

PIMRIS

Pacific Islands
Marine Resources
Information System

NEWSLETTER

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Editorial

Welcome to a new issue of the *PIMRIS Newsletter*.

I am pleased and proud to be editing this newsletter on behalf of the PIMRIS participants, having been appointed to the position of Coordinator in July. Ganeshan Rao set very high standards in this role for over a decade, so I believe the task ahead will be both challenging and rewarding.

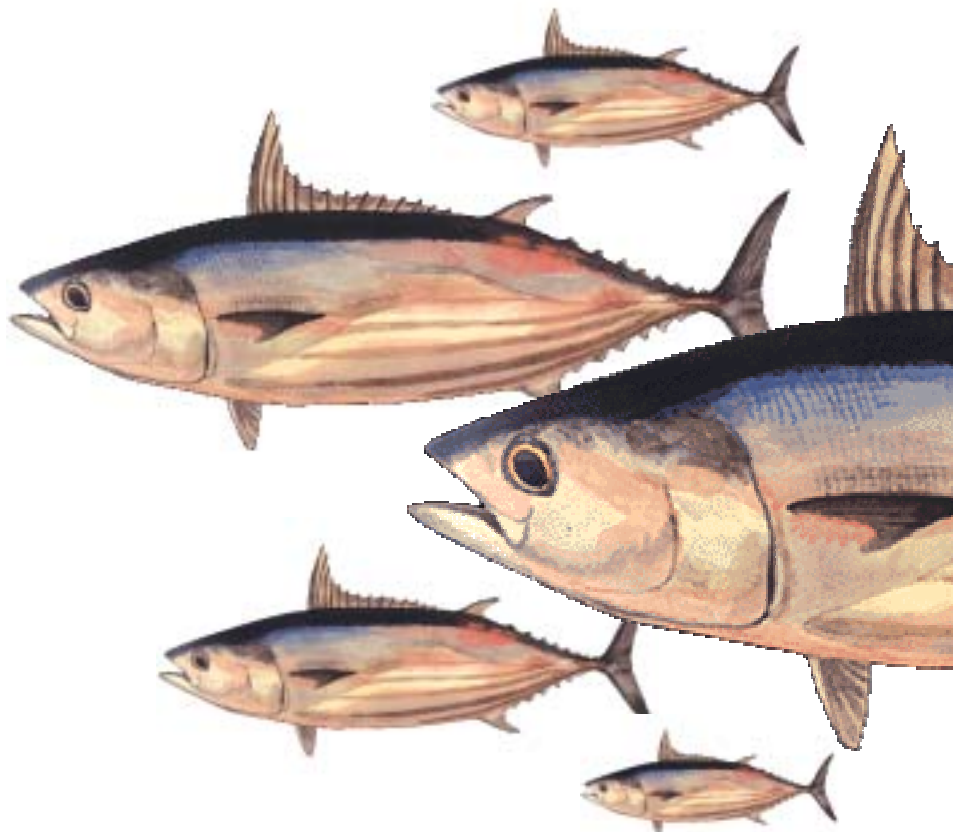
PIMRIS was established over 15 years ago with the aim of improving access to information on marine resources across the region. Advances in information technology since have created opportunities to do this in exciting and innovative ways, but the greatest strength of any network remains the people it connects. By combining the new technologies with the traditional strength of Pacific relationships, I believe PIMRIS can flourish.

This Newsletter is a good example. It can now be made available in both print and electronic versions, the latter being quicker and cheaper to distribute (via email or our website) – and more colourful! However, we know that print materials are still the most accessible in many parts of the Pacific. Let us know your preference, please. To make it *worth* reading, regardless of format, we require your comments and contributions. Tell us what you would like to see in future issues and – even more important – what's happening in your workplace or country, so we can share the news with all PIMRIS participants. Vinaka,

Chris Nelson, PIMRIS Coordinator

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Directory

PIMRIS is a cooperative network of fisheries and marine resources libraries and information centres in the Pacific. Participants include ministerial libraries and the regional agencies listed below. For additional information contact the Coordination Unit or a specific agency.

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New Faces, New Places

Professor Leon Zann took up the position of Coordinator, Marine Studies Programme, USP, in April 2004. He was previously Head of the Centre for Conservation Technology at Southern Cross



University in Australia. His field of expertise is in coastal and marine management, in particular coral reef ecology. He is no stranger to the Pacific, having been Fisheries Research Adviser to the Western Samoan government (1990-1992) and Senior Lecturer in Marine Biology at USP (1979-1985).

His published works include the landmark *Our Sea, Our Future: The State of the Marine Environment Report for Australia* (1995).

Tanielu Su'a has recently resigned as Director of Fisheries in Samoa to take up the post of Fisheries Management Adviser at the Forum Fisheries Agency. He will be assisting Pacific nations to manage their tuna resources under the new Convention.

Dorene Naidu has been appointed Library Services Officer at the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission following the departure of Sunita Prasad. Most recently in the Serials Office of the USP Library, Dorene is well aware of PIMRIS as she also worked in the Coordination Unit whilst at USP. We welcome her back to the network.



Anne Gibert commenced as Assistant Librarian at the SPC Library in Noumea in March. She has been busy diminishing the cataloguing backlog.

Chris Nelson started work as PIMRIS Coordinator in July. Previous to this he was Senior Librarian at the Alafua Campus of USP for three years after leaving the Australian Maritime College in Tasmania, where he had worked as the College Librarian (1996-2001).



Albert Horatio Hall (born on Sept. 22) has yet to make his mark in the world, but we join FFA staff in congratulating Ben & Charlotte on his birth.

SPREP Wins International Award

PEIN, PIMRIS' sister network for environmental information in the Pacific based at SPREP in Apia, Samoa, received international recognition in May.



The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme has come away a winner for environmental information technology at the prestigious Stockholm Challenge in Sweden.

SPREP's Information Resource Manager, Ms Satui Bentin, was on hand to accept the artwork trophy from event organizers during a packed gala awards dinner at the Stockholm City Hall.



“This is for all Pacific island people who we are proud to serve, and to those who have strived to make positive changes for the Pacific's environment. I also must thank the European Union which has done so much to promote this whole concept of having a Pacific Islands Environment Network,” said Ms Bentin.

The Stockholm Challenge began in 1998, and has established itself as an internationally recognized event that awards pioneering environmental projects using information technology. From an initial pool of 900 contestants, the selection panel brought the numbers down to 64 finalists in the health, business, education, government and environment categories.

“The network is important for the region, particularly with the vast distances separating Pacific islands from each other, and the rest of the world. The world's environment is undergoing some significant changes, and Pacific islanders need to have the latest information available, to make the best decisions for their region and future,” said Ms Bentin.

Based at SPREP's headquarters, the PEIN network is a ground breaking system that provides access to 20,000 volumes of online environmental information, across 14 Pacific island countries.

The SPREP Director, Mr Asterio Takesy, welcomed the award saying it was the first time in the organization's short history that it had been given such a distinction. “We are obviously more than pleased with this recognition. I'd like to congratulate the European Union for their financial support of the PEIN concept. But I must give credit to the hard work of our SPREP team. And to the people of the region, well this is all for you,” he said. (Source: SPREP News Release, 13 May)

For more information contact Satui (satuib@sprep.org.ws) or Chris Peteru (chrisp@sprep.org.ws)

Search the PEIN database online



The SPREP Information Resource Centre database, incorporating records from the Pacific Environmental Information network, can be searched online at:
http://www.sprep.org.ws/publication/pub_library.asp

WCPO Fish Stocks Convention Enters into Force...



The *Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean* entered into force on 19 June.

Adopted in Honolulu in September 2000, the objective of the Convention is to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the region through effective management.

The Convention applies to all species of highly migratory fish stocks except sauries.

A final preparatory conference (PrepConVII) to be held in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, 6-7 December will be followed immediately by the Inaugural Session of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, 9-10 December.

The full text of the convention has been published by the Forum Fisheries Agency (above). It and related texts are also available on the Interim Secretariat website (<http://www.ocean-affairs.com>).

...Though Debate Continues in Some Territories

French Polynesia has delayed an Assembly vote on a proposal to add France to the Convention.

President Oscar Temaru directed his natural resources minister, Keitapu Maamaatuihutu, who is responsible for commercial fishing, to delay the vote for a month. In doing so, President Temaru supported a proposal by opposition Assembly member Georges Puchon, who was finance minister under the previous government of former President Gaston Flosse.

France's refusal to sign the fisheries treaty stemmed from what it called a lack of sufficient guarantees for an effective participation by its three Pacific territories namely French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Wallis and Futuna. Instead, their interests would be represented by France's one vote.

However, an Assembly committee report which Minister Maamaatuihutu supported stated that projections made under the treaty were sufficient to warrant France joining the commission.

Mr Puchon indicated he was surprised that the Temaru government would submit such a dossier to the Assembly "without previously consulting and largely informing the fishermen and French Polynesia fishing fleet owners because they are the ones who have to live with this treaty."

Fiji Ambassador Satya Nandan, chairman of the multilateral high level conference held in Honolulu, said at the time that the treaty "reflects a fair balance of interests, in particular between developing Pacific countries, in whose national areas large stocks of tuna fish are found, and distant water fishing states, which fish in the Central and Western Pacific."

Of 24 participating nations in the treaty talks, 19 voted in favour of the Honolulu Treaty on 04 Sept 2000. Japan and Korea voted against the pact. China, France and Tonga abstained.

(Adapted from: PACNEWS 3: Wed 22 Sept 2004)

Workshop on Implications of Convention to Private Sector



A workshop addressing the implications of the new WCPO Convention to private industry in the Pacific was held at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, 14-16 September.

Organised by the Marine Studies Programme of the University of the South Pacific, the workshop was officially opened by Forum Secretary-General Greg Urwin. Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor of USP, Professor Konai Thaman then welcomed all participants before facilitator Ian Cartwright outlined the goals expected of the meeting over the next few days.

Planned sessions for the workshop included:

Day 1: The WCPO Convention

Status of Tuna Fisheries (Adam Langley, SPC)
Legal and Policy Background to the new Convention (Transform Aqorau, SPC)
Conservation and Management Issues in the Convention (Vina Ram-Bidesi, USP)
The Commission's Roles, Functions & Costs (Sandra Tarte, USP)
Obligations of Members and Flag States (Sandra Tarte, USP)
Monitoring, Control & Surveillance Issues (Andrew Richards, FFA)
Industry Forum (all participants)

Day 2: National and Regional Responses

Current Fisheries Management in FFA Member Countries (Len Rodwell, FFA)
Industry Case Studies:
Papua New Guinea (Maurice Brownjohn, The Net Shop / Latitude 8 Ltd.)
Fiji (Graham Southwick, Fiji Fish Marketing Group Ltd.)
Cook Islands (Jane Davies, Pamatatau Davies Boats Ltd.)
Rights-based Management Systems (Les Clarke, Rayfish Research, New Zealand)
Managing Purse-Seine Catch and Effort (Len Rodwell, FFA)
Balancing Gear Types (Chris Reid, FFA)
Industry Forum (all participants)

Day 3: The Role of Industry Organizations

National Industry Organisations – Roles & Models (Hugh Walton, PNG Fisheries College)
Industry Case Studies:
Federated States of Micronesia (James Movick, National Offshore Fisheries Association)
Papua New Guinea (Maurice Brownjohn, Fishing Industry Association (PNG) Inc.)
Fiji (Robert Stone, Stonefish Ltd., Fiji)
Partnerships: Government & Private Sector Roles (Ian Cartwright, Thalassa Consultants Aust.)
Industry Participation in GEF OFMP (Les Clarke, Rayfish Research, N.Z.)
Options for a Regional Fishing Industry Association (James Movick, FSM)

The industry case studies and forums at the end of each day proved particularly useful to participants in demonstrating how common many of the issues facing commercial stakeholders in the industry were across the region. Discussions on existing national and regional management initiatives and how these could be improved led to a proposal from participants for the formation of a new tuna industry association for the region.

On the final day of the workshop, a three-member Steering Committee chaired by James Movick was created to oversee implementation of this new body.

The summary record of the workshop appears in full as a supplement to this newsletter (*see insert*).

Scenes from the Convention Workshop



At left: Contemplating a point of the proceedings (*from left to right*):

Robert Ripley (Albacorp Investments Ltd., Samoa),
Francis Houji (Fairwell, PNG),
Norman Barnabas (National Fisheries Authority, PNG)

Right (foreground):
Professor Leon Zann (USP),
Monte Depaune (Nauru Fisheries & Marine Resources Authority),
Milton Sibisopere (Soltai Fishing & Processing Ltd., Solomon Islands),
Bill Holden (Alatini Fisheries Co., Tonga).

(*background*): Adam Langley (SPC); Andrew Richards, Len Rodwell, Chris Reid (all FFA)



Above: Enjoying a lighter moment after the opening ceremony (*from left to right*): Len Rodwell (FFA), Les Clarke (Rayfish Research), Bob Gillett (Gillett, Preston & Associates), Chris Reid (FFA), Professor Konai Thaman (Acting Deputy VC, USP), Ian Cartwright (Workshop Facilitator)

New Pacific Tuna Industry Association Formed

Tuna fishing operators have formed a new regional body to provide a stronger voice on tuna issues in the region. The move follows a meeting at the Forum Secretariat in Suva, Fiji this week between tuna operators from the private sector.



The newly elected association chairman, James Movick, says Pacific Islanders must take the initiative to represent themselves on world tuna strategies if it would help them secure the future of the region's tuna fisheries for the benefit of Pacific Islanders. "Our focus will be to get the national and regional organisations to include the private sector fishing industry in any discussions on tuna policies and programmes," Mr Movick said in Suva this week. "We will also encourage our own members to work more closely on the expressed needs of the commercial fishing sector."

Mr Movick said the tuna fishing industry wanted to benefit from new management arrangements under the recently adopted Pacific Tuna Convention, including a fair share of the catch allocation. "We realise the importance of working with governments and regional organisations to seek solutions to existing problems, and open up opportunities for the future. It is important that our voice is also heard on matters that will affect our livelihoods," he said.

The three-member steering committee for the association includes Mr Movick as Chairman and two tuna fishing industry representatives – Maurice Brownjohn from Papua New Guinea and Robert Stone from Fiji. The committee will decide on a name for the organisation this month. It will be based in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, which is also the headquarters of the new regional Tuna Commission.
(Adapted from: PACNEWS 3: 17 Sept 2004)

Meanwhile, in the Marshall Islands...

About 30 fisheries experts from around the Pacific met mid-September in Majuro for an International Conference on Sustainable Fishery and Aquaculture Development in Pacific Islands.

Sponsored by the Taiwan government, the meeting brought together top fisheries researchers, industry representatives and government fisheries experts from Taiwan with government fisheries officials from the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Kiribati and Fiji. Forum Fisheries Agency director Feleti Teo and commercial fishing heavyweight James Tsai, chairman of the Tuna Purse Seine Committee of the Taiwan Tuna Association, were also in attendance.

Taiwan Ambassador Lien-gene Chen said his country wanted to share its expertise in sustainable fisheries and aquaculture development with its diplomatic allies and friends in the Pacific. Acting Minister of Resources and Development Witten Philippo said the Marshall Islands has great interest in sustainable fisheries because many of its coastal fish species "are under pressure of being depleted." The Marshall Islands supports "responsible fisheries and sustainable management" at the national, regional and international levels, he said.

"There is a global interest in collectively managing (fisheries) resources," he said. The Marshall Islands looked forward to seeing the full establishment in Pohnpei of a new Tuna Commission, which will oversee a tuna conservation convention for the high seas that recently went into effect, and to the treaty "being fully complied with by all."

Later in the week the group toured a privately-operated clam farm on Majuro, and a government-supported giant clam operation on neighbouring Arno Atoll.

(Adapted from: PACNEWS 3: 14 Sept 2004)

Other News from the Region

Cook Islands: Fish plant's future secured

The future of a multi-million dollar fish processing plant on Rarotonga has been secured in one of the Cook Islands' biggest ever business deals.

Cook Island Fish Exports, which runs the plant in Nikao, has signed an agreement with the Chinese firm Shanghai Deep Sea Fisheries that will see 10 specially built vessels coming to fish local waters. The Chinese company is set to invest many millions of dollars in building the new boats, which will then be sent to fish in the Cook Islands. They have agreed to put all their fresh fish through the factory in Nikao and Cook Island Fish Exports (CIFE) will also receive a cut of the profits.

The deal comes three months after former partners CIFE, Sealords and Hawkes Bay Seafoods, withdrew from the Cook Islands to concentrate on their New Zealand operations. That left the future of the company in doubt – but earlier this month businessman Brett Porter, now the sole shareholder in the firm, travelled to China to sign the agreement.

The Chinese boats will also be fishing in international waters around the Cook Islands' EEZ, and their catch will be processed in Nikao. Under new rules, the boats that fish international waters must now land their catch at a registered port. The Chinese fleet will be licensed in the Cook Islands.

The new boats will target high value species in Cook Islands waters and beyond, as they will have the ability to process them in Nikao and export their catch to lucrative markets in places like Japan and the United States.

(Source: PACNEWS 3: Tues 29 June 2004)

Samoa: Pacific Islands want greater share in profits of tuna fishing

Pacific Island leaders have agreed to try to get a greater share of the money made from tuna fishing in the Pacific.

Radio Australia reports that the thirty-fifth Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' Meeting in Samoa resolved that the island countries should try to get their own people more involved in the billion-dollar tuna industry. One of the few resources that many of the island countries have access to is their fish stock.

The leaders agreed to seek increased sustainable returns from their fisheries resources, including through increased participation of the traditional resource owners in the fishing industry. Forum Chairman, Samoa's Prime Minister, Tuilaepa Sailele, said domestic industry development was seen as an important means of increasing returns to Pacific Island countries. "As it is now, the Forum countries together get only about ten percent of the value of the catch from our Pacific Ocean."

The leaders have directed their Fisheries Ministers to meet to work out how that can be done. They also want the Ministers to have a greater say in how the Honiara based regional Forum Fisheries Agency operates.

(Source: PACNEWS 1: Mon 09 Aug 2004)

Federated States of Micronesia: Micronesia and EU make tuna deal

The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) has struck a deal with the European Union (EU) to allow six European purse-seiners and 12 European long-line fishing vessels to fish for tuna in FSM's waters. It is the third fisheries agreement the EU has concluded with Pacific Island countries. Earlier agreements have allowed some of the European fleet to relocate to the central Western Pacific to fish for tuna in the waters of Kiribati and Solomon Islands.

The latest deal with FSM will allow the eighteen vessels to catch up to 8,600 tonnes of tuna a year in the FSM's exclusive economic zone. A statement out of Europe says the payment to the FSM for the rights to that catch will amount to about 560,000 Euros (US\$672,981). The agreement is expected to take effect from January the first next year.

(Source: PACNEWS 3 Tues. 25 May, 2004)

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community Library

Rachele Oriente

SPC Library is a corporate library that strives to be an integral part of the support services to SPC programmes and projects. One of the Secretariat's largest programmes, Marine Resources, consists of the Coastal and Oceanic Fisheries Programmes.

The Coastal Fisheries Programme, located in Noumea, has six sections:

- coastal fisheries management,
- fisheries development,
- fisheries training,
- reef fishery assessment & research,
- aquaculture and
- fisheries information



The Oceanic Fisheries programme, also in Noumea, covers:

- tuna stock assessment and modelling,
- statistics and monitoring,
- tuna biology and ecology (for example the link between climate change and tuna) and
- observer and port sampling.

The SPC/Worldfish Center for Research on Coastal Fisheries is also in Noumea.

In addition, the Regional Maritime Programme is located in Suva. Its mission is to ensure safe and secure shipping, cleaner seas, and improved social and economic well-being of seafaring communities within the Pacific region. It is the secretariat to the Association of Pacific Island Maritime Training Institutions and Maritime Authorities (APIMTIMA).

In support of these programmes, SPC Library has two sections, one at the headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia, and the other in Suva, Fiji. This article describes the Noumea library's collection, activities and developments in the area of marine sciences in 2004.

The first development and change in our library was that in March 2004, SPC Library Noumea welcomed a new and much appreciated Assistant Librarian, Anne Gibert. She replaces the former Cataloguing Assistant. Anne distinguished herself by cataloguing a mountain of approximately 2000 books that had been sitting "awaiting cataloguing" since the late 1990s. She now provides reference, cataloguing and current awareness services.

One recent accomplishment is that Anne has created "A Bibliography on Fisheries and Aquaculture" of materials, published both by SPC and externally, held in the SPC Library collection. This bibliography was prepared for the delegates to the 4th Heads of Fisheries Meeting held 30 August - 3 September at SPC headquarters in Noumea and it is available on the web ("SPC Library Catalogue of Fisheries Papers" <http://www.spc.int/coastfish/reports/hof4/PDF/E-IP6-HOF4.pdf>).

In the marine sciences we collect materials on coastal and oceanic fisheries, aquaculture of seaweed, finfish, crustaceans and invertebrates, safety at sea, women in fisheries, and seafaring. We also work on the intersection of health and fisheries in the seafaring and HIV/AIDS program. We receive materials from FAO in Fisheries, the ILO in Fisheries and Safety at Sea, and from regional bodies such as FFA, SPREP, SOPAC and the Forum Secretariat. Of the total collection, one quarter is on marine science and fisheries, making it the largest subject area collection in the library.

Having said that, I would add that I use the document delivery services from IAMSLIC, PIMRIS, Kinetica, University of Hawai'i , University of the South Pacific (Suva) and locally in New Caledonia from IRD, frequently. There is rarely a day that goes by without having necessary recourse to the excellent services of other libraries in supplying our clients with their requests. Fisheries and aquatic sciences information is expensive and SPC library would not be able to function as smoothly as we do without these co-operative networks. In 2005, after a hiatus in 2004 of contributing only lists of new acquisitions, I hope to resume a more active participation in PIMRIS.

Another change in the library service this year has been in the area of serials management. We now receive electronic table of contents (etocs), which are distributed by email to the persons on the circulation lists for that journal, and then articles are printed from online or print subscriptions by request. For expensive fisheries and marine science journals, this system has proved an invaluable improvement in managing the collection.

In the year 2005 we hope to assist in the production of digital fisheries materials. The Oceanic and Coastal Fisheries Programme at SPC produces many publications and several of these are now in electronic format only. We hope to help with the necessary task of making these searchable and therefore more usable. Also, given the challenges of cost and reliability to adequate internet access, it is perceived as necessary to distribute these fisheries bulletins and newsletters on CDs, which of course must be searchable.

Another project for 2005 may be to digitize a wonderful collection of historic photos of landed fish, fishing techniques, boats, pirogues and fish markets. These are mostly black and white photos, from the 1950s and 1960s. Generally, there is no provenance for the photos, but SPC does believe that we hold copyright to the images.

Finally, as part of SPC Open Day, the 20th November 2004, we are hosting an exhibit on pirogues and traditional navigation in the Pacific region in the library. We will use this exhibit as a way into the collection when we introduce SPC's guests to the SPC Library.



An internal scene of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community Library in Noumea, New Caledonia.

New Publications

Kumar, M., Aalbersberg, B. & Mosley, L. 2004, *Mercury Levels in Fijian Seafoods and Potential Health Implications*. Institute of Applied Sciences for the World Health Organization, Suva. 35 pp.

(Available from: IAS, Box 1168, Suva, Fiji. Ph: (679) 321 2965 Fax: (679) 330 0373)

Mercury (Hg) is a natural element, occurring in both inorganic and organic forms in the environment. It is very toxic to humans and poses a significant threat to human health, particularly to women who are pregnant or of child-bearing age since it can readily cross the placental barrier.

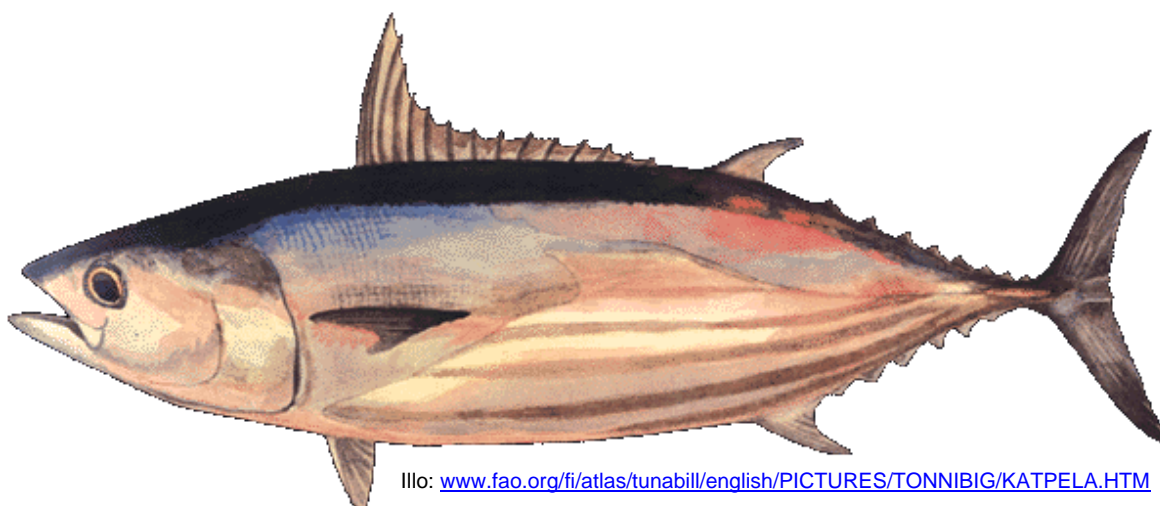
Previous studies in other locations have shown dangerously high mercury levels in certain types of seafoods, particularly large predatory fish. Over 90% of the mercury in fish is in the form of methylmercury, which is created by micro-organisms in the sea and binds to proteins in the species which consume them. This continues up the food chain, creating higher concentrations of methylmercury in the larger predators.

Data on mercury levels in fish and seafoods from the Pacific Islands are scarce. This is a concern since fresh and canned fish and shellfish are a major part of the diet for Pacific Islanders. The aim of this study was to measure total mercury content in several types of seafoods which are commonly consumed in the Fiji Islands, including various coastal and pelagic fish species, shellfish and canned fish. Total Hg in the edible tissues of 200 seafood samples of different types (whole fish, fish steaks, shellfish) and species was analysed.

The results were that in some of the large predatory species (marlin and swordfish) the total mercury exceeded FAO/WHO guidelines. Other types of fish steaks, smaller reef fish, shellfish and canned tuna and mackerel had average levels below the guidelines.

Thus health risks, particularly to pregnant women, exist from consuming relatively small quantities of some of the larger fish species. The safe level for shark, marlin, swordfish and sunfish is less than one portion per week; of bigeye tuna, about one portion per week. Frequent consumption of these fish in greater than the recommended amounts could lead to health problems. The reef fish (except barracuda) and shellfish normally consumed by Fijian people in rural/outer island areas had very low levels of mercury and can be consumed in large amounts. More studies on Hg levels in the larger species of fish are needed to better assess the health risks.

Seafoods make an important contribution to the diet of Pacific Islanders and are very nutritious. The best advice is not to avoid fish but to keep consumption of the larger predatory species within safe limits. Where possible, choose to eat smaller fish or shellfish as these contain less mercury.



Illo: www.fao.org/fi/atlas/tunabill/english/PICTURES/TONNIBIG/KATPELA.HTM

Announcements

THE DANIELLE DE ST. JORRE SCHOLARSHIP

Since 2000 the International Ocean Institute has presented a Scholarship of Swiss Francs 10,000 annually for one woman from Small Island Developing States (SIDS) involved in marine related research activities to improve their knowledge in the subject by attending training or University Degree programmes.

The scholarship has been established to honour the memory of the late Danielle de St. Jorre, Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Environment and Tourism of the Republic of the Seychelles and a member of the Governing Board of the International Ocean Institute, in consideration of all she did in her short life for the benefit of her country, the small island developing states and the world at large.

The 2004 Scholarship, which was awarded to Ms. Marlene Isidore from Seychelles, enabled her to attend the IOI training programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management at the Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

The International Ocean Institute hereby invites applications and nominations for the 2005 scholarship. These should be sent to:

The Executive Director,
International Ocean Institute,
P.O. Box 3,
Gzira GZR 01,
MALTA.

The application must include a CV and a statement giving the reason for the application or nomination with the aim of the applicant or nominee, including how she intends to use the scholarship if awarded. Candidates will be selected in consultation with the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). An explanatory note on the scholarship, as well as on the eligibility and evaluation criteria is included in the application form. The deadline for receipt of application is 1st December 2004.

Conference Notices

2004

- November 10-13 Women In Fisheries: lessons from the past, current actions and dreams for the future, Santiago de Compostela (Galicia, Spain) *For more information:* <http://conference.fishwomen.org>
- November 15-19 FAO/SPC Coastal Fisheries Management and Statistics Training Workshop, Nadi, Fiji. <http://www.spc.int/coastfish/Reports/Meetings/FMS-meeting.pdf>
- November 17-25 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress, Bangkok, Thailand
<http://www.iucn.org/congress/index.cfm>
- December 6-10 7th Preparatory Conference for the Establishment of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (PrepCon VII) & the Inaugural Session of the Commission, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia
<http://www.ocean-ffairs.com/pdf/Information%20note%20and%20schedule%20PrepCon%20VII.pdf>