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Number 3

Singeo & Jack to represent FSM in DAW seminar

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The FSM Government nominated Pohnpei State Foreign Relations Director SeNellie Singeo, and FSM Foreign Service Officer Martstella E. Jack to participate in the up-coming Regional Seminar on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, tentatively scheduled for March 18-21 of this year in Rorotonga, Cook Islands. Maria Babauta of Pohnpei will be an alternate to the aforementioned seminar, according to FSM External Affairs.

The seminar will be co-sponsored by Australia, New Zealand and the United Nations Divisions for the Advancement of Women (DAW), for South Pacific Forum Countries. The Seminar will explain the purpose of the Convention, its role in promoting the status of women at both national and international levels, and the process, implications and responsibilities involved in ratification. The aim of the seminar is to provide an opportunity for representation.

(See DAW, Page 3)

1st MOU between FSM and ADB signed

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) The first Memorandum of Understanding between the FSM Government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Technical Assistance Inception Mission (TAIM) for the Fisheries Development was signed February 4, at the FSM Department of Resources and Development (R&D) by the Secretary of the department Marcelino Actouka for the FSM Government, Senior Project Economist for the ADB-TAIM Robert E. Hood, and for the FSM National Fisheries Corporation (NFC), the

National Fisheries Corporation (NFC) Board Chairman Kikuo L. Apis.

"ADB is here to work for the Government to try to find a fisheries development initial project and to work on something that could be done in a relatively short time, and then continue on the second phase, and hope to be a partner with the Country (FSM) in the fisheries sector within the next several years. We, hopefully, will be here on a long term basis," Team leader Hood says.

Actouka said that, "With the NFC

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FIRST MOU SIGNED - FSM Resources and Development (R&D) Secretary Marcelino Actouka (center sitting), Senior Project for Asian Development Bank (ADB), Economist Robert E. Hood (left, sitting), and National Fisheries Corporation (NFC) Board Chairman Kikuo L. Apis (right sitting) signed the first memorandum of understanding between the FSM, ADB, and NFC. Witnessing the signing are standing in the back from left to right: R&D Consultant Mike Gawel, Chief, Division of Marine Resources Moses Nelson, and NFC President James Movick.

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there are a number of joint venture activities with Pohnpei, Yap and Chuuk States. Kosrae State is undergoing some assessment of its fisheries development projects. I think the timing is perfect in that the new administration has just come into Kosrae State. There is a need to work closely with Kosrae to find out exactly their directions and priorities." He further stated that NFC is looking specifically at fuel storage and repair facilities. Some states are considering on-shore facilities. But, only Pohnpei State has entered into a construction contract with Black Micro to build its on-shore facility. "I think that is where you and ADB can become a major participant in our development. Your work can complement NFC and financially support what it is doing", concluded Actouka.

Apis commented that because of NFC being the development arm of the National Government coordinating development activities with the States, it is appropriate that the States, National Government and the Bank work together. "Under the current arrangement, I feel it is the NFC that should be working closely with ADB and R&D to develop our marine resources", concluded Apis.

The Fisheries Development Project technical assistance inception mission consisted of Senior Project Economist Hood, who met with all concerned agencies of the FSM and the NFC from February 28 to March 5, Consultant and Project Fisheries Economist from Australia Steve Pollard, and Fisheries Specialist Harry Sperling. Their meetings confirmed the Government's priority for fisheries development, pointed out the Bank's strategy to provide support for FSM fisheries development, ways to assist the preparation of the

consultants' work program and reporting schedule and to confirm the Government's support for implementations, according to the MOU.

The MOU also stated that the consultants working with counterparts as a team, will visit each of the four states during the month of February and undertake an overall assessment of fisheries resources, assess level of developments in the fisheries and identify economic development opportunities that will meet the Government's fisheries development objectives.

In each State, and at the National Government level, the team will hold discussion with the Secretary and other relevant officials of Marine Resources Divisions, Micronesian Maritime Authority and the National and State level, those responsible for the commercial development of fisheries - NFC, Yap Fisheries Authority, the Chuuk Maritime Authority and the Pohnpei Economic Development Authority (EDA). The team will also meet with commercial fishermen and operators of marine product outlets, processing and other facilities.

Following discussions with all concerned agencies and the Bank, priority investments will be identified and the economic feasibilities of a proposed project will be undertaken during the second month.

The consultants are expected to submit a mid term report by the first week of March for discussion with all concerned agencies and to submit same report to the ADB. The Draft Final Report is to be submitted by the last week of March for tripartite discussions between the Government of FSM, the Bank (ADB) and the consultants. Based on the comments and recommendations of the Government and the

Bank, the consultants will prepare the Final Report in the Bank's office in Manila. It is expected that at least one of the consultants will hand carry the Final Report to FSM for final discussions.

The FSM Government agreed to provide counterpart staff, office facilities and secretarial assistance to the consultant team. However, a provision was made in the technical assistance budget to cover costs of land transportation and domestic travel of one counterpart.

The Government placed high priority on fisheries development in the national plan to establish a self-reliant economy for FSM and urged the consultants to make all efforts to identify not only a specific project but to provide guidance to establishing a longer term strategy of development for the fisheries sector.

Attending the brief ceremony were NFC President James Movick, Chief, FSM Marine Resources Moses Nelson, R&D consultant Mike Gawel and ADB's consultants Messers Pollard and Sperling.

FSM MMA met with Japan Fishing Associations

Palikir, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Micronesian Maritime Authority (MMA) met with the Japan Fishing Associations representing vessels operating in the FSM 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), late last year to reconcile and update the text of their foreign access agreement with changes recently made in the Federated States of Micronesia fisheries laws, the Federated States of Micronesia's proclamation of a 200 mile Exclusive

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DAW

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tatives from Forum countries to discuss the implications of the Convention for their countries, including ratification procedures, obligations, responsibilities and benefits.

The Seminar was raised by Prime Minister Hawke at the South Pacific Forum held July 1989, where it was endorsed by the heads of Governments. At that meeting, the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands offered his country as a venue for the seminar.

The UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1979 and came into force in 1981. By 1990 104 countries had become signatories of the convention. However, in the Pacific, only Australia, New Zealand, and by virtue of their association with New Zealand, Niue and the Cook Islands have ratified the Convention.

The Convention calls for equal rights for Women in all areas of life; political, social, economic, cultural, and civil.

The Convention provides for national legislation to ban discrimination. Some of this principal provisions involve calling on parties to suppress traffic in women and exploitation of prostitution of women, elimination of discrimination in public and political life, equal access to education, equal access for men and women to health care, and equality before the law.

19 received certificate in Home Gardening

PALIKIR (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Nineteen of the 38 participants in the Family Food Production and Nutrition (FFP&N) Program received their certificates in Nutrition Oriented Home Gardening held in Kolonia January 21-22 this year. The participants came from Wone, Kitti; Nanhohnmal, Nett, Sokehs Pah and Sokehs.

Those certified are Candalaria Immanuel, Lohrihna Immanuel, Saiorihna Immanuel, Marina Penikinus, Erika Baiden, Manora Agrippa, Airin Nason, Asileit Ben, Asako Are, Norko Olech, Eliancy Werrin, Listera Damiry, Pelisy Rudolf, Annaly Enikar, Raifina Rufes, Domenika Martin, Thomsa Moufa, Antonia Lucios and Agata Atem.

The Project aims to improve nutrition status of women and children in the State of Pohnpei. The workshop was

sponsored by FFP&N as part of this program. The project received funding from United Nation Children Fund

(UNICEF) and has received support from Pohnpei State with salaries for local staff and administrative costs. It was coordinated by a United Nation Volunteer Nicky Davison, who also worked in Africa with the British Volunteer Program (VSO), before coming to Pohnpei as FFP&N Coordinator.

Assisting at the workshop were project staff Alice Germinaro, Adelaide Semens and Cathlina Lorence. Help was also received from a number of other agency personnel from land Grant, Rose Donre CES Coordinator and Bill Raynor; from Health Services, Meriam Abraham, Dr. Mike Ettner and Dr. Micki Pryor.

ANNOUNCEMENT

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The following are job opportunities. If you need more information regarding this jobs, contact the job location or FSM Administrative Office at telephone number (691) 320-2618/2642. With the FSM National Government; Meteorological Technician I, at the Weather Bureau in the State of Yap. Closing date, March 18, 1991.

Trade Training and Testing Officer, T3 Program Center in Pohnpei. Closing date is March 15, 1991.

Project Analyst Consultant, FSM Department of Resources and Development at Palikir, Pohnpei. Closing date, March 22.

Staff Attorney, FSM Office of the Public Defender, Tofol Kosrae. Closing date, March 21, 1991.

The following job openings are located at the FSM Development Bank (FSMDB) headquarters here on Pohnpei or at the branches in the states. For more information, contact FSMDB in your state or the bank's headquarter at telephone number 320-2840.

Bookkeeper, headquarter-Kolonia, Pohnpei. Closing date, March 20, 1991.

Loan Officer, FSMDB Yap Branch. Closing date, March 20, 1991.

Computer Operator, FSMDB headquarters. Closing date, March 26, 1991.

Internal Auditor, FSMDB headquarters. Closing date, May 26, 1991. Business/Loan Advisor, FSMDB Yap Branch. Closing date, May 25, 1991.

Business/Loan Advisor, FSMDB Kosrae Branch. Closing date, May 25, 1991.

Vice President, FSMDB headquarters. Closing date, June 21, 1991.

Treasurer/Secretary, FSMDB headquarters. Closing date, May 21, 1991.

Project Supervisor, FSMDB Pohnpei Branch. Closing date, March 20, 1991.

FSM AG and Auditor sponsored seminar

THE NATIONAL UNION, February 15, 1991

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICES) - The Office of FSM Public Auditor in Cooperation with the Office of the Auditor General of Canada sponsored a two-week seminar here, January 22 to the first of February.

The Seminar which featured a course on Value-for-Money (VFM) Auditing was taught by John K. Prokaska and Manfred Kuhnappel of the Canadian Office of Auditor General.

Participants of the seminar received instructions on the established guidelines and procedures for conducting a VFM audit as apposed to a financial audit. VFM audit is a type of audit where the auditor determines how efficient, economical, and effective the audited entity is using its resources. And in using its resources efficiently, economically,

and effectively, whether the entity is actually meeting the purpose(s) for which it was created. There was at least one case study for each of the three phases, planning, examination, and reporting, of a VFM audit. In doing the case studies the participants were able to review how the VFM audit procedures could be applied in real life situation.

Participating in the seminar include auditors, and other governments officials from the Micronesia region and from elsewhere in the Pacific. Those who completed the nine-day VFM audit course include Senior Auditor Merla E. Cruz, Auditor Dohsis Diopulos, Junior Auditor Alpino Kerman, and Public Auditor Herolyn Movick from the state of Pohnpei; Auditor Gillian Doone, Senior Auditor Haser Hainrick, Auditor Ken

Henry, Auditor Anita Ioanis, Junior Auditor Mary Jimmy, Auditor Manager Scott M. Larson, Auditor Moses Russel, Auditor Nakama Sana, Management Advisor Sepehr Sohrab, and Public Auditor Jack E. Yakana from the FSM National Government Office of Public Auditor; Economic Planner Danuta Jachniak at the FSM Office of Planning and Statistics; Director of Court Administration Patrick Mackenzie, FSM Supreme Court; audit Manger Bal Krishna, Fiji Auditor General Office; Senior Auditor Lutelu F. Pai, Office of Auditor General of Tuvalu; Audit Manger Jean Marie Tonyokwe, Office of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Marshall Islands; and Auditor Victoria Walker, Department of Interior's Regional Inspector General Office in Guam.



PARTICIPANTS OF THE AUDITOR SEMINAR - posing for a group photo are the participants of the auditor seminar held here January 22 to the first of February. Seated left to right are: Danuta Jachniak, Victoria Walker, Bal Krishna, Jack E. Yakana, Instructor John K. Prokaska, Manfred Kuhnappel, Herolyn Movick, Jean Marie Tonyokwe, Lutelu F. Pai, and Patrick Mackenzie. Standing from left to right: Anita Ioanis, Merla C. Cruz, Alpino Kerman, Haser Hainrick, Scott. Larson, Sepehr Sohrab, Nakama Sana, Moses Russel, Gillian Doone. Those who attended the seminar but were not present during the photo session are Dohsis Diopulos, Ken Henry, and Mary Jimmy.

Japan contributed \$150,000 to E-WC as program support

HONOLULU, Hawaii (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The government of Japan has presented a \$150,000 check as contribution to the East-West Center for program support, according to release from East-West Center.

Since 1978, Japan has contributed more than \$1 million to the Center, with emphasis on the work of the Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP).

"As we see many incredible changes and awesome challenges in the changing world today, it strikes me without a doubt that the role of the PIDP has become greater than ever before," said Consul General Masaji Takahashi in presentation ceremonies January 23. He noted that PIDP's programs of cooperative research, education and training, "are contributing toward the enhancement of the special development needs of the Pacific island region."

Takahashi presented the check to Prime Minister of the Cook Island and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Pacific Island Conference Leaders which met at the Center January 23-24 Geoffrey Henry. PIDP serves as the secretariat and research arm of the Conference.

"As clear testament to the importance placed on the economic progress, the lasting security and the future of the peoples of the Pacific islands region, the Summit of the United States and the Pacific Island Nations was called last October by the President of the United States and held at the East-West Center," Takahashi said. "This unprecedented event doubtless enhanced the significance of all the major PIDP proj-

ects being undertaken," he said, adding that the "progress made by the PIDP in promoting economic growth and special development of the Pacific island region is indeed gratifying and is to be highly commended."

Appreciation for the contribution was expressed by Prime Minister Henry and interim president of the Center Kenji Sumida.

Another release from East-West Center says that Stiveni (Steven) Halapua has been appointed director of the East-West Center's PIDP by the Standing Committee of the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders.

Halapua, a specialist on trade, finance and economic development in the Pacific islands, has been serving as interim director of PIDP for a year.

The announcement was made, January 24 by Henry at the conclusion of the group's two-day meeting at the Center.

Before joining the EWC staff, Halapua was a senior lecturer in monetary economics and a research fellow at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji and consultant to the Central Planning Office of Tonga. He was born in Tonga and graduated from the University of Auckland in New Zealand. He earned his doctorate in economics from the University of Kent in England.

The Standing Committee is composed of the leaders of 10 Pacific island nations and the governor of the State of Hawaii.

It reviews the research and training activities of PIDP, which serves as the research arm of the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders.

PIDP conducts research and

training on issues affecting Pacific island nations, including the need for increasing the role of the private sector in development, the social costs of tourism, disaster preparedness and problems associated with modernization and social changes.

In another related activity, a group of Pacific island leaders has recommended to the Bush administration that a proposed U.S. Pacific nations Joint Commercial Commission (JCC) be located at the East-West Center.

President Bush proposed the JCC at the Summit of the United States and the Pacific Island Nations at the Center last October. The President said the commission would meet once a year, 'at senior government levels to identify and address commercial opportunities and trade concerns,' involving the United States and the island nations.

The recommendation to locate the commission at the Center came from the Standing Committee of Pacific Island Leaders, which met at the Center January 23-24 to review the research and training activities of the EWC PIDP.

Henry said representatives of the U.S. Commerce Department met with committee members to discuss the JCC.

In continuation he said, the discussions included how the JCC would be staffed and structured. The recommendations will be forwarded to President Bush and to U.S. Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher. Henry said Hawaii Governor John Waihee, vice chairman, Standing Committee, endorsed the proposal to set up the JCC secretariat at the Center, as did Sumida.

PAC NEWS BULLETIN

Soviet visits Johnston

15 Soviet Arms Control experts visited Johnston atoll in the North-Central Pacific continuing an ongoing chemical weapons data exchange and inspections of storage and destruction facilities in both the United States and the Soviet Union.

The visit was in accordance with a U.S.-Soviet memorandum of understanding that, the Soviet delegation's leader said could eventually lead to an end to chemical weaponry.

The Soviet group leader Nikita Smidovich said they inspected the North-Central Pacific Atoll's storage areas, which isolated weapons containing liquid nerve gas and mustard gas agents. They also inspected the Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Destruction Facility, (JACADS).

JACADS was not in actual operation during the Soviet visit but, since last June it has destroyed more than 5,300 chemical rockets and 53,000 pounds of liquid nerve agent.

Commenting on the value of the Soviet and U.S. chemical weapons data exchange and inspection visits, Smidovich said that the two countries which have manufactured more than 90 percent of the world's chemical weapons arsenal are setting a good example for the rest of the world.

It eventually could lead, the Soviet Foreign Ministry Official indicated, to a prohibition on any further chemical weapons production in both the United States and the Soviet Union and eventually worldwide.

FFA to meet in Honiara

Member countries of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) will meet in Honiara, Solomon Islands late February to early March to review the success of the multilateral treaty on Fisheries under which United States Fishing Boat fish in the South Pacific Region.

The meeting would also discuss possible arrangements for the continuation of access to American Purse Seiners following the expiration of the current treaty.

This treaty was concluded after

many rounds of negotiations triggered off by the Jeanette Diana incident in 1983 in which the US Purse-Seiner was arrested and confiscated by the Solomon Islands Government for illegally fishing in its waters.

In a statement release in Honiara in February, the FFA said the treaty is now due for a review.

Meanwhile, the meeting is also expected to appoint a successor to the present director of the FFA, Philip Muller, whose current term of office is due to expire early next year.

USP limits enrollement

The University of the South Pacific USP says it has had to limit intake of students this year in order to maintain a high quality of education.

University Vice Chancellor Geoffrey Caston said a 50 percent increase in student numbers in the past seven or eight years had led to a threat to the maintenance of high quality of education expected from the USP.

Caston was responding to a statement by the Fiji youth and students league which expressed concern about strict quotas placed on student intake by the University this year.

The league claimed that as a result of the restrictions imposed, hundreds of deserving students throughout Fiji were being denied places at the institute.

League secretary, Reddy said the restrictions also tended to be racially discriminatory since the government sponsored students were given first preference and private students, 75 percent of whom are Fiji-Indian were victimized. Reddy added that USP must stop encouraging discriminatory practices.

The Vice Chancellor admitted that the points made by the League were broadly accurate.

However, on the allegation of racial discrimination, Caston said the University long standing policy laid down by the council was to give preference to government sponsored students.

Chief Justice sacked

The Marshall Islands Parliament or Nitijela has sacked the High Court

Chief Justice, accusing him of abuses of his Office and his inability to faithfully discharge the duties of his office.

The unanimous vote by the Nitijela removes Philip T. Bird from the High Court Bench immediately. Bird had previously served as a member of the Nuclear Claims Tribunal.

The Nitijela accused Bird of demonstrating his lack of understanding of the customary law of the Marshalls. The criticism follows Bird's ruling that parts of the Constitution concerning customary law were unconstitutional.

Those changes, the Nitijela claimed, demonstrated Bird's disrespect for the dignity of the Marshallese people.

Bird, who is from the United States, presided over the high court, the highest trial court in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, until his ouster.

Micronesian motion

The Solomon Islands Parliament has approved the setting up of a special select committee to identify and make recommendations to the government on the status and assimilation of Micronesians into the Solomon Islands Society.

The committee proposal came in a private member's motion moved by the leader of opposition, Andrew Nori and passed by Parliament.

The Micronesians concerned, mainly Gilbertese, migrated to Solomon Islands in the fifties and sixties because of a drought in parts of what was then Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

However, Nori said over the years the Gilbertese population in Solomon Islands increased but the land allocated to them under the British Colonial Administration, did not.

Nori said that the special select committee would look into areas where the Gilbertese can be involved in economic development of the country.

He said that the committee should also look into making provisions in the constitution for Micronesian migrants to be represented in Parliament as an ethnic group.

In reply, Minister responsible for immigration Michael Maina told Parliament that the government accepts the motion which addresses some very sensitive but long overdue issues.

Tourism assured security for travellers to the Philippines

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Department of Tourism in the Philippines issued out a statement on the safety of tourists in the Philippines, according to special instructions from the Philippine Embassy here.

The instruction stated that, "The Department of Tourism wishes to assure the travelling public that the Philippines is a safe destination for foreign tourists and that the protection of foreign guests from terrorist and criminal acts is of utmost priority.

"Tight security measures have been adopted to ensure the safety of Philippines visitors in view of the global threats against persons and properties of these countries involved in the Gulf crisis. The Department of National Defense (DND), the entire Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), including the Philippine National Police (PNP), have been mobilized to institute measures to thwart any attempt to extend the conflict to Philippine territory. Although some inconveniences may be encountered in the process, the Department of Tourism strongly believes that this is all for the good of the public. Similar contingencies have been globally adopted to shield the travelling public from harm.

"The Philippines have been the target of sensationalized reporting of criminal activities giving foreign nationals an impression that the country is unsafe and the government is unstable. The Department of Tourism believes that these reports are unfair and unjustified since they are based on isolated cases."

MMA

(Continued from Page 2)

Economic Zone, and other new regional access requirements. The agreement was written in 1984 and many changes had taken place since, including new amendments, attachments, and annexes to the original text. The meeting also reworked these new additions into the main text of the agreement besides updating it to conform to the new changes in national and regional access requirements, according to an MMA.

The Japanese Fishing Associations consists of the Federation of Japan Tuna Fisheries Cooperative Association, the National Offshore Tuna Fisheries Association of Japan, the Japan Far Seas Purse Seine Fishing Association and the Federation of North Pacific District Purse Seine Fisheries Cooperative Association.

The main features of the agreement remain unchanged including the Associations acceptance of the Federated States of Micronesia's sovereign right over the living resources within the 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone for the purpose of exploitation, management and conservation, the prohibition of fishing within the Territorial Sea (12 mile), bottom and reef fishing, and fishing by other means than long lining, pole and line and purse seine, reporting requirements such as catch log, weekly position reports and entry/exit reports, the fee calculation formulae and the appointment and maintenance of an agent to respond to legal process issued in the Federated States of Micronesia.

The agreement also encourages the basing of longline vessels in

Federated States of Micronesia ports and hiring of Federated States of Micronesia crew by providing certain discounts to vessels that do base and hire Federated States of Micronesia crew. Goods and Services will continue to be provided annually and will also now include vessels off-loading in Guam and the Federated States of Micronesia which had not been paying into the Goods and Services pot previously according to a Memorandum of Understanding signed at the meeting.

Another meeting is expected to convene within six months of the Tokyo meeting to review the final draft of the agreement for signature.

The FSM Delegation consisted of Chairman Andon L. Amaraich, Chuuk; members Sebastian Anefal, Yap; Spensin James, Pohnpei; Likiak Wesley, Kosrae; Executive Director Peter Sitan; Deputy Director Bernard Thoulag; Economic Advisor David Douman; Deputy Director, Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA); and Legal Advisor Mike Finn, FSM Attorney General's Office.

Correction

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The National Union staff apologize for the error in the title of the story on Pages 4-5. The title said \$9M, it should be \$9M.

6th Regional Fisheries Surveillance Meeting held here

POHNPEI, Kolonia (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) The Sixth Regional Fisheries Surveillance Meeting was opened January 22 with a statement by Acting Secretary of the Department of External Affairs Epel K. Ilon.

In his opening statement, Acting Secretary Ilon, speaking on behalf of FSM President John R. Hagllegam, welcomed the participants to the FSM, and expressed the FSM Government's appreciation for being selected as the site of this important meeting.

Ilon continued saying, "my Government recognizes the contributions surveillance personnel throughout the region have made in increasing the overall respect for our Exclusive Economic Zones, (EEZ). However, as everyone knows the job is far from done. Our EEZ individually and collectively, continue to present challenges. Coupled with our limited capabilities in the area, the need to cooperate remains ever so strong. This meeting like previous ones, is undoubtedly part of this needed cooperation. But let me state the obvious and challenge this meeting and those distant water fishing nations with interests in our region to the responsibility for sound management and exploitation of our ocean resources:

the responsibility is not Pacific Islanders' alone. It is ours together. It is a responsibility that transcends jurisdictions and knows no boundaries, and rightfully so, if we are to enable future generations to benefit from these resources."

Concluding his remarks, Ilon acknowledged the significant contributions from the Governments of Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America to the surveillance programs.

Following the remarks, the participants elected FSM's Chief of

Surveillance Division Lester Ruda as Chairman.

The meeting proceeded into the presentations of surveillance activity reports from the participating countries which included reports from Australia, Cook Islands, FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Tokelau, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Western Samoa. Not present were representatives of Fiji and Niue.

Two observers also attended the conference.



SURVEILLANCE CONFERENCE - FSM Chief of Surveillance Division Lester Ruda, front right chaired the Sixth Regional Fisheries Surveillance Meeting held here. From left to right, front row are: FFA Computer Services Manager Les Allinson, FFA Surveillance Officer Colin Brown, and Ruda. In the back from left to right are Stuart McIntyre, Aeromotive Corporation Ltd. Manager at Hamilton, New Zealand, on contract with the Government, and Micronesia Maritime Authority Deputy Director Bernard Thoulag.

THE NATIONAL UNION

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