



# Fishing Line



NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

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**Mr Augustine Mobiha** – Fisheries Management Advisor

**Mr Ludwig Kumoru** – Fisheries Manager – Tuna

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## NFA Pays Final Dividend for 2003 to National Government

The National Fisheries Authority has made a final dividend payment of K7 million for this year to the National Government. The cheque was presented by Mr Molean Chapau, NFA Managing Director to the Prime Minister, Sir Michael Somare on 16 December 2003.

Speaking at the cheque presentation ceremony, Mr Chapau said “We are honoured that the Prime Minister and the Minister for Fisheries has made time available to receive this cheque of K7 million. This payment brings to total K23.25 million in dividend to the National Government’s Consolidated Revenue for this year 2003.

Dividends paid to date since the inception of the new NFA in 2001 totals K74 million.

“Over ninety percent of revenue made by the National Fisheries Authority is derived from bilateral access agreements. I am mindful of the need to maintain a balance between having access agreements and encouraging onshore investments under the previous Somare-

Marat Government’s Export Driven Economic Growth and Recovery Strategy. I believe we have maintained this balance successfully to the benefit of Papua New Guinea.

“Benefits from onshore investments in time will far outweigh those under access agreements except that under the latter NFA is able to derive revenue for its budget with surplus paid as dividend to the National Government.

“I am pleased to present to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Fisheries, a cheque of K7 million as dividend payment from the National Fisheries Authority. This is NFA’s Christmas present to the people of Papua New Guinea.” Mr Chapau said.

Upon receiving the cheque, Sir Michael commended the former Minister for Fisheries, Hon. Andrew Baing for making sure fisheries is progressing well and also Mr Chapau for his fine effort. “I personally would like to see that some of this money go towards helping small fishermen with activities, such as net mending” he said.



• Sir Michael Somare making a reply after receiving the cheque, while Mr. Timothy Bonga (standing), Fisheries Board Chairman, Mr Bamake Rumbam and NFA Managing Director, Mr Chapau listen on.

## From the Managing Director's Desk

As this will be the last issue for the year 2003 and most staff will be going home for their annual leave. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support since becoming the acting and later Managing Director of this Authority. The success of this Authority over the past nine months have been due mainly to your professionalism and fine contribution and all the moral support we shared together. Continue working in this direction in 2004 to bring more economic benefits to our people of Papua New Guinea. I wish you all and your families a safe and blessed Christmas. To those travelling home during this festive season, have a safe journey and celebrate peacefully with your families and relatives. To the remaining staff, who will be manning the office during this festive season. I wish you all safe celebrations in the city.

The months of November and December were quite busy. Our Kavieng seafood processing and training facility was finally completed in November and subsequently opened. The facility built to highest standard to meet regulatory requirements for the export of fresh and frozen seafood to Australia, USA and the European markets, once fully operational will complement the chiller at the old Jackson Airport, Port Moresby. We're looking at having similar facilities being built in other centres around the country.

The INFOFISH Project will kick off in the

country in 2004 focusing on the development and processing of value-added tuna products. Eight tuna longline companies have been chosen in 2001 and have been participating in various INFOFISH funded programmes, which have geared them for this project. They will be utilising their tuna rejects to process into tuna value-added products, such as, sausages, loins, steak, fish cakes, fish fingers and fish balls to sell locally or to the markets in USA and Europe.

We were busy with a fisheries delegation from China, that were here to renegotiate their fishing access in PNG waters and also discuss issues for further development and promotion of fisheries cooperation between PNG and China. We are looking at the possibility of giving them eight more fishing licences and they have agreed to assist us with fisheries training and construction of cold storage and processing facilities.

We ended the year on a good note with a K7 million Christmas present to the people of PNG. The cheque of K7 million was presented to the Prime Minister, Sir Michael Somare on 7 December 2003.

Have a happy and safe Christmas and New Year celebrations!



**Molean Chapau**  
Managing Director

## Staff Profile



Name: **Ms Priscilla Maigu**

Marital Status: **Married with four children**

Age: **35**

Qualification: **Diploma in Journalism (UPNG) & Certificate in Public Relations (UPNGCDE)**

Current Position: **Media & Public Relations Officer**

*Ms Maigu comes from Woginara village, mountainous area of west coast, Dagua, East Sepik Province. She was born and raised in Wewak by the once busy Boram International Airport where her father worked as an airport fireman from 1964 to 1985.*

*She completed my primary education at Kreer Community School, Wewak from 1975 to 1980. She continued on to do her secondary educational at Mercy College Yarapos, a Catholic-run Girls High school in Wewak from 1981 to 1984, and then onto Passang National High School in East Sepik Province to do Grades 11 and 12 from 1985 to 1986. The following year, 1987, she left East Sepik for the first time to enter into the University of Papua New Guinea to do her four-year Degree Program in Journalism. However, due to her father's death, she opted for the two-year Diploma Program, which would enable her to finish school quickly and find job in order to financially support her younger brother's and two sisters' education.*

*She graduated with a Diploma in Journalism/Media Studies in February 1989, and immediately found employment with the Word Publishing Company, as a junior reporter with the well-known Wantok Niuspepa. She worked for a year and left for Rabaul in 1990 and worked with Islands Bulletin. She joined the National Parliamentary Services, Hansard Division in June 1992 as a Parliamentary Reporter and worked her way up to being a senior Hansard Reporter in 1995 and later as Supervisor in 1997. Ms Maigu worked for nine and a half years with the Parliamentary Service and resigned in 2000. She joined the National Fisheries Authority as the Public Relations Officer in April 2001.*

*Apart from performing public relations duties, her job includes the production of NFA Newsletters and information dissemination of all NFA activities.*

## PNG and China Review Fisheries Cooperation

The Papua New Guinea Government and the Republic of China have renewed their Agreement on Fisheries Cooperation.

The renewed cooperation was signed on 13 December 2003 between Mr Valentine Kambori, Secretary for the Department of National Planning and Rural Development on behalf of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea and Mr Zhang Hecheng, Deputy Director General of Bureau of Fisheries and Ministry of Agriculture on behalf of the Republic of China.

The signing of this instrument only renews and strengthens the already existing Agreement on Fisheries Cooperation between the two countries signed on 16 July 1996.

The five-day visit to PNG by the Chinese led to lengthy discussions, which focussed on issues of further promoting fisheries cooperation in the implementation of the Agreement on Fisheries Cooperation between the People's Republic of China and Papua New Guinea.

The discussions leading to the signing took into account the changing circumstances in fishery, particularly the development in the

Pacific Region and the sub-region relating to the responsible management, conservation and sustainable use of the fisheries resources. They resolved that the two Governments strengthen their communication and cooperation regarding the development and management of fisheries, as well as in the international and regional fisheries organisations, to enhance the development of the bilateral fisheries cooperation between the two countries.

Some tangible agreements reached are as follows:

- China to assist PNG with appropriate vessels with cold storage capacity, the construction of fish processing plant and cold storage facilities.
- China to provide short-term training for fisheries and aquaculture personnel.
- Both countries to continuously explore possibilities of cooperation in the field of aquaculture, fishing, fisheries science and technology and, seafood, etc.



• NFA Ag/Managing Director, Mr Sylvester Pokajam and PIL Manager, Mr Norman Barnabas (right) address the visiting Chinese Delegation at the NFA Board Room.

# Kavieng Seafood Processing Facility Ready for Use

The construction of the National Fisheries Authority Seafood Processing and Training Facility in Kavieng has been completed.

It was officially opened on 21 November 2003 by Hon. Ian Ling-Stuckey, Governor of New Ireland Province. Fisheries Board Chairman, Mr Rumbam Bamake and NFA, Managing Director, Mr Molean Chapau, senior officials of the NFA, Acting Fisheries College Principal, Mrs Brenda Sainol and distinguished guests from the New Ireland Provincial Government were present to witness the opening.

In his opening speech, Governor Ling-Stuckey urged his people to fully utilise the facility for their benefit. "This plant is the result of careful planning and is unique in PNG. It will be used to produce top quality New Ireland Province seafood and this is a challenge for the New Ireland people to utilise this facility." He also urged his people of New Ireland to make available their land and resources for development.

Mr Chapau told the people of New Ireland that Kavieng and Manus are in a very strategic tuna location and the people from these two provinces are very fortunate. He said that fishing costs money and that they have to have money to get into the business of fishing and then reap the benefits later. He further stated that the Government of today is encouraging fisheries so the people must get busy with fishing activities. "This processing plant is a state of the art facility, the only one in PNG. The European Union is providing a tax-free market to Papua New Guinea so this facility is for you to process your catch to send to overseas markets," he said.

The opening ceremony finished off on a good note with the graduation of the second batch of Post Harvest Operations course students (PHO2) for 2003. The PHO2 Course is aimed at training seafood Industry supervisors and managers.



Top Right  
• The completed Seafood processing and Training Facility.

Bottom Right  
• Training on fish handling and processing, such as this will now be taught in the completed Facility.

## PNG Moves into Value-Added Tuna Products

INFOFISH is looking at assisting Papua New Guinea in the development and processing of value-added tuna products.

NFA's Provincial and Industry Liaison Officer, Ms Welete Wararu said after returning from the Seventh Meeting of the Technical and Advisory Board of INFOFISH in Kuala Lumpur that currently, INFOFISH Trade Promotion activities is focused on PNG and Maldives.

Under this INFOFISH project, which is due to get into full swing in 2004, eight longline fishing companies were selected in 2001 to participate in the proposed INFOFISH project in the country. It is a project by the Common Funds for Commodities (CFC) and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to be jointly implemented by the National Fisheries Authority and the INFOFISH, an international agency based in Malaysia.

The eight companies are PNG Latitude 8, Neptune Fishery, RD Tuna, Perma Industries, Equatorial/Sanko Bussan, Coco Enterprise, Maps Tuna, and PNG Fresh Tuna. Their selection stemmed from an INFOFISH regional conference held in Papua New Guinea in December 2001. The selection was based on the companies' production and processing ability to utilise the 60% of their catch, which are classified as rejects and cannot enter the sashimi market in Japan. These rejects will be processed into tuna value-added products such as tuna sausages, loins, steaks fish cakes fish fingers and fish balls for either domestic markets or USA and European markets. NFA's contribution to this project is US\$80,000.00.

Several feasibility studies into the capabilities of these companies were carried out in March this year by technical and marketing consultants from the EU and USA. Observations and discussions were

also held with the companies on the upgrading of the processing facilities and technology required in the project.

She said that in line with the Development and Processing of value added tuna project in the country, an excursion to Bali Island was organized by INFOFISH, which the PNG Tuna Longline Fishing Companies, and a representative from NFA participated. "The objective of the excursion was to look at similar operations in Bali and to get an idea of operation costs as well as equipment and machineries to be purchased. It was also an opportunity for the companies to observe processing of value added products from prawn shell waste," she said.

INFOFISH is an organisation established by member countries to monitor world fish and seafood marketing information and to provide this information to its member countries. PNG through the National Fisheries Authority among nine other member countries pay an annual membership fee of US\$ 15,000.00 to INFOFISH. This makes it possible for NFA to receive monthly magazine, which carries technical advice on processing, aquaculture and harvesting and marketing.

"There is also huge stakes of information available in their library and database from farming operations to suppliers of feed and equipments and other needed materials for commercial establishments. They also provide consultancy services as well as organization of international exhibitions, conferences, workshops and seminars.

"The technical advisory services also organizes and conduct courses, workshops and study visits on fish technology, fish handling, processing, inspection and quality control and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point and aquaculture." She said.

## NFA and PNGDF Review Relationship



• Mr Chapau (right) and Commodore Ilau sign the MOA, witnessed by PNGDF Secretary, Mr Steven Raphael and Mr Lamiller Pawut, NFA MCS Manager.

The National Fisheries Authority has renewed its working relationship with the Papua New Guinea Defence Force Maritime Element.

The renewed Agreement was signed on 4 December 2003 between the Managing Director of the NFA, Mr Molean Chapau and the PNGDF Commander, Commodore Peter Ilau. This is the second signing since the first MOA was signed on 11 October 2002.

Under this renewed Agreement, the PNGDFME will be required to make regular patrols within the PNG Fisheries waters, and the PNG's Exclusive Economic Zone,

and NFA to pay for this service. Also under this Agreement, the NFA is required to assist maintain the patrol boats when the need arises.

The NFA Managing Director, Mr Molean Chapau said at the signing ceremony, that through these surveillance activities, NFA will provide funding assistance to the PNGDFME. "I want to see you not only doing patrols in the fisheries waters but to also help in the general surveillance of the country; e.g. in the illegal smuggling of firearms across the borders of our country," he said.

## Fair Well Fishery Breaks Ground for Net Factory

Fair Well Fishery (PNG) Ltd has moved on from fishing to onshore development in the country.

The National Fisheries Authority was invited by Fair Well Fishery Director, Mr Jesse Huang on a chartered flight to Lombrum, Manus Province on 19 December 2003 to witness its groundbreaking ceremony for the

construction of a net making and repair factory. The factory will be built adjacent to the recently built fisheries wharf.

Mr Sylvester Pokajam, NFA's Financial Controller and Mr Leka Pitoi, Acting Projects Manager represented the National Fisheries Authority at the occasion.



• Fair Well Fishery PNG Director, Mr Jesse Huang (center) being assisted by the Governor of Manus, Dr. Jacob Jumogot and PNGDF Commander, Peter Ilau to drive the bulldozer, digging the first earth at the site of the factory.

## NFA Secretaries Attend Workshop in Lae

Three secretaries have attended the PNG National Secretaries Conference in Lae, Morobe Province. Thanks to their divisional heads for having approved their participation.

Mrs Cathy Solomon, Mrs Winnie Kela and Mrs Pau Kagena attended the two-day conference held from the 12-14 November 2003. The theme was: 'The Role of Secretaries in the Nation Development of PNG.'

They have learnt for sure that the name secretary as it is commonly known is slowly fading out and are

being replaced by names such as Customer Service Officer, Executive Assistant, Administrative Officer, etc. to name a few.

Specific areas of discussions were focused on Customer service, Public Relations, Team work, Business correspondence, Leadership development, Personality development and Presentation skills.

The three secretaries would like to thank the Management for making it possible for them to attend the workshop.

## NFA Provides Training for UPNG Students

The National Fisheries Authority has taken in seven biology students from the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) and the Australian Maritime College (AMC) for practical work during the Christmas holidays.

They were attached with the Fisheries Management Group. The five students from the UPNG were given training in various areas of fisheries management, such as; collecting of information to assist manager concern in the formulation of the Crab Management Plan; collecting of information on tilapia and prawns to assist manager concern with the production of freshwater farming manuals, and entering fisheries data.

Whereas the two students from the AMC were assisted to do research on fresh water fish species in the Markham River and also assisted in collating information for the formulation of the Shark Management Plan.

The AMC students were Mr Eric Poole and Ms Jennifer Baing, and the UPNG students were Mr John

Vegala, Ms Rachael Lahari, Ms Leontine Baje, Ms Barbara Lokes and Ms Misvil Katu.

The students expressed satisfaction and gratitude to the Managing Director, Mr Molean Chapau for approving their practical work with NFA and also to Mr Augustine Mubiha for planning this exercise.

Ms Leontine Baje, third year student said that now she understands the role of the NFA in the country. "Before coming here for my practical, I did not know for example, the role of the Enforcement nor the Audit Units. But after having spent almost three months at NFA, I now know what roles each unit and group play within NFA. I appreciate very much the time spent here because I was able to put into practice some of the things I learnt at school." She said.

The Fisheries Management Advisor, Mr Augustine Mubiha said that having engaged the students relieve the managers of some workload, which they otherwise would not have the time to do.



• The UPNG practising students with Mr Mubiha (back right) and Mr Wani (back centre).



• The AMC practising students, Ms Baing and Mr Poole.



Ms P. Maigu  
Editor  
'Fishing Line'

### Editor's Note:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the NFA Management and all staff for making valuable contributions towards the two-monthly production of this this newsletter. I look forward to your continued support in 2004.