WTPO DECLARATION ON FISHING CAPACITY IN THE WCPFC

Recalling the WCPFC Resolution-2005-2 on Reduction of Overcapacity in the Convention Area;

Expressing concern on the increase of fishing capacity that can be detrimental to the tuna stocks;

Recognizing the rights and aspirations of developing Small Island States to develop their tuna fishery;

Recalling the WCPFC agreement to establish a group of eminent persons drawn from members of the Commission to work with the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency to examine how to practically implement Resolution-2005-02 to insure that the legitimate aspirations of developing Small Island States members to develop their domestic tuna fisheries are undertaken within the overall capacity limit of the tuna resources in the Convention area;

The WTPO members during its 7th Annual Assembly in Tokyo, Japan, on 10th and 11th of July, 2007:

Support the creation of the working group within WCPFC and express willingness to participate in any discussions to address the aspirations of the developing Small Island States to develop their tuna fishery within the overall capacity limit, in collaboration with all interested members of the WCPFC.