



International Consultations on the Establishment of the
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

**Seventh International Meeting
Lima, Peru
18 - 22 May 2009**

Report of the Interim Secretariat

Introduction

The roles of the Interim Secretariat set out in the Reñaca Meeting Report are:

- (a) Data Management - The receipt, compilation, storage and dissemination (where appropriate) of data submitted by the Participants;
- (b) Document Management - The receipt, storage and dissemination of reports and documents submitted by the Participants;
- (c) Meetings - Providing assistance to the relevant host in organising meetings of the Consultations and of subsidiary bodies of the Consultations;
- (d) Website - The management of the contents of the SPRFMO website.

The offices of the Interim Secretariat are in a secure area of ASB House, 101-103 The Terrace, Wellington. [Contact details](#) are given on the SPRFMO web site.

Activities since the sixth meeting

Since October 2008, the Interim Secretariat has been involved in activities in each of the roles originally set out for it.

Some additional data have been provided by participants and the report on data holdings that was requested at the sixth meeting has been updated.

Selected modules of the new SPRFMO database have been developed. They will be available on the web site (data tab) in the months following the 7th round of meetings. Participants will be able to make confidential data submissions using the new database link. Different levels of security are provided for participants and for the general public. The database section of the web site will be demonstrated at the meeting of the Data and Information Working Group. The development of a SPRFMO geospatial database of joint bottom trawl footprint, seamounts and VMEs, bathymetry and EEZ boundaries requested by the March 2008 meeting of the Scientific Committee will be implemented in a later phase, but will require additional funding.

During the period the Interim Secretariat has maintained regular communications with the Participants on routine matters including those relating to data and meeting arrangements for the Seventh Round of meetings.

The website has been maintained as a vehicle for distribution of information and to facilitate meeting arrangements via its registration system. The web site has been upgraded.

Other activities

Liaison with other bodies

The Interim Secretariat has received and responded to requests for information on the activities of the international consultations from the United Nations Division of the Law of the Sea and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Budget

The expenditure for the first year of operation (ending 30 June 2008), the expended expenditure for the current year (ending 30 June 2009), and forecast expenditure for the next financial year (ending 30 June 2010) are shown in the table below (all figures are expressed in \$NZ.) The expected expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2009 (\$460,421) is less than that forecast in the Report of the Interim Secretariat at the 5th Meeting (\$643,000) because a third staff member was not engaged and there was lower than expected spending on computers and other operating costs.

The \$1 million provided by New Zealand to fund the initial operation of the Interim Secretariat was only partially spent during the year ending 30 June 2008, and the balance carried over in the current financial year (ending 30 June 2009.) In July 2008, China provided a voluntary contribution of NZ \$26,000 for the work of the Interim Secretariat. These funds will not be exhausted at the end of this financial year and \$240,000 will be carried forward into the 2009-10 financial year, which should fund operation of the Interim Secretariat into the second half of the financial year.

The budget for the next financial year has been developed assuming no change to staff numbers nor significant new work on the database.

	New Zealand \$ (\$NZ1=\$US0.55 approximately)		
	Actual expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2008	Expected expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2009	Expected expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2010
Personnel cost	\$160,409	\$237,644	\$240,000
Information technology	\$1,617	\$9,778	\$25,000
Office occupancy	\$30,459	\$217	\$5,000
Plant and equipment	\$2,753	\$1,451	\$5,000
Travel and accommodation	\$36,507	\$71,144	\$71,000
Contracted services	\$33,608	\$98,400	\$25,000
Other operating costs	\$6,913	\$5,277	\$5,000
Building services	\$48,047	\$36,510	\$38,000
TOTAL	\$320,313	\$460,421	\$414,000