‘an ocean of solidarity’
Message from the OFC President

OFC enjoyed one of its most successful years in 2009 with landmark achievements on the field and equally successful feats off it. The pinnacle event without doubt was the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™ qualifying play-off that pitted OFC Nations Cup winners New Zealand against Bahrain over two legs. The All Whites snatched a 0-0 draw in Bahrain before a famous 1-0 victory in the return leg to seal a place at the FIFA World Cup.

And it wasn’t just the All Whites enjoying success on the world stage. OFC club champions Auckland City caused a stir at the FIFA Club World Cup beating hosts UAE and African giants TP Mazembe on their way to a creditable fifth place finish.

Tahiti competed bravely at the FIFA U-20 World Cup Egypt 2009 in what was the nation’s first ever appearance at a FIFA finals while the Young All Whites made history at the U-17 equivalent becoming the first New Zealand side to progress to the knockout stages of a FIFA event.

The Solomon Islands appeared in their fourth consecutive FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup and immediately picked up three points against South American powerhouse Uruguay—a team ranked 4th in the world—only to be knocked out by eventual bronze medallists Portugal in their final group match.

These results are a testament to the hard work put in by the entire Oceania football family. OFC and its Member Associations are continually striving to improve standards and prepare representatives for success on the world stage.

Since my election as President in 2004, I have made it a personal mission to marry football programmes and events with regional government and non-government initiatives aimed at combating social problems such as illiteracy, the spread of HIV/AIDS, unemployment, and poverty. To that end, OFC established several key partnerships in 2009 to achieve targeted assistance to our Member Associations.

A major highlight was the AU$4 million agreement between OFC, the Australian Government and Football Federation Australia (FFA) which was signed at the Pacific Island Forum in front of 17 Heads of Government. The landmark agreement will see OFC’s ‘Just Play’ grassroots programme delivered across the Pacific over a three-year period to help build stronger communities by promoting engagement through sport.

We look forward to 2010, a year that will see the global football community unite for the ever-enthralling FIFA World Cup. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to all 11 Member Associations, in particular, to the Presidents and staff for their ongoing support.

Reynald Temarii
OFC President
FTF President
FIFA Vice-President
Fédération Tahitienne de Football (FTF) President and OFC President Reynald Temarii led the celebrations for the opening of a brand new accommodation complex at the national headquarters in December – one of the highlights of 2009. Tahiti became the first island nation to represent OFC at a FIFA field event – in this case the FIFA U-20 World Cup. It proved a huge step up but a valuable learning experience. U-20 coach Lionel Charbonnier also took the U-17 team who finished second at the OFC U-17 Championship. Tahiti hosted the OFC Beach Soccer Championship where they finished third. Papua New Guinea club champions Hekari Souths were just one point away from qualifying for their first ever O-League final in 2009 but instead had to settle for second place in Group B behind Koloale FC. Off the field, Papua New Guinea Football Association (PNGFA) hosted OFC for a Win in Oceania workshop in July during which their new long-term development plan was finalised. Women’s football continued to be a strength as Papua New Guinea were endorsed by OFC to play in the women’s draw of the Youth Olympic Games 2010 on the back of strong recent performances.

In 2009, Solomon Islands Football Federation (SIFF) President Martin Alufurai was honoured as a recipient of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for his service to sport and he retained his Presidency after the SIFF Congress in August. SIFF administration had many highlights including a ground-breaking ceremony to mark the upgrade of JIK Stadium in Gizo and the staging of the first ever ‘National Day for Women’s Football’. The Solomon Islands Bili Bili represented OFC at the OFC Beach Soccer World Cup for the fourth consecutive year, upsetting Uruguay 7-6 before going down to hosts UAE and Portugal. Meanwhile the Kunikuni side defended their OFC futsal title and club champions Koloale were runners up to Auckland City in the 2009 O-League.

Another milestone in grassroots football was achieved in the Pacific with the launch of OFC’s ‘Just Play’ programme in Tonga. OFC worked closely with Tonga Football Association (TFA) and the Tongan Government to introduce the initiative which promotes physical activity for children aged 6-13. Meanwhile at the elite level, Tonga’s national team hosted the Cook Islands for two Internationals in June. It was a hotly contested series with the first match ending in a 1-1 draw before Cook Islands edged out Tonga 2-1.

Vanuatu Football Federation (VFF) kept to a busy schedule in 2009 and their activities were well publicised thanks to a brand new football television show ‘Vanuatu football’, established through the Win in Oceania programme. Good Football kicked off in January with the selection of around 30 young players to take part in a two-year residential education and football development programme. Vanuatu’s beach soccer team impressed at the OFC Beach Soccer Championship beating the Solomon Islands in their opening match but eventually losing 1-0 in the final. Their futsal and U-17 teams finished third and fourth respectively.

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In August, OFC signed a landmark AUS$4 million agreement with the Government of Australia and Football Federation Australia (FFA) to deliver sports-based programmes that contribute to community development in the Pacific. Together with the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and FFA, OFC is working to deliver grassroots development projects such as ‘Just Play’ throughout the Pacific over a three-year period.

The landmark agreement was signed by Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, OFC President Reynald Temarii and FFA CEO Ben Buckley in August at the Cairns Convention Centre where 17 Heads of Government gathered for the annual regional meeting.

Supporters of the OFC Just Play programme also include UEFA, Cuesports Foundation and Find your Field of Dreams – the South Auckland charity set up by New Zealand running legend John Walker. Meanwhile, the German Embassy partnered with OFC to deliver a grassroots programme specific to Samoa.

OFC has made progress with CIES (International Centre for Sports Studies) with a long-term goal to establish a sports management course in the Pacific. Using a multi-disciplinary approach, CIES provides research, top-level education and consulting services with the aim of understanding the complexities of sport in today’s society and improving how it is governed and managed across all sports.

Also in 2009, OFC signed an agreement with the Pacific Games Council (PGC) aimed at enhancing the capacity of the four-yearly Pacific Games (formerly known as the South Pacific Games).

The agreement details how both organisations will work closely together to ensure successful delivery of the football component of future Pacific Games and to build on the success of the XIII Games in Samoa in 2007.

OFC became the first sports organisation to partner with the Pacific Island Telecommunication Association (PITA) in 2009. Based in Fiji, PITA is a non-profit regional organisation dedicated to improving, promoting and enhancing communications services within the Pacific. The agreement between OFC and PITA will help to increase the penetration of football across the region and deliver social responsibility messages to a wider audience.
Social Responsibility

The OFC Social Responsibility Department worked to combine football programmes with regional government and non-government initiatives aimed at combating social problems such as illiteracy, the spread of HIV/AIDS, unemployment and poverty.

OFC’s Just Play programme helps to build stronger communities by promoting engagement through sport. Volunteers and teachers, who are trained by OFC in cooperation with its Member Associations, provide tuition for students on how to develop games skills and lead healthier lives.

OFC Head of Social Development Franck Castillo is Project Manager for Just Play and says the grassroots initiative would not have been possible without the support of the Australian Government and Football Federation Australia.

In addition to supporting Just Play, the Australian Government has worked closely with OFC in preparation for the first ever Pacific Youth and Sports Conference scheduled to take place in Manukau, New Zealand, in March 2010.

The conference will bring together hundreds of young people from across the Pacific to engage and address youth-related social issues with a specific focus on sport.

Supporters of the conference also include FIFA, Manukau City Council, Fonds du Pacifique, Te Puni Kōkiri, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Human Rights Commission, Cuspert and Stratos Television, Special Olympics, NZ Aids Foundation, Football Federation Australia, New Zealand Football, Air New Zealand and Stars Travel.

Football for Life, which embodies OFC’s commitment to human development and social responsibility, was introduced in 2007 and is based on the FIFA Football for Hope model.

OFC used the Football for Life initiative to help those in the Western and Choiseul Provinces of the Solomon Islands still rebuilding after a devastating tsunami in 2007. Almost 1,000 equipment bags were donated to schools, churches and community leaders in the two provinces where over 50 people lost their lives and 12,000 were left homeless during the April 2007 disaster.

Two years after the Solomon Islands disaster, another devastating tsunami hit the Pacific Islands in September 2009 killing more than 150 people across American Samoa, Samoa and Tonga. OFC President Reynald Temarii was quick to respond to the tragedy, postponing the OFC U-20 Women’s Championship which was set to take place from 5-10 October in Auckland, New Zealand.

American Samoa’s football complex, situated on the harbour, took a direct hit from the towering waves. FIFA and OFC officials visited American Samoa shortly after the tsunami and the two governing bodies are now working closely together to assist with the rebuild.

Communications, Media and Marketing

With unprecedented television coverage, a re-launch of oceaniafootball.com and the recruitment of dedicated media officers across OFC’s 11 Member associations, 2009 was a landmark year for OFC Media and Communications.

OFC signed a ground-breaking agreement with Triangle and Stratos Television in September 2009 and by the end of the year had developed a regional network of broadcast partners to ensure a regular flow of football content across the Pacific.

Coverage began with the 2010 O-League with each Match Day edited into a one-hour highlights package and distributed via satellite through TVNZ’s Pacific Services. This coverage extended to include not only OFC competitions but also FIFA events such as the FIFA World Cup qualifiers and FIFA Club World Cup.

OFC also signed a landmark agreement with Radio New Zealand International (RNZI) for the OFC U-17 Championship New Zealand 2009. The agreement meant RNZI had exclusive rights for the tournament, which they broadcast live online and made available to radio stations across the Pacific.

OFC’s official website oceaniafootball.com was re-launched in 2009 to include exciting new features such as video capabilities. The website continued to be used as a tool for live text updates of key matches which supplemented coverage of football in the region where radio and television were inaccessible. In addition, OFC rejuvenated its new media strategy including the development of a new Facebook page to connect directly with fans.

Of last but not least, the recruitment of media officers across all of OFC’s Member Associations enabled media operations to become more efficient and streamlined. Funds from the Win in Oceania development programme provided salaries and equipment for the new media officers who each began work on specific projects in their respective associations.

These projects have included the development of dedicated football television shows in Cook Islands, Solomon Islands, Tahiti and Vanuatu while other media officers have focused on redeveloping their websites, introducing e-newsletters, establishing radio shows and other communications tools.

The OFC Player of the Year Award was brought back to life after a three-year hiatus; New Zealand’s Shane Smeltz took the men’s 2008 honours while compatriot Rosie White picked up the first ever women’s award.

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A full calendar of youth, senior, beach and futsal competitions graced 2009.

New Zealand continued their role as Oceania's first force on the football pitch as they captured the OFC U-17 title. While Solomon Islands continued its dominance of futsal and beach soccer, the emergence of U-20 title holders Tahiti on their debut appearance at the FIFA U-20 World Cup also caught the eye.

With no qualification for a FIFA event at stake, Solomon Islands made it two OFC futsal titles in a row as the indoor form of football continues to grow in popularity. Their dominance in beach soccer stretched into its fourth year, as Solomon Islands returned to the scene of their first ever beach soccer victory in Tahiti to successfully defend their title in a tense final with rivals Vanuatu.

In club football, Auckland City lifted the 2009 O-League title. Its second continental title in four years after a 9-4 aggregate win over Koloale from Solomon Islands. A sensational OFC Club World Cup campaign in UAE saw Auckland finish a highly creditable fifth place after wins over host nation representatives Al-Ahli and CAF club title holders TP Mazembe.

The third edition of the OFC Champions League was a huge success with closely fought contests in both groups and a cumulative audience of around 80,000 fans across 14 games.

Auckland City made it through to the final from Group A accounting for two-time defending champions Waitakere United as well as Vanuatu’s Port Vila Sharks. Traditionally, Group B is a fiercely contested section and 2009 proved no different as Koloale edged Hekari Souths by a single point to snatch the finals berth. Ba, who finished bottom of the group, were in the chase right up to the final match in the section where victory over Koloale would have seen them advance to the final with Auckland City.

The first leg of the final proved a one-sided affair. Koloale took the lead through Richard Anisua but a hat-trick by Keryn Jordan inspired Auckland City to a 7-2 away leg win in front of 20,000 fans at Lawson Tama Stadium.

The second leg presented itself as a mere formality. Koloale opened the scoring as they had done in the first leg but a brace by Keryn Jordan got Auckland City home as the match finished 2-2, handing Auckland a 9-4 aggregate scoreline and a berth at the FIFA Club World Cup UAE 2009. The 2010 O-League will introduce an expanded competition with two extra clubs from New Caledonia and Tahiti.

2009 O-League

The annual tournament went very much to script with the two highest ranked clubs qualifying for the final as predicted. It took a dream run by Oceania champions Auckland City to turn the form guide upside down when they opened their campaign with a 2-0 victory over Qatar’s Al-Ahli.

New Zealand’s All Whites snatched a 0-0 draw in Bahrain before securing a 2-0 win in the return leg in Wellington courtesy of a Rory Fallon goal. Victory sealed New Zealand’s third FIFA World Cup South Africa their first appearance at a World Cup since 1982.

Meanwhile, the OFC U-20 Women’s Championship New Zealand 2009 scheduled to take place in October had to be postponed until January 2010 due to the tragic tsunami that struck American Samoa, Samoa and Tonga in.
OFC Futsal Championship Fiji 2009

2009 marked the first year of the new annual format for the OFC Futsal Championship showing OFC’s commitment to developing futsal by providing regular competition for Oceania’s top teams.

Since its inception in 1992, the championships had been held every four years as part of the qualification process for the FIFA Futsal World Cup tournaments. With no qualification for a FIFA event at stake in 2009, Fiji, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu used the competition to try young players and prepare early for the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2010.

The Solomon Islands breezed through the group stage of the championship overwhelming Vanuatu 11-0 and New Caledonia 8-3 and completed the group stage with a 5-3 win over host nation Fiji.

Vanuatu bounced back from a 5-4 defeat in the group section against New Caledonia as they claimed third spot for the sixth championship in a row with a 6-2 win over New Caledonia.

The Solomon Islands retained their title with an 8-1 win over Fiji. Despite the margin of defeat, Fiji’s runner-up placing equaled its previous best at the OFC Futsal Championship in 1999 and 1996.

Micah Lea'alafa sealed his status as the championship’s Golden Boot winner by scoring two goals in the final to take his haul to nine goals, two ahead of nearest rival — and ... best player, while goalkeeper Paul Huia made it a clean sweep for the Solomon Islands claiming the Golden Glove Award.

OFC Beach Soccer Championship Tahiti Nui 2009

The Solomon Islands continued their reign as OFC champions in beach soccer as they qualified for their fourth consecutive FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup finishing with three wins out of four in the four-team tournament held at Temae Beach, Moorea.

A 4-2 opening loss for the Solomon Islands Bilikiki against Vanuatu was followed with 4-2 and 11-2 wins over Tahiti and Fiji respectively. The Solomon Islands selected an experienced side with many of the squad among those that featured in past FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup line-ups. Vanuatu — the only team in OFC history to defeat Solomon Islands at beach soccer — defeated Fiji 5-2 and Tahiti 5-3 to claim top spot in the group stage.

In a tense final, the Bilikiki showed their experience holding on to a 3-2 win to claim the title. Tahiti equalled its best ever previous performance in the play-off for third with a 6-2 win over Fiji. Fiji made its debut at the OFC Beach Soccer Championship with a long-term view to developing its players.

FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup UAE 2009

The FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup was dominated by traditional heavyweights Brazil, Portugal and Uruguay, with surprise packets Switzerland facing off in the final with CONMEBOL giants Brazil in the final.

Boasting a squad who featured in previous Beach Soccer World Cups and backed up by the experience of current internationals Gideon Omokirio, James Naka and Gibson Hosea, Solomon Islands caught the eye with an exciting brand of play.

A 7-6 upset win over Uruguay — a team that defeated Solomon Islands on route to the runners-up spot in 2006 — was followed with a 7-1 loss to host nation UAE. They rounded out their group matches with a 6-1 loss to Portugal — eventual third place getters.

The suspension of key player Gideon Omokirio — captain and most experienced player in the Solomon Islands squad — hurt his team’s chances against UAE where they missed several chances. The absence of an injured James Naka in the final group match with Portugal was a setback.
The OFC U-17 Championship provided further evidence of the closing gap between New Zealand and the island nations, as Tahiti once again emerged as strong contenders for the U-17 crown.

The qualification of Tahiti’s U-20 team for the FIFA U-20 World Cup in Egypt had captured headlines five months previously and it was the turn of their U-17’s to threaten New Zealand’s position at the top of the Oceania table. They started well with 5-2 and 4-1 wins over New Caledonia and Vanuatu respectively but eventually lost to New Zealand 2-0 in their final group match.

Youngster Andrew Milne was the hero for New Zealand scoring three goals as New Zealand completed the tournament with a 100% winning record. Milne, who finished as the championship’s joint top goalscorer with Tahiti’s Haitari Tanase with three goals, scored a goal in each of his team’s matches. New Caledonia claimed third place thanks to a 1-0 win over an inexperienced Vanuatu side.

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The highlight of 2009 was undoubtedly New Zealand’s qualification for the FIFA World Cup™ for the first time in 28 years. New Zealand had earlier captured their fourth OFC Nations Cup title in 2008 with victory over New Caledonia at North Harbour Stadium. Five wins from six matches in a group that contained Fiji, New Caledonia and Vanuatu saw New Zealand advance to the home and away play-off with the fifth-placed team in the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Bahrain.

The first leg of the play-off in Manama was always likely to be difficult and so it proved. Despite their dominance, Bahrain found New Zealand a dogged opposition to breakdown. That, coupled with Bahrain’s wastefulness in front of goal, saw New Zealand finish with a deserved 0-0 draw to take back to Wellington in the return leg.

The second leg at Westpac Trust Stadium drew a record-breaking crowd of 35,000 — the biggest ever attendance for a football match in New Zealand — and set up a glorious night for New Zealand and Oceanian football. Chris Killen set the tone for the night when he hit the Bahrain crossbar after just fifteen minutes. But it would take a nostalgic goal to swing the tie New Zealand’s way and it arrived just on halftime when Rory Fallon — son of former New Zealand coach and 1982 FIFA World Cup hero, Kevin Fallon struck a powerful header into the net from a Leo Bertos corner in the 45th minute that gave Bahrain goalkeeper Sayed Jaffer no chance.

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The question thereafter was whether or not New Zealand could resist a Bahrain offensive geared toward finding a crucial away goal that would take them through to the finals at the expense of the All Whites. That question appeared to be answered when Bahrain was awarded a penalty midway through the second-half. Amidst nerve-jangling tension New Zealand goalkeeper Mark Paston saved Sayed Adnan’s penalty low to his right to send home fans into a frenzy of delight. The All Whites had further chances to extend their lead as Bahrain desperately sought an equaliser that would send them through to the finals. Bahrain eventually had the ball in the New Zealand net from a goalmouth scramble but the goal was ruled out for a foul on Mark Paston.

New Zealand held out and won the tie 1-0 on aggregate to seal qualification on a night that will go down as one of the most memorable in New Zealand sports history.

FIFA Confederations Cup South Africa 2009

And, despite a draw that saw New Zealand grouped in a tough section that included European giants Spain, host nation South Africa and Asian champions Iraq, the All Whites created their own piece of history when they earned their first ever point at a senior FIFA world event.

There were defensive lapses that saw New Zealand lose unambiguously to Spain (5-0) and South Africa (2-0), but the historic 0-0 draw with Iraq gave New Zealand the perfect confidence boost ahead of the FIFA World Cup play-off with Bahrain four months later.

The All Whites left the competition ranked eighth of the eight participating nations but departed South Africa with valuable experience that would prove crucial in the final two matches of their World Cup qualifying campaign.

FIFA Confederations Cup - South Africa 2009

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New Zealand

2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™ Asia/Oceania Play-off

The 2009 Confederation’s Cup proved beyond doubt South Africa’s ability to host the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ a year out from the main event. Brazil lifted the trophy for the second time in its history with a come from behind 3-2 win over the United States.
OFC ACTIVITY REPORT 2009

17

It was another busy year as long-serving staff Glenn Turner, Lyn Shirley and Patrick Jacquemet worked closely with the Referee Development staff and OFC Technical Department to achieve several key milestones. One of the highlights of the year was the inauguration of the Cook Islands Football Association (CIFA) headquarters at Matavera on the main island of Rarotonga in July. Seven years in the making, the Cook Islands ‘House of Football’ now includes an all-purpose complex for players, officials, media and spectators to add to the international-standard playing facilities and administration offices for CIFA.

The celebration marked the second and third phases of the Goal Project introduced by FIFA in 1999 as an initiative of FIFA President Joseph S. Blatter to elevate national football associations around the world. Fédération Tahitienne de Football (FTF) also celebrated an upgrade of its national headquarters with the opening of accommodation facilities in Pirae. OFC and FTF President Reynald Temarii led the week-long festivities in December to celebrate what was the fourth phase of Tahiti’s Goal Project.

The newly built accommodation facility in Pirae will host groups and teams from the country’s outer islands. In addition, and as a display of solidarity between different local federations, FTF has decided to make the centre available to other sporting bodies.

Attention also turned to Vanuatu in 2009 as a new FIFA Initiative Goal Football began to take shape. The project, which is one of only a handful of ‘pilot’ projects across the world, launched in January with the selection of 34 talented young players to take part in a two-year residential education and football development programme.

Win in Oceania

Launching in January 2009, the FIFA-funded Win in Oceania (WIO) development project is helping to boost national competitions, improve infrastructure, strengthen administrative procedures and enhance media capabilities across all Member Associations while encouraging participation in futsal and grassroots programmes.

The US$8 million initiative is led by Senior Project Manager Vairani Davio and a team of project managers who work closely with each Member Association to introduce programmes specific to their needs.

Key achievements have already been made in phase one of the three-year project. These have included the implementation of a new education programme for medical personnel plus the employment of ten full-time media officers across the Pacific and impressive results for the regional television strategy.

Futsal and grassroots programmes increased dramatically in 2009 while administrative procedures started to become more streamlined thanks to the introduction of FIFA’s Quality Management System (QMS).

Win in Oceania’s programme enabled OFC to develop a new content management system which now hosts OFC’s competitions and website while storing comprehensive player information and statistics. This project will be rolled out across the 11 Member Associations starting in 2010.

Media operations also received a huge boost with equipment and training provided to the newly recruited media officers. Several associations were able to establish a magazine-style football show with support from their preferred television partner. This included Vanuatu Football Federation where Harry Atisson’s ‘Vanuafoot’ became a huge hit with fans across the country.

Overall, Win in Oceania is a significant project that reaffirms FIFA’s position as one of the most important financial contributors to each country within the Oceania region. OFC is therefore working hard to ensure that each member association takes ownership and meets the set targets.

FIFA will initially provide funding from 2009 to 2011 but if the programme is successful then FIFA’s support may continue through to 2014.

FIFA Development Office

The FIFA Development Office continued to promote the independence and professionalisation of each member association through its successful Goal Programme in 2009.

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In Samoa, the FIFA Development Office was instrumental in seeing the association through a challenging normalisation period. Glenn Turner led a delegation to Tuamotu Football Complex in November to sign new statutes for Football Federation Samoa (formerly Samoa Football Soccer Federation). It capped off a momentous year for Samoa which included the official re-opening of its number one international playing pitch plus a complete rebrand for the organisation.

FIFA will go through one more year of normalisation under Fred Young who replaces Colin Tuaa as CEO Designate.
Technical Development

The OFC Technical Department kept to a busy schedule in 2009 and continued breaking new ground in areas such as education and training, accreditation and assessing technical trends.

Technical Director Jim Selby moved on from OFC at the end of 2009 but not without building a solid framework from which sustainable football development will continue.

The Australian-born technical expert, who has spent almost 30 years as a full-time coach or coach educator, joined OFC in 2006 as the Confederation’s first full-time Technical Director along with wife Connie Selby who became head of Women’s Football. Connie left in 2008 to take up a position in the UAE while Selby stayed on to continue his work in Oceania.

In 2009, Selby worked closely with FIFA Assistant Development Officer Patrick Jacquemet to roll out courses for players, referees, coaches, instructors, medical personnel and other stakeholders of the game.

The Technical Department was responsible for creating the Junior Framework Policy and key programmes such as ‘Just Play’ grassroots football which continues to be implemented across the region with the support of the Australian Government who have contributed AUD$4 million towards the initiative over a three-year period.

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Patrick Jacquemet takes over from Selby and brings with him a wealth of knowledge having played as a professional goalkeeper for Valencia Infrance before moving to Tahiti to play for Venus in 1992. Jacquemet managed the Technical Study Groups for OFC competitions in 2009 observing technical trends across the Oceania region.

Meanwhile OFC Futsal Coordinator Scott Gilligan is also part of the technical team. The former Australian futsal player and coach, facilitated futsal courses across the region and assessed technical levels at the OFC Futsal Championship Fiji 2009.

Referee Development

Referee development was in the spotlight in 2009 with OFC enjoying one of its most successful years ever. Under the supervision of Referee Development Officer Massimo Raveino, Referee Instructor Neil Poloso and Fitness Trainer Kader Touati, the programme is helping to create a more organised, professional approach to refereeing in Oceania.

In 2009, OFC was well represented on the world stage with at least 14 appointments at FIFA tournaments. Successful OFC trios included Mike Hester (NZL) and his assistants Jan Hintz (NZL) and Tevita Makasini (TON) as well as referee Peter O’Leary (NZL) and his assistants Brent Best (NZL) and Matthew Taro (SOL).

Both men’s trios performed with distinction including appointments for the knock-out stages of the FIFA U-17 and FIFA U-20 World Cups. And crucially, they were preselected for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa.

Meanwhile in the women’s game, referee Fiona Vuliwu (FU) and her assistants Jacqueline Stephenson (NZL) and Lata Sia Tui Tuituna (TON) were preselected for the FIFA Women’s World Cup Germany 2011 after strong performances at the FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup New Zealand 2008 and the Algarve Cup in Portugal.

The achievement of these trios can in large part be attributed to the Referee Assistance Programme, which began in 2008.

Massimo Raveino and his colleagues have maintained an efficient schedule of courses aimed not just at elite referees but also community and club referees. They also worked closely with Futsal Coordinator Scott Gilligan and FIFA Assistant Development Officer Patrick Jacquemet in 2009 to deliver courses for futsal and beach soccer referees.

As part of the high standards set by FIFA, all match officials involved in OFC Championships underwent stringent fitness tests and only those who passed were eligible to take part.
Courses and Education 2009

FIFA/OFC/WOM WORKSHOPS
Noumea, New Caledonia 25-27 Jan 2009
Co-ordinated by FIFA/OFC and WHO management team

FIFA BEACH SOCCER COACHING COURSE
Honour, Solomon Islands 21-26 Feb 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino and RAP Instructor Neil Poloso

FIFA/OFc MA FUTSAL REFEREEING COURSE
Suva, Fiji 8-13 March 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino and RAP Instructor Neil Poloso

FIFA/OFc MA REFEREEING COURSE
Port Moresby, PNG 23-25 March 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino and RAP Instructor Neil Poloso

FIFA/OFc/OCF SENIOR MEN’S COACHING COURSE
Rarotonga, Cook Islands 23-27 Mar 2009
Presented by OFC Technical Director Jim Selby

FIFA REGIONAL ELITE REFEREEING COURSE
Auckland, New Zealand 1-6 April 2009
Presented by FIFA Instructor Yoshihiko (JPN), FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino and RAP Instructor Neil Poloso

FIFA WOMEN’S FOOTBALL COACHING COURSE
Port Vila, Vanuatu 12-17 April 2009
Presented by FIFA Instructor Shok On Chai (HKG)

FIFA/OFc/OCF WOMEN’S REFEREEING COURSE
Suva, Fiji 4-9 May 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino, RAP Instructor Neil Poloso and Fitness Trainer Kader Touatu

FIFA FUTURO III COACHING REFRESHER COURSE
Pagopago, American Samoa 20-24 May 2009
Presented by FIFA/OCF Technical Director Jim Selby and Patrick Jacquemet

OFc MA YOUTH COACHING COURSE
Pagopago, American Samoa 20-24 May 2009
Presented by FIFA/OCF Technical Director Jim Selby

FIFA WOMEN’S FOOTBALL COMP-UNIT SOCCER
Honour, Solomon Islands 8-11 June 2009
Presented by FIFA Women’s Football Committee Manager Mike Co, FIFA DO Glenn Turner and OFC Head of Media and Communications Patricia Downan

FIFA BEACH SOCCER REFEREEING AND REFEREEING COURSE
Suva, Fiji: 22-26 June 2009
Presented by FIFA/OCF Assistant DO Patrick Jacquemet, FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino and RAP Instructor Neil Poloso

OFC YOUTH FOOTBALL COURSE
Nukualofa, Tonga 24-27 June
Presented by OFC Technical Director Jim Selby

FIFA/OFc GRASSROOTS REFEREEING INSTRUCTORS COURSE
Suva, Fiji: 2-7 July 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino, RAP Instructor Neil Poloso

FIFA/OFc/GRASSROOTS REFEREEING COURSE
Honour, Solomon Islands: 6-13 July 2009
Presented by OFC Technical Director Jim Selby and FIFA Instructor Yvon Aryn

FIFA/OFc/MA REFEREEING COURSE
Aiga, Samoa: 14-18 July 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino, RAP Instructor Neil Poloso and Fitness Trainer Kader Touatu

FIFA WOMEN’S FOOTBALL COACHING COURSE
Noumea, New Caledonia: 19-23 July 2009
Presented by FIFA Instructor Sylvie Behelana (CAN)

FIFA/OFc/OCF SENIOR MEN’S COACHING COURSE
Rarotonga, Cook Islands: 27-31 July 2009
Presented by OFC Technical Director Jim Selby

FIFA WOMEN’S FOOTBALL COACHING COURSE
Papeete, Tahiti: 27-31 July 2009
Presented by FIFA Instructor Sylvie Behelana (CAN)

FIFA/OFc/MA REFEREEING COURSE
Papeete, Tahiti: 5-8 August 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino, RAP Instructor Neil Poloso and Fitness Trainer Kader Touatu

FIFA WOMEN’S FOOTBALL COACHING COURSE
Ha, Fiji: 15-18 August 2009
Presented by FIFA Instructor Vicki Evans (AUS)

FIFA/OFc/MA REFEREEING COURSE
Papeete, Tahiti: 23-27 August 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino, RAP Instructor Neil Poloso and Fitness Trainer Kader Touatu

FIFA WOMEN’S FOOTBALL COACHING COURSE
Ha, Fiji: 8-11 September 2009
Presented by FIFA Instructor Vicki Evans (AUS)

FIFA/OFc/MA REFEREEING COURSE
Papeete, Tahiti: 7-11 September 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino, RAP Instructor Neil Poloso and Fitness Trainer Kader Touatu

OFC REFEREEING COURSE
—— MEN’S AND WOMEN’S
Port Moresby, PNG 8-16 September 2009
Presented by the OFC Technical Department

FIFA/OFc/MA REFEREEING COURSE
Honour, New Caledonia: 14-18 Sept 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino and Fitness Trainer Kader Touatu

FIFA/OFc/GRASSROOTS REFEREEING COURSE
Honour, Solomon Islands: 19-25 Sept 2009
Presented by FIFA Development Officer Glenn Turner and Instructor Yvon Aryn

FIFA/OFc FUTSAL REFEREEING COURSE
Page Pago, American Samoa: 21-26 Sept 2009
Presented by FIFA Futsal Co-ordinator Scott Gilligan

FIFA/OFc/MA REFEREEING COURSE
Auckland, New Zealand: 25-30 Sept 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino

FIFA/OFc/OCF ‘LEGACY’ WOMEN’S COACHING SEMINAR
Auckland, New Zealand: 5-10 October 2009
Presented by FIFA Instructor April Hinchliffe and Anne Nye

FIFA/OFc/MA REFEREEING COURSE
Honour, Solomon Islands: 3-7 Nov 2009
Presented by FIFA RAP DO Massimo Raveino, RAP Instructor Neil Poloso and Fitness Trainer Kader Touatu

FIFA/OFc/MA DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
Auckland New Zealand: 23-25 Nov 2009
Presented by FIFA Development Manager for Oceania, Serge Dumontier and FIFA/OCF instructors

OFc FOOTBALL FIRST AID MEDICAL COURSE
Suva, Fiji: 18-22 November 2009
Presented by the OFC Technical Director Jim Selby

FIFA/OFc/MA FUTSAL REFEREEING COURSE
Papeete, Tahiti: 12-16 December 2009
Presented by FIFA Futsal Co-ordinator Scott Gilligan

The OFC Technical Department and FIFA Development Office worked closely in 2009 to develop a course programme in the FIFA/OCF Member Association workshop at the end of the year.

The November workshop brought together the entire Oceania football family including CEOs and technical directors from every Member Association. With OFC President Reynald Temarii in attendance as well as FIFA Development Manager for Oceania, Serge Dumontier, the seminar provided OFC’s Member Associations with a clear understanding of the Confederation’s long term development strategy. It also gave tools and resources, such as the FIFA Quality Management System, to assist members in all areas of administration.

An increase in the total number of courses in 2009 was partly due to the introduction of the Win in Oceania development programme. OFC Futsal Co-ordinator Scott Gilligan held numerous courses including Oceania’s first-ever FIFA Futsal Level Two workshop which was launched in Suva, Fiji.

The Referee Assistance Programme (RAP), introduced in 2008, kept to a busy schedule with Referee Development Officer Massimo Raveino, Referee Instructor Neil Poloso and Fitness Trainer Kader Touatu facilitating local and regional courses.

There was a notable increase in grassroots activities thanks to a ground-breaking partnership between OFC, the Australian Government and Football Federation Australia, FIFA/FIFA ‘LEGACY’ and FIFA’s ‘Just Play’ initiative. Jim Selby continued OFC’s Education and Training Scheme and worked closely with FIFA Assistant Development Officer Patrick Jacquet to deliver courses aimed at junior, youth and senior instructors involved in all areas of football.

The OFC Technical Department’s Junior Framework Policy and OFC Accreditation Scheme continued to set the benchmark in Oceania for coach and referee education.

All of these courses and initiatives have helped to build a sustainable football development platform which is modernizing the skills of local football people.
Women’s Football

The OFC U-20 Women’s Championship — a highlight on the 2009 calendar — had to be postponed until January 2010 due to the tragic tsunami that struck American Samoa, Samoa and Tonga in September. Nevertheless, the women’s game still enjoyed plenty of attention as key courses, competitions and festivals were held across the region.

The most important regional gathering of women’s coaches and instructors took place in Auckland, New Zealand, for the FIFA/OFC follow-up technical course for women’s football in October.

With participants from every Member Association, the course aimed to build on the success of the FIFA/OFC women’s football coaching course held in October 2008 as part of the ‘legacy’ activities surrounding the inaugural FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup in New Zealand.

Belgium’s national women’s coach Anne Noo and former USA national coach April Heinrichs facilitated the course at Kristin College on Auckland’s North Shore.

The festival day was held in conjunction with the first ever FIFA Women’s Football Com-Unity seminar – a three day workshop devoted exclusively to the women’s game.

Facilitated by FIFA Women’s Football Committee Member Michele Cox, FIFA Development Officer Glenn Turner and OFC Head of Media and Communications Priscilla Duncan, the course aimed to encourage cooperation between key stakeholders and establish clear outcomes to help build women’s football from grassroots right through to the elite level.

Women’s football practitioners in New Caledonia and Tahiti made the most of a visit from Canadian expert Sylvie Belleveau who presented coaching courses across both countries in July. Belleveau was the coach of Canada’s national team at the 1995 FIFA Women’s World Cup in Sweden, the only female coach at the tournament.

Another high profile guest to Oceania was FIFA Instructor Shuk Chai Chan, who coaches a range of teams for the Hong Kong Football Association. Chan visited Vanuatu early in 2009 to provide coaches with the knowledge and competency to develop women’s football.

Finally in 2009, Papua New Guinea were endorsed by OFC to play in the women’s draw of the Youth Olympic Games to be held in Singapore in August 2010. The selection came on the back of strong recent performances including a gold medal at the XII South Pacific Games Samoa 2007.

Futsal and Beach Soccer

The OFC Futsal and Beach Soccer Championships again proved popular in 2009 while in the background, a busy schedule of courses ensured the continued development of both forms of the game.

FIFA Assistant Development Officer Patrick Jacquemet set high standards with regards to beach soccer development while Scott Giligan took charge of the futsal training programme.

Jacquemet provided a comprehensive technical assessment of the Beach Soccer Championship in Tahiti which featured Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tahiti and Vanuatu. After the Solomon Islands defeated Vanuatu 1-0 in the final, Jacquemet worked closely with the Fijian team to ensure preparations went well for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup in Dubai. The Solomon Islands caused a stir at the tournament beating Uruguay in their opening match but were knocked out by eventual bronze medallists Portugal.

Jacquemet also made an impact at the local and regional level staging several courses including the FIFA Beach Soccer Coaching and Refereeing Course in Suva, Fiji, along with Referee Development Officer Massimo Raveino and Referee Instructor Neil Poloso.

With continued support over time, Jacquemet is confident Oceania has the potential to become a world force in beach soccer, pointing to the wide accessibility of beaches and year-round tropical climate as unique factors that could contribute to the steady rise of the game in this part of the world.

The popularity of futsal continued to grow with huge support shown for the OFC Futsal Championship Fiji 2009, including widespread television coverage thanks to a partnership between OFC and Mai TV.

2009 marked the first year of the new annual format for the competition showing OFC’s commitment to developing futsal by providing regular competition for Oceania’s top teams.

Since its inception in 1992, the championships had been held every four years as part of the qualification process for the FIFA Futsal World Cup tournaments.

OFC Futsal Coordinator Scott Giligan, a former Australian futsal player and coach, spent time with each of the participating teams in preparation for the event.

In his drive to see the sport grow, Giligan worked to integrate futsal in schools around the region, set up domestic competitions for all levels, train coaches and teachers, and employ Futsal Development Officers across the Member Associations. All of these initiatives are part of the FIFA-funded Win in Oceania development programme.
Rather than being aimed at doctors and other health professionals, the Football First Aid course focused on upskilling coaches at the community and club level who may be responsible for the immediate medical treatment of players. OFC Technical Director Jim Selby facilitated the November course in coordination with Fijian Doctor Tharid Ali, Physio Robert Lee and Doctor Tony Edwards from New Zealand. Red Cross, St Johns Ambulance and other Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) were invited to be part of the course where topics included injury prevention, basic first aid and information on social drugs. At the conclusion, each participant was provided a CD with further resources.

The course follows on from a “needs” analysis carried out in three countries namely Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu which identified the necessity to coordinate and maintain football medicine programmes in the region.

Due to the increasing health problems within the Pacific region, linking football to health initiative programmes is seen as an asset in bringing greater recognition to the game in Oceania. It allows OFC to use football as a tool for social and human development in line with FIFA’s mission of ‘Develop the game, touch the world, build a better future’.

The heightening of health awareness initiatives on diseases such as HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STI), dangers of tobacco, alcohol and drug abuse has been one of the main aims of OFC President Reynald Temarii since his election in 2004. OFC will continue to look at ways of promoting physical activity and healthy lifestyles by working closely alongside Member Associations, local health ministries, NGOs as well as regional and international organisations.

**Football Medicine**

Football Medicine remains an area of focus since the skill-sets and resources available to each Member Association varies greatly. In 2009, OFC introduced the Football First Aid course in Fiji which will be used as a model to develop similar programmes throughout the Pacific.
## OFC Representation on FIFA Standing Committees

### FIFA Standing Committees and Judicial Bodies

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
- Vice President: Reynald Temarii (Tahiti)

**EMERGENCY COMMITTEE**
- Member: Reynald Temarii (Tahiti)

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**
- Member: Reynald Temarii (Tahiti)

**INTERNAL AUDIT COMMITTEE**
- Member: Rarosh Patol (Fiji)

**BUREAU 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP SOUTH AFRICA™**
- Member: Reynald Temarii (Tahiti)

**SPORTS MEDICAL COMMITTEE**
- Member: Dr. Tony Edwards (New Zealand)
- Member: Dr. Silina Fusimalohi (Tonga)
- Member: Dr. Jean-Marie Debruyne (Tahiti)

**LEGAL COMMITTEE**
- Member: Shabina Sahu Khan (Fiji)

**COMMITTEE FOR FAIR PLAY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**
- Member: Carol Mota (Papua New Guinea)
- Consultant: Stephen Williamson (New Zealand)

**ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE**
- Member: Claude Fourme (New Caledonia)
- Member: Frank Van Hatton (New Zealand)

**FOOTBALL COMMITTEE**
- Member: Christian Karembeu (France/New Caledonia)

**STRICT COMMITTEE**
- Confederation President: Reynald Temarii (Tahiti)
- Player Representative: Christian Karembeu (France/New Caledonia)

**MARKETING AND TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD**
- Deputy Chairman: Reynald Temarii (Tahiti)

**GOAL BUREAU**
- Member: Reynald Temarii (Tahiti)

**COMMITTEE FOR CLUB FOOTBALL**
- Member: Rex Dawkins (New Zealand)

**FIFA CLUB TASK FORCE**
- Member: Rex Dawkins (New Zealand)

**FIFA MEDICAL ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH CENTRE**
- Member: Dr. Tony Edwards (New Zealand)

**STADIUM AND SECURITY COMMITTEE**
- Member: Seamus Marten (New Zealand)

**DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**
- Deputy Chairman: Dr. MS Sahu Khan (Fiji)

**APPEAL COMMITTEE**
- Member: Alice Parker (Cook Islands)

**GOAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**
- Member: Glenn Turner (New Zealand)

**FUTSAL AND BEACH SOCCER COMMITTEE**
- Member: Marco Hermani (Vanuatu (Futsal Sub-Committee))
- Member: Michel Paille (Beach Soccer Sub-Committee)

**ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THE FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP**
- Member: David Chang (Papua New Guinea)

**REFEREES’ COMMITTEE**
- Member: Gilles Tavergeux (New Caledonia)

**TECHNICAL AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**
- Chairman: Reynald Temarii (Tahiti)
- Member: Alex Goddard (American Samoa)
- Member: Marcel Ure (New Caledonia)

**PLAYERS’ STATUS COMMITTEE**
- Member: Tom Richardson (New Zealand)

**LEGAL COMMITTEE**
- Member: Shabina Sahu Khan (Fiji)

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- Member: Glenn Turner (New Zealand)

## FIFA Appointments

### FIFA U-20 WORLD CUP EGYPT 2009
- Organising Committee: Lee Harrison (Cook Islands)
- Referees’ Committee: Harry Atisson (Vanuatu)
- Appeal Committee: Shige Oyashiki (New Zealand)
- Technical Study Group: Didier Chambon (New Caledonia)
- Marketing Venue Manager: Nick Thurston (New Zealand)

### FIFA U-17 WORLD CUP NIGERIA 2009
- Organising Committee: Anna Cox (Vanuatu)
- Referees’ Committee: Harry Atisson (Vanuatu)
- Appeal Committee: Shige Oyashiki (New Zealand)
- Technical Study Group: Didier Chambon (New Caledonia)
- Marketing Venue Manager: Nick Thurston (New Zealand)

### FIFA BEACH SOCCER WORLD CUP DUBAI 2009
- Referees’ Committee: Gilles Tavergeux (New Caledonia)
- Assistant General Coordinator: Shige Oyashiki (New Zealand)
- Technical Study Group: Didier Chambon (New Caledonia)
- Marketing Venue Manager: Nick Thurston (New Zealand)

### FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP UAE 2009
- Organising Committee: David Chang (Papua New Guinea)

### FIFA CONFEDERATIONS CUP SOUTH AFRICA 2009
- Organising Committee: Reynald Temarii (Tahiti)
- Media Officer: Oliver Huc (Tahiti)
Acknowledgements: