



14th SPC Heads of Fisheries Meeting
14–17 June 2022



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Update on the Governance of fisheries, aquaculture and marine ecosystems data provided to SPC by its members policy

FAME Secretariat

Background information and purpose

1. The Thirteenth SPC Heads of Fisheries Meeting (HoF13) was held as a virtual meeting from 1–4 June 2021 and members considered the draft FAME Data Governance Policy (<https://fame1.spc.int/en/meetings/254>). The draft policy was well received by Heads of Fisheries, with the following HoF13 recommendation:
 10. Heads of Fisheries:
 - a. *Welcomed* the development of a draft *Policy on the governance of fisheries, aquaculture, and marine ecosystems (FAME) data*.
 - b. *Agreed* to provide final feedback to FAME on the policy, with the intention of FAME seeking out-of-session endorsement from Heads of Fisheries as soon as feasible.
 - c. *Further agreed* for FAME to use the policy immediately, acknowledging that it provides clearer guidance to FAME staff on ensuring that members' data are managed correctly.
2. After engagement with several members who requested further time after HoF13 to consider the draft policy, all members agreed and endorsed the policy as presented to HoF13 without any modifications. SPC's Director-General approved the policy on 10 December 2021 and it came into effect on the 1 January 2022. The policy can be accessed through the following link <https://purl.org/spc/digilib/doc/o4wf6>.
3. In our consultations, one member requested that future HoF meetings be given the opportunity to provide feedback on the appendices of the policy after implementation with the expectation that they may need to evolve over time.
4. This Information paper therefore has the purpose of:
 - a. confirming the adoption of the FAME Data Governance Policy; and
 - b. providing members with the opportunity to provide any relevant feedback on the policy since its implementation, as required.