

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT



## ANNONCE DE RÉUNION

**TO :** Representatives of Governments and Administrations      **N° :** 12/03  
Routine Distribution

**RÉFÉRENCE :** PRO 93/26/3      **DATE :** 23 January 2012

**OBJET :** **12TH REGIONAL OBSERVER COORDINATORS' (AND TRAINERS) WORKSHOP**

### PURPOSE OF NOTICE

1. This is an invitation to attend the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) "12<sup>th</sup> Regional Observer Coordinators Workshop" to be hosted by the Fisheries Division of Tonga's Ministry of Agriculture & Food, Forests & Fisheries at the Loumaile Lodge from 13<sup>h</sup> to 17<sup>h</sup> February 2012.

2. This notice is a request to the Heads of Fisheries from SPC member country governments and territory administrations to nominate a person or persons responsible for day-to-day coordination of observer operations and who is directly involved in placement arrangements of fisheries observers in their National Observer Programmes, whether this person is termed an Observer Manager or an Observer Coordinator. Note that the workshop is to do with operations rather than policy although it is expected that the advice of those attending will be respected when national planning to do with fishery observers is being considered.

### NOMINATIONS

3. **Financial support** is available for the travel and attendance for one person. Additional country participants may be nominated and are encouraged to attend but their attendance will be at the nominating country's own expense. Indeed, Senior Debriefers or Debriefing Coordinators are encouraged to attend if they can find suitable extra support funding. All SPC/FFA members who wish to participate and who require funding for their representative to attend the workshop should make formal nominations to Dr John Hampton, Oceanic Fisheries Manager (email: [JohnH@spc.int](mailto:JohnH@spc.int) : fax +687 263818). Nominations should also be copied to the workshop organisers: Peter Sharples ([PeterBS@spc.int](mailto:PeterBS@spc.int)), Tim Park ([Tim.Park@ffa.int](mailto:Tim.Park@ffa.int)), 'Ana F. Taholo ([anataholo@gmail.com](mailto:anataholo@gmail.com)), John Kelly ([john.d.kelly@noaa.gov](mailto:john.d.kelly@noaa.gov)) and Anne Lefeuvre ([annel@spc.int](mailto:annel@spc.int)). Nominations should include the following information:

- Name (as in passport) and full contact details of nominee, including email address, telephone and fax numbers;
- Scanned copy of the passport page with passport number, date of expiry and place of issue;
- Nominee's position and main work duties within the fisheries administration.

## **PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOPS**

4. Traditionally this event provides a forum to ensure a harmonization of observer activities in tuna fisheries of the region where such harmonisation is an essential element to keeping costs down in our resource strapped industry. It also provides an opportunity for launching new fisheries observer related initiatives and to provide important peer review for such initiatives. The theme for this year's workshop will be *Debriefing: Maintaining The Momentum And Improving The Processes*. The workshop will thus provide an opportunity to highlight and review the progress made and the issues that need further discussion and resolution brought up during the 11<sup>th</sup> ROCW meeting.

5. A secondary but as important objective will be to discuss and design a plan of action to address issues on observer professionalism and accountability.

6. The ROCW is the preferred regional forum for constructive input and agreement into the planning of observer training during the year that follows.

7. This workshop also provides platform for a necessary overview of developments amongst regional organisations with respect to observer support and the operations of sub-regional observer programmes, particularly within the context of operating under a WCPFC ROP umbrella.

## **PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

8. A Provisional Agenda will follow shortly.

## **PRE-MEETING REQUIREMENTS**

9. Coordinators should:

- fill out the attached observer programme status summary and prepare themselves to speak for a few minutes ONLY on their programme's activities highlights in 2011.
- prepare papers on any issues on the agenda for which they have particular concern and short papers on any other observer related issue they would like to present to this forum.

## **MEETING OUTPUTS**

10.

- a) Coordinators will have an understanding of the current status of PIRFO Debriefing Training Standards and the place each country has within the agreed regional Debriefing Training strategy.
- b) Progress on development of tools designed to enhance the debriefing process will have been introduced to and reviewed by Coordinators and a report of their further expectations from those tools produced.
- c) Consensus on expectations for acceptable and non-acceptable observer behaviour and clear guidelines on how to address behaviour and events that bring disrepute to the integrity of the observer profession in a consistent manner within PIRFO programmes will be documented for higher endorsement.
- d) Accompanying the above document there will be a proposed plan of action for developing the necessary tools to support efforts to improve professionalism and accountability.
- e) Observer Coordinators will be happier people.

## LANGUAGE

11. The workshop will be conducted in English.

## ACCOMMODATION

12. A per-diem will be provided to the nominated officer. Hotel accommodation can be booked through the Tonga Fisheries Division but the payment of all costs will be the responsibility of each participant.

## TRAVEL

13. An economy class return ticket by the most economical route will be provided to all funded representatives. If participants choose to travel by a route other than the one proposed, all additional costs will be at their own expense. Travel orders cannot be issued until the official nomination has been received.

## MEETING CONTACTS

14. The following may be contacted for any additional information:

- Official nominations to: Dr John Hampton, Oceanic Fisheries Manager, SPC ([JohnH@spc.int](mailto:JohnH@spc.int))
- Travel issues to Anne Lefevre ([AnneL@spc.int](mailto:AnneL@spc.int))
- Administrative and visa issues, hotel bookings, etc., to: Kalo [kmanuopangai@gmail.com](mailto:kmanuopangai@gmail.com)); Tel: [+676 21 399](tel:+67621399), Fax: [+676 23 891](tel:+67623891).
- Agenda items, papers, various other enquiries, etc., to: John Kelly ([john.d.kelly@noaa.gov](mailto:john.d.kelly@noaa.gov)), Peter Sharples, ([PeterBS@spc.int](mailto:PeterBS@spc.int), fax +687 263818) or Tim Park ([Tim.Park@ffa.int](mailto:Tim.Park@ffa.int)).

## INSURANCE

15. SPC does not insure participants while attending or during travel to and from meetings and will not be responsible for expenses arising out of sickness, injury, other disability or loss of life. It is participants responsibility to ensure that their travel is covered by insurance.



Richard Mann  
Deputy Director General

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