

Re: SPC Comments on GMA process design

Sorry for the late reply to your letter to my Director-General of 12th April (reference GMA/I/N. Unfortunately mail between the USA and French Pacific territories takes some considerable time, and your letter did not arrive until 11th May, by which time the deadline for comments was past and there was no point in making a quick response. For future

correspondence it would be best to send an email direct to my address tima@spc.int, which will be treated as official correspondence.

This is just to let you know that we received the draft, and that we look forward to the development of the process based on this very adequate proposal. Quite a lot of our existing scientific fisheries and environmental monitoring and assessment output would appear to be able to feed directly into the GMA process when it emerges, and we would be happy to contribute to the review or refereeing process within our capacity.

SPC will not be directly represented at the 5th UN Informal Consultation Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea this year. Mr John Low of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat will be representing the entire membership of the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific, and supporting the Pacific Islands Forum national delegations. I don't know if John's schedule has allowed him to attend the International GMA workshop on 7-11th June, but we wish the workshop every success.

Regards

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