
**PREPARATORY CONFERENCE FOR THE
COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND
MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH
STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC**

Sixth session
Bali, Indonesia
19 – 23 April 2004

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19 April 2004

AGENDA ITEM I : STATUS OF THE CONVENTION

1. It will be recalled that, in accordance with its article 34, the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific was open for signature by the States and entities listed in article 34, paragraph 1, for a period of 12 months from 5 September 2000. As at 4 September 2001, the Convention had been signed by 19 States. In addition, on 5 September 2000 a representative of Chinese Taipei signed an Arrangement for the Participation of Fishing Entities.
2. The annex to the present paper provides information on the status of signatures and ratifications of the Convention as at 19 April 2004. As of that date fourteen States situated south of the 20° parallel of north latitude had deposited instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Government of New Zealand.
3. In accordance with paragraph 2 of article 36, the Convention will enter into force 30 days after the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by three of the States situated north of the 20° parallel of north latitude, or on **19 June 2004**, being six months after the deposit of the thirteenth instrument ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, whichever is the earlier.
4. After entry into force, and in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 35, the Convention shall remain open for accession by the States referred to in article 34, paragraph 1, and by any entity referred to in article 305, paragraph 1(c), (d) and (e) of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea which is situated in the Convention Area. After entry into force, in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 35, the Contracting Parties may, by consensus, invite other States and regional economic integration organizations, whose nationals and fishing vessels wish to conduct fishing for highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area, to accede to the Convention.

Annex

| COUNTRY | SIGNATURE | RATIFICATION OR ACCESSION ^(a) |
|---|------------|---|
| Australia | 30/10/2000 | 22/09/2003 |
| Canada | 02/08/2001 | |
| China | | |
| Cook Islands | 05/09/2000 | 01/10/03 |
| Federated States of Micronesia | 05/09/2000 | 20/12/2002 |
| Fiji Islands | 05/09/2000 | 13/03/2001 |
| France | | |
| Indonesia | 31/08/2001 | |
| Japan | | |
| Republic of Kiribati | | 09/06/2003 ^(a) |
| Republic of the Marshall Islands | 05/09/2000 | 23/04/2001 |
| Republic of Nauru | 18/08/2001 | 26/08/2003 |
| New Zealand * | 05/09/2000 | 19/12/2003 |
| Niue | 30/10/2000 | 17/12/2003 |
| Republic of Palau | 05/09/2000 | |
| Independent State of Papua New Guinea | 17/01/2001 | 17/10/2001 |
| Republic of the Philippines | 05/09/2000 | |
| Republic of Korea | | |
| Independent State of Samoa | 05/09/2000 | 09/02/2001 |
| Solomon Islands | 23/04/2001 | 09/06/2003 |
| Kingdom of Tonga | 23/04/2001 | 13/10/2003 |
| Tuvalu | 05/09/2000 | 13/04/2004 |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (for Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands) | | |
| United States of America | 05/09/2000 | |
| Republic of Vanuatu | 05/09/2000 | |

* On 19 December 2003, the Government of New Zealand advised that, in accordance with article 43, Tokelau is authorized by the Government of New Zealand to participate in the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.