

FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2011 ON THE STATUS OF THE ASSISTANCE FUND UNDER PART VII OF THE AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA OF 10 DECEMBER 1982 RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF STRADDLING FISH STOCKS AND HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS¹

June 2012

1. Introduction

In November 2003, the United Nations General Assembly, in Resolution A/RES/58/14, established an Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement), to assist developing States Parties in the implementation of the Agreement. It also decided that the Fund would be administered by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). On 19 April 2005, the Fund was established.² It is managed in accordance with the Fund's Terms of Reference and FAO's Financial Regulations as well as other applicable Rules.

2. Contributions to the Assistance Fund

The United Nations and FAO have continued to call for contributions to the Assistance Fund at international fora including Sessions of the United Nations General Assembly and the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) as well as on the Assistance Fund's Website.³

As at 31 December 2011 the Governments of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Lebanon, New Zealand, Norway and the United States of America, all States Parties to the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement, had made financial contributions to the Assistance Fund totalling USD 1,467,455. Table 1 shows contributions to the Fund together with accrued interest of USD 48,579. As at New York, NY, USA, 10018

Account No: 000156426
Swift/BIC: MRMDUS33
ABA/Bank Code: 021001088
Citing project MTF/GLO/124/MUL

¹ This report is provided in accordance with paragraph 22 of the Terms of reference for Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

² Account MTF/GLO/124/MUL "1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement – Part VII Trust Fund".

³ www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/fishstocktrustfund/fishstocktrustfund.htm Contributions to the Fund should be made to the trust fund account established by FAO in accordance with paragraph 7 of the Terms of Reference of the Fund.

3. Requests for Assistance from the Fund

Information about the existence and purpose of the Assistance Fund has been disseminated widely by the United Nations and FAO, including through electronic means, international meetings and contacts with relevant regional fisheries bodies. In 2011, 27 applications for travel were received. Of this total 15 requests were processed and funded (five of these requests were cancelled subsequently because a meeting for which they were approved was postponed). One application was not funded because the one month advance notice rule was not respected. A further 11 applications could not be processed and funded because of inadequate resources available in the Fund (January to June 2011).⁴ The total number of travel requests in 2011 (27 requests) was 42 percent lower than in 2010 (47 requests).

Table 2 provides details of expenditure from the Assistance Fund as at 31 December 2011. Expenditure is categorized according to the purposes for which assistance is permitted and administrative expenses, as reflected, respectively, in paragraphs 14 and 21 of the Fund's Terms of Reference.

In 2011 total expenditure from the Fund was USD 61,385 of which:

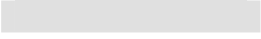
- a 85 percent supported participation in technical and annual sessions of regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna, Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization and the Y u d d — d B F

Table 2: 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement Part VII Trust Fund: Expenditure Account (USD) as at 31 December 2011⁵

TOR paragraph⁶	Expenditure category	2006 (%)	2007 (%)	2008 (%)	2009 (%)	2010 (%)	2011 (%)	Total expenditure (%)
14a	Expenses for participation in meetings and activities of relevant RFMO/As	20,421 (31)	30,657 (52)	51,596 (35)	78,370 (18)	131,297 (63)	51,939 (85)	364,280 (37)
14b	Expenses for participation in high seas meetings of global organizations such as UNDP, FAO, and other specialized agencies, GEF, CSD and other appropriate international and regional organizations and bodies	45,729 (68)	3,862 (7)	59,702 (41)	74,488 (17)			

**Table 3: 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement Part VII Trust Fund: Travel Expenditure (USD)
at 31 December 2011: Allocation by State Party**

Year	Country	Paragraph 14 ⁸					Total
		a	b	c	d	f	
2006	Fiji		3,967				3,967
	Guinea		6,394				6,394
	Maldives		3,063				3,063
	Marshall Islands		4,855				



**Table 4:1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement Part VII Trust Fund:
Letter of Agreement and Actual Expenditures (USD)**

Letter of Agreement	TOR paragraph	Expenditure			TOTAL
		2009 ⁹	2010	2011	
FFA 228536 Preparation of regional plan of action for the conservation and management of Sharks in the Pacific Islands	14 (d)	47,771	0	0	47,771
FFA 240142 Workshop on Proposed SPRFMO: awareness on roles and responsibilities capacity and participation of FFA members.	14 (c)	32,074	0	0	32,074
SPC 229962 Training Workshop: Third Tuna Data Management Workshop	14 (f)	24,205	0	0	24,205
SPC 232710 Training Workshop: Tuna Stock and Ecological Risk Assessment SPC 246282 Tuna Stock Data Workshops (April 2010): data reporting obligations to WCPFC regional stock assessments	14 (f) stock	49,936	0	0	49,936