ANNEX 1: Locations of areas of interest for Offshore Marine Managed Areas. Clockwise from top left: location of Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs, red outline) within or intersecting Fiji’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), described at the November 2011 regional workshop for the southwestern Pacific, hosted by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and held in Nadi, Fiji; location of Vatu-i-Ra/Lomaiviti EBSA (red outline) with extension of the Great Sea Reef area of interest (yellow outline); location of Kadavu and Southern Lau EBSA (red outline); location of Taveuni and Ringgold Islands EBSA (red outline).
ANNEX 2: Countries that have established or are in the process of establishing offshore marine managed areas.

KIRIBATI: In 2006, Kiribati established the Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA), covering 408,250 km². The protected area was originally established as a multiple use protected area with all extraction on islands and adjacent reefs prohibited. By December 2014, the entire protected area will become 100% no-take (meaning no extraction is allowed). The remoteness of the protected area and government ownership of the land has made type of protected area model possible.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS: In 2009, a 246,608 km² Mariana Trench Marine National Monument was established to protect deep sea diversity, underwater volcanoes, and trench habitats. The waters and submerged lands are managed as an entire ecosystem (from sea bed to water surface). The volcanoes and submerged lands within the trench itself are within the Monument and managed by US Fish and Wildlife Service, while the waters above are managed by government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) manages any fisheries related activities within the waters.

COOK ISLANDS: In 2011, the Cook Islands established a 1.1 million km² Marine Park over the southern half of its EEZ, covering inshore and offshore waters. A steering committee under the Office of the Prime Minister is leading community and stakeholder consultations and is developing the management plan for a multiple-use Marine Park. A recent review was done to examine the legal framework for establishing and managing the Marine Park. New legislation will be written to formally establish the marine park, including a management plan and zoning system.

NEW CALEDONIA: In 2012, New Caledonia established a 1.4 million km² multiple use Coral Sea protected area over its entire EEZ within which lies one of the world’s largest lagoon. New Caledonia and Cook Islands have signed an agreement to collaborate on the research in their respective protected areas.

AUSTRALIA: The Great Barrier Reef was established in 1975 and presently covers 344,400 km² including deeper water habitat (>2000m). Australia uses a model of multiple use marine parks, which includes a number of zones. For example, there are sanctuary zones (no extraction is allowed), habitat protection zones (a multiple use zone that allows non-destructive fisheries) and a general use zones (most activities allowed except mining), amongst others. Each zone has a specific purpose, and specifies what activities can and cannot occur in the zone, as well as which activities require a permit.
USA: President Barack Obama has just announced that the US government will expand the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument in the south-central Pacific Ocean, making it the largest marine reserve in the world. Under the plan, the existing reserve of 225,329 km$^2$ would grow nine times to 2,025,300 km$^2$. 
MEMORANDUM

From: Permanent Secretary for Local Government, Urban Development, Housing & Environment
Phone: 3311699/3311098

To: Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
File: 700/89

Re: Cabinet Paper on Status and Way forward for achieving Fiji's SIDS commitments by 2020
Date: 18/08/14

Reference is made to the above mentioned Cabinet Paper requiring our comments. Note that the Ministry of Local Government, Urban Development, Housing and Environment has examined the Cabinet Paper and are satisfied with its contents as it reflects what has been achieved so far.

We are glad to note as well the ambitious plans outlined in the Cabinet Paper to achieve our commitments as a Small Island Developing nation by 2020 and are committed to ensuring that these targets are achieved.

Vinaka.

Samuela Namosimalua [Mr.]
Permanent Secretary for Local Government, Urban Development, Housing & Environment

cc: Permanent Secretary for Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics
File
IN RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT CABINET PAPER: – August 2014.

“STATUS AND WAY FORWARD FOR ACHIEVING FIJI’S SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS) COMMITMENT BY 2020.”

While the Ministry of Fisheries & Forests commends the effort and the idea within the context of the paper, our position is reserved upon several issues within the paper to be addressed which are as follows:

1) What would be the alternatives to the offshore Marine Protected areas and for those that are involved in the Offshore Fishery (will we have zoning within these Offshore Marine Managed Areas (e.g. zone for sport fishing/zone for commercial fishing/shipping lane/sea ranching/etc)?

2) What are the Economic implications to the Fisheries in the Oceanic Fisheries Developments - will there be potential compensation or reallocation of areas/alternative business ventures? Currently, Foreign Exchange earnings from Tuna exports stands at approx. FJ$200 million.

3) In terms of the Monitor, Control and Surveillance [MCS] of the increased areas under protection, it is imminent that the responsibility will lie with Fisheries Department, Ministry of Fisheries & Forests thus funding resources for appropriate capacities for MCS operations should be determined. (Funding mechanism and resourcing would be important)?

4) We would strongly argue that paragraph 2.4 be reworded. As such it is confusing in that 78.2 % of territorial waters have been managed and yet in the same paragraph, we have not achieved the 30% protected seas, effectively (I guess
just clearly present this fact- and clearly outline that we need the offshore protected areas to get up near the 20% and above to 30%.

In paragraph 1 of the Cabinet Paper, it does not mention the protection that should have been done in habitats, species, qoliqolis, etc it merely says Fiji Seas. With that regard, if 78.2% of Fiji's waters are managed, does that not suffice as it surpasses the 30% that Fiji has committed to doing. (It is to be clear to us first that the 78.2% of managed area is the inshore waters or coastal zones)

Where do we draw the line for 30%?

MFF will support the proposed increased areas in marine protected areas within inshore waters, as well as the offshore marine managed areas (OMMAs) for Fiji to reach the 30% target Marine Managed Areas to be attained by 2020- if the appropriate resources and capacity are made available to be effective.