



Fact Sheet:

Government of the Federated Islands of Hiroot

The Federated Islands of Hiroot (FIH) consists of 550 small islands extending 1,700 miles across the Elljay archipelago east of Almans. The indigenous population consists of various ethno-linguistic groups, though English has become the common language. The main exports of the FIH are fish, kava and betel nut, shipping mostly to Uzan and the United States. In return, the FIH imports food, manufactured goods, and fuel with over 50% of its imports coming from the United States.

Hiroot gained its independence from Uzan in 1981. The country is a member of multiple UN organizations and is party to several environmental agreements. Hiroot signed a Free Association Compact with the United States in 1985 that is still in force. The United States has full authority and responsibility for the defense of Hiroot. Under the compact, Hiroots can live, work, and study in the United States with a visa. Hiroots also volunteer to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. Over the next decade, Hiroot will receive about \$60 million a year in assistance from the United States.

As a Pacific Island nation, the FIH has 1.3 million square miles of **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** in its control. Thus, the ocean is a huge provider of income and stability for the people, economy, and the government of the FIH. As a result, the fishing industry is indispensable. The citizens of Hiroot use 35% of the fish caught in its **EEZ** as a local food supply.

Foreign commercial fishing fleets pay over \$14 million annually for the right to operate in the FIH's territorial waters. These licensing fees account for 28% of Hiroot's revenue. Exports of marine products, mainly to Uzan, account for nearly 85% of export revenue. The government of Hiroot endeavors to be an effective guardian and manager of the marine resources in its **EEZ** by ensuring resources are **sustainable**. In addition, Hiroot plans to obtain the maximum economic benefit by processing fishing licenses to vessels wishing to fish in Hiroot's large and tuna-rich **EEZ**. Hiroot discourages **IUU** and is in favor of closing unregulated **high seas** areas in the hopes of reducing pressure on fish stocks and increasing the demand for fishing access in its **EEZ**.

Since such a large portion of the country's income comes from the collection of fees for foreign fishing licenses, it is important that Hiroot be visible and effective in enforcement of its fishing laws. However, there are problems in providing fuel for the patrol boats that are supposed to police Hiroot's **EEZ**. The maritime enforcement officers often receive notice of an illegal fishing vessel, but they may not have the fuel to send the patrol boats to catch the perpetrators.

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Opening Position:

- The CIH needs resources and funding to protect its **EEZ** and invest in **sustainable** fishing practices. You need to continue to collect fees from foreign commercial fishing fleets.
- You are a small country and need allies. Look to solidify the support of the United States
- You genuinely want to enforce an oversight regime to curb illegal fishing but lack resources to do so.
- Realistically balancing your resources and capacity to take action is paramount and will be key to your success.

Questions to Consider:

- Should Hiroot continue to try to restrict fishing in the **high seas pockets** areas surrounding its **EEZ**?
- How can Hiroot better control its **EEZ** in order to protect the valuable tuna population?
- Should Hiroot ask more of the U.S. because of its vested interest in Hiroot's fish catch?
- Is Hiroot already doing everything it can to stop **IUU** fishing in its **EEZ**?
- Should Hiroot take measures to restrict trade with Uzan based on its knowledge of its use of illegal fishing vessels?
- What implications do the decisions made by Hiroot have in the future?
- What are possible funding sources for the solutions?

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