

# Ministry of Fisheries

## September Newsletter



### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S OFFICE

#### Key events and meetings

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr Tu'ikolongahau Halafihi and Deputy CEOs presented the Ministry's individual achievements for August and July to the Honourable Minister Semisi Fakahau at the Ministry's Head of Division meeting. Individual division presented its achievement and challenges were some presented its quarterly report.

The CEO Dr Tu'ikolongahau Halafihi attended the 5th Meeting of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Ministers responsible for Fisheries and Aquaculture at the Bahamas. The Meeting took place at the Melia Nassau Beach Resort from 18 to 21 September. The meeting addressed emerging fisheries and aquaculture sector challenges in the implementation of the ACP strategic plan.

### CORPORATE SERVICE DIVISION (CSD)

#### Key events and meetings

Deputy CEO for Corporate Service Division and Acting CEO at the time Mr Vilimo Fakalolo attended the official opening of the Vava'u Pearl centre. The Vava'u Pearl Centre is supported by the Ministry of Fisheries in cooperation with Ministry of Labour Commerce and Industries, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and the Vava'u Pearl Association.

The Performance Management System (PMS) team at the Public Service Commission undertook the Ministry's PMS status check on 15 September. The outcome of the status check was at 76% and a re-status check was requested by the Ministry on 26th September with a great outcome at 97%.

Staffs participated in the PMS 1-2-/1 training delivered by PSC staff Mr Moleni Ika..

The assistance was on PMS Records Management and Core Competencies to assist with staffs improvement in submitting its evidence base and delivering the standardised behavioural competencies.

### FISHERIES SCIENCE DIVISION (FSD)

#### Key events and meetings

The Deputy CEO for Fisheries Science Division (FSD) Dr Siola'a Malimali attended the study trip on Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy for sustainable development in Thailand. The study involved Finfish farming species Tilapia and Milkfish culture. The study was a success and with Dr Malimali's involvement in the Aquaculture activities, there is potential for Tonga to demonstrate this opportunity within our Aquaculture development plan.

The Deputy CEO for FSD, Dr Malimali with the assistance of Aquaculture staff Mr Tonga Tu'iano transferred live seaweed to Vava'u. Both staffs delivered trial experiment on seaweed culture with site selection, environment parameters, growth rate and training to staffs and farmers.

Aquaculture staff Mr Siao Si Vi lead the transfer of live juvenile pearl oysters to Ha'apai in mid-September. This opportunity enabled the engagement and consultation with pearl farmers to support the seeding of pearl oyster at Ha'aai island.

Inshore staffs Ms Hulita Fa'anunu, Mr Viliami Fatongiatau and Community staffs Latu 'Aisea and Sione Ma'ilau with the support of Fisheries Vava'u staffs delivered a workshop Fishing vessels registration, data collection, Enforcement training and review of SMA management plan to SMA communities. This event is to implement and monitor the development of the SMA network in Vava'u.

Outer island staffs at Fisheries Ha'apai Mrs Sosefina Vili and Mosese Moala attended the community meetings with Ha'afeva, 'O'ua and Felemea to follow up on implementation activities within their SMA management plan.

This opportunity enabled them to provide technical advices and collect SMA data whilst engaging with individual villages.

### FISHERIES COMPLIANCE DIVISION (FCD)

#### Key events and meetings

Deputy CEO for Fisheries Compliance Division (FCD) Mr Poasi Ngaluafae with FCD staff Ms Kalolaine Manuopangai and Legal Officer Ms Salote Koloamatangi attended the FFA preparatory meeting for the 13th regular session of the Technical and Compliance Committee Meeting and Draft bridging Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) for South Pacific Albacore at Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. These meetings are essential towards formulation and adoption of the CMM adopted by the Commission.

### FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (FMDD)

#### Key events and meetings

Deputy CEO for Fisheries Management and Development Division (FMDD) Mrs Mele 'Atuekaho represented the Ministry at the launching of the Marine Discovery Centre at Nomukeiti island, Ha'apai. The visit also involved meetings with the Nomuka Coastal Community Management Committee on the development of the SMA at Nomuka island.

Mr Fotuika Vailea attended the Market Access Working Group (MAWG) meetings including visits to the Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) at Canberra. The meetings focused in addressing challenges around quarantine requirements for fisheries exports and building capacity with DAWR and in particularly the Pacific Desk Officers.

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