

TORRES STRAIT PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT ADVSIORY COMMITTEE	Meeting No. 2 19-20 September 2006
MEMBERSHIP AND PERMANENT OBSERVERS	Agenda Item No. 4

RECOMMEDATION

THAT THE TSPMAC:

1. **Notes** the process being undertaken to fill vacant MAC and working group positions.
2. **Recommends** that the PZJA approve the inclusion of a Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) officer as a permanent observer on the TSPMAC.

BACKGROUND

At its 19th meeting the PZJA agreed to:

- (a) elevate the status of the current prawn working group to the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee;
- (b) appoint existing prawn working group members as detailed in Table 1 of this record¹ to the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee in accordance with selection and appointment procedures specified in PZJA *Fisheries Management Paper No. 1*;
- (c) call for nominees for the vacant positions on the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee in accordance with PZJA *Fisheries Management Paper No. 1*;
- (d) the amendment of PZJA *Fisheries Management Paper No. 1* to account for the change in status of the current Prawn Working Group to the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee; and
- (e) to seek advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Torres Strait Treaty Liaison Officer about elevating Papua New Guinea observer status on the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee to full member status.

At TSPMAC 1 industry members queried whether membership was based on a person's specific position within an organisation or based on their actual expertise. In light of this discussion industry members requested clarification whether some positions needed a nomination as they didn't roll over from the Working Group like the other member's positions. (such as staff from management agencies)

DISCUSSION

Fisheries Management Paper No.1 (FMP1) outlines the policy for Torres Strait MACs and Working groups. This includes the selection/appointment procedure for the Chair and members. The process for appointment of PZJA agency members and industry members, as set out in FMP1, differs in that agency members are nominated from within each agency whereas industry members must be selected. In this regard all industry members and relevant industry organisations are provided the opportunity to nominate for consideration for appointment to the MAC. The PZJA will ultimately determine industry member appointments on the advice of the assessment and ranking panel².

¹ See attachment 1 - TSPMAC members as approved by PZJA at meeting 19

² See Attachment 2 - Role & Selection/Appointment Procedures for Industry Members on the TSPMAC

As there are currently two industry member positions that have not been appointed through the process outlined in FMP1, nominations have been sought to fill these positions. All licence holders have been invited to nominate for the positions with the nominations closing on the 2nd of October 2006.

In recent times DAFF have become more involved in the workings of the TSPMAC in association with the structural adjustment process being undertaken in the fishery and the additional funding that was provided by the Australian Government for levy relief and research purposes.

With significant negotiation between PNG and Australia to occur in the Prawn fishery, DAFF will also continue to play a role in the TSPMAC. As such it would be beneficial for a DAFF officer to be approved by the PZJA to participate as a permanent observer on TSPMAC

ATTACHMENT 1 – TSPMAC members as approved by PZJA at meeting 19.

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER
<i>Prawn Working Group</i>	
Chair	Mr Jim Gillespie (QDPIF)
CFG – Darnley Island	Mr Ken Bedford
CFG – Yam Island	Mr Charles David
CFG – Yorke Island	Mr Lota Warria
Prawn - non-traditional inhabitant	Mr Barry Wilson
Prawn - non-traditional inhabitant	Mr Mark Millward
Prawn - non-traditional inhabitant	Nominee (Mr Rob Giddens)
Prawn - non-traditional inhabitant	Nominee (Ms Rosemary Millward)
Prawn - non-traditional inhabitant (processor)	Mr Bob Robbins
QDPIF	Senior Fisheries Management Officer (Torres Strait)
AFMA	Manager - Torres Strait Fisheries
AFMA	Senior Manager – Northern Fisheries
TSRA	TSRA Board Fisheries portfolio member
TSRA	Fisheries Co-ordinator
Research Member	Mr Clive Turnbull (QDPIF)
Compliance Member	District Officer - QBFP Thursday Island
Executive Officer	AFMA
Papua New Guinea **	To be advised
DFAT treaty Liaison Officer **	Ms Suzy Wilson

**** Denotes Permanent Observer Status**

Role & Selection/Appointment Procedures for Industry Members on the TSPMAC

Role

As an Industry Member, your role will be to:

1. contribute to MAC discussions through the knowledge and experience you have of the Fishery and the fishing industry generally;
2. contribute your fisheries expertise to achieving the best management of the Fishery; and
3. regularly report to and seek the views of other operators in the Fishery on the MAC's activities, including the issues being dealt with and the possible solutions being considered.

Selection/Appointment Procedure

Requirements

You must be able to put views clearly and concisely and be prepared to negotiate to achieve agreement on often complex and sensitive issues. You must also have industry's confidence to undertake their functions as a member of the MAC.

MAC members must be prepared to make the necessary commitment of time to ensure that they are fully across matters which are the subject of consideration by the MAC. This will include attending meetings and considering items out of session.

Responsibilities

As a MAC Member, you will be required to act in the best interests of the Fishery as a whole rather than as an advocate for any particular firm, organisation or interest group. Above all, as a MAC Member you must avoid pursuing personal agendas and must participate in discussions in an objective, impartial and open manner. Your contribution to the MAC will be expected to be without fear or favour, and directed only to providing the best management for the Torres Strait Prawn fishery under the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984*.

If you are appointed to the MAC, you will be required to sign an undertaking to the PZJA that you understand the role and the responsibilities of the MAC as set out in *Fisheries Management Paper No.1* (attached). These responsibilities include observing strict confidentiality and exercising tact and discretion when dealing with sensitive issues. If you are considering nominating for membership you should read the paper prior to submitting an application.

Assessment and Ranking Process

An assessment and ranking process will be undertaken for industry members interested in being considered for appointment to the TSPMAC. This process will be undertaken by PZJA Agency representatives and a fishing industry person of standing in another fishery. The PZJA will then appoint industry members, taking account of the recommendations of the Ranking and Assessment Panel.

ATTACHMENT 2 – Application Form



Australian Government
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Torres Strait Prawn Management Advisory Committee (TSPMAC)

APPLICATION FOR INDUSTRY MEMBER POSITIONS

Nomination form for TSPMAC Industry Member positions. *Nominees must be active in some form in the Prawn fishery.*

DETAILS OF NOMINEE

Full Name:

Address:

Phone:

Mobile:

Facsimile:

Email:

REASONS FOR NOMINATION

To assist in the selection process, nominees are requested to provide a summary of their skills, ability and/or experience against each of the following areas. If there is not enough space please use a separate page.

FISHING INDUSTRY/PROCESSING EXPERIENCE: ie years of fishing experience/ involvement in the fishing industry.

KNOWLEDGE OF THE PRAWN FISHERY: ie participation in the Fishery (as either a commercial fisher or processor).

ACCEPTED CREDIBILITY WITHIN INDUSTRY/PROCESSING SECTOR: ie do you think your application would be supported by others in the Fishery/ processing sector and, if so, why?

ABILITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO MANAGEMENT DISCUSSIONS: ie demonstrated negotiation and communication skills with a preparedness to seek resolution of issues.

ABILITY TO LIAISE WITH INDUSTRY: ie how will you ensure effective two-way communication with industry, irrespective of their location or methods used?

ACCEPTANCE OF REQUIREMENTS/MEMBERSHIP

I, the nominee whose details appear above understand and accept the PZJA's requirements in relation to industry members of Torres Strait Fishery Committees as set out in *Fisheries Management Paper No. 1*. I also acknowledge that I am aware that, as part of the selection process, PZJA agencies may conduct a search of Commonwealth, State or Territory records to check for any previous convictions for a fisheries offence. Further, if my nomination is successful, I confirm that I would be prepared to accept membership on the TSPMAC.

Signature of Nominee

Printed Name

Date

Please forward this form by 2 October 2006 to:

Shane Gaddes
Senior Fisheries Management Officer
QDPI&F
GPO Box 46
BRISBANE QLD 4001