

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**TO:** Representatives of Civil Society Organisations,  
Non-State Actors and Community-Based Fisheries  
Practitioners **No.:** 22/37

**FILE:** PRO 7/54/4/2/13 **DATE:** 29 August 2022

**SUBJECT:** **Second Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue Session (13 October 2022) within the Fifth SPC Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture (Hybrid Meeting; 11-15 October 2022)**

### PURPOSE OF NOTICE

1. This is to inform the respective individuals and organisations - Civil Society Organisation (CSO), Non-State Actor (NSA), or Community-Based Fisheries (CBF) practitioner of the Second Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue (CBFD2) session, to be held within the Fifth Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture (RTMCF A5).
2. The CBF Dialogue session will be held using a hybrid format (virtual and in-person) on 13 October 2022. As this will be the second CBFD session representatives of the CSO, NSA and CBF practitioner communities are invited to fully engage in the CBF Dialogue plenary and breakout group discussions.
3. The Fifth Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture is being held 11-15 October 2022. The meeting will be held in-person at SPC's Headquarters in Noumea. The RTMCF A5 will be chaired by Nauru.
4. Participants in the CBFD session are invited to engage fully in RTMCF A5 breakout sessions and observe the plenary sessions.
5. Interested participants are invited to confirm their participation by completing the attached application form and send it back to the meeting secretariat i.e., [fame\\_meetings@spc.int](mailto:fame_meetings@spc.int) by Friday 9 September 2022.

### PURPOSES OF RTMCF A AND THE COMMUNITY-BASED FISHERIES DIALOGUE (CBFD) SESSION

#### *Regional Technical Meeting on Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture*

6. The overarching theme of RTMCF A5 is to discuss and address some of the main technical issues affecting coastal fisheries and aquaculture in support of better evidence-based resource management, the equitable access and benefit to resources, and to enhance the sustainable development of aquaculture and nearshore livelihoods.

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7. The RTMCFA meetings are led by the technical staff of SPC member country and territory fisheries agencies and are intended to focus on specific priority issues based on input from SPC members. Due to the hybrid format of the meeting it will be focused on a limited number of high priority coastal fisheries and aquaculture issues considered in two 2-hour sessions per day over three days, with a fourth day dedicated to the CBF Dialogue.
8. RTMCFA5 will be the second meeting to include the one-day CBF Dialogue session convened by, and focused on, CSO, NSA and CBF practitioner participation. In the CBF Dialogue sessions the SPC member fisheries and aquaculture agency participants are invited to engage fully in any CBF Dialogue breakout sessions and observe the CBF Dialogue plenary sessions.
9. The CBF Dialogue outcomes will be reported back by the CBF Dialogue Convenor to the RTMCFA5 plenary on 14 October and be included in the record of the RTMCFA5 Outcomes.
10. The RTMCFA5 will report to the 15<sup>th</sup> Heads of Fisheries meeting in early 2023. This will include the outcomes of the Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue session which will be presented to the Heads of Fisheries by the CBF Dialogue Convenor.
11. The outcomes from the Heads of Fisheries will be presented to the 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Fisheries Ministers Meeting (RFMM4) for their update and endorsement of key actions.

### **Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue**

12. The purpose of the CBF Dialogue is to provide the CSO, NSA and CBF practitioner communities with an opportunity to provide information, advice and key needs, through the RTMCFA, to Heads of Fisheries to assist with informing Leaders on priority issues and needs associated with the sustainable use of coastal fisheries resources. It is also to provide an opportunity to share experiences and lessons from community-based initiatives to strengthen efforts to maintain productive and healthy ecosystems and their associated fisheries resources that are critical to the wellbeing of coastal communities. SPC provides the secretariat support to the CBF Dialogue, and is guided by the CBF Dialogue Convenor and the CBF Dialogue Advisory Group.
13. Discussion supported by this dialogue will focus on issues of common regional significance to community-driven coastal fisheries generally.
14. As this will be the second CBF Dialogue session, in large part, it will focus on continuing the discussion from the first CBF Dialogue to establish appropriate administrative foundation for future CBF Dialogue sessions. Participants are invited to continue to advise and make recommendations for future CBF Dialogue session arrangements.
15. An Information Paper outlining suggested amendments to the arrangements will be posted on the SPC RTMCFA5 web site (see below) by 16 September and circulated to CBF Dialogue participants for comment on registration.
16. *Background to the CBF Dialogue session:* Regional Fisheries Ministers, at their Special Meeting in 2019, requested the Pacific Community (SPC) to commission a review to, in part, provide options and recommendations for a new mechanism for increasing the engagement of civil society and non-state actors to give effect to the Pacific Island Forum Leaders' decision in relation to coastal fisheries (paragraph 10, 47<sup>th</sup> Leaders Communique, 2016).

17. SPC Member Heads of Fisheries, past participants of the Coastal Fisheries Working Group, civil society representatives, SPC staff, and other stakeholders were consulted during the review. The final proposed mechanism (referred to as the “CBF session”) was reviewed, approved and endorsed by the 12<sup>th</sup> Heads of Fisheries meeting (HoF12; May 2020) and endorsed by the 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Fisheries Ministers Meeting (RFMM1; August 2020).

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

18. The draft RTMCFA5 Agenda, including the CBF Dialogue session, will be posted on the SPC meeting website (<https://fame1.spc.int/en/meetings/261>) by mid-September 2022.
19. Documents for the meeting will be available on the SPC website at the following address <https://fame1.spc.int/en/meetings/261>.
20. On receipt of complete expression of interest application form to participate in the CBF Dialogue session you will be sent further details on how to participate in the meeting.

#### **LANGUAGE**

21. As an official SPC sectoral meeting, the Fifth RTMCFA and the Second CBF Dialogue will be conducted in both English and French, with simultaneous interpretation, and translation of key papers.

#### **REPORT**

22. The formal report of the RTMCFA5 will consist of a list of decisions, outcomes and recommendations identified by the Chair, and agreed by consensus, called the “Outcomes” of the meeting. The Outcomes report will also include the outcomes of the Community-Based Fisheries Dialogue session. The Outcomes report will include a separate section focused on a limited number of specific, high priority meeting outcomes that need to be presented to the 15<sup>th</sup> Heads of Fisheries Meeting (early 2023) for consideration and decision by the Heads of Fisheries.

#### **MEETING CONTACTS**

- Nominations to: Dr Andrew Smith, FAME Deputy Director, Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture Programme (email: [fame\\_meetings@spc.int](mailto:fame_meetings@spc.int)).
- Administrative issues: Natalie Terrier, Conference Secretary, (email: [fame\\_meetings@spc.int](mailto:fame_meetings@spc.int); (tel +687 260183)
- Agenda items, papers, other enquiries: Watisoni Lalavanua, FAME Community-based Fisheries Management Officer (email: [watisonil@spc.int](mailto:watsonil@spc.int); cc/- [fame\\_meetings@spc.int](mailto:fame_meetings@spc.int)).

#### **INSURANCE**

23. The Pacific Community does not insure participants while attending meetings or during travel to/from, or attending virtual meetings; and will not be responsible for any expenses arising out of loss, sickness, injury, other disability or loss of life. It is participants’ own responsibility to ensure that participants are covered by insurance.



Dr Andrew Smith

Deputy Director, Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture Programme, FAME, SPC

Original text: English