



PIANGO

**Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations
Association des ONGs des Iles du Pacifique**

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Media Release

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Pacific NGOs Briefed On Depleting Pacific Tuna Stock

Participants of the 3rd Pacific Islands Association of Non – Governmental Organisations (PIANGO) Planning, Implementation, Monitoring & Evaluation and Reporting (PIMER) consultation were informed on the drastic depleting situation of tuna stock in the Pacific region by Greenpeace.

According to Greenpeace's Oceans campaigner, Nilesh Gounder the depleting pacific tuna has been a result of poor environmental sustainable management practices by Pacific Governments.

In his presentation to the Directors of National Umbrella Non Government Organisations (NGOs), Mr. Gounder said the Pacific has the last relatively healthy stocks of tuna in the world with 70% of the planet's marine stocks are fully exploited or overexploited.

Despite accounting to around 65% of the global catch of principal market tuna species, Mr Gounder said Pacific Islands Countries receive only five percentage of the US\$3billion market value.

In addition, the NGO Directors were informed that the industry accounted for around 50% of the total exports from the region and played an important role in both subsistence fishing and in the industrial sector.

Although tuna fisheries accounted for up to 50% of all exports, Greenpeace was maintained that the sector does not contribute significantly to the GDP of all the Pacific Island countries.

The appalling diminishing tuna stock posed a challenge for the Pacific NGO Directors which Greenpeace hope they take up as issues of concern to their respective governments.

For more information contact katabwena@piango.net or nilesh.gounder@fj.greenpeace.org

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