



Agenda Item: 22

Paper No: FFC118-WP.20

Title: Proposed FFCMIN18 and RFMM2 Arrangements and Agendas

Summary:

This paper provides an overview of the proposed 18th FFC Ministerial meeting (FFCMIN18) and 2nd Regional Fisheries Ministers Meeting (RFMM 2) arrangements and agendas for Members' consideration.

Recommendations:

The Committee is invited to:

- i. **Consider** the proposal for a virtual meeting of FFCMIN18 and RFMM2 at a date to be advised; and
- ii. **Consider and endorse** the draft agendas for the FFCMIN18 and RFMM2 Ministerial meetings (**Attachment A and B**);

FORUM FISHERIES COMMITTEE EYES ONLY

Introduction

1. The annual FFC Ministers Meeting and the Regional Fisheries Ministers Meeting agendas and arrangements are presented for consideration.

FFCMIN and RFMM Arrangements

Meeting Platform

2. Acknowledging the difficulties to convene a face to face meeting arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and national travel restrictions, the Secretariat proposes that Ministers meet virtually, via the ZOOM platform, with a very focussed agenda.

Timing

3. It is usual practice for FFCMIN and RFMM to be held prior to the Pacific Island Forum Leaders meeting to allow Ministers to discuss critical issues in relation to fisheries and provide key recommendations for Leaders to consider. The 51st Pacific Islands Forum Leaders is tentatively scheduled for 4 to 7 August 2021. In order to have Fisheries Ministers' Outcomes available for Leaders, the Secretariat proposes that the FFCMIN18 and RFMM2 be determined out of session with sufficient time to provide Ministerial outcomes to the PIF Leaders' meeting. .
4. The Secretariat proposes the following as a possible timetable:

Day	Meeting
Day 1 and 2	Special Officials FFC119 Meeting & RFMM Officials
Day 3 & 4	Forum Fisheries Committee Ministers Meeting (FFCMIN18)
Day 5	Regional Fisheries Ministerial Meeting (RFMM2)

5. The Secretariat recognises the extremely busy schedules of Ministers during this period, and it is therefore recommended that the meetings focus on key recommendations and that agenda items are prioritised.

Chairing Arrangements

6. Members are advised that, in accordance with the FFC Rules of Procedure, the role of Chair of the FFC meetings are rotated on an annual basis in alphabetical order. Fiji will assume the Chair of the FFCMIN and RFMM meetings. The Vice-Chair will be Kiribati.

FFCMIN and RFMM Agendas

7. Attachments A and B propose draft agendas for the FFCMIN18 and RFMM2 meetings. The FFCMIN18 draft agenda is targeted at key issues requiring Ministers' attention, direction and approval, including:
 - the impact of COVID-19 on the tuna fishery;
 - the impact of CC on tuna fishery;
 - safety of observers and crew;
 - key priorities for WCPFC;
 - Regional Longline Strategy and setting of zone based limits;
 - Update on renegotiation of the US Tuna Treaty;
 - Independent Review of progress in increasing sustainable economic returns from fisheries; and
 - the Director General's Annual Report.
8. The RFMM2 agenda, jointly developed with key partners, PIFS, SPC, PNAO and SPREP, focuses on key issues as per the Terms of Reference of the RFMM. These include:
 - the impact of COVID-19 on coastal fisheries;
 - Coastal fisheries and aquaculture;
 - Climate change - regional collaboration;
 - Impacts of Marine Pollution on Pacific Fisheries;
 - 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.
9. Members may wish to note that agenda items "Independent Review of progress in increasing sustainable economic returns from fisheries" and "2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent" for FFCMIN18 and RFMM2, respectively, are related to key decisions of Pacific Islands Forum Leaders, and it is important that Fisheries Ministers are provided with the opportunity to provide their collective views and recommendations to Forum Leaders on both of these processes.



FFA

Agenda Item:	4
Paper No:	FFCMIN18-INFO1
Title:	Draft Provisional Agenda

INTRODUCTION

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Election of Chair
3. Apologies
4. Adoption of Agenda

ANNUAL REPORTS

5. Director General's Annual Report
6. Fisheries Roadmap - Offshore Fisheries Report Card

KEY PRIORITIES FOR FORUM FISHERIES AGENCY

7. Impacts of COVID-19 on oceanic fisheries
8. Impacts of Climate Change on oceanic fisheries
9. Implementation of the Regional Longline Strategy
10. Safety of Observers and Crew
11. Priorities for WCPFC
12. Update on USTT renegotiation

OTHER MATTERS

13. Independent Review of Increasing sustainable economic returns from fisheries.
14. The 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.

MINISTERIAL RETREAT AND OUTCOMES

15. FFCMIN18 Communique including Priorities for Leaders

CLOSING OF MEETING

16. Date and Venue of the Next Meeting
17. Close of Meeting

SECOND REGIONAL FISHERIES MINISTERIAL MEETING

Agenda Item:	3
Paper No:	INFO1
Title:	RFMM2 Draft Provisional Agenda

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Apologies
3. Adoption of Agenda

SECTION 2: ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4. Coastal Fisheries - transiting to COVID-19 Recovery Phase
5. Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture - Priority issues and needs
 - i. Draft Coastal Fishery Report Card
 - ii. 12th SPC Heads of Fisheries Outcomes
6. Climate Change – Future Regional Actions
7. 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent
8. Impacts of Marine Pollution on Pacific Fisheries
9. Additional recommendations to Leaders

SECTION 3: MINISTERIAL RETREAT AND OUTCOMES

10. RFMM2 Communique including Priorities for Leaders

SECTION 4: CLOSE OF MEETING

11. Date and venue of next RFMM
12. Close of Meeting