

22904

SPC/2<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Community Fish. Mgmt. Workshop/BP 6  
6 October 1998

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**SECOND PACIFIC COMMUNITY**  
**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP**  
(Noumea, New Caledonia, 12-16 October 1998)

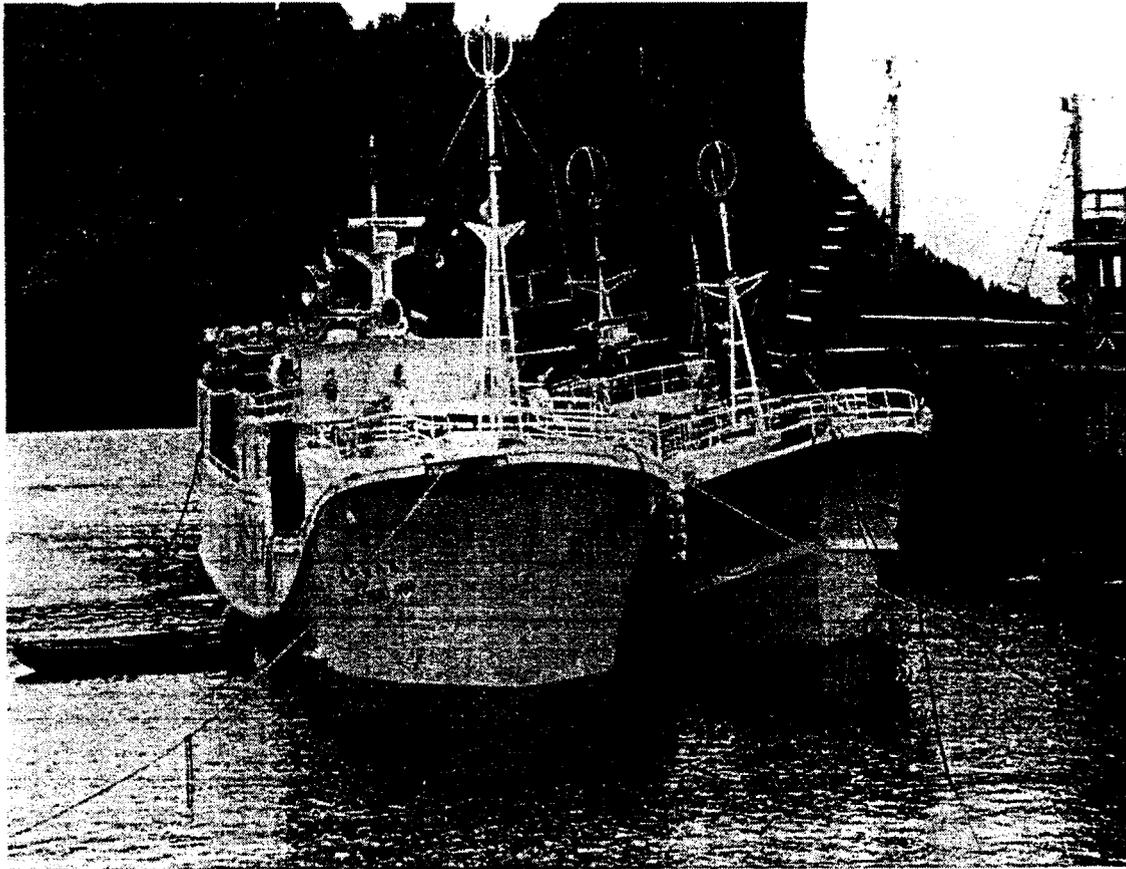
**FISHING VESSEL SAFETY**

By Captain Angus Scotland,  
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# FISHING VESSEL SAFETY

South Pacific Maritime Code : Phasing out of the South Pacific Maritime Code (SPMC) and its replacement with a generic set of regulation and standards/rules for merchant and fishing vessels.



For the past 5 years, the Regional Maritime Programme in consultation with regulatory authorities of Pacific Islands has been discussing ways of improving safety standards on merchant vessels and fishing vessels. We are only looking at *safety* training for all vessels not *fisheries* training.

The region has traditionally used the South Pacific Maritime Code for a layman's guide to international conventions. As previously explained large portions of the SPMC are out of date and have been superceded by the new STCW Regulations (STCW-95) or conventions that the Code simplified.

If we look at each country's primary legislation (Shipping Act) this will make reference to the type of vessel that it effects. We have recently circulated PICs regulatory offices and asked them if fishing vessels are included in their primary legislation or intending including fishing vessels in their primary legislation.

**Status of Primary Legislation in respect of  
Fishing and Merchant Vessels**

Country	Merchant vessels	Fishing vessels	Recommendations
Cook Islands	Yes	No	All fishing vessels need to be included.
Kiribati	Yes	No	All fishing vessels need to be included.
Federated States of Micronesia	Yes	Yes	-
Fiji	Yes	Yes	-
Niue	No Shipping Act	Yes (Small Boat Safety Regulation)	-
Palau	No Shipping Act (Has Small Boat Safety Regulation)	No	Fishing vessels need to be included in Small Boat Regulations.
Papua New Guinea	Yes	Yes (but limited by size)	All fishing vessels to be included.
Samoa	Yes	Yes (Small Boat Safety Regulation)	Larger fishing vessels need to be included.
Solomon Islands	Yes	Yes	-
Tonga	Yes	No	All fishing vessels need to be included.
Tuvalu	Yes	No (but there is a division in Act)	
Vanuatu	Yes	No	(Act being revised).
Marshall Islands	<b>(Current legislation not clear)</b>		

**South Pacific Maritime Code**

**A NEW MARITIME REGIME FOR THE PACIFIC**

**SHIPPING**

**PRIMARY LEGISLATION  
SHIPPING ACT**

**SECONDARY LEGISLATION  
REGULATIONS**

**SOUTH PACIFIC MARITIME CODE  
SAFETY CONVENTION  
LOAD LINE CONVENTION  
COLLISIONS CONVENTION  
TONNAGE CONVENTION  
STCW CONVENTION**

**SAFETY SOLAS  
NON-CONVENTION <500 gross tonnage - 15 metres  
SMALL BOATS < 15 metres  
FISHING VESSELS >24 metres  
SMALL FISHING VESSELS <24 metres**

**STCW REGULATIONS  
RULES**

**COLREGS COPY**

**LOAD LINE COPY**

**TONNAGE COPY**

**POLLUTION**

**PRIMARY LEGISLATION**

**MARPOL 73/78  
LONDON  
INTERVENTION  
CLC  
FUND  
OPRC**

## A NEW MARITIME REGIME FOR THE PACIFIC

