



Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation and the Technical Secretariat of The Network for the Exchange of information and Shared Experiences between Latin American and Caribbean Countries to prevent, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing

The Secretariat of South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (hereafter SPRFMO) and the Technical Secretariat of the Network for the Exchange of information and shared experiences between Latin American and Caribbean Countries to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (hereafter Network against IUU fishing of LAC);

Noting that the objective of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery. Resources in the South Pacific Ocean (hereafter SPRFMO Convention) is, through the application of the precautionary approach and an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources and, in so doing, to safeguard the marine ecosystems in which these resources occur;

Noting further that the Network against IUU fishing of LAC was created in the framework of the FAO TCP/RLA/3604 project "Strengthening capacities and measures to prevent, discourage and eliminate the fishing not declared, illegal and unregulated in the countries of Latin America" with the objective of facilitating the exchange of information and experiences for decision-making to prevent, discourage and eliminate illegal fishing, unregulated and unreported (IUU fishing) through cooperation between the participating countries; that the Network against IUU fishing of LAC is defined as a voluntary mechanism open to the participation of countries and intergovernmental organizations, who also agreed that the Technical Secretariat is assumed by the Government of Peru through the Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Ministry of Production;

Recognising that Article 31 of the SPRFMO Convention requires SPRFMO, inter alia, to cooperate, as appropriate, with other relevant organisations on matters of mutual interest and to seek to make suitable arrangements for consultation, cooperation and collaboration with such organisations;

Recognising further that Article 8(i) of the SPRFMO Convention provides that the SPRFMO Commission adopt measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing;



Acknowledging that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will provide technical assistance to the Network against IUU fishing of LAC and its Technical Secretariat for the achievement of its objectives;

Recognising that the Network against IUU fishing of LAC and the SPRFMO share a common interest in promoting actions to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing, contributing to the sustainable management of fishery resources;

Therefore, record the following Memorandum of Understanding (hereafter MoU):

1. OBJECTIVE OF THIS MEMORANDUM

The objective of this MoU is to facilitate, where appropriate, cooperation and coordination between the Network against IUU fishing of LAC and the SPRFMO ("the Participants") in order to advance their respective objectives, particularly with respect to preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing.

2. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The Participants should establish and maintain consultation and cooperation in respect of matters of common interest to both Participants. In particular the Participants intend to:

- i. Exchange meeting reports, information, documents and publications regarding matters of mutual interest, consistent with the information sharing policies of each Participant;
- ii. Exchange information in support of the work and objectives of both Participants, consistent with the information sharing policies of each Participant including, but not limited to, information on:
 - a) experiences on areas of common interest which should contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources;
 - b) initiatives promoted by the Participants to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing;
 - c) IUU Vessel Lists;
 - d) summary tables of Port Inspection reports received by year and authority (Member Pages Section of the SPRFMO web site);
- iii. Promote joint actions to strengthen regional and national capacities to fight against IUU fishing.

 The terms of reference of such joint actions, including the financial and technical aspects, should be decided prior to their inception;
- iv. Consistent with each Participant's Rules of Procedure, consider granting to representatives of the respective Participants, permanent reciprocal observer status in relevant Participant meetings.

Whenever appropriate, the Participants may, through appropriate channels, seek the cooperation of other entities with a view to promote the development of specific activities in the areas of cooperation listed above, including by concluding specific arrangements to promote joint initiatives.

3. CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

To facilitate effective development, implementation and enhancement of cooperation, the Participants may establish a consultative process between their respective Secretariats that includes, telephone, email and similar means of communications. The consultative process may also proceed in the margins of meetings at which both Participants' Secretariats are represented by appropriate staff.



4. MODIFICATION

This MoU may be modified at any time by mutual written consent of both Participants.

5. LEGAL STATUS

This MoU does not create legally binding rights or obligations. Each Participant should cover their own costs related to the implementation of this MoU.

The Participants should not use any report, press release, memo or any publication related to this MoU or the logo or name of the other Participant without their prior consent.

6. EFFECTS AND TERMINATION

This MoU should commence on the date of the second signature.

This MoU should operate for three (3) years. Before the end of the three years period, the Participants intend to separately review the operation of this MoU to decide whether it should be renewed.

Either Participant may terminate this MoU by giving six months' prior written notice to the other Participant.

7. AUTHENTIC TEXTS

This MoU is signed in duplicate with the English and Spanish versions being equally authentic and valid.

8. SIGNATURES

FOR THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION (SPRFMO)

FOR THE NETWORK FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND SHARED EXPERIENCES BETWEEN LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES TO PREVENT, DETER AND ELIMINATE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING

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Vice Minister of Fishing and Aquaculture of Peru

Place:

Date:

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