



NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

“Effectively Managing our Fisheries and Marine Resources
For Sustainable and Equitable Benefits”



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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PAPUA NEW GUINEA COMMITS TO ERADICATING IUU FISHING

Port Moresby – On the International Day for the Fight Against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing (05 June 2024), Papua New Guinea reaffirms its commitment to IUU fishing practices in PNG waters and safeguarding the Pacific region.

Mr. Justin Ilakini, National Fisheries Authority Managing Director said, “The Government of Papua New Guinea, through the National Fisheries Authority has achieved milestones in our efforts to combat IUU fishing. Through the implementation of cutting-edge technologies and comprehensive training programs, we have taken proactive measures to confront this persistent threat to our fisheries sector.

“While celebrating past successes, we recognize the evolving nature of IUU fishing activities in our waters, said Mr. Ilakini. As IUU fishing tactics become increasingly sophisticated, our strategies must also adapt to effectively address this challenge.”

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), IUU fishing poses a significant threat to marine biodiversity and the livelihoods of coastal communities.

The FAO emphasizes the importance of collaborative efforts among nations to combat IUU fishing and promote sustainable fisheries management.

Mr. Ilakini further stated that: “As stewards of marine areas including the exclusive economic zone spanning over 2.4 million square kilometres, and as a gateway to the entire Pacific region, NFA is committed to safeguarding Papua New Guinea’s marine resources for future generations. Our commitment extends beyond our borders, as we recognize the interconnectedness of marine ecosystems across the globe.”

Collaboration is key to achieving our shared goal of eradicating IUU fishing. Papua New Guinea stands in solidarity with the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) and other international partners in our collective endeavour to combat IUU fishing in the Pacific and beyond.

“PNG stands united in our fight towards eradicating IUU fishing,” Mr. Ilakini added. “Together, we will continue to strengthen our initiatives, leverage technological advancements, and foster international cooperation to ensure the sustainability and integrity of our oceans.”

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About the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO):

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is dedicated to eradicating hunger, promoting food security, and achieving sustainable agriculture worldwide. As part of its mission, the FAO emphasizes the importance of combatting illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing to protect marine ecosystems and support the livelihoods of coastal communities.

About Papua New Guinea:

Papua New Guinea is a sovereign nation located in the southwestern Pacific Ocean. Known for its rich cultural diversity and pristine natural landscapes, Papua New Guinea is committed to protecting its marine resources and promoting sustainable development for future generations.