



GOVERNMENT OF KIRIBATI
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND OCEAN RESOURCES

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CEO

Party to the Nauru Agreement

Majuro

Republic of Marshall Islands

Subject: Notification of Kiribati's Intention for a Partial Closure of its EEZ from the Federated States of Micronesia Arrangement (FSMA) in 2026

On behalf of the Government of Kiribati, I wish to formally notify the Parties to the Nauru Agreement Office (PNAO) of Kiribati's intention to partially close its EEZ from the Federated States of Micronesia Arrangement (FSMA), effective 1st January 2026.

To continue to participate in the FSMA, Kiribati would consider not the full closure but the partial closure of its EEZ. In this respect, we are fully closing the Gilbert group to all FSMA registered vessels, while the Phoenix and Line groups will continue to open under the FSMA.

This decision has been reached following careful consideration of Kiribati's national priorities in fisheries management, economic development, and sovereign rights over our marine resources. While Kiribati has valued its participation in the FSMA and the collaborative spirit it has fostered among PNA countries, evolving circumstances require us to pursue alternative frameworks that better align with our own national long-term strategic objectives.

Kiribati remains committed to regional solidarity and cooperation in the sustainable management of tuna fisheries. We will continue to engage constructively with the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) and other relevant regional fisheries management organizations to ensure that our shared resources are managed responsibly and equitably.

Pursuant to Article 6(4) under the FSMA, Kiribati will provide update and summary of this closed area in due course.

We kindly request that this notification be acknowledged and that all necessary administrative steps be taken to facilitate Kiribati's orderly partial closure from the FSMA by the specified date of 01 January 2026.

Lastly, I wish to emphasize that by 01 January 2026, the Government of Kiribati's Police Maritime Unit will strictly enforce this directive and apply appropriate penalties to any non-complying fishing vessels.

Thank you for your understanding and kind consideration of this notification.

Yours sincerely,



Riibeta Abeta
Secretary,
Ministry of Fisheries and Ocean Resources (MFOR)