4«. AUSTRALIA,^

September 2019

GAFSP Coordination Unit Washington DC

**Re: Project proposal for the North Pacific Small Islands Food and Water Project**

We have recently reviewed the multi-country proposal for possible Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) funding for the Small Islands Food and Water Project.

The proposal, jointly prepared by the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Tuvalu, aligns with the priorities articulated in the original scoping workshop in Tarawa, Kiribati in May 2019.

Through our participation in the scoping workshop, and ongoing engagement with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to verify appropriate follow-up consultation and validation processes, our Department endorses the alignment of the project proposal with relevant country strategies in all four countries, its complementarity to other programs and the appropriateness of consultation and scoping efforts. Furthermore, the proposed project builds on and complements existing programs (e.g. the Outer Islands Food and Water Project in Kiribati) and will not displace or duplicate other sources of funding.

We are pleased to endorse this proposal and, if approved, we look forward to continued consultation and collaboration during project formulation and implementation.

Yours sincerely

Dr Tristan Armstrong

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