

## Media Release No. 487

For Release: 21 January 2013

## CALL FOR MORE INDIGENOUS FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) is seeking to increase representation on its Indigenous Fisheries Advisory Committee (IFAC) by filling existing casual vacancies as soon as possible.

The TSRA Chairperson, Mr Joseph Elu, said the IFAC is an advisory committee to the TSRA Board on fisheries matters.

"Development of economic activity around the regions fisheries resources is fundamental for the overall economic development of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people in the region", Mr Elu said.

"The IFAC provides advice to the TSRA Board on economic development and sustainable management of Torres Strait fisheries

"The IFAC is the forum for our people to discuss strategic management and policy for Torres Strait Fisheries and to pass information between the TSRA and Torres Strait communities

"As the Chairperson of the TSRA, I am also a member of the Torres Strait Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA). The PZJA is responsible for managing the commercial and traditional fisheries of the Protected Zone. The advice the IFAC provides to the TSRA Board influences my contribution to the PZJA."

Mr Elu encouraged Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people with experience, knowledge and skills relevant to the Torres Strait region's fisheries to submit an expression of interest to join the IFAC.

"The TSRA wants to fill all of the IFAC positions as quickly as possible", Mr Elu said. "One of the strengths of the IFAC is that we have representation from all the different sectors in fishery. We currently have two vacancies to be filled."

To obtain an information package on the IFAC or for general enquiries about this committee, please contact Mr John Adams at the TSRA by phone on (07) 4069 0700 or email fisheries@tsra.gov.au.

**ENDS** 

TSRA Media Contact – Ken Orr (07) 4069 0700 or 0448 005207