



FFA

**Forum Fisheries Committee
Twenty First Meeting**

Palikir, Pohnpei, Federated States Of
Micronesia, 25th July 1991

FFA Report 91/55

PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM FISHERIES AGENCY
P.O.BOX 629 HONIARA SOLOMON ISLANDS
TELEPHONE (677) 21124
FAX (677) 23995
WEB <http://www.ffa.int>

FORUM FISHERIES COMMITTEE
Twenty First Meeting

Palikir, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia
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RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

1.The Forum Fisheries Committee met in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia for its Twenty-First session on 25th July 1991. The meeting was attended by representatives from Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa. A list of participants is appended as Attachment A.

Opening of Meeting

2.The meeting was opened by the Vice President of Federated States of Micronesia, Honorable Jacob Nena. His statement is appended as Attachment B. Mr. Taniela H. Tufui, the representative of Tonga responded on behalf of delegates.

Election of Chairman

3.The representative from New Zealand, Mr. Gordon Shroff presided as Chairman for the meeting and, in accordance with established procedures, the representative of Niue, Mr. Tene S. Kingi was appointed Vice-Chairman.

Adoption of Agenda

4.The agenda appended as Attachment C was adopted.

Executive Appointments

5.The Committee, following the briefing by the Chairman on the terms of the appointment of Sir Peter Kenilorea as the new Director, endorsed the actions taken to date by the Chairman. The Committee welcomed the decision by the Solomon Island Government to confer limited privileges and immunities on Sir Peter Kenilorea and to waive income tax on his salary. The Committee endorsed the proposed response by the Chairman confirming that Solomon Island nationals recruited to the FFA are not eligible for payment of establishment and education allowances.

6.The Committee considered the matter of the appointment of a deputy director and confirmed the appointment of Mr. Andrew Wright for the position.

Multilateral Access Arrangements

7.The Director briefed the Committee on the progress of negotiations with the U.S. on an extension of the Multilateral Treaty on Fisheries. Noting the time constraints, which require agreement on an extension to be finalized by June 1992 and the fact that there are a few remaining issues to be resolved the Committee directed the Secretariat to proceed to arrange a further meeting with the U.S. for mid December when comprehensive negotiations are expected to take place.

European Community (EC) Multilateral Fisheries Access

8.Under the current uncertain circumstances and with the prime intention of advancing negotiation with EC, the Committee directed FFA secretariat to proceed with exploratory discussions with EC commission to expedite any agreement and to report regularly on all issues and actions required. The Committee further understood that a full negotiating session would result at an appropriate time.

Joint Surveillance and Enforcement

9.The Committee reviewed progress on the draft Treaty on cooperation in fisheries Surveillance and Enforcement. Taking into account the directive of 21st South Pacific Forum Meeting in Tarawa in 1989 that FFA investigate, promote and implement the design and development of an

integrated programme of Regional Fisheries Surveillance, the committee agreed that implementation of the Treaty was a matter of the utmost urgency. The Committee directed that the FFA Legal Counsel visit member countries experiencing difficulties with the Treaty before convening a special legal working group to consider outstanding issues.

United Nations General Assembly Resolution on Driftnet Fishing

10.The Committee considered and endorsed the introduction and conclusions of the South Pacific Regional report on driftnet fishing.

Adoption of Record of Proceedings

11.The Committee approved the record of Proceedings.

Close of Meeting

12.The Chairman thanked the Committee for its cooperation and forbearance in convening the meeting at short notice and under difficult circumstances. The meeting was then closed.

Attachment A

**FORUM FISHERIES COMMITTEE
Twenty First Meeting**

**Palikir, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia
25th July 1991**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

AUSTRALIA

Mr. Tony Godfrey-Smith
Director, South Pacific Multilateral Section
Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade

COOK ISLANDS

Mr. Aukino Tairea
Secretary of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Carl Hunter
Foreign Affairs Officer

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

H. E. Mr. Alik L. Alik
Ambassador
FSM Embassy, Fiji

Mr. Peter Sitan
Executive Director
Micronesian Maritime Authority

Mr. Lorin Robert
Acting Chief of International Asian Affairs
Department of External Affairs

FIJI

Mr. Robin Yarrow
Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Marieta Rigamoto
Acting Chief Assistant Secretary

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

KIRIBATI

Mr. Peter T. Timeon
Secretary for Foreign Affairs and
International Trade

Mr. Baraniko Baaro
Secretary of Finance and Economic Planning

MARSHALL ISLANDS

Mr. Jiba B. Kabua
Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Thomas Kijiner, Jr.
Undersecretary, for International Affairs

NAURU

Hon. Obeira Menke, MP
Acting Secretary for External Affairs

Mr. Leo D. Keke
Presidential Counsel

NEW ZEALAND

Mr. Gordon Shroff
Director, South Pacific Division
Ministry of External Relations and Trade

Mr. Rene Wilson
Deputy Director, South Pacific Division
Ministry of External Relations and Trade

NIUE

Mr. Tene Solo Kingi
Consul, Auckland

PALAU

Mr. Victorio Uherbelau
Director for Foreign Affairs

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Mr. Gabriel Dusava
Secretary for Foreign Affairs

H. E. Mr. Peter Tsiamalili
Ambassador
Papua New Guinea Embassy, Suva

Mr. Tarcy Eri
Director (Pacific)
Department of Foreign Affairs

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Mr. Wilson Ifunaoa
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade Relations

Mr. Robert Sisilo
Chief, Pacific Section
Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade Relations

TONGA

Mr. Taniela H. Tufui
Chief Secretary and Secretary to Cabinet

Mrs. Viela Tupou

**Principal Assistant Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

TUVALU

**Mr. Tauaasa Taafaki
Secretary to Government**

**Mr. Enele Sopoaga
Acting Secretary for Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Economic Planning**

VANUATU

**Mr. Jean Sese
Assistant Secretary, Economic Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs & External Trade**

**Mr. Paul Sami
Multilateral Aid Officer, Economic Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade**

WESTERN SAMOA

**Mr. Moses Pouvi Sua
Secretary for Foreign Affairs**

OBSERVERS

FORUM SECRETARIAT

**Mr. Don Stewart
Principal Advisor Operations**

SPC

Mr. Atanraoi Baiteke, OBE
Secretary General

SOPAC

Mr. Jioji Kotobalavu
Director

USP

Mr. Geoffrey Caston, CBE
Vice-Chancellor

FFA Secretariat

Mr. Philipp Muller, AM
Director

LIAISON

Mr. James Movick
National Fisheries Corporation

Opening Remark by the Honourable, Jacob Nena, Vice President of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Mr. Director, Philipp Muller, distinguished Delegates, Observers and guests at this special meeting of Forum Fisheries Committee.

I am happy to be called upon to officially open this special and Twenty First meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee, here in Palikir, Pohnpei. I understand this is the second time the Federated States of Micronesia has hosted this Committee Meeting since FFC eleven in 1986.

On behalf of the Government and the people of the Federated States of Micronesia, I extend to you once again our warm welcome to our Islands.

The Federated States of Micronesia is an Island Country with little natural land resource, but fortunate in Fisheries resources. Benefits from our fisheries resources are significant to our local economies, Governments and every day lives. FFA's role in advising on our policies to maximize our benefits is noted. We have room to increase our benefits from our fisheries resources and we look forward for further assistance from the FFA and cooperation from other FFA member countries to achieve our goals and objectives.

I understand that this is not the normal Annual Meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee, but a special meeting which has been arranged to coincide with the Forum Officials Committee Meeting.

This meeting is important as it will consider some very important issues including executive appointments, multilateral access arrangements and cooperation on surveillance and enforcement.

On the matter of executive appointment, I wish to take this opportunity to ask delegates to consider these very important issues very carefully. The FFA's reputation as an effective international organization speaks by its own achievements over the past decade. Its successes are mainly attributed to

excellent and dedicated staff. Along this note, I wish to acknowledge and congratulate the current Director, Mr. Philipp Muller, in leading the FFA during the past decade. He has guided the FFA with great skill as an administrator. Accordingly, my Government wishes to see continued the high calibre and excellence in performance of the Agency under the administration of the incoming Director and Deputy Director.

Sustaining our vast pelagic fisheries resource is of paramount importance and we believe a cooperative approach will be the most effective mean to protect that resource. I note that cooperation in Surveillance and Enforcement will contribute to the improvement of existing surveillance activities in the region.

I wish you a fruitful and expeditious meeting. There could be some difficult issues, but I am sure this Committee as always will find compromises to achieve mutual solutions.

I also trust that sometime after you take a break after this meeting, you take sometime off to see the Island of Pohnpei and enjoy some of Pohnpei hospitality and go fishing and not just talk fish tales.

It is with great pleasure that I declare the Twenty-First Forum Fisheries Committee meeting open.

FORUM FISHERIES COMMITTEE

TWENTY FIRST MEETING, FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

26TH JULY, 1991

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- A. Opening of Meeting**
- B. Election of Chairman**
- C. Adoption of Agenda**
- D. Method of Procedure**
 - 1. Executive Appointments**
 - Director
 - Deputy Director
 - 2. Multilateral Access Arrangements**
 - United States
 - European Community
 - 3. Joint Surveillance and Enforcement**
 - UNGA resolution on driftnet fishing
- E. Adoption of Record of Proceedings**

F. Close of Meeting