



Fishing Line



NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

ISSUE No. 5

September - October, 2009

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Modern Market Facilities & Jetty for Wewak



• Invited dignitaries and guest who attended the ground breaking ceremony in Wewak.

The people of Wewak town and East Sepik Province are set to benefit from a multi million kina worth modern market facilities and a jetty with an ice making facility.

The project is an initiative of the East Sepik Provincial Government and the National Fisheries Authority and funded by the people and the Government of Japan and the National Fisheries Authority (NFA).

The ground breaking ceremony for the projects took place on 19th of August 2009 and work resumed soon after.

The project will consist of four market building out of which the Japanese government will fund three of the buildings, the jetty and ice making facility plus a kiosk at a cost of more than K12 million while the PNG Government through the National Fisheries Authority will fund one of the market buildings at

a cost of K4 million.

The ground breaking ceremony was witnessed by delegates from Japan including Ambassador of Japan to PNG H.E Hajime Nishiyama, Hon. Jim Simitab, Member for Wewak, who also delivered a speech on behalf of the Prime Minister, Sir Michael Somare, and the Administrator of East Sepik, Mr Samson Torovi and his senior public servants and a delegation from the NFA led by Managing director Mr. Sylvester Pokajam.

Speaking at the the ground breaking ceremony, H.E. Hajime Nishiyama said that the project when completed will pave the way for future economic development activities in the province and this was one way the government is contributing on promoting and supporting rural development initiatives in providing better services to the people of Wewak.

From the Managing Director's Desk

Welcome to our Fishing Line News for this month September - October 2009. It is my great pleasure to highlight some of the import activities that we have achieved during this month.

Papua New Guinea has been praised by INFOFISH one of the leading seafood and fisheries organizations in the world for successfully hosting the 2009 World Tuna Conference in Port Moresby. This was the second conference held in Port Moresby, the first being in 2007 also in Port Moresby.

We have proved to the world that we can organize such an important conference in our tuna rich land, Papua New Guinea. Our Prime Minister, Grand Chief Right Hon. Sir Michael Somare expressed his sentiments for hosting the successful conference. This conference has attracted more than 200 participants from 28 countries all over the world. This forum was successfully officiated by Hon. Ben Semri, Minister for Fisheries.

The event was jointly organized by INFOFISH, the National Fisheries Authority (PNG), Globefish - FAO, Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the

Papua New Guinea Fishing Industry Association (FIA). The two day event covered presentations from 33 guest speakers from the government, industry, regional and international organizations, and non-governmental organization

The next world tuna conference will be held in Thailand in 2010. We will take a closer look at the current issues and challenges facing the global tuna industry. The conference will be addressed by nearly 40 renowned speakers.

I am also delighted to announce the launching of ground works for the construction of the Wewak market and jetty facilities in Wewak. I hope the people of East Sepik will be happy and enjoy a modern market facilities & jetty in their Province.

The National Fisheries Authority in partnership with the East Sepik Provincial Government had initiated this project, and was funded by the Japanese government at a cost of over K12 million and NFA also contributed K4 million towards this project.

Sylvester Pokajam
Managing Director

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"I firmly believe that the project will contribute to the achievement of economic development through the joint efforts by the governments of PNG and Japan and I hope it will be used as a token of friendship between the people of Papua New Guinea and Japan" said Mr. Nishiyama.

Mr Torovi, ESP Provincial Administrator, thanked the people and Government of Japan, the Government of PNG and its agencies especially the National Fisheries Authority, Department of National Planning and Monitoring in collaborating to make this project a reality.

Mr Pokajam, NFA Managing Director in his address revealed that NFA is embarking in a big way to promote the establishment of fishing cooperatives in the provinces and East Sepik is a target province and will be one of the first provinces to try out this development initiative. He also urged the people of

Wewak to be cooperative in ensuring that the project is completed on time.

The project is expected to be completed within a timeframe of nine (9) months and will be opened next year towards the end of May or first week of June. The new market facility and jetty when completed will benefit more than 14,000 people of Wewak, the surrounding communities, visitors and the East Sepik Province as a whole.

Construction work is being carried out by Konoike Construction Co. of Japan and the subcontractor of the project is Associated Builders and Contractors of PNG.

The new Wewak market will improve market access and a clean environment for people to buy and sell food.

The new jetty will promote better fish handling and preservation, fishermen will then have access to a good landing and fuelling facility.

Staff Profile



Name: Mr Jerome Tioti
Age: 30
Marital Status: Single
Qualification: Masters in Natural Resources & Environmental Management and Development, Australia National University, BEC UPNG
Current Position: Board Administration Officer & Executive Officer to Managing Director

Mr Jerome Tioti comes from Misima in the Milne Bay Province. He attended Motorina Community School in 1987 and completed grade six in 1992. He was further selected into Misima High School in 1993 and eventually completed grade 10 in 1996. Mr Tioti did extremely well in the exams and was awarded the best students's price for the year. He continued into Cameron Secondary School in Miline Bay Province from 1997-1998. After completing grade 12 successfully Mr Tioti undertook Economic Studies at the University of Papua New Guinea from 1999 to 2004.

After completing studies from UPNG he joined National Fisheries Authority as a Research Economist, undertaking projects funded by ACIAR. He was in this capacity until 2007, when he left for studies in Australia for a Masters in Natural Resources & Environmental Management in Australia, National University. In 2009 he returned to National Fisheries Authority and joined Provincial support and Industry Development Group as Industry Development Officer. However, he has moved on further to the Directorate section and currently he is the Board Administration Officer and Executive Officer to the Managing Director.

Mr Tioti is very happy to work with National Fisheries Authority as NFA is one of the leading organizations in the region in terms of fisheries and marine resources management and development. "Fisheries is renewable resources, however the resources is highly migratory in nature", Mr Tioti said. He said the climate change pose an immense treat on ecology and marine resources thus collective scientific information will be a best approach to manage our marine resources on sustainable and most equitable basis.

New Tuna Conservation and Management Measures in 2010



• Hon Ben Semri, Minister for Fisheries shaking hands with Mr. Andrew Wright, Executive Director of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

Papua New Guinea through the National Fisheries Authority will be implementing the Third Implementation Arrangement on tuna conservation which will be effective on 1st January 2010. These conservation measures were recommended by the Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) in their Annual Meeting last year in Bussan, Korea, which recognized the important steps taken by the PNA member countries. Hon. Ben Semri, Minister for Fisheries made this remark during the Second Tuna Forum in Port Moresby held from 2-3 of September 2009. The measures are as follows:

- Catch retention where all species inclusive of all by catchers, including juvenile Bigeye and Yellowfin catches will be retained on board the purse seine vessels;
- Three moths FAD closure from July-August;
- Closure of two high seas pockets of northwest (PNG, Palau, FSM,) and Northeast (PNG, Solomon, FSM, Kiribati, Nauru) to all fishing vessels during a validity of a licence issued by a party;
- 100% Observer Coverage on foreign Purse Seine vessels; and
- A compulsory fishing vessels automatic location communicator to be installed and switched on at all times during a validity of a licence issued by a party.

Minister Semri said Pacific island countries are in the forefront of tuna management and conservation aspirations. He said the decision by INFOFISH to hold a biannual Pacific Tuna Forum following the success of the first Tuna Forum since 2007 was a right decision as Pacific Island Countries begin to develop their own national tuna fishing industries.

He said it was in the best interest of Pacific islands to be attentive not only to fisheries management issues but also to understand other industry issues, such as world tuna market trends, developments in technologies and food safety requirements. This forum has provided an avenue for Pacific policy makers and industry players to discuss issues, the Pacific way, so that all can cooperate and work towards creating competitive policies for sustainable tuna exploitation in the Pacific.

Minister Semri said PNG was the first country to contribute financially and also participate in the tuna tagging Programme which was collaboratively done through SPC.

NFA Refurbishes Finschhafen Fisheries Office



• The refurbished Finschhafen District Fisheries Office.

National Fisheries Authority has refurbished Finschhafen District Fisheries Office, Morobe Province at a cost of K50,000. This initiative was intended to improve and provide a conducive working environment in the province. This fund was made available through the Provincial Support and Industry Development (PSID).

According to Mr Stanley Boliti, NFA PSID Officer, the office will be used for fish market. Artisanal and small scale fisheries in the district virtually collapsed after the Provincial Fisheries entered into an agreement with the MAPS Tuna fishing company to lease the fish market and ice making facilities in Lae. The proposed market will provide market access to the majority of fishermen and groups in the district who do not have access to market in Lae.

The District Fish Market will provide and cater for the entire fishing communities in the Finschhafen district which include fish farmers from the inland communities. This will eventually supply fisheries resources to the mining areas for cash income. Mr Boliti said, Finschhafen has recorded the highest production and supply record for Lae fish market. He said the average 7 tones per year but now the production might triple for the next two year once the fish market is right at the door step.

Apart from the fish market, Finschhafen district has also embarked on initiating mari-culture projects in Malasiga village. This is a pilot project that has already secured K80,000 under the district Support Improvement Program. The rationale behind this pilot project is to conserve the mangroves which have been subject to uncontrolled harvesting and environmental degradation.

The local Member of Parliament Hon. Theodore Zurenuoc thanked the National Fisheries Authority for refurbishing the fish market during the launching of the building on 28th August 2009.

Mr Sylvester Pokajam, Managing Director of National Fisheries Authority thanked the Event Coordinators and hard working NFA staff who have been making this regional forum a successful. "I did not know what was happening until I came to realize what was happening and I commend the team for the best effort." Mr Pokajam most of the participants were satisfied with the outcome of the forum.

Tilapia Feed & Stock Density Experiment at Sirinumu



• Trialing out fish feed at Sirinumu (Sogeri) aquaculture site.

Inland fish farming and aquaculture activities are booming in Papua New Guinea, however one of the major constraints and challenges for the development of inland fish farming is quantity of feed. Feed supply is not sufficient to cater for the increased aquaculture activities. With the increasing activities in subsistent and small scale aquaculture, feed is a necessity for the growth and development of the aquaculture practice.

Aquaculture and inland fisheries section of National Fisheries Authority has taken the bold step by conducting Tilapia Feed & Stock Density Experiment in Sirinumu dam in the Central Province. It was generally to determine the best stocking density and feed that will improve the growth and survival of the Gift in Cage culture conditions in the high altitude areas. Water quality was also monitored and the economics of the cage culture using an existing tilapia economic model was also evaluated.

This experiment was facilitated by NFA through a Post Graduate Program. Ms Ellan Kave from UPNG did this assessment which started in March 2009 and lasted for six months.

According to Mr Gideon Pama, Aquaculture Officer's report this kind of experiment has been carried in the Yonki Reservoir with funding from ACIAR, SPC and NFA to evaluate the new formulated diet and different stocking density of GIFT Tilapia, *Oreochromis niloticus* in 2006.

In 2004 and 2005, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) with the help of NFA conducted a survey for potential feed ingredients that were locally available, where simple feeds can be formulated and be made available to farmers at an affordable price. Under the survey found local ingredients were formulated an improved diet for tilapia, carp, *Macrobrachium* and trout. The first project for the new feed was carried out in Yonki Reservoir. Using the same principle, the Sirinumu GIFT Tilapia Feed & Stock Density Experiment was also executed.

PNG Wins Best Fish Booth Award in Dubai



• The PNG Delegation with the award winning trophy being held by Mr Clement Kote, Fisheries Board Member (third from right). The smaller inserted photo is of the Prince of Dubai inspecting the PNG display booth.

Papua New Guinea through the National Fisheries Authority has been awarded the Best Design and Display Booth at the Dubai 2009 International Seafood Exposition.

The exposition was held from 11th to 14th October 2009 in which PNG Fishing Industry had displayed variety of seafood products ranging from whole and filleted frozen mixed seafood products of reef fish such as rock cod, coral trout, emperor, perch, maori wrasse, parrot fish and whole coconut crab, coconut crab cooked meat, mud crabs, whole lobsters, and prawns (both head on and headless), beche-de-mer, fish maw, trochus shells; and Dolly and Diana canned tuna products from RD Tuna Cannery Ltd. The market demand in the seafood sector for Dubai is mainly reef fish, apart from other smaller interests.

Ms Welete Wararu, PNG Delegation leader to the Expo said, this is the first time, members of fisheries cooperatives have been taken onboard to participate in the expo so that they can get a feel of various market demand. She said the NFA will be moving in the direction of mobilising fisheries cooperatives to supply overseas markets in the not too distant future.

The Prince of Dubai, SHEIKH MOHAMMED visited all display stalls on the last day of the exposition and awarded the best stall design and presentation to Papua New Guinea. He uttered the followings words three times "God bless your country" and presented the award to Papua New Guinea participants, in which Mr Clement Kote, a Fisheries Board Member received it on behalf of the PNG delegation.

Speaking on behalf of the participating companies, Mr Jacob Kamau from High Energy Co.Ltd said "from the industry perspective; it was a great success compared to the other expo's we've attended. So far between Wamomo Seafood and us, we've received four prospect which looked very promising. I think the immediate need is to study the Arab market requirement more and maintain ongoing dialogue with them, with the aim of doing a trial shipment in the coming months.