5 Scientific Analysis**

#### *Scientific Analysis*

RMI has well-developed capacity to provide scientific analysis of information related to oceanic fisheries, including regular reporting of catch and effort by fleet/gear/flag, as evidenced by the detailed and timely annual reports produced.

RMI provides strong support for regional monitoring and science programmes undertaken by the SPC/OFP

The regular flow of information from regional stock assessment work in a form useful for national fisheries management continues, but there will be an ongoing need for assistance in interpretation of the regional analyses. RMI will continue to rely on SPC in this area but also needs to continue to develop its national capacity.

There is an important need for long term scientific training. MIMRA has devoted considerable resources to the development of its staff in the OFM area.

#### *Ecosystem analysis*

The species taken as bycatch in oceanic fisheries are important in RMI as highly regarded food products, although landings seem to be small. RMI has some data generally on bycatch from the observer programme. Interaction issues are important in the RMI situation - between longline fisheries and the sportfishery and dive operations, and between purse seine and longline fisheries.

Large scale oceanographic changes have significant impacts on oceanic fisheries in and adjacent to the RMI EEZ, and thus transshipment activity. Improving understanding of these through current SPC work is valuable, and continuing that research is important.

Possible interventions in the science area include:

- Development of an integrated national tuna fisheries database, including the appointment of additional IT staff, and improved computer facilities and services
- Development of scientific capacity in the Oceanic Division
- Improved capacity to interpret oceanographic and regional stock assessment data.

### 3. Potential Contribution of SAP II Project

Potential areas in which the SAP II Project could contribute to assisting RMI in the implementation of national activities related to the WCPF Convention are summarised in the table below.

Activity	Incremental Actions	Possible Interventions
<b>Legal</b> Legal framework Support Commission participation Implement Commission decisions	Revisions to Regulations (drafted) Provide legal advice  Interpret legal requirements	Legislative action Regional Legal Workshops Prosecution workshops
<b>Policy</b> Participate in the Commission and new regional management arrangements  Strengthen In-Zone Management/ Provide data to the Commission	Commission financial contributions Commission meeting participation Additional FFA Meeting participation Improve statistical capacity and reporting capacity	Institutional Strengthening Regional Fisheries Management Training/Consultations Attachments  Enhance integrated national tuna fishery database
<b>Compliance</b> Increase IUU deterrence in-zone	Improve Fisheries Division Regulations and Enforcement capacity	Technical assistance for Sea Patrol Regional MCS WG participation MCS staff training Prosecution workshops
<b>Monitoring</b> Improve at-sea data  Improve catch /size composition data	Expand Observer Programme  Expand Port sampling, and unloading monitoring	Assistance to expand observer programme Ongoing in-country training and support of port samplers by SPC Plan for financial sustainability of monitoring activities
<b>Science</b> Improve understanding of oceanic resources and ecosystem	Strengthen national capacity to analyse national data Strengthen national capacity to interpret regional analyses	Long term training in fisheries science Ongoing support from SPC Training in analytical methods used in Commission science programme

### ANNEXES

- Annex 1 Incremental Cost/Co-financing Analysis
- Annex 2 Stakeholder Inventory and Analysis (including consultative mechanism inventory)
- Annex 3 Record of Stakeholder Consultation
- Annex 4 Indicator Availability
- Annex 5 Sustainability Analysis

## Annex 1 – Incremental Cost Analysis

### Summary

Theme	Total 2005-2009 Baseline	Total 2005-2009 Incremental
	(US\$ '000)	
<b>1 Law</b>	225	75
<b>2 Policy/Management*</b>	160	265
<b>3 Compliance</b>	2750	425
<b>4 Monitoring</b>	330	175
<b>5 Science</b>	450	200
<b>Total</b>	3925	1140

\* includes Commission contribution of US\$ 23,000 p.a. for 2005-2009

Marshall Islands, with its moderate tuna fishery, flag state responsibility and large scale transshipment activity, is committed to expanded monitoring, compliance and surveillance activity.

Co-financing estimates based on:

Policy/management: Institutional strengthening of MIMRA, participation in Commission and annual contribution

Law: Participation in Commission activities and regional training opportunities

Compliance: Flag state responsibility and increased seagoing surveillance

Monitoring: Expanded observer, port sampling and other monitoring programmes

Science: Database and hardware enhancement, additional staff

Donor Funding					
Theme	Donor	Project	Total 2005-2009 Baseline	Total 2005-2009 Incremental	
					(US\$ '000)
<b>Compliance</b>	Australia	Patrol Boat	?	?	

### Base Data

Institution	Programme	Theme	2004 Budget	%OFM	2004 OFM Budget
<b>MIMRA</b>	Executive Mgmt	Policy/Mgmt	220	10%	22
<b>MIMRA</b>	Oceanic and Industrial Affairs	Licensing and Data	100	100%	100
<b>MIMRA</b>	"	Monitoring	60	100%	60
	"	Compliance	30	100%	30
<b>Police</b>	Sea Patrol	Compliance	550	100%	550
<b>For Aff</b>	Asia Pacific	Policy/Mgmt	80?	25%	20 ?
<b>A.G.</b>		Law	500	10%	50 ?
<b>Total</b>					832 ?

**Details**

Theme	Institution	Programme	2004 OFM budget	2004 WCPF Increment	2004 Non- WCPF Baseline	2005-2009 Baseline	New WCPF Increment					Total Incr	
							2005	2006	2007	2008	2009		Total
<b>1 Law</b>	A.G.	Law	50	5	45	225	10	10	10	10	10	50	75
<b>2 Policy/Mgmt</b>	MIMRA	Executive	22	5	17	85	33	33	33	33	33	165	190
	For Aff	Asia Pacific	20	5	15	75	10	10	10	10	10	50	75
<b>3 Compliance</b>	MIMRA	Oceanic	30	5	25	125	25	25	25	25	25	125	150
	Police	Maritime	550	25	525	2625	30	30	30	30	30	150	275
<b>4 Monitoring</b>	MIMRA	Oceanic	60	5	55	330	30	30	30	30	30	150	175
<b>5 Science</b>	MIMRA	Oceanic	100	10	90	450	30	30	30	30	30	150	200
			832 ?	60	770	3925	168	168	168	168	168	840	1140

## Annex 2 - Stakeholder Inventory and Analysis (including consultative mechanism inventory)

### Stakeholder inventory data sheet *[and preliminary participation plan]*

Country: Republic of Marshall Islands  
 Date: 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2004  
 Data Recorder: Dr. Tony Lewis, alewis9@bigpond.com

Stakeholder	Representative/ post	Contact details	Description of Interests [factors that may influence participation]	Stakeholder analysis and preliminary participation plan		
				1 <sup>o</sup> s/holder [role in decision- making]	2 <sup>o</sup> s/holder [2-way flow of information]	Other [Keep informed]
Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority	Danny Wase, Director. Glen Joseph, Deputy Director.	PO Box 236, Majuro dwase@mimra.com gjoseph@mimra.com	Responsible body for OFM	X		
National Police - Sea Patrol Division	George Lanwi, Commissioner. Thomas Heine		Maritime surveillance	X		
Attorney General's Office	Polisese Bloomfield (Asst AG)		Legal inputs	X		
Foreign Affairs	Raynard Gideon, Secratray	Email: mfa@mfa.gov.ws	Policy cordination	X		
Office of Environmental Planning and Policy Coordination (OEPPC)	Yumi Crisostomo, Director	PO Box 15, Majuro oeppc@ntamar.net	GEF OFP	X		
Resources and Development	John Silk, Minister Frederick Muller, Secretary	PO Box 1727, Majuro mdsec@ntamar.net	MIMRA Board Chair	X		
The Trust Company	James Miyazoe, Joseph Bigler		Vessel registry		X	
Environmental Protection	John Bungitak,	PO Box 1322	Environmental		X	

## Annex 2 - Stakeholder Inventory and Analysis (including consultative mechanism inventory)

Agency	General Manager	Majuro eparmi@ntamar.com	oversight			
MI Ports Authority	Josephus Tiobech, Director	PO Box 154, Majuro miot@ntamar.com	Port management		X	
Transport & Communications	Jorelik Tibon, Secretary	PO Box 1079, Majuro			X	
Marshalls Billfish Club		PO Box 1139, Majuro	Sportfishing		X	
PM and O Processors	Eugene Muller		Tuna processing and shipping		X	
Pacific International Inc.	Jerry Kramer				X	
Koo's FC Ltd	Johnson Chuang		Fishing Co.		X	
MFIV	Jason Rui		Fishing Co.		X	
Pacific Magazine/MI Journal	Giff Johnson	PO Box 672, Majuro pacmag@ntamar.net	Media			X
Edgewater Fisheries			Fishing Co		X	
Clearwater Fisheries Inc.	James Movick	POBox 2143, Kolonias, Pohnpei, FSM	Fishing Co (FSM)		X	
LGCs (Majuro, Bikini, Enewetak, Kwajalein, Namo, Rongelap, Utirik)	Riley Alberter, Majuro		Coastal fisheries management		X	
USP			Training Provider			X
College of the Marshall Islands		PO Box 1258 Majuro	Training Provider			X
RAN, Maritime Surveillance				X		
Financial Institutions	MIDB					X
Chamber of Commerce						X
General Public						X

## Annex 2 - Stakeholder Inventory and Analysis (including consultative mechanism inventory)

### Inventory of Project-related national consultative mechanisms

Consultative body	Parent/host body	Representative/contact details	Area(s) of interest	Frequency of meetings	Members and affiliations
None yet – ad hoc only, but Board very inclusive	MIMRA Board		OFM	Quarterly	Minister, Resources and Development Attorney General Secretary, Foreign Affairs Two fisheries sector reps (Presidential appointment) Director, MIMRA (ex officio, and secretary)

*GEF SAP II Country Mission*

**RMI**

Primary Stakeholder Consultation  
Wednesday, 23rd June, 2004

The Mission to RMI held a stakeholders consultation at MIMRA headquarters on to discuss the development of the SAP II project. Those present were: Ms. Yumi Crisostomo (Office of Environmental Planning, and Policy Coordination (OEPPC), and GEF Operational Focal Point), Mr. George Lanwi, Commissioner of Public Safety, Mr. Raynard Gideon, Acting Secretary – Foreign Affairs, Mr. Posesi Bloomfield, Attorney Generals Office (asst AG); Mr. Sam Lanwi jr., Pacific Asia Desk – Foreign Affairs; Mrs. Emrina Bing Langidrik, Oceanic Affairs – MIMRA, and Glen Joseph, Deputy Director – MIMRA

Dr. Tony Lewis gave a presentation on the GEF process, the Convention and its implications for RMI, and the proposed SAP II project. The group then worked through the needs assessment and identified possible interventions for follow-up consultations on a direct individual basis with the agencies concerned.

Public Consultation  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2004

Dr. Lewis gave an awareness-raising presentation on the Convention, its implications for RMI and the region, and associated issues at the Robert Reimers Hotel fale (Mon Boknake). The public forum was attended by around a dozen participants from various bodies, in addition to the primary stakeholders (list can be supplied)  
Issues raised in discussion were:

- The need for industry and other stakeholders to participate in the work of the Commission and in particular to be represented at relevant meetings. A mechanism to facilitate this is required
- The purse seine lobby was significant and influential through the PrepCon process. It is important that the interests of the longline fishery are adequately represented in the work of the Commission
- A greater understanding of the affects of oceanographic conditions on tuna stocks is required
- The need to establish a consultative committee at the national level to facilitate the project

**Other direct consultations were held with:**

Foreign Affairs (Minister Gerald Zackios)  
Resources and Development (Minister John Silk)  
EPA (Ted Tazkwon)  
MIMRA (Director, Glen Joseph, DD Oceanic; Manasseh Avicks, PS & O Coordinator)  
MIFV (Jason Rui)  
OEPPC (Yumi Crisostomo, Deborah Barker)  
The RMI Trust (Joseph Bigler)

Koo's Fishing Co. Ltd (Joti Sauuel, Sharon Samson)  
 Pacific Magazine / MI Journal (Giff Johnson)  
 Marshalls Billfish Club

#### Annex 4 – Availability of National Indicators

Indicator	Availability	Current Status, if readily available
1. Coverage of:		
a) catch and effort logsheets: flag and foreign fleet	√	Close to 100%
b) catch and effort logsheets: lbf fleet	√	Uncertain ?
c) unloadings data (landings and transshipment)	√	N/a
d) port sampling of transshipment and unloading	√	Currently ad hoc for t/s, low for lbf landings
e) observers: lbf , flag and FSM fleets	√	Limited coverage
ef observers: foreign fleets	√	No coverage
2. Levels of budgets and staffing for these programmes	√	Needs to increase
3. Levels of fleet capacity and fishing effort	√	
4. Verified catch of target species	√	Catch estimates from logsheets only
5. Levels of mortality of related species, including bycatch, seabirds and sharks	√	

Note: this analysis does not include a range of national indicators which are known to be available for all countries such as status of legislation, undertaking of national reforms etc.

#### Annex V - Sustainability Analysis

Annual Access Receipts: Cash: US\$ 4 million  
 In-Kind: US\$

Annual In-Zone Catch Value:  
 (Data above to be estimated by FFA)

Annual Domestic Catch Value:

Annual Production Value (including value of processing): Catch US\$ .... Million, processing US \$8 million

Expected Annual Commission Contributions: US\$23,000

Estimated Annual Government Incremental Costs: US\$ ...,000