

Report of the Fifth

**MEETING OF FAO SOUTH WEST PACIFIC
MINISTERS FOR AGRICULTURE**

Suva, Fiji, 31st March - 1st April 2003

FAO Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific Islands

Heads of Delegations and the Director-General of FAO at the Fifth Meeting of the FAO South West Pacific Ministers for Agriculture

Back row (left to right): Hon. Tuisugaletaua S. Aveau (Samoa), Hon. Samuelu Penitala Teo (Tuvalu), Hon. Steven Kalsakau (Vanuatu), Hon. Paul Maenu'u (Solomon Islands), Mr. Patrick Mackenzie (Federated States of Micronesia), H.E. Meita Beiabure (Kiribati), Hon. Moses Maladina (Papua New Guinea), Mr. Nga Mataio (Cook Islands)

Front row (left to right): H.E. Ms. Susan Boyd (Australia), Hon. Konisi Yabaki (Fiji), Hon. Tuita (Tonga), Rt. Hon. Laisenia Qarase (Fiji Prime Minister), Dr Jacques Diouf (Director-General of FAO), HRH Princess Pilolevu Tuita (Tonga), Hon. Jonetani Galuinadi (Fiji), Hon. Damien O'Connor (New Zealand)

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**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
Apia, Samoa, 2003**

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1. OFFICIAL OPENING

1. The Fifth Meeting of FAO South West Pacific Ministers for Agriculture was convened at the Forum Secretariat in Suva, Fiji from 31st March to 1st April 2003. Ministers from the following countries attended: Fiji, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, together with Representatives from Australia, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati and Nauru. Observers from a number of regional organisations also attended the meeting. A list of participants is attached as Annex A.

2. At the opening ceremony, the Ministers were welcomed in full traditional Fijian customary fashion. The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Dr. Jacques Diouf delivered the keynote address (attached as Annex B). The Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji, Right Honourable Laisenia Qarase gave the opening address (attached as Annex C) and officially opened the meeting.

3. The Director-General expressed his sincere appreciation to the Governments of Pacific countries for attending in strength, the *World Food Summit (WFS): five years later*. This Fifth Meeting of South West Ministers for Agriculture, he said, was taking place in a context of rapid global economic, social and political change, citing the goals of the 2002 Johannesburg Summit reflecting those of the *WFS: five years later* and the 2002 Monterrey Conference calling for increased ODA flows to high priority areas for development and poverty eradication. Dr. Diouf declared that FAO would continue to make available to its Member Nations the analyses and information needed to reinforce the technical skills in negotiating under the WTO framework of the Doha round.

4. The Director-General referred to the food shortages that follow natural disasters, which often devastate Pacific countries. He explained that the role of FAO in such a context was to assess the food and agricultural situation, determine food aid needs and inform the international community, through the Global Information and Early Warning System. With the possibility of yet another *El Nina* period, Dr. Diouf urged governments to take precautionary steps to minimize impact on vulnerable groups and on the agriculture sector.

5. Dr. Diouf expressed appreciation of the concerns raised by Pacific island leaders at the *WFS: five years later*, about a likely rise in sea levels, destructive fishing practices and the negative effects of globalization. He announced that FAO plans to host, in 2004, a follow-up meeting to the 1999 Special Ministerial Conference on Agriculture in Small Island Developing States. The objective of the meeting would be to assess progress made in implementing the Plan of Action and identify constraints and the means for overcoming those constraints.

6. The Director-General said that because development of the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors would continue to be crucial to the overall economic performance of Pacific Island countries (PICs), it was essential to increase the flow of capital to the sector. Furthermore, the ratification and implementation of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, which will ensure equitable sharing and preservation of our genetic heritage, was a high priority. Dr. Diouf also suggested that PICs should implement comprehensive action plans combining legal and fiscal measures with effective enforcement to conserve forests and protect watersheds.

7. The Director-General underscored FAO's firm belief of the benefits to the Pacific countries of the full implementation of a Regional Programme for Food Security by stating that the Organization was

ready to provide all possible support to assist PICs in mobilizing additional financing and technical cooperation from donor countries.

8. The Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji, the Right Honourable Laisenia Qarase, welcomed the participants and the Director-General of FAO to the Meeting and to Fiji. He emphasised that the reliance of PICs on agriculture for their economic and social welfare was being challenged by high population growth, growing urbanisation, over-exploitation of land and lagoons, increasing threats to the environment and the globalisation of trade. He highlighted Fiji's efforts to develop rice and dairy industries as examples of struggling national efforts to provide rural incomes and bolster national food security. He thanked FAO for the support provided to developing Fiji's dairy industry. The Fiji Prime Minister wished the Conference well and assured the Meeting that Fiji was looking forward to supporting the proposed Regional Programme on Food Security for the Pacific Island Countries.

9. During the break for refreshments, the Director-General of FAO and Director-General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding that would guide cooperation and collaboration between the two organisations.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

10. Hon. Tuisugaletaua Sofara Aveau, Minister for Agriculture, Samoa, nominated the Minister for Fisheries and Forests of Fiji, Honourable Konisi Yabaki, as the Chairperson of the Fifth South West Pacific Ministerial Meeting. The proposal, seconded by the Representative of Cook Islands, Mr. Nga Mataio, was unanimously accepted by the Meeting.

11. The Sub-regional Representative (SRR) gave a PowerPoint presentation on the tentative agenda of the meeting. He asked Ministers to note that Dr. Purea and Mr. Dirk Schulz would present Item 5 of the agenda – information on genetically modified organisms - because Dr Mary Taylor of SPC, who was going to write the information paper and make the presentation on the subject, had to leave the region at short notice for personal reasons. Ministers and Representatives adopted the revised agenda (attached as Annex D of this report) as proposed by the Secretariat, FAO Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific Islands (SAPA). The Hon Minister for Fisheries and Forests of Fiji, Hon. Konisi Yabaki, then took the Chair.

3. FAO ACTIVITIES IN THE PACIFIC

12. The SRR gave an overview of FAO activities undertaken since the Fourth Meeting of the South West Pacific Ministers of Agriculture. By way of introduction, the SRR stated that SAPA's role was to translate FAO's initiatives - which have global perspectives - into technical assistance and interventions that best serve the needs of PICs. The SRR focused his presentation on activities in those areas emphasised by the 2001 Communiqué. These activities covered the following areas: agriculture policy, plant protection, food and nutrition, fisheries, forestry, farming systems development and marketing and trade facilitation. A detailed list of projects and activities is attached as Annex E of this report. The SRR pointed out that pending projects are not included in the information paper that was distributed.

13. The SRR pointed out that the Sub-Regional Office attempts to be flexible in its operation, shifting emphasis to new priority areas - as perceived by member countries - that emerge from time to time. Activities undertaken by FAO in the sub-region were a combination of TCP (country and regional) and direct technical assistance as requested by member countries.

14. On agriculture policy, the SRR reaffirmed the Sub-Regional Office's support for developing national policies that are well defined, coherent and achievable. Direct technical assistance was given to Kiribati and the Marshall Islands in the development of their documents on National Strategies for Agricultural and Fisheries Development: Horizon 2015. The SRR informed the meeting that the Italian Government has recently made available a trust fund of approximately USD 4.5 million to finance the Regional Programme on Food Security for Pacific Island Countries (RPFS). An FAO mission was present at this meeting to start designing and formulating the programme.

15. Activities on food and nutrition have focused on food safety and quality, Codex Alimentarius and Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Mapping System (FIVIMS). Assistance was given to countries in: capacity building on Codex Alimentarius, food regulation and harmonisation of standards, upgrading of food analytical capability, review of legislation and in FIVIMS. A regional TCP project reviewed the capabilities of food laboratories of Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu and worked at strengthening the food analytical capabilities of the University of the South Pacific (USP) laboratory to serve PICs.

16. On fisheries, the SRR informed that the focus of activities has been on conservation, development and management of the region's fisheries and aquaculture resources. Technical assistance was given to countries on: HACCP, development of seaweed and other aquaculture, management plans for sharks, promotion of value adding for tuna, updating of regional and country information and statistics. Further progress was made on developing country profiles on aquaculture and on updating fishery country profiles and an atlas for Pacific countries.

17. Activities in the area of forestry have focused on supporting countries' national forestry programmes. Training activities on timber utilisation practices were supported and a feasibility study undertaken on coconut wood utilisation. Support was provided to the Pandanus Conservation Project in Kiribati, an activity that should prove useful for the atoll countries. Capacity building activities were provided in information collection and in report writing.

18. On farming systems development and marketing, activities have focused on capacity building in farm management, post harvest handling and the marketing of fresh horticulture produce. The SRR reported that FAO is working closely with the US Peace Corps organisation in implementing the youth programme in Tonga. The SRR briefly described progress of the Papua New Guinea Sustainable Programme on Food Security (SPFS).

19. On plant protection, the SRR gave examples of technical assistance given to countries. Samoa received support for establishing quarantine measures to allow export of organic bananas to New Zealand. For Niue, Tonga, Cook Islands, Kiribati and Vanuatu, technical assistance was provided to identify and make an inventory of flatworms that parasitise Giant African snails. The SRR also mentioned the fruit fly survey and the TCP for rodent control on coconuts in Kiribati, work on control of invasive weeds in Vanuatu and Cook Islands, integrated management of the fruit piercing moth in Vanuatu and the support provided to Samoa for multiplication of taro varieties that were resistant to Taro Leaf Blight.

20. The SRR also reported on activities in areas outside SAPA's regular work programme. Jointly with the Common Fund for Commodity (CFC), FAO provided regional training on meat processing technology. Assistance was provided to some countries on dairy production. In response to a request from Nauru, a feasibility study on hydroponics was conducted. Support was provided to assist PICs contribute to the report on the state of the world's animal genetic resources assessment. Emergency

assistance following devastating cyclones was provided to affected countries. Assistance was also provided to Cook Islands, Samoa and Tonga for planning and implementing agricultural censuses.

21. On trade facilitation, the SRR emphasised the usefulness to Pacific Island countries of the five FAO/NZODA/CFTC funded annual Roundtable meetings that began in 1998, on the provisions of the Uruguay Round and WTO Agreements. The SRR informed that in response to an important need stated in the 2001 Communiqué, an FAO mission was currently visiting PICs while undertaking the study of advantages and costs of WTO membership for FAO member PICs. The SRR underlined the important contribution of Telefood projects to food security. Forty-six Telefood projects had been approved for member countries in the Pacific during the last biennium.

22. The SRR underlined SAPA's close working relationship with regional organisations, donors and NGOs, the Partnership Programme of FAO including Technical Co-operation Among Developing Countries (TCDC) and Co-operation with Academic and Research Institutions. He also mentioned the trust funds with EC, CFC, Japan, France, Finland, Italy etc., co-operation with UNDP, WMO, WHO and other UN Agencies, NZAID, CFTC, AusAID, Forum Secretariat and other CROP agencies.

23. Concerning FAO membership in the region, the SRR informed that since the Fourth Meeting, Nauru has become a Member. Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Niue and Palau became Members during the 1999 FAO Conference. The SRR stated that the membership applications of the Federated States of Micronesia and Tuvalu will likely be considered during the 2003 FAO Conference.

24. Ministers and Representatives acknowledged the diversity of activities supported and commended the SRR and his staff for the work undertaken in the region. New Zealand expressed pleasure at supporting the five Roundtable meetings on WTO Agreements and issues and suggested it was perhaps time to take stock of the benefits that countries have gained by participating in the meetings. New Zealand, supported by the Representative of Australia, urged FAO to provide better funding support for the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat, so that the resources available to the IPPC are at the level suggested in the IPPC Business Plan by the Secretariat.

25. The Representative of Kiribati elaborated on the specific agricultural development needs of atoll countries and Ministers agreed and requested FAO to assist in addressing those needs.

26. Samoa urged FAO SAPA to continue providing support for training on HCCAP. Samoa commended SAPA for the regular production and distribution of its quarterly newsletter that keeps Ministers well informed during periods between meetings. Samoa expressed appreciation of the good number of TCP projects implemented in the region and suggested that an evaluation of those implemented to date would serve to inform FAO and the member countries and help in planning future co-operation.

27. The Representative of Australia expressed Australia's support for the nomination of the Hon. Jim Sutton, New Zealand's Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Biosecurity, Rural Affairs and Trade Negotiations, as Chair of the 2003 FAO Conference in Rome. Ministers unanimously supported Hon. Jim Sutton's nomination. Ministers were urged to attend the Rome Conference to strengthen the South West Pacific voice and to support the election process to admit Tuvalu and Federated States of Micronesia as new members of FAO.

28. The FAO-Director General made a special intervention relating to the Regional Programme on Food Security for Pacific Islands, currently under preparation. Dr. Diouf emphasised that implementing carefully targeted interventions could ameliorate the many complicated physical and technical constraints

to agricultural production in the Pacific. He focused his intervention on the urgency to kick-start activities at the supply side, thus providing a framework on which to build further interventions. Dr. Diouf underlined needs in the areas of: intensification and diversification of crop and animal production; irrigation and drainage; different fertiliser regimes for different crops under different situations; organic agricultural production systems; post-harvest handling and down-stream processing; animal feeding; and conservation.

29. Dr. Diouf said that at the same time, there are socio-economic constraints relating to marketing etc. that need to be overcome. In some countries there was an important need to develop mid-term investment programmes or establish investment centres, to enhance their effort on the supply side. Thus there would also be some needs in the areas of trade facilitation and agricultural and trade policy.

4. FOOD SECURITY: PERSPECTIVES FOR THE SOUTH PACIFIC

30. The SRR introduced the six information papers, prepared by the multidisciplinary team of the FAO Sub-regional Office. He explained that the papers were not meant to illustrate activities already implemented but to present relevant issues related to food security in the South Pacific.

I. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIES AND POLICIES IN THE PACIFIC

31. Mr 'Aleki Sisifa, FAO Consultant, Policy Assistance, presented this paper. The paper summarised what FAO and member countries have done in the area of agricultural development and food security strategies and policies and informed Ministers of some major means for implementing the strategies and policies.

32. FAO had produced for all sub-regional member countries, except Nauru, documents on national strategies for agricultural development and food security: Horizon 2015 (NSAFS). The strategies focus on food production, trade and access to food. Attempt was made to ensure that the strategies interface with national efforts in nutrition, health, education etc. Common across the strategy documents of countries in the sub-region are policy actions aimed at sustainable resource use, intensification and diversification of production at the rural areas, trade and increasing employment opportunities.

33. Mr. Sisifa informed that FAO was currently planning an initiative to revise and update the NSAFS documents because of mixed evidence about how they had impacted national development and allocation of resources. The initiative was also predicated on a rapidly changing economic environment brought about by recent international developments, notably the increasing significance of the Millennium Development Goals, globalisation of trade and follow-up actions to the World Summit Sustainable Development.

34. Mr. Sisifa briefly described the FAO Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS) and the FAO Trust Fund. He referred to the SRR's statement regarding USD 4.5 million made available by the Italian Government via a trust fund to finance the Regional Programme on Food Security for the Pacific Islands (RPFS) and requested country officials to take the opportunity of the mission's presence at the meeting to discuss the programme and in particular, possible programme interventions in their countries. In discussing the three pillars involved in the RPFS - trade facilitation, agriculture policy and income generation for communities - Mr. Sisifa referred to the intervention by the Director-General in which he referred to a preferred emphasis on supply side activities at the national level. Mr. Sisifa stressed the

importance of ensuring that RPFS complement rather than duplicate ongoing activities of regional agencies.

35. Mr Sisifa concluded by urging countries to take the opportunity offered by the new FAO initiative to revise and update their national strategies on agricultural development and food security and to harmonise them with trade strategies. He emphasised the need for countries and relevant regional organisations to actively participate in the design, formulation and implementation of the RPFS.

36. The Representative of Australia expressed his delegation's appreciation for the professional manner in which the Secretariat's information papers were written and presented and extended his delegation's full support for the recommendations outlined in the paper. Likewise, New Zealand, Samoa and Vanuatu expressed full support for the recommendations as presented. Ministers welcomed the opportunity provided by FAO initiative to review and update the National Strategies for Agricultural Development and Food Security: Horizon 2015.

37. Ministers and Representatives endorsed in principle the Regional Programme for Food Security for Pacific Island Countries, welcomed progress in its development and urged FAO to complete the formulation and finalise the programme in consultation with member countries. Ministers and Representatives endorsed the importance placed by the RPFS on trade facilitation, agriculture policy and income generation at the community level. Ministers and Representatives endorsed the need for close cooperation and collaboration between the RPFS and relevant CROP agencies as well as bilateral and multilateral partners, in the design of the programme and in its implementation. Ministers and Representatives emphasised that proper evaluation during the life of the RPFS would be needed in consideration of the short time frame of the RPFS, relative to the other nationally targeted programmes and projects executed in the region.

II. MANAGEMENT AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES

38. Mr. Masanami Izumi, Fishery Officer, presented the paper titled Management and Further Development of Fisheries. He briefly described the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and indicated that to facilitate a greater understanding of the Code, FAO has scheduled a regional workshop to be held in Fiji, 20-24 October 2003. Mr. Izumi informed of the four International Plans of Action (IPOAs), which have been adopted within the framework of the Code. These IPOAs included: IPOA for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Long-line Fisheries (IPOA-Seabirds); IPOA for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks); IPOA for the Management of Fishing Capacity (IPOA-Capacity); and IPOA to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU).

39. Mr. Izumi said that the importance of the Code was specially recognised at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). At the WSSD, deadlines were specified for: IPOA-capacity to be put into effect by 2005; IPOA-IUU by 2004; encourage the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries by 2010; and maintain or restore stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield by 2015.

40. On tuna resource management, Mr. Izumi informed that the Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific (WCPT Convention) has established a Commission in the region (Pohnpei, FSM) with powers to determine the allowable catch or total fishing effort for the Convention Area. FAO participated as an observer in a

series of MHLC sessions and will further maintain close co-operation with the Preparatory Conference (PrepCon) of the WCPT Convention.

41. Regarding safety of fish and fishery products, Mr. Izumi informed that FAO is currently implementing a regional TCP project on "Fish Inspection Systems in the South Pacific". The project objectives are to improve the effectiveness of HACCP-based seafood quality assurance systems in the region through: enhanced organization and planning of national fisheries inspection programme; provision of training in modern seafood inspection and quality assurance activities; provision of advice and training to seafood industry personnel; and planning for the establishment of appropriate national analytical facilities for seafood products. This would help to improve the quality and safety of seafood supplies within each participating country and meet the requirements of major international trading partners. Under the project, a sub-regional 3-week seafood inspection course is scheduled in Suva, Fiji, from 22 April to 9 May 2003.

42. On fisheries statistics, Mr. Izumi referred to recommendations made at the FAO / SPC 1991 regional workshop on fishery statistics relating to strengthening the statistics capacity and capability of governments. The Regional Policy Meeting of Coastal Fisheries Management, jointly organized by SPC and FAO in Fiji, 17-21 March 2003, continued to follow up the above-mentioned recommendations with governments.

43. In concluding, Mr. Izumi highlighted the importance of the: fisheries sector in SIDS for social and economic reasons; tuna resource for foreign exchange earnings; framework of guidelines - provided by the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries - for sustainable management of fishery resources; and FAO's continued assistance to improve further the effectiveness of countries' seafood quality assurance systems.

44. New Zealand, Samoa and Vanuatu emphasised the significance of the fisheries sector to the economies of Pacific Island nations and the livelihoods and food security of their people. New Zealand underlined the ongoing need to ensure sustainable management of fisheries in particular coastal fisheries. New Zealand lauded the assistance provided by FAO in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Ministers and Representatives urged FAO to continue to undertake regional and national workshops on the Code.

45. Ministers and Representatives expressed concern about the growing problem of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing. Ministers and Representatives strongly supported the recommendation of the FAO Committee on Fisheries that the issue of IUU fishing be placed on the agenda of the FAO Conference in November 2003.

46. In relation to regional tuna fisheries management, Ministers and Representatives noted the continuing close cooperation between FAO and the Preparatory Conference of the WCPT Convention (Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific). They also endorsed the importance of establishing a Commission in the region to be responsible for the management of highly migratory fish stocks.

47. Ministers and Representatives encouraged FAO to continue to assist countries to improve further the effectiveness of seafood quality assurance systems in order to strengthen national capacity in seafood inspection and meet the requirements of major international trading partners (US and EU).

48. Ministers and Representatives encouraged FAO to continue to assist countries to improve data collection of fishery statistics in cooperation with regional organizations as a basis for effective policy-making and management of coastal and subsistence fisheries and aquaculture.

III. RESPONDING TO EMERGING CHALLENGES IN THE FOOD AND NUTRITION SECTOR: FACILITATING TRADE AND PROTECTING CONSUMERS

49. Mr. Dirk Schulz, Food and Nutrition Officer, presented his paper. Mr. Schulz graphically showed that over the last 40 years, energy (calories) and protein (gm) intakes have been increasing in the Pacific Region. The key food and nutrition issues for the sub-region, he said, related to micronutrient deficiencies, diet and lifestyle diseases and food borne diseases and hazards. Clearly, the focus should be on food quality - as the diseases are primarily related to inadequate quality rather than insufficient quantity of food. A key challenge lies in providing safer and higher quality food both for consumption and to enhance trade.

50. Mr. Schulz demonstrated the importance of trade to countries of the sub-region by graphically showing how values of imports have consistently outdone those of exports during the last 40 years. Three countries (Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea) were WTO members and three (Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu) were presently acceding. Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Nauru and Niue have ratified PICTA. Mr. Schulz briefly described the two WTO agreements – the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT). Mr. Schulz said that to facilitate their external trade, countries need to harmonise their standards with those internationally accepted adding that countries were expected to use the international standards as the basis for regulations. Mr. Schulz explained how the standards of Codex Alimentarius provide the means of compliance with the provisions of the SPS and TBT Agreements. He stated that Codex is an integral part of the legal framework within which international trade was being facilitated.

51. Mr. Schulz informed that the most common issues in the sub-region have been the lack of awareness of the importance of food safety and quality for enhanced trade and consumer protection and inadequate food regulatory structures and systems. Responsibilities have often been overlapping and fragmented with insufficient coordination among stakeholders. Furthermore, some food safety legislations were outdated and surveillance and inspection and risk analysis were inadequately provided.

52. In concluding, Mr. Schulz made the following recommendations: promote a coordinated national approach to food safety and standards that involves all key stakeholders; revise national food safety legislation and food standards to harmonise them with Codex Alimentarius; strengthen import / export control systems; strengthen national and regional capacity to conduct risk analysis and related scientific work in support of food control; revitalise, establish and strengthen national Codex committees; promote pro-active, preventative approaches to food safety and quality throughout the food chain; address nutritional issues such as diet and lifestyle related diseases and micronutrient deficiencies through NPANs; and enhance the monitoring of food insecurity and vulnerability in the region through systems utilising FIVIMS.

53. New Zealand and Samoa underlined the negative impact of the shift made by Pacific island communities away from their traditional diets and lifestyles highlighting the high costs to countries' economies of efforts to remedy dietary and lifestyle related diseases. Ministers and Representatives endorsed the need for countries to continue addressing nutritional issues such as diet and lifestyle related

diseases and micronutrient deficiencies through the framework provided by National Plans of Action for Nutrition (NPAN).

54. Samoa lauded the effort made by FAO with New Zealand support to establish standards for seafood through capacity building activities in HCCAP. Ministers and Representatives endorsed promoting a coordinated national and regional approach to food safety and standards and revitalising or establishing national Codex committees. Ministers and Representatives endorsed strengthening national and regional capacity to conduct risk analysis in support of food control and promoting pro-active, preventative approaches to food safety and quality problems throughout the food chain.

55. Ministers and Representatives further endorsed the recommendation to enhance the monitoring of food insecurity and vulnerability in the countries of the region through systems utilising the FIVIMS.

IV. PLANT PROTECTION AND BIO-SECURITY IN THE PACIFIC REGION

56. Dr. Matairangi Pura presented his paper. He briefly reviewed the main plant protection activities implemented in member PICs aiming at facilitating trade through strengthening countries' capacities to comply with sanitary and phytosanitary measures. Plant and Animal Quarantine legislations were reviewed and updated for Cook Islands, Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Samoa, Marshall Islands and Palau. Quarantine and plant protection officers were trained on import risk analysis and pest lists of some countries were updated. Cook Islands, Tonga, New Caledonia, Samoa and Vanuatu received technical assistance for providing effective export quarantine treatment by high temperature forced air (HTFA) systems.

57. Dr. Pura informed that Fiji, Cook Islands and Tonga were active in implementing the systems approach to pest risk management through pre border biosecurity. Activities in this systems approach, he said, included documentation, growers' registration, audit for efficacy of field treatments, surveillance and trapping, auditing for compliance and post treatment.

58. Dr. Pura pointed out that Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was the main approach in insect and disease management in the region. He mentioned biocontrol as a popular management tool, citing as examples, use of *Rodolia limbata* (lady beetle) on the breadfruit mealy bug in Kiribati, Flatworm (*Platydemus manokwari*) on Giant African Snails in Samoa and *Encarsia* wasp on Whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci*) in Cook Islands.

59. Dr. Pura briefly discussed Ecologically Based Pest Management (EBPM), a system developed from IPM of insects and weeds and which emphasises ecological issues and the systems approach. He described the main goals of the system as specifically targeting control focus in order to minimise or avoid control of non-target species and to conserve environmental health. Dr. Pura briefly described the use of EBPM in the TCP project in Kiribati for management of rats in coconut plantations. By monitoring the population levels of the rats, safer decisions (for non-target species) on when and when not to bait, could be made. Dr. Pura described an innovative baiting system that the project established using support for the bait provided by coconut petioles.

60. In concluding, Dr. Pura recommended that FAO collaborate with other relevant regional organisations to set an overall strategy direction in biosecurity for the region and identify general areas of priority to enhance trade. Furthermore, FAO should assist in building capacity in risk analysis of trans-border movement of LMO into the region and training in risk analysis and general awareness in GMO and LMO for officers in quarantine, plant protection and environment services. Finally, FAO should

assist by providing technical assistance for a regional approach to the management of troublesome invasive weeds (*Meremia*, Balloon Vine, African Tulip, etc.)

61. The Representative of Cook Islands commended FAO and SPC for signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations. He expressed belief that the FAO and SPC could add considerable value to each other's activities in their respective member countries, particularly in the area of plant protection.

62. Fiji referred to international conventions and agreements to which the country was party to, citing the WTO SPS and TBT Agreements and the Convention on Biodiversity. Fiji expressed appreciation for further capacity building in these areas. Furthermore, Fiji expressed the hope that FAO would provide technical assistance in building awareness in the new areas of GMO and LMO, and, in combating invasive weeds, notably in the case of Fiji, African Tulip and *Meremia*. New Zealand pointed out that bio-security of Pacific countries was under increasing pressure. Regarding GMO and LMO, New Zealand expressed belief that it was important that countries have access to impartial technical advice and that FAO was the most appropriate organisation to provide such advice.

63. Ministers and Representatives noted the progress made by PICs in aligning their legislation to the provisions of the SPS Agreement and in building their capacity in bio-security, integrated pest management and ecologically based pest management.

64. The Representative of Australia suggested, and Ministers and Representatives agreed, that FAO should be urged to provide better funding support for the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat so that the resources available to the IPPC are at the level suggested in the IPPC Business Plan. Ministers and Representatives further urged IPPC to allocate more resources for technical assistance to FAO member PICs.

65. Samoa suggested, and Ministers and Representatives agreed, that FAO should consider adding agronomy and/or horticulture to its technical capability in the Pacific region, recognising the importance to member countries of bio-security issues and the need to complement the systems approach and crop production related assistance currently provided by FAO.

V. FARM MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING EXTENSION FOR SMALL FARMERS: THE CRITICAL ROLE OF ADVICE AND INFORMATION

66. Mr. Heiko Bammann, Farming Systems Development and Marketing Officer, presented his paper on the above subject. Mr. Bammann said that numerous studies have concluded that producers in low-income countries, like PICs, may not benefit greatly from freer trade unless they can operate in an economic environment that enables them to respond to the incentives of higher and more stable international prices. A number of companion policies - e.g. removal of domestic policy bias in agriculture, investment to lift product quality to standards demanded abroad and efforts to improve productivity and competitiveness - implemented alongside the measures to lower trade barriers, would help.

67. Mr. Bammann described the mandate of FAO's Agriculture Support Systems Division (AGS) as the strengthening of advisory and support services for farmers and agribusiness with a focus on agricultural marketing and rural finance services. The AGS work programme, he said, consisted of a range of elements such as: commercialisation by small-scale farms; urban food security needs; provision of commercial services including post-harvest processing and marketing; and support to small- and

medium-scale agribusinesses. However, commercialisation has to be achieved through sustainable activities and with minimal or no impact on the environment.

68. Mr. Bammann briefly described the AGS regular programme project “Enhancing Small Farmer Livelihoods” which identifies the commercialisation of small farm production as a critical rural development issue. In the Pacific, Mr. Bammann said, small farmers face both opportunities and risks as a result of market liberalization, privatisation of agricultural services and globalisation of trade.

69. Mr. Bammann informed that over the past six years, FAO SAPA has been attempting to support small farmers’ shift to more commercial oriented production. The SAPA office organised three regional workshops related to commercialisation of small farms, improved marketing, market-oriented production and the critical role of improved farm management. A number of projects have been and are being implemented in support of commercialisation of small farms. Specific issues that have been covered are the technical areas of farm management, agri-business and marketing of agricultural produce.

70. According to Mr. Bammann, the critical need for training and support of farmers in basic farm management has emerged with the “modernization” of traditional farm household systems toward more commercial and market orientated farming. Assistance was required to enable local agencies to provide business support to farmers, such as developing business plans, marketing farm products, farm-record keeping, evaluating profitability and writing loan proposals.

71. Mr. Bammann said that the implementation of the various projects has indicated an important need for generic and simple training materials. This material should be easily modifiable and adjustable for the specific local or country situation. It should be the basis for the production and distribution of simple extension leaflets for field level extension staff and farmers in the local language. Production of the training material should comprise three outputs targeting different groups involved in small farmer development: farmers; extension and advisory groups; and policy makers.

72. Fiji commended FAO for the assistance aimed at strengthening the capacity of small farmers to improve the livelihoods of their families. Fiji highlighted the issues of youths’ and women’s indifference to opportunities, limited available markets and under-developed post-harvest processing industries. Vanuatu supported the FAO AGS approach, suggesting that her effort to develop small-scale organic farming and other agricultural products for niche markets would gain from the activities of the projects outlined by Mr. Bammann. Vanuatu cautioned however, that the shift to more commercial production should not be accompanied by negative impact on the environment. Papua New Guinea suggested difficulties would probably be met in the shift to more commercial mode when social and cultural dimensions are considered. Papua New Guinea supported FAO’s approach to supporting development of small commercially oriented farmers but suggested that bigger farmers may also benefit from the interventions discussed in the paper.

73. Ministers and Representatives encouraged FAO to actively collaborate with Regional Programmes such as the EU-SPC Development of Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific (DSAP) and the RPFS and NGO initiatives in the provision of advice, training and information to farmers on farm management and marketing in the Pacific.

VI. IMPROVING MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF FORESTS AND TREE RESOURCES IN THE REGION

74. Mr. Aru Mathias, Forestry Resources Management Officer, presented his paper on the above subject. Mr. Mathias underlined the significance of forest and tree resources to economies of PICs by

revealing country information and data that showed 23.3 per cent of the total land area of PICs is comprised of forests. He informed that all PICs were facing forestry related environmental problems including: high rates of deforestation; severe forest degradation; and encroachment and destruction of watershed areas. Furthermore, PICs face threats to animal habitats and wildlife resources, coastal erosion and entry of invasive weed species.

75. Mr. Mathias briefly described the priority actions in forestry development in recent years. Countries have been taking the initiative to: manage their remaining natural forests in a sustainable way; involve resource owners in managing their forest and tree resources; identify watershed areas and improve their management; strengthen conservation, collection and storage of germplasm; and establish networks of protected areas to conserve flora and fauna.

76. Mr. Mathias stated that the most important challenge remaining was that of what institutional arrangements could be made to promote sustainable development and management of forest and tree resources. In this regard, he highlighted four issues that face countries. The first issue related to the need to establish and implement policies and legislation governing the use of forest resources on a sustainable basis. A national policy, he said, should be part of a national land use policy that ensures balance between forest use, agricultural and other land uses and conservation.

77. The second issue, Mr. Mathias said, was the need to develop appropriate land use categories for forestry related development. In PICs, the active competition between different sectors for use of land has sometimes caused conflicts. A proper land use classification of forestland could provide security of tenure and assist institutionalised processes for acquisition of land for forestry purposes.

78. Mr. Mathias described the third issue as the need to reform forestry agencies and institutions. In the Pacific region, he said, very little land is vested with governments. Thus it was vital to involve and train customary landowners in managing and conserving their own forests and trees. Mr. Mathias suggested that with integration of the national forestry sector into the market economy and considering environmental issues, there could be justification for examining the potential for increased use of traditional management practices and involvement of stakeholders in decision-making processes.

79. Mr. Mathias outlined the fourth issue as the need to use appropriate methodologies and technologies for information and data collection, analysis and storage. He said that baseline information and data on forestry in the region were loose and fragmented and has been contributing little to policy development and implementation. Mr. Mathias informed that FAO has been assisting in this area through the FRA 2000 Resource assessment and through the forest statistics and product reports.

80. Mr. Mathias informed that the provisions in the WTO Agreement on Agriculture did not apply to forest products. However, tariff and many non-tariff barrier aspects were negotiated for industrial goods just as they were for agricultural products. Terms and conditions in the various other WTO Agreements applied equally to agricultural and forestry products. Of particular relevance to forestry were the SPS and TBT Agreements. The practices of certification and labelling of forest products have been adopted by some Pacific countries.

81. Mr. Mathias highlighted some issues affecting tree planting and agroforestry. Increased population pressure and expanded monoculture cropping for exports have caused excessive loss of trees and contraction of the traditional fallow periods. There has also been general preference for planting exotic species and failure to recognise the full value of local species. Furthermore, there has been lack of coordinated effort to identify and address issues that protect trees and promote tree planting.

82. Mr. Mathias concluded by making the following recommendations: review the status of tree planting in each country and identify problems and needs; direct tree planting objectives to people's needs; set new policy frameworks, goals and approaches to promote and encourage tree planting, forest regeneration and sustainable management of forest resources; investigate practical approaches to acquire land for tree planting purposes and facilitate institutionalised processes for improvements; increase the knowledge and capacity of tree growers in technical areas relating to tree growing, protection and management; promote participatory approaches to development and management of forest and tree resources; and promote the collection of appropriate forestry information and data and support their use in decision making processes.

83. Ministers and Representatives endorsed the recommendations made in the paper. New Zealand shared experiences in negotiations relating to state and indigenous lands and possible links between land ownership and permanent reserve status and unsustainable and sustainable logging practices. Fiji offered information on the status of Fiji forestry related industries. Hardwood has had recurring problems, now under review, to be possibly followed by a major restructure of the industry. The softwood industry has focussed on high value products for niche markets. Fiji welcomed technical assistance from FAO. Vanuatu highlighted the unsustainable heavy logging that had occurred in that country over a long period; a new Forest Act (with Regulations) now applies strict controls on logging.

5. INFORMATION ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMO)

84. Dr. Matairangi Pura and Mr. Dirk Schulz jointly made this presentation. Dr. Pura defined GMO as an organism (e.g. plant or animal) that has been genetically engineered i.e. some selected genes in its cell have been manipulated or altered in the laboratory. GMO was also known as a product of modern biotechnology. Biotechnology in agriculture includes manipulation of genetic material and transfer of genes between organisms, in order to promote desired traits and suppress unwanted ones. This has often been referred to as genetic engineering (GE) or genetically modified (GM). Dr. Pura defined LMO (Living Modified Organism) as the live or living product of GMO e.g. the transgenic papaya in Hawaii.

85. Dr. Pura briefly discussed the advantages and disadvantages of GMO. GMO could generate economic benefits. Application has been made mainly in the production of insect and disease resistant germplasm. Dr. Pura gave the following examples: PRSV resistance in papaw; insect pest resistance cotton; virus resistance in tomatoes (TMV – chlorosis, small Lvs and CMV – chlorosis, disto Fruits); CMV resistance to virus in capsicums; CMV resistance to virus in rock melon; and ZYMV resistance to virus in squash. Dr. Pura informed that GMO could help in the alleviation of global food problems. Use of high yielding disease-resistant crops could help improve food security and alleviate poverty.

86. On the negative side, Dr. Pura said, risks were involved in the use of GMO. The transferred gene may spread to the wild population of the crop and the target pests may become resistant to the transgenic crop. Furthermore, by using GMO plants, farmers would not be able to extract seeds for future planting (e.g. transgenic papaya in Hawaii).

87. Dr. Pura briefly described the global distribution of GMO use. Worldwide, 55 million hectares have been planted to GM crops in 2001, more than twice the area of New Zealand. This area is continually increasing. Four crops have dominated GM plantings, taking up 99 per cent of the total planted area. Many more GM crops are being developed in research projects. In 2001, thirteen countries were growing GM crops, with four growing 99 per cent of the total area. The four countries include:

USA (68%); Argentina (22%); Canada (6%); and China (3%). In 2001, 5.5 million farmers grew GM crops, 75% of them in developing countries, mainly China and South Africa. In the Pacific region, only Hawaii has been involved in developing and growing GM crops - the transgenic papaya, which has resistance against Papaya Ring Spot Virus (PRSV).

88. Mr. Schulz briefly discussed the benefits accruing from, and risks involved in, the use of GM foods. According to Mr. Schulz, potential benefits of GM foods include improved nutrition quality of foods. He cited as examples, the enhanced fatty acid composition of rape seed/canola oil and the betacarotene/Vitamin-A rich golden rice. Also, some GM foods have shown superior functionality compared to their non-GM counterparts e.g. longer storage life in GM tomato and low gluten for improved brewing in GM rice. Mr. Schulz briefly described the risks involved in use of GM foods. Potentially unintended effects could be realised as result of insertion of DNA sequences. Targeting a certain genetic variation could result in other alterations, which may cause allergenicity, toxicity and undesirable reaction by the immune system and the gastro-intestinal tract.

89. Mr. Schulz pointed out that FAO, in collaboration with WHO, has organised a series of scientific expert consultations to address safety aspects of genetically modified foods. He explained that the safety assessment of GM foods is currently based on the concept of “substantial equivalence”, or in other words, the comparison of safety aspects of GM foods with those of non-genetically modified foods.

90. Ministers and Representatives noted with appreciation the information provided by FAO on GMO and LMO and requested FAO to act as clearing house for FAO PIC member countries for all information relating to GMO, LMO and bio-technology.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

91. There was no other business to discuss.

7. ADOPTION OF COMMUNIQUÉ

92. The Meeting adopted the Communiqué, which is attached as Annex F.

8. VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

93. Ministers agreed that the next meeting would be convened and held in Cook Islands during 2005.

9. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

94. The SRR expressed sincere appreciation to the Government of Fiji for hosting the Meeting, the excellent organisation and tremendous support provided before and during the Meeting and the invitation and hospitality extended to the Director-General of FAO. He reassured the Ministers and Representatives that FAO SAPA would continue striving to improve the quality of their biennial Meetings.

95. The Chairperson thanked the Honourable Ministers and Representatives for their deliberations. He commended the staff of FAO SAPA for the clear and precise presentations of the background documents.

ANNEX A

List of Participants

GOVERNMENTS

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Australian High Commission

Mr. Adrian Morrison
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SECRETARIAT

FAO SUB REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE PACIFIC

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Farming System Development & Marketing
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Food and Nutrition Officer

Mr. Masanami Izumi
Fishery Officer

Dr. Matairangi Porea
Plant Protection Officer

Mr. Aru Mathias
Forestry Resources Management Officer

Mr. 'Aleki F Sisifa
Consultant for FAO, Policy Assistance

ANNEX B

Keynote Address

by

Dr. Jacques Diouf

Director-General of FAO

*Honourable Prime Minister,
Your Royal Highness,
Distinguished Delegates,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

It is a great honour for me to address you at this Fifth Meeting of the South West Pacific Ministers for Agriculture in Suva. Fiji is a land of ancient rituals and its culture is based on the well-being of extended families where the interests of the group are always regarded as above those of the individual.

I wish to express my thanks to you all and specifically to the Government of the Republic of Fiji for having invited FAO to address the meeting. I also wish to express my appreciation to the Government and people of Fiji for the hospitality rendered to me since my arrival on these friendly shores.

I am especially grateful to His Excellency Laisenia Qarase, Prime Minister of Fiji. His Excellency's presence at today's inaugural ceremony testifies to the high priority accorded by the government to poverty alleviation and food and nutrition security.

*Honourable Ministers
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen*

Your meeting is taking place in a context of rapid global economic, social and political change. The goals of the Johannesburg Summit in September 2002 reflected those of the *World Food Summit: five years later* held in Rome in June last year. With 11 countries in attendance, of which 6 at the level of Head of State or Government, the Pacific region was well-represented at the Rome Summit; and I take this opportunity to reiterate my most sincere appreciation to the region for the mark of importance attached to the Summit.

The International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey in 2002 called for an increase in ODA flows to high priority areas for development and poverty eradication. Elimination of hunger requires such additional national and international investment. More resources are necessary for productive agriculture, in poor rural communities, conservation of natural resources, and expansion of rural infrastructure. Dissemination of knowledge as well as action to ensure access to food are indispensable for the most needy.

In the coming years, the globalization and liberalization of trade for agricultural products, the movement of capital, and the transfer of technology should take place in such a way that both developed and

developing countries are able to enhance the living conditions of their peoples. For agriculture in particular, it is essential that developing countries increase their response capacity in agricultural products to be able to take advantage of greater market opportunities in fairer international trade. FAO will continue to make available to its Member Nations the analyses and information needed to reinforce the technical skills in negotiating under the framework of Doha.

*Honourable Ministers
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen*

Food shortages caused by natural disasters continue to be experienced in many countries in the Pacific. During the current season alone, a number of countries have been hit by cyclones and many people are facing food emergencies.

The role of FAO in such a context is more important than ever, primarily in assessing the food and agricultural situation, determining food aid needs and informing the international community, through the Global Information and Early Warning System, which is working in cooperation with the World Food Programme.

Recently, the FAO Sub-regional Office for the Pacific coordinated the UN inter-agency efforts in Samoa to combat the impacts of cyclones on coastal and marine areas and on food security. It promoted the concept of long-term sustainable use and management practices of aquatic resources to lessen the adverse impact of cyclones and enable faster recovery of affected areas.

With the possibility of yet another *El Nina* period, countries in the region face a high risk of tropical cyclones. I urge the governments concerned to take the necessary precautionary steps to minimize impact on vulnerable groups of the population and on the agriculture sector, which remains the prime mover of many Pacific economies. Moreover, I share your deep concerns at a likely rise in sea levels, destructive fishing practices and the negative effects of globalization. In this context, leaders of Pacific island nations attending the *World Food Summit: five years later* in Rome last year sought international action to help them tackle these threats. I am thus pleased to announce that FAO would be pleased to host, in 2004, a follow-up meeting to the 1999 Special Ministerial Conference on Agriculture in Small Island Developing States. The objective of the new Conference would be to assess progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action, identify constraints and the means for overcoming them.

In an ever interdependent world, there are also events at the international level that may have implications for agriculture and food security in the Pacific region. The epidemics of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) and foot-and-mouth disease, salmonella, and mutant drug-resistant *E. coli* infection raise doubts about the long-term viability of some forms of intensive agriculture and have changed consumer perception of the consequences of unbridled efforts to maximize output, and to cut costs.

Elsewhere, the genetic modification of food crops and animals has sparked off fierce controversy. While GMOs are not necessary today to achieve the objectives of the 1996 World Food Summit, they offer

great potential for feeding a growing world population. Their development and application needs to be monitored scientifically and within an international framework. This will make it possible to benefit from the positive aspects, while avoiding any possible detrimental effects on human health and the environment.

*Honourable Ministers,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Your meeting will review the implementation of the decisions reached at your 4th meeting in 2001 in Vanuatu as well as discuss the challenges in the implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action.

Development of the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors is, and will continue to be, crucial to the overall economic performance of the Pacific countries. It is therefore essential to increase the flow of capital to the sector for water control and soil management, marketing infrastructure and services as well as agricultural research.

The ratification and implementation of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, which will ensure equitable sharing and preservation of our genetic heritage, is a high priority.

It is also imperative that Pacific countries increase their capacity for early warning, prevention and management of disasters, in view of their incidence and impact.

Another big challenge is to implement comprehensive action plans combining legal and fiscal measures with effective enforcement to conserve forests and protect watersheds.

*Honourable Ministers,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

FAO's Special Programme on Food Security is trying, in low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs), to help the rural poor to increase productivity, raise incomes and enrich their food sources. FAO is firmly convinced of the benefits to the Pacific countries of the full implementation of a Regional Programme for Food Security, and the Organization is ready to provide all possible support and assist the countries concerned in mobilizing additional financing and technical cooperation from donor countries.

*Honourable Ministers,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

FAO looks forward to learning of your ideas, experiences and intentions. Your consultations today and tomorrow will help to ensure its ownership by a broad array of stakeholders in the Pacific and thereby its success as a concrete outcome of the *World Food Summit: five year later*.

I wish you a successful meeting.

Thank you all for your kind attention.

ANNEX C

Opening Address

by

Right Honourable Laisenia Qarase

Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji

Your Excellency, Dr. Jacques Diouf, Director-General of FAO
Her Royal Highness, Princess Pilolevu Tuita of Tonga
Honourable Ministers from the South West Pacific
Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corp
Ladies and Gentlemen

I am greatly honoured to welcome all the participants to this fifth FAO South West Pacific Ministers of Agriculture meeting here in Suva. The regional delegates are particularly pleased that Dr. Jacques Diouf, Director-General of the FAO, is with us. I met Dr. Diouf at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa last year and we briefly discussed this conference. He told me then that he intended to come. So let us all thank him for fulfilling that commitment and also demonstrating that the FAO attaches high importance to its work in the region. The Pacific Islands have long relied on agriculture for their economic and social welfare. Well, before the arrival of western civilisation, we had evolved efficient systems of agricultural production and fisheries that were appropriate for our needs and circumstances. But as our contact and involvement with the larger world increased, we found that the traditional ways were not enough. Development and the cash economy came. There were the challenges of population growth, urbanisation, over-exploitation of land and lagoons and threats to the environment. Trade brought imported processed food and produce.

These began to replace more wholesome diets, which had sustained us for thousands of years. We found that the new food was not always good for us. Low quality, cheap meat, loaded with fat, is often dumped in the islands. Other products are also of questionable dietary value. The health of our people has suffered as a result. Farmers found it difficult to get their crops and their catch to market. The customers were simply too far away; marketing infrastructure and transport were lacking. The combined effect of all these factors is that Pacific Island agricultural production is either stagnant or dropping. Costs are high and we have few competitive advantages internationally. The dependency on imports increases; the farms and plantations, which should be pillars of our economic well-being need to be propped up themselves.

All this is on the downside. But let us not forget that despite the constraints we are grappling with, the South Pacific Island countries fare better than developing nations in other parts of the world. We regularly see images of starvation and famine which speak in the most harrowing fashion of the failure of humanity to meet the basic needs of millions of earth's inhabitants. It is a moral outrage that when some people are so prosperous they have more food than they can eat, others live in a state of almost permanent starvation and finally succumb and die.

In the islands there are no chronic food shortages; we can still feed ourselves, either from the land or the supermarkets and stores. FAO figures confirm that in the total context of the poorer nations, our region does not face particularly serious problems of poverty and access to food. But they show there are significant disparities of income and national wealth.

In terms of gross domestic product per capita, most island countries are classified as lower middle-income. Economic development, however, seems to have taken place in the larger islands, with the smaller and more remote states lagging behind. In one of the bigger countries, average GDP per capita is placed at about \$US1,000 annually, while approximately 80 per cent of the population is believed to have a yearly income of less than \$US350.

Given these differences, it is not surprising there are pockets of chronic under-nourishment. We come then to the theme for this meeting. Food security means ensuring that nations have enough access to food to ensure that their populations are properly fed. In Rome in 1996, the United Nations laid the foundation for the common objective of food security at the individual, household, national, regional and global levels. It exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

If a country cannot feed itself, it is failing in one of the fundamental requirements of national purpose. Let me now share with you how we in Fiji are approaching this issue. In line with the economic orthodoxies of the times, some previous Governments tended to stress our dependence on the commercial aspects of the global economy. Free and open trade was the economic panacea. If we could import food more cheaply, then what was the purpose of local production?

One of the consequences of this thinking was that our Fiji rice industry, which had provided a livelihood and way of life for thousands of our Indian farmers, was virtually destroyed. The millions of dollars invested earlier in infrastructure went to waste. We are now moving to establish the industry, both as a means of bolstering food security and providing rural incomes.

Fiji is the only country in the islands with a dairy industry. It cannot yet stand on its own, without government backing. But it creates significant economic activity in parts of the country where there is a pressing need to raise living standards. The dairy farms and their processing factory produce a basic food, essential for the national diet. Local production reached a yearly peak of 12.5 million litres but this is still far short of the volume needed for self-sufficiency.

Now, we believe this enterprise should be given support because there is obviously massive scope for expansion. The FAO agrees and is providing valuable aid to boost output and efficiency among the smaller, poorer farmers. The aim is to increase the number of farms and upgrade production while reducing our reliance on imports.

The reality of international competition, however, is that dairying in Fiji could be wiped out very quickly if it was exposed at this stage to the full might of overseas producers. We opt for enhancement of food security, more local jobs and farm incomes. Bear in mind that 54 percent of the population lives in rural areas and they are among the poorest. Their participation is also crucial in any national drive to

regenerate agriculture. I quote the FAO: "If we have to grow enough food to feed the world, then change has to start from the village."

Our strategy is to encourage villagers and rural dwellers to be more vigorously committed to using their land or their lease for the food security of their families and as a means of lifting their earnings. This will also reverse the urban drift, which adds to social ills in the towns and cities. Through a farming assistance scheme, the Government provides equipment, tools, technical advice and planting material. Help is given to individuals, villages and youth groups. The response from the people is good and Fiji is beginning to reap the fruits of this through higher production. There is more food for families and the surplus sells in the markets. The next stage of the plan is to erect more market centres in rural areas.

There is a direct link between this strategy and our tourism industry, which is experiencing robust growth. Each year the industry brings in about \$30 million worth of fresh fruit and vegetables. That is a ready market for our small farmers, as long as they meet commercial standards relating to quality, price and consistency.

In the 1960s, Fiji began to provide subsidised low-cost housing for increasing urban populations. Some of the first examples were blocks of flats of several storeys. What the planners of the time did not take into account was the role of land use in our cultures. Even those who had moved into the urban regions still wanted their own small plot for vegetable growing. The residents of these first flats had no access to land for this type of family cultivation, which has direct significance for food security. The most successful of the migrants to the towns were those who occupied a single house, with a block large enough for planting. We are now advancing with plans for demolishing the flats and resettling the residents in their own homes, with a garden. They will thus live in a more pleasant environment and have the chance to grow their own food.

Ladies and gentlemen, we all appreciate the part the FAO is playing in raising agricultural productivity and bettering the lives of rural populations. I am sure Ministers will be describing FAO activities in their own countries. In Fiji, the FAO is extending assistance in many ways – through the dairy industry, which I have just mentioned, in the improvement of horticultural production, and support for village and youth enterprises, fish farming, piggeries, ice-making and co-operatives. Here and in the region, the FAO is our partner in defeating poverty and hastening development by ensuring that our countries have enough food for their peoples and for the strengthening of their economies.

I wish the conference well and assure you that Fiji looks forward to supporting the proposed regional programme.

ANNEX D

Agenda

1. Official Opening
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. FAO activities in the Pacific
4. Food Security: Perspectives for the Pacific Region:
 - i Agricultural Development and Food Security Policies in the Pacific
 - ii Management and Further Development of Fisheries
 - iii Responding to Emerging Challenges in the Food and Nutrition Sector: Facilitating Trade and Protecting Consumers
 - iv Plant Protection and Biosecurity in the Pacific Region
 - v Farm Management and Marketing Extension for Small Farmers: the critical role of advice and information
 - vi Improving Management and Development of Forests and Tree Resources in the Region
5. Information on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)
6. Other business
7. Adoption of the Communiqué
8. Venue of Next Meeting
9. Closing of the Meeting

ANNEX E

List of FAO SAPA Projects

TCP & Telefood

The Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific (SAPA) is responsible for co-ordinating many activities to be implemented for its member countries. To assist the member countries with the daily processing of such activities, two key personnel are responsible for the daily liaison, review, appraisal and processing of all proposals, through to the implementation stage.

Together with the responsible technical officer, they would monitor and report on the overall implementation and effectiveness of the operation of the programmes and projects, including inter-regional or regional projects.

SAPA has processed a number of proposals for Telefood and TCP Projects for member countries in the period 2001-2002. A total of 28 Telefood projects and 3 TCP projects were approved within the same period. Some further projects are awaiting approval from FAO headquarters. Some projects have been put on hold due to member country personnel being absent or political unrest.

Below is a list of projects initiated or ongoing for 2001-2002

TCP PROJECTS

Fisheries

- TCP/FIJ/0167 (USD 60,000) - Enhancement of Customary Marine Fishery Tenure
- TCP/MAS/2801 (USD 156,000) - Seaweed Cultivation in Marshall Islands
- TCP/TON/0166 (USD 143,000) - Development for Seaweed Farming
- TCP/RAS/2802 (USD323,000) - National HACCP-based Fish Inspection System in the South Pacific

- GCP/RAS/183/JPN (USD 250,000) - Support for Improvement of Statistics on Coastal & Sub Fisheries & Aquaculture
- GCP/INT/715/JPN - Support of the Conservation and Management of Fisheries Resources

Forestry

- TCP/MAS/2901 (USD 43,000) - Assistance to Marshall Islands in Looking at Feasibility of Coconut Wood Utilisation
- TCP/SAM/2901 (USD 234,000) - Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the Samoa Forestry Division to Effectively Plan and Manage Forest Resources

Quarantine

- TCP/MAS/2903 (USD 256,000) - Assistance to Small-Scale Atoll Farmers Cultivating Sigatoka Disease-Free Bananas for Food Security in the Marshall Islands
- TCP/NAU/2901 (USD 135,000) - Strengthening Integrated Pest Management of Coconut Hispid

- TCP/KIR/0165 (USD 279,000) - Beetle (*Brontispa Longissima Gestro*) in Nauru
 - TCP/VAN/2801 (USD 175,000) - Management of Rats in Coconut Plantations
 - TCP/VAN/2801 (USD 175,000) - Integrated Management of Fruit Piercing Moth on Fruits and Vegetables in Vanuatu
- Agriculture**
- TCP/SAM/0165 (USD 182,000) - Re-establishing Samoa's Traditional Staple Food "Taro" through Rapid Propagation of Tolerant Leaf Blight Varieties
 - TCP/TON/0165 (USD 161,000) - Agricultural Census and Statistics
- Farming System and Marketing**
- TCP/VAN/0165 (USD 221,000) - Capacity Building for Farming System Development in Support of the Special Programme for Food Security and Increase Food Production
 - TCP/FIJ/0166 (USD 205,000) - Training of Extension Staff in Post-Harvest Handling and Marketing of Fresh Horticultural Produce
 - TCP/PNG/0165 (USD 260,000) - Capacity Building for Improved Agricultural Marketing and Farm Management
 - TCP/PAL/2801 (USD 198,000) - Capacity Building in Farm Management, Marketing and Value-adding Technologies for Sustainable Livelihoods
 - TCP/TON/2901 (USD 236,000) - Capacity Building in Farm Management, Marketing and Agribusiness for Young Farmer Groups
 - TCP/SOL/8921 (USD 270,000) - Capacity Building for Farming Systems Development in Support of the Special Programme for Food Security
- Livestock**
- TCP/VAN/2802 (USD 255,000) - Forage Based Smallholder Dairy Production
 - TCP/FIJ/2901 (USD 368,000) - Smallholder Forage Based Dairy Production
 - TCP/TON/8821 (USD 228,000) - Smallholder Forage Based Dairy Production
 - TCP/RAS/0172 (USD 379,000) - Regional Training Meat Processing Technology
- Food and Nutrition**
- TCP/RAS/2801 (USD 351,000) - Strengthening Food Analytical Capabilities in the Pacific Region
 - TCP/RAS/2905 (USD 122,000) - Capacity Building in Codex, Food Regulation and International Food Standards Harmonization
 - GCP/INT/742 (EU) (USD 250,000) - FIVIMS Project Emergency
 - OSRO/FIJ/901/FIN (USD 45,000) - Strengthening of National Capacity for Emergency Disasters Preparedness
- Other**
- GCP/INT/758 EC - Facility for provision of Consultancy services
 - TCP/RAS/2903 (USD 242,000) - Regional Programme for Food Security - Formulation Assistance
 - TCP/RAS/2906 (USD 122,000) - A Study to Evaluate the Benefits and Costs of WTO Membership for the Food, Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry Sectors of Small Island Countries in the Pacific

TELEFOOD PROJECTS

Cook Islands

- TFD-00/CKI/002 (USD 3,710) - Establishment of a Home Garden for the Mapu Vaine o Te Ivi o Kau group on Aitutaki islands
- TFD-00/CKI/001 (USD 2,316) - Establishment of a Small Cassava Processing Plant for the VANTAU Group to Enhance Food Security Household Income.
- TFD-00/CKI/003 (USD 5,543) - Establishment of a Pig Breeding Unit for Taoa Community-Magaia
- TFD-01/CKI/003 (6,818) - Establishment of a Rural Community Banana Dryland Taro Block
- TFD-01/CKI/004 (6,712) - Establishment of a Community Cassava Starch-Vaipaka Village

Fiji

- TFD-00/FIJ/001 (USD 7,134) - Saint Christopher Home Piggery
- TFD-00/FIJ/002 (USD 3,114) - Wainawaga District School Fish Farming Project
- TFD-00/FIJ/004 (USD 5,895) - Fencing and Rehabilitation of Community Gardens
- TFD-00/FIJ/005 (USD 7,205) - Navolau Village Youth Development
- TFD-01/FIJ/001 (USD 6,000) - Masaqali Rokoraite Fish Farming
- TFD-01/FIJ/002 (USD 6,108) - Udukula Youth Group Agricultural Project
- TFD-01/FIJ/004 (USD 3,671) - Ucuima Piggery Project

Kiribati

- TFD-00/KIR/002 (USD 5,000) - Dry Sow Pen
- TFD-00/KIR/003 (USD 5,164) - Establishment of Vegetable Garden to Provide to Student's Diet in Private Boarding Schools on Outer Islands

Marshall Islands

- TFD-00/MAS/002 (USD 10,000) - Improving of Local Chicken Production Lomajurok

Niue

- TFD-00/NIU/001 (USD 6,965) - Re-establishment of Hakupu Marine Conservation Area
- TFD-01/NIU/001 (USD 9,665) - Pig Production

Papua New Guinea

- TFD-99/PNG/002 (USD 8,610) - Pilot Commercial Farming
- TFD-99/PNG/003 (USD 3,765) - Pilot Commercial Poultry Farming
- TFD-99/PNG/004 (USD 1,910) - Women Involvement in Nurseries
- TFD-99/PNG/005 (USD 1,925) - Tree Fruit Seedling Production & Distribution

Samoa

- TFD-00/SAM/001 (USD 4,335) - Chicken Livestock Project - Neiafu
- TFD-00/SAM/002 (USD 5,035) - Mixed Cropping Development Project - Fagalii-Uta
- TFD-00/SAM/003 (USD 3,800) - Multiplication of Taro - Magiagi
- TFD-00/SAM/004 (USD 6,474) - Piggery Project – Saanapu
- TFD-00/SAM/005 (USD 5,900) - Small scale Commercial Piggery Project - Samatau
- TFD-00/SAM/006 (USD 3,943) - Aleisa Women's Group Taro - Fili

- TFD-01/SAM/002 (USD 4,800) - Establishment of a Poultry Farm using Samoa Type Chicken - Fogapoa
- TFD-01/SAM/003 (USD 6,300) - Small Scale Commercial Piggery - Falelatai
- TFD-01/SAM/004 (USD 6,112) - Vegetable Production for Loimata Apaula
- TFD-01/SAM/005 (USD 6,110) - Small Scale Commercial Piggery - Leaivi Vaimoso

Tonga

- TFD-00/TON/001 (USD 9,500) - Small Scale Commercial Piggery
- TFD-00/TON/004 (USD 10,000) - Piggery at Tupou College
- TFD-00/TON/005 (USD 9,700) - Small Scale Commercial Piggery (Vai Ko'Oa Hihifo)
- TFD-01/TON/003 (USD 8,000) - Koulo Youth Small Scale Commercial Piggery
- TFD-01/TON/004 (USD 9,065) - Funga Ene'io Women Group Poultry Project
- TFD-01/TON/005 (USD 9,000) - Mesilamea Scholarship Club Small Scale Community Piggery
- TFD-01/TON/002 (USD 4,563) - Longomapu Youth Project-Crop Production

Vanuatu

- TFD-00/VAN/001 (USD 4,300)) - Off-season Pineapple Export from North Ambrym
- TFD-00/VAN/004 (USD 6,250) - Fruit and Vegetable Gardening
- TFD-01/VAN/001 (USD 7,600) - South Santo Holding Community Poultry Project
- TFS-01/VAN/002 (USD 7,900) - South Malekula Community Piggery Project

ANNEX F

Communiqué

Ministers from the FAO South West Pacific region (Fiji, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu) and Representatives from Australia, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati and Nauru met at the Forum Secretariat, Suva, Fiji, from 31st March - 1st April 2003. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a range of issues relating to food security in the Pacific region and give guidance on the further elaboration of a programme of work on issues identified at the Fourth Meeting in Vanuatu on 26-27 July 2001.

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Dr Jacques Diouf delivered the keynote address. The Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji Islands, Right Honourable Laisenia Qarase opened the meeting. The Minister for Fisheries and Forests of Fiji, Honourable Konisi Yabaki was unanimously elected as Chairperson.

Ministers reviewed activities related to the 2001 Communiqué and noted progress achieved in several areas by the FAO Sub-regional Office for the Pacific Islands. Ministers suggested that an evaluation of FAO activities in the region would help FAO and countries in the region in planning future co-operation.

Ministers urged FAO to provide better funding support for the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat, so that the resources available to the IPPC are at the level suggested in the IPPC Business Plan.

Ministers encouraged FAO SAPA to act as a regional clearinghouse on GMO issues.

Recognising the importance of kava as a commercial crop for many PICs, Ministers requested FAO to collaborate with other regional agencies to address issues concerning the ban on the export of kava and kava products, noting the importance of a scientific and rules-based approach.

Ministers recognised the specific agricultural development needs of atoll countries and requested FAO to assist in addressing those needs.

Ministers unanimously endorsed the nomination of the Hon Jim Sutton, New Zealand's Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Biosecurity, Rural Affairs and Trade Negotiations, as Chair of the 2003 FAO Conference in Rome. Ministers were urged to attend the Rome Conference to strengthen the South West Pacific voice. Ministers were further urged to use that opportunity to support the election process to admit Tuvalu and Federated States of Micronesia as new members of FAO.

Agriculture Policies and Strategies in the Pacific

Ministers noted the continuing assistance provided by FAO to member countries for formulation of strategies for agricultural development and food security as follow up actions to the 1996 WFS Plan of Action. Ministers noted that an FAO mission was currently in the region to formulate the Regional Programme for Food Security for Pacific Island Countries. Ministers:

- Welcomed the opportunity provided by the new FAO initiative to review and update the National Strategies for Agricultural Development and Food Security: Horizon 2015.

- Endorsed in principle the proposed Regional Programme for Food Security for Pacific Island Countries (RPFS), welcomed progress in its development and urged FAO to complete the formulation and finalise the programme in consultation with member countries.
- Endorsed the importance placed by the RPFS on trade facilitation, agriculture policy and income generation at the community level.
- Endorsed the need for close co-operation and collaboration between the RPFS and relevant CROP agencies as well as bilateral and multilateral partners, both in the design of the programme and in its implementation.
- Emphasised that proper evaluation during the life of the RPFS would be needed in consideration of the short time frame of the RPFS, relative to other nationally targeted programmes and projects executed in the region.

Management and Further Development of Fisheries

Ministers highlighted the importance of fisheries to the livelihoods and food security of the Pacific Island nations and expressed concern about the growing problem of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing. Ministers strongly supported FAO Committee on Fisheries' recommendation that the issue of IUU fishing be placed on the agenda of the FAO Conference in November 2003. Ministers recognized the importance of sound management and sustainable use of fisheries resources, in particular coastal fisheries. In relation to regional tuna fisheries management, Ministers noted the continuing close cooperation between FAO and the Preparatory Conference of the WCPT Convention (Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific). More specifically, Ministers:

- Noted the continuing assistance provided by FAO for implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries at the national and regional levels and suggested that regional/national workshops be conducted.
- Encouraged FAO to continue to assist countries to improve further the effectiveness of seafood quality assurance system in order to strengthen national capacity in seafood inspection and to meet the requirements of major international trading partners (markets in USA and EU).
- Encouraged FAO to continue to assist countries to improve data collection / fishery statistics in cooperation with regional organizations as a basis for effective policy-making and management of coastal and subsistence fisheries and aquaculture.
- Endorsed the importance of establishing a Commission in the region to be responsible for the management of highly migratory fish stocks.

Food and Nutrition Challenges

Ministers endorsed the need for countries to continue to address nutritional issues such as diet and lifestyle related diseases and micronutrient deficiencies through the framework provided by national plans of action for nutrition (NPAN). Furthermore, ministers endorsed:

- Promoting a coordinated national and regional approach to food safety and standards by relevant stakeholders and revitalizing or establishing National Codex committees.

- Revising national food safety legislation and food standards to harmonise them with Codex Alimentarius and thus ensure compliance with SPS and TBT Agreement obligations.
- Strengthening Food Import/Export Control systems to protect public health, prevent dumping of unsafe food in Pacific markets, meet consumer demands for quality and safety, and increase foreign revenue earnings by minimising the risk of detentions or rejections of high value exports.
- Strengthening national and regional capacity to conduct risk analysis in support of food control.
- Promoting pro-active, preventative approaches to food safety and quality problems throughout the food chain.
- Enhancing the monitoring of food insecurity and vulnerability in the region through systems utilizing the FIVIMS (Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information Mapping System) approach.

Plant Protection and Food Security

Ministers noted the progress made by PICs in aligning their legislations to the provisions of the SPS Agreement and in building their capacity in bio-security, Integrated Pest Management and Ecologically Based Pest Management. Ministers:

- Endorsed the request for FAO assistance in setting the overall strategic direction for bio-security in the region including facilitation of trade.
- Encouraged FAO to work together with other international and regional organisations in providing technical assistance for a regional approach to the management of troublesome invasive weeds to enhance crop production in the region.
- Suggested that FAO consider adding agronomy and/or horticulture to its technical capability in the Pacific region, recognising the importance to member countries of bio-security issues and the need to complement the systems approach and crop production related assistance currently provided by FAO.
- Encouraged FAO to assist countries build capacity in risk analysis of trans-border movement of LMOs in the region particularly in training and raising awareness about GMOs and LMOs
- Called on FAO to allocate additional funds to IPPC to provide technical advice to FAO Pacific Island member countries.

Enhancing Small Farmer Livelihoods

Ministers recognized the important role of farm management and marketing advice and information provided to small farmers in order to increase their contribution to rural income and employment as well as domestic food production. More specifically, Ministers:

- Recognised the need for, and encouraged FAO to assist in, strengthening national capacity and capability in farm management and marketing extension.

- Requested FAO to formulate programmes to enhance the capacity of diverse groups targeted for improved agricultural production and “farming as a business” viz. youth, women, producer organisations, contract farmers and farmer groups.
- Recognised the need for extension publications at three levels to support improved field level extension, targeting extension workers, advanced farmers, NGOs and policy makers.
- Appreciated the importance of feasibility studies to assess the impact of promising agribusiness opportunities for small farmers and groups of small farmers.
- Encouraged FAO to actively collaborate with regional programmes such as the EU-SPC Development of Sustainable Agriculture in the Pacific (DSAP) and the RPFS and NGO initiatives in the provision of advice, training and information to farmers on farm management and marketing in the Pacific.

Managing and Developing Forest and Tree Resources

Ministers recognised that sustainable management and development of forest and tree resources required improvements to be firmly embedded within national institutions. Ministers:

- Agreed that countries should direct their tree planting objectives to people’s needs and encouraged FAO to assist countries review uses of their trees and tree planting programmes.
- Endorsed the need for support to small-scale forest-based enterprises through ensuring availability of adequate financing and sustainable supplies of input materials and appropriate technology.
- Encouraged countries to develop and effectively implement their national forest policies, which should promote tree planting, agroforestry, forest regeneration and sustainable management of forest and tree resources, and, for these purposes, urged improvement to land-use planning processes.
- Encouraged FAO to work closely with countries to improve market access and assist in reviewing prices of forestry goods in order to improve and maximise benefits to resource owners and tree growers.
- Endorsed the need to promote participatory and community-based approaches in the development and management of forests and tree resources.

Ministers commended the staff of the FAO Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific Islands for the work and achievements over the last two years.

Ministers agreed that the next meeting would be convened and held in Cook Islands during 2005.

1. Honourable Konisi Yabaki (Fiji)
2. Honourable Damien O'Connor (New Zealand)
3. Honourable Tofua Puletama (Niue)
4. Honourable Moses Maladina (Papua New Guinea)
5. Honourable Tuisugaletaua Sofara Aveau (Samoa)
6. Honourable Paul Maenu'u (Solomon Islands)
7. Honourable Tuita (Kingdom of Tonga)
8. Honourable Samuelu Penitala Teo (Tuvalu)
9. Honourable Steven Kalsakau
(Republic of Vanuatu)
10. His Excellency Mr. Meita Beiabure (Kiribati)
11. His Excellency Mr. Mack Kaminaga
(Republic of the Marshall Islands)
12. Her Excellency Mrs. Camilla Solomon (Nauru)
13. Mr. David Ingham (Australia)
14. Mr. Ngatokorua Mataio (Cook Islands)
15. Mr. Patrick Mackenzie
(Federated States of Micronesia)

[Original signed in Suva, Fiji on 1st April 2003]

ANNEX G

List of Documents

Information Papers

Agricultural Development and Food Security Strategies and Policies in the Pacific, A. Sisifa, Consultant to FAO, Policy Assistance, FAO SAPA, Apia, Samoa

Management and Further Development of Fisheries, M. Izumi, Fishery Officer, FAO SAPA, Apia, Samoa

Responding to Emerging Challenges in the Food and Nutrition Sector: Facilitating Trade and Protecting Consumers, D. Schulz, Food and Nutrition Officer, FAO SAPA, Apia, Samoa

Plant Protection and Biosecurity in the Pacific Region, Dr Matairangi Porea, Plant Protection Officer, FAO SAPA, Apia, Samoa

Farm Management and Marketing Extension to Enhance Small Farmer Livelihoods: The Critical Role of Advice and Information, H. Bammann, Farming Systems Development and Marketing Officer, FAO SAPA, Apia, Samoa

Improving Management and Development of Forests and Tree Resources in the Region, A. Mathias, Forestry Officer, FAO SAPA, Apia, Samoa

TCP/RAS/2906 - Study to Evaluate the Benefits and Costs of WTO Membership for Food, Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry Sectors of Small Island Countries in the Pacific, M. Malua, Team Leader

Other Documents

FAO at Work – Pamphlet

Dairying in the Southwest Pacific – CD

Codex Alimentarius Commission – Procedural Manual – Twelfth Edition

Incorporating Nutrition Considerations into Agricultural Research Plans and Programmes

Guidelines for National FIVIMS – Background and Principles

The State of Insecurity in the World 2002 – when people must live with hunger and fear starvation

Improving Nutrition Programmes - an assessment tool for action

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Report of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation, Geneva, Switzerland, 13-17 March 1995 – Application of Risk Analysis to Food Standards Issues.

Report of a Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Foods Derived from Biotechnology, WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland, 29 May – 2 June 2000 – Safety aspects of Genetically Modified Foods of Plant Origin.

Report of a Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Foods Derived from Biotechnology, WHO Headquarters., Geneva, Switzerland, 24-28 September 2001 – Safety Assessment of Foods Derived from Genetically Modified Microorganisms

Report of a Joint FAO/WHO Consultation, Kiel, Germany, 18-22 March 2002 – Principles and Guidelines for Incorporating Microbiological Risk Assessment in the Development of Food Safety Standards, Guidelines and Related Texts