

## 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (FAC)

Port Vila, Vanuatu, 14 to 18 February 2020

### FAC 7 – Doc 04.3

#### Status of SC (Scientific Support) Fund & DS (Developing States) Fund

Secretariat

### 1. Background

According to Financial Regulation 2.4 “For the budget categories “Scientific Support (SC) and Developing States (DS)”, unspent appropriations may accrue between financial years, up to a limit of \$50,000 for the SC and \$30,000 for the DS. Beyond these levels such funds shall be treated as surplus and transferred to the accumulated surplus account. The Commission will review these categories once the defined level has reached or after 4 years, whichever occurs first, and at least every four years thereafter.”

### 2. Status of Scientific Support (SC) Fund

In accordance with Financial Regulation 2.4, the Secretariat established a separate account for Scientific Support Fund in 2017. This Fund contains the accumulated unspent appropriations from previous Financial Years (since Financial Year 2015-2016) under the budget item for Scientific Support. The table below shows the year-to-date status of the Scientific Support Fund up to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Financial Year	Budget and Voluntary Contributions NZ\$	Expenses NZ\$		Remaining NZ\$
2015-2016	20 000	GITHUB	424	19 576
2016-2017	20 000	GITHUB	432	39 144
2017-2018	12 000	GITHUB	431	
		FAO ABN workshop	1 517	
		Invited experts to 5 <sup>th</sup> SC 2017	3 835	
		Invited experts to JM workshop 2018	15 899	
		<b>Subtotal expense for FY 2017-2018</b>	<b>21 682</b>	<b>29 462</b>
2018-2019	20 000	GITHUB	460	
		Invited experts & participation assistance, 6 <sup>th</sup> SC 2018	27 403	
		Squid - related research	5 000	
		Deep sea research	679	
		<b>Subtotal expense for FY 2018/2019</b>	<b>33 542</b>	<b>15 920</b>
2019-2020	20 000	GITHUB (July - December 2019)	195	
	29 230 <sup>1</sup>	Squid - related research (China, Peru)	12 150	
		Invited experts & participation assistance, 7 <sup>th</sup> SC 2019	20 185	
		<b>Subtotal Year-to-date Expense 2019/2020</b>	<b>32 530</b>	<b>32 620</b>

<sup>1</sup> The SPRFMO Secretariat received a voluntary contribution from China in the amount of NZ\$ 29,230. This voluntary contribution is intended to support squid sampling and genetic research in SPRFMO Convention area.



### 3. Status of Developing States (DS) Fund

Since 2015, the Developing States Fund has been used to support developing States Members to participate in the Commission's annual meetings and Scientific Committee's workshops/meetings. The table below shows the year-to-date expenses and status of this Fund (a separate account was established for this purpose in accordance with Financial Regulation 2.4 in 2017):

Financial Year	Budget NZ\$	Meeting/Workshop	Member Supported	NZ\$	Remaining NZ\$
2015-2016	18 000	The 4 <sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting	Cook Islands	6 130	9 697
			Cuba	2 173	
			<b>Subtotal expense for FY 2015-2016</b>	<b>8 303</b>	
2016-2017	20 000	The 5 <sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting	Cuba	1 555	18 420
			Peru	6 000	
			Vanuatu	3 722	
			<b>Subtotal expense for FY 2016-2017</b>	<b>11 277</b>	
2017-2018	15 000	The 6 <sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting	Cuba	1 430	18 415
			Vanuatu	10 458	
		The 6 <sup>th</sup> SC Workshop	Ecuador	3 117	
			<b>Subtotal expense for FY 2017-2018</b>	<b>15 005</b>	
2018-2019	20 000	The 6 <sup>th</sup> SC Meeting	Cook Islands	7 040	112
			Ecuador	3 540	
			Peru	7 510	
		The 7 <sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting	Cook Islands	5 196	
			Cuba	4 730	
			Ecuador	4 957	
			Peru	5 330	
			<b>Subtotal expense for FY 2018-2019</b>	<b>38 303</b>	
2019-2020	30 000	The 7 <sup>th</sup> SC Meeting	Cook Islands	7 925	19 752 <sup>2</sup>
			Ecuador	2 435	
			<b>Year-to-date subtotal expense for FY 2019-2020</b>	<b>10 360</b>	

### 4. Secretariat's Recommendation on Budget Categories — SC Fund and DS Fund

As at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019, the balance of Scientific Support (SC) Fund is NZ\$ 32,620 (limit of NZ\$ 50,000); and the balance of Developing States (DS) Fund is NZ\$ 19,752 (limit of NZ\$ 30,000).

In accordance with Financial Regulation 2.4 "The Commission will review these categories once the defined level has reached or after 4 years, whichever occurs first, and at least every four years thereafter".

The FAC is invited to consider recommending the Commission approving for the Financial Year 2020-2021 the proposed budget amount of NZ\$ 80,000 for Budget Category 8 Scientific Support<sup>3</sup> and NZ\$ 35,000 for Budget Category 9 Developing States (FAC7-Doc08).

<sup>2</sup> This amount has been fully committed to sponsoring the participation of Cuba, Ecuador and Peru in COMM8.

<sup>3</sup> The SC Multi-Annual work plan for 2020-21 budgeted NZ\$ 93,000 in order to deliver on Commission requests. Considering Financial Regulation 2.4 "unspent appropriations may accrue between financial years", the Scientific Support Category has been set accordingly in NZ\$ 80 000.