



**PRESS RELEASE:**

Embargoed for Release on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017



## **European Union provides support to strengthen NFA Capacity to address requirements of the EU IUU Regulation 1005/2008 at Madang Awareness Workshop**

Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is a global threat that undermines efforts to manage and develop sustainable fisheries. The consequences of IUU fishing are far reaching with serious biological, economic and socio-economic impacts.

Fish is one of the most valuable renewable resource commodities currently exploited in Papua New Guinea (PNG) that if managed properly can greatly benefit the national economy for generations to come. As such the role played by National Fisheries Authority (NFA), the Department for Trade, Commerce and Industry (DTCI), Customs and other key line agencies, working closely with the private sector, is crucial to PNG taking the lead regionally towards preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing, particularly in the tuna industry.

PNG is an important player in the tuna industry, with catches equating to 11% of the global tuna fishery and 20% of the total catches in the Western Central Pacific region, the single biggest tuna fishery in the world. Fish and fish product exports currently total around USD 230 million (NFA data, 2014), the single most important market for which is the European Union.

Given that a considerable proportion of PNG fish catches and processed production enters the international market, trade policy clearly has a significant role to play in helping to address IUU fishing. Amongst the agreed intervention areas of the EU-TRA 2 under Component 2 aims to provide NFA and all associated national stakeholders in the fisheries sector with the assistance to become more aware of the provisions of the EU IUU regulation and the requirements of the local industry for full compliance to allow for trade in Europe and other countries.

To facilitate national understanding about the EU IUU regulation a national three-day workshop is taking place in Madang from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017. Participants from NFA branch offices across the country, customs officials, port officials, private fish trading interests, government officials and other affected stakeholders are attending this workshop. Dr Claudius Preville, the long-term key expert with responsibility for Component 2 of the EU funded EU-TRA 2 is providing overall guidance for this intervention, while Mr Simon Diffey, a short term expert specialised in the fisheries sector is the facilitator of this workshop. The workshop is also supported by the NFA and a team of officials from the Trade Division of the DTCI led by Mrs Bridgette Kamish, the Focal Point with responsibility for Component 2 of the TRA 2 project.

The EU-TRA 2 programme, which includes assistance in the areas of Trade Institutional Reform, Trade Policy and Trade Facilitation, is a four-year programme that runs until 2018 providing Technical Assistance and quality infrastructure and equipment to PNG.



*A delegation from Port Moresby incorporating two members of the EU-TRA 2 Technical Assistance Team, Ms Paula Norris, Team Leader and Mr Simon Diffey, Fisheries Specialist, two representatives of the Department of Trade Commerce and Industry, Ms Bridgette Kamish, Project Focal Point for Component 2 of the project, Trade Policy and Trade Agreements and Mr Marcellin Wohuinangu, Trade Policy Officer, and two representatives of NFA, Ms Yaniba Koimilla B. Alfred and Mr Davewills Nungu, undertake fact-finding field visits to fisheries companies in Lae in preparation for the final mission workshop in Madang in May 2017.*

**Contact Details:**

**Delegation of the European Union to Papua New Guinea:**

Neraemarimahu Haihavu - Press & Information Officer  
[neraemarimahu.haihavu@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:neraemarimahu.haihavu@eeas.europa.eu) Ph. (+675) 308 2400

**Trade Division**

Ms Bridgette Kamish, [Bridgette.Kamish@dc.gov.pg](mailto:Bridgette.Kamish@dc.gov.pg)

*The European Union (EU) is represented by the Delegation of the EU to Papua New Guinea. HE Ioannis Giogkarakis-Argyropoulos is the Ambassador of the EU Delegation in Port Moresby. The European Union has 28 Member States including France and the UK, both also represented in PNG. Visit the EU Delegation website: [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/papua-new-guinea\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/papua-new-guinea_en)*