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# REPORT of the FAO WORLD CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Rome, 27 June - 6 July 1984

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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## **OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE**

1. The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development was opened on 27 June 1984 by Mr. Edouard Saouma, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. It was attended by 62 ministers responsible for fisheries and delegates from 147 countries, by delegates from 3 Liberation Movements, by 14 representatives of the United Nations and its organs, organizations and bodies, by observers from 24 intergovernmental organizations and from 29 international nongovernmental organizations.

2. The list of participating states and organizations is given in Appendix E to this report.

### **Election of the Chairman**

3. The Conference elected by majority vote His Excellency Pedro Ojeda Paullada, Secretary of Fisheries of Mexico, as Chairman of the Conference.

### **Address by the Chairman**

4. In accepting the Chairmanship of the Conference, Mr. Ojeda Paullada expressed his conviction that, because of the urgent need to mobilize the entire international community in the task of utilizing the world fish resources for the benefit of humanity, the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development had been convened at a very opportune time.

5. He observed that the new United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea had already had a significant impact on the development of world fisheries and that a new era had begun with countries having acquired both increasing responsibilities and greater opportunities in the management and development of their fishery resources.

6. The Chairman remarked that cooperation between countries, whatever their stage of development, was vital if the objective of greater self-reliance in fisheries was to be attained and if the marine ecosystem was to be rationally utilized and properly protected.

7. Mr. Ojeda Paullada noted that the new situation called for a review and renewal of strategies and practical action programmes to satisfy the legitimate aspirations of all men and women for food, employment and income. He believed that the draft Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development and the five proposed Programmes of Action provided a sound framework for the fulfilment of such aspirations. Paying tribute to the leadership of the Director-General of FAO, Mr. Saouma, he felt assured that an excellent basis for the Conference's work had been laid by FAO through the preparatory consultations undertaken with Governments.

8. The Chairman stressed that the juridical action of extending national jurisdiction over fisheries must now be reinforced by action toward efficient management and sound development. He concluded that he was convinced that the outcome of the Conference would be regarded as one of the most important events in the history of world fisheries, to the benefit of all, to men and women, their governments and to the worldwide community of fishermen.

9. The full text of the address by the Chairman appears as Appendix B of the Report.

### **Address by His Majesty the King of Spain**

10. The Director-General of FAO, on behalf of the Conference, extended his warm welcome to Their Majesties King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain. In his welcoming remarks, the Director-General stated that Spain's geographical position and past traditions made her particularly well-qualified for dialogue with the Third World and paid tribute to the King's personal qualities as a defender of the freedom and dignity of all peoples, which were universally recognized.

11. In addressing the Conference, His Majesty expressed sincere thanks to the Director-General of FAO for convening the World Fisheries Conference and hoped that the active cooperation of the delegates would lay the foundation for a balanced development of world fisheries. He emphasized the need to avoid damaging one of mankind's main sources of wealth and indeed of life itself. He recommended that suitable formulae for international cooperation be sought in order to effectively assist the most deprived populations in the world.

12. King Juan Carlos pointed out that Spain had a long fisheries tradition with experience in international fisheries agreements dating from 1351. Presently she had numerous agreements with other countries involving economic, scientific and technical cooperation, each formulated to suit the requirements of the parties concerned.

13. Spain was seeking to manage her own fisheries to ensure that the maximum sustainable yield was obtained from her resources; the development of small-scale fisheries in the country was resulting in a more equitable distribution of incomes to small-scale producers. Aquaculture was being given a strong emphasis and Spain also actively encouraged the investment of private capital in fishery enterprises. His Majesty expressed concern that in the past the role of the fisherman had often not been given sufficient importance. Ways and means should be found to improve the quality of life of these people, including professional training, safety at sea and better working conditions.

14. In emphasizing the need for the exchange of information and technology, King Juan Carlos assured the Conference that Spain was able and willing to render assistance to other countries, particularly through its existing nautical and fisheries training centres.

15. His Majesty emphasized the importance of the role of the individual fisherman and concluded by expressing his conviction that FAO would be able to meet the challenge of the future and transform the recommendations of the Conference into reality.

16. The full text of the address by His Majesty the King of Spain appears as Appendix C to this report.

#### Statement by the Director-General of FAO

17. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Director-General delivered a statement to the Conference. He referred to the remarkable developments that had taken place in world fisheries over the last 40 years and to the current changes in the sector which were no less profound and perhaps more far-reaching. The establishment of exclusive economic zones by coastal States meant that about 95 percent of all catches came from waters under national jurisdiction. Mr. Saouma noted that the World Fisheries Conference was being held at a moment of unique historical importance in the evolution of global fisheries. It had brought together the largest number of national delegations which had ever been assembled at the policy level to consider the issues facing the sector.

18. He identified three principal themes of the Conference. The first involved the problems of adjustment to the new regime of the oceans. Whilst many countries were involved, attention had inevitably been drawn to those countries which had gained substantial fishing resources from the new regime but were not yet adequately equipped to fully utilize them. At the same time conservation of fishery resources remained vital, particularly where common stocks were involved. Regional and sub-regional bodies, within FAO or outside, already provided mechanisms for international cooperation in this respect.

19. The Director-General defined the second theme as that of meeting the challenge of development. The last decade had been difficult as a result of declining catches of some important species, increasing costs of operation and, inevitably, increased fish prices relative to those of other products. The solution required more than simple improvements in fishing practices. Apart from management of presently exploited stocks, ways must be found to exploit new resources and avoid wastage of existing catches.

20. He drew attention to the fact that it was in the developing countries that the main opportunities of growth lay and where fish were of the greatest importance in improving nutritional levels. Whilst it was impossible to generalize about the approach to future development, some issues seemed to be of overall relevance, such as aquaculture development, the alleviation of under-nutrition and international trade.

21. The third theme to be considered by the Conference, suggested the Director-General, was a better future for fishermen and their families. Special approaches were required to the development of small-scale fisheries. Planning from the top down should be avoided; an integrated approach was required and the important role of women in many aspects of the fisheries sector should not be forgotten.

22. The draft Strategy embodied all these three themes. It, and the associated Programmes of Action, were based on a most comprehensive analysis of fisheries development. The Strategy would not be binding on governments but could be considered as providing guidelines to be taken into account by policy makers. Mr. Saouma hoped that the Conference would thus be able to give unanimous approval to its final text.

23. The financial implications of the Programmes of Action had been kept modest, in line with the universal mood of stringency. Though fund-raising was not a function of the Conference, it was hoped that some delegations would express an interest in one or other of the Programmes. FAO was prepared to take a leading role in their implementation.

24. The task facing the Conference, concluded the Director-General, was to build up the new global system of fisheries and strengthen the contribution it could make toward feeding a hungry world.

25. The full text of the Director-General's Statement appears as Appendix D.

## **PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

### **Adoption of the Rules of Procedure**

26. At its second Plenary meeting on 27 June 1984, the Conference adopted its Rules of Procedure with minor amendments.

### **Adoption of the Agenda and organization of work**

27. The Conference adopted the Agenda shown in Appendix A. The documents submitted to the Conference are listed in Appendix G.

### **Establishment of Commissions and other sessional bodies**

28. The Conference established two Commissions - Commission I to deal with item IV of the Agenda, "Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development", and Commission II to deal with item V of the Agenda, "Programmes for the Management and Development of Fisheries".

29. The Conference also established a General Committee, a Credentials Committee and a Drafting Committee as stipulated in the Rules of Procedure.

**Election of Officers other than Chairman**

30. The Conference elected the following officers:

Vice-Chairmen of the Conference:	Morocco Poland Spain Sri Lanka Tunisia
Rapporteur General:	Robert A. Bain (Australia)
Chairman of Commission I:	H.E. Maina Wanjigi (Kenya)
Vice-Chairmen of Commission I:	Bulgaria Uruguay Vanuatu
Rapporteur of Commission I:	Horace Walters (St. Lucia)
Chairman of Commission II:	Bertrand Labrousse (France)
Vice-Chairmen of Commission II:	Peru Senegal Yemen, P.D. Rep. of
Rapporteur of Commission II:	A.G. Nqongi Namanga (Cameroon)

**Appointment of the Credentials Committee**

31. The following countries were appointed members of the Credentials Committee:

Norway (Chairman)	Costa Rica	Libya
Angola	Hungary	Malaysia
Canada	Liberia	Maldives

**Appointment of the Drafting Committee**

32. At the fourth meeting of the Plenary on 28 June 1984, the Conference appointed a Drafting Committee with the following composition:

Chairman:	Rapporteur General, Robert A. Bain (Australia)	
Members:	Algeria Brazil Canada Cuba Denmark Indonesia	Philippines Samoa Spain Sudan Tanzania USSR

### Request for attendance by Brunei

33. At the recommendation of the General Committee, the Conference agreed that Brunei be invited to participate in the Conference and send representatives.

### Reports of Credentials Committee

34. The Conference, at its Twelfth Plenary Meeting on 4 July 1984, accepted the reports of the Credentials Committee 1/.

35. At the Tenth Plenary Meeting of the Conference on 3 July 1984, the Delegation of Cuba, supported by the Delegations of the German Democratic Republic, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Libya, Nicaragua, the USSR and Vietnam, stated their formal reservation regarding the acceptance of the credentials of the Delegation of Grenada. The USSR also spoke against the credentials of the Delegation of Democratic Kampuchea. It was supported by the Delegations of Hungary and Vietnam.

### STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS

36. The Conference heard statements delivered by 108 Heads of Delegations, 1 representative from one Liberation Movement, 9 representatives of the United Nations and its organs, organizations and bodies, observers from 10 intergovernmental organizations and 2 international non-governmental organizations.

37. Appreciation was expressed for the initiative taken by the Director-General of FAO in convening the World Fisheries Conference at such an opportune time. Reference was made to recent developments affecting world fisheries; for example, the levelling off in world fish catches during the past decade; the widening gap between the supply of and demand for food fish; the rapidly rising costs experienced in the fisheries sector since the middle of the 1970's; and the adoption in 1982 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, in which the concept of exclusive economic zone was an essential element as regards fisheries.

38. There was strong support for the Conference objectives, namely: the optimum utilization of world fishery resources from the economic, social and nutritional points of view; a greater contribution of fish to national self-sufficiency in food production and toward food security; the promotion of self-reliance of developing countries in the management and development of fisheries; and the fostering of international collaboration in fisheries between developed and developing countries and also among the developing countries themselves.

39. There was widespread support for the principles and guidelines contained in the draft Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development as well as for the five associated Programmes of Action. It was noted that the Strategy was not binding on governments, so no legal or financial commitments were involved in its approval. Rather, it should be seen as providing a series of guidelines to be taken into account by policy-makers in individual countries.

40. There was unanimous recognition of the key, catalytic role of FAO in world-wide fisheries development. Reference was made to the long experience and wide ranging expertise of FAO in the implementation of complex multidisciplinary projects and programmes and also the unique global information resources of the Organization. The delivery of sub-regional, regional and inter-regional development programmes through a network of technical support units associated with FAO regional bodies was strongly endorsed. Widespread appreciation was expressed for the work done by units of this type and for the assistance provided by FAO, notably through the Director-General's special Programme of Assistance to Developing Coastal States in the Management and Development of Fishery Resources in Exclusive Economic Zones, in a wide variety of fields ranging from policy and planning missions, advice on technical and legal aspects of fisheries to resources assessment and

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1/ Documents WCFI/84/LIM 2, 5 and 8

training courses. Delegations welcomed the proposals, embodied in the five Programmes of Action, for the continuance and expansion of FAO's leading role in promoting the self-reliance in fisheries of developing countries, in close collaboration with other relevant United Nations agencies and concerned international and regional organizations.

41. Many of the Heads of Delegations in the course of their statements to Plenary expressed the preparedness of their governments to assist or collaborate in the implementation of the Programmes of Action and other initiatives to promote the self-reliance of developing countries in fisheries. In particular, many offers were made to provide training to persons from developing countries in a wide range of aspects of fisheries management and development. Among the countries prepared to offer such training opportunities were Chile, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Poland, Portugal, Spain, the USSR and Yugoslavia.

42. The Head of the Delegation of the Netherlands informed the Conference of his country's willingness to finance certain activities under the Programme of Action on small-scale fisheries development. In particular, the Netherlands was prepared to provide US\$2,250,000 over a period of five years to support the activities proposed in Eastern Africa and the island States of the Southwest Indian Ocean.

43. The Head of the Delegation of Italy stated that his country stood prepared to collaborate actively in the promotion of scientific and aquacultural research and in particular was willing to support the regional project for planning, management and development of marine fisheries in the Mediterranean.

44. Other Heads of Delegations expressed the willingness of their countries to support the development and management of the fisheries of developing countries within the framework of the Programmes of Action. The USSR was prepared to provide scientific and technical advice and assistance to developing countries through bilateral arrangements and with due regard to mutual interest. China advised that it would continue to support and improve the management of the Wuxi Centre of the Asian Network of Aquaculture Centres for the benefit of developing countries within the spirit of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) and Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries (ECDC). Sweden cited its preparedness to continue its financial support to small-scale fisheries and aquaculture in developing countries both through FAO and bilateral arrangements. The European Economic Community confirmed through the responsible member of the Commission of the European Communities and through the representative of France acting in his capacity as Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the European Communities, that they were prepared to continue making financial and technical development assistance available within the framework of their various cooperation agreements. Denmark informed the Conference that it would continue its support to FAO activities within the fisheries sector, which already fell within the proposed Programmes of Action. Norway expressed its considerable interest in the role of fisheries in alleviating undernutrition and also noted the high priority it attached to the development of small-scale fisheries, aquaculture and international trade in fish and fishery products. The United Kingdom indicated that it would continue to collaborate with FAO through its own bilateral programmes and with those multilateral agencies with which the United Kingdom was associated.

## STRATEGY FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

### Report on discussions

45. The Conference considered this item on the basis of the work carried out by Commission I.

46. The Conference was informed of the importance attached by States, during preliminary discussions on the proposal to hold a World Conference, to the agreement at the Conference upon a Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development consisting of guidelines and principles for consideration by governments and international organizations as they strive to promote the self-reliance of countries in fisheries. The Conference also noted the manner in which the framework and draft for the Strategy had been elaborated in the course of extensive discussions at the Fifteenth Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries, in the light of written comments provided by States and organizations and at an Ad Hoc Consultation of Government Experts held in March 1984.

47. The Conference noted with approval that the principles and guidelines contained in the draft Strategy were flexible, thus recognizing the special requirements and varying situations of different countries, and that they took proper account of national sovereignty and the right of every State to decide its own policies, strategies and programmes. It was also recognized that the proposed Strategy contained principles and guidelines that could enhance the fisheries sector and ensure its better integration in the overall national economy. At the regional and global level, it could further understanding and cooperation among countries and thus strengthen the effectiveness of international organizations.

48. The Conference expressed its general support for the framework and contents of the draft Strategy presented in document WCFI/84/3 and noted with appreciation the close linkages of the Strategy with the five Programmes of Action discussed by Commission II. It emphasized, however, that the finally agreed Strategy should in no way be considered binding upon or involving commitments by governments. The Conference also stressed that, in seeking consensus upon the Strategy, every care should be taken not to re-open the issues already settled at the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

49. The Conference then proceeded to discuss each of the eight elements of the Strategy.

### I. The contribution of fisheries to national economic, social and nutritional goals

50. There was widespread agreement upon the need to enhance the role of fisheries in contributing to national economic, social and nutritional goals, particularly in developing countries, where potential national benefits were significant as a consequence of the fundamental changes in the ocean regime. Attention was equally drawn to the growing importance of aquaculture as well as inland fisheries. Many delegations stressed the need to consider the planning and management of fisheries primarily as a national development effort, particularly for developing coastal States.

51. The Conference agreed that fishery plans should be integrated with overall national development plans, giving due consideration to both medium and long-term national objectives. Emphasis was placed on the attainment and upgrading of manpower, infrastructure, research capabilities, and technology of developing countries as a basis for developing fisheries within their exclusive economic zones.

52. Some delegations, particularly those of geographically disadvantaged States, drew attention to the potential benefits of bilateral agreements and other forms of cooperation in the management and development of fisheries between these States and the coastal States, to the mutual advantage of the countries concerned.

53. The Conference, having agreed to a number of amendments in certain sections of the draft text, approved the principles and guidelines contained in this element.

## **II. Improved national self-reliance in fisheries management and development**

54. The Conference noted that a substantial improvement in national self-reliance through training and the transfer of appropriate technology was regarded as one of the key issues facing the world's fisheries today. In many instances, such greater self-reliance could not be attained solely by the efforts of countries themselves, but required a sustained commitment on the part of financing institutions, donor agencies, international organizations and of those States in a position to share their experience and competencies. However, it was agreed that national self-reliance was a desirable goal.

55. The Conference was in general agreement with the guidelines and principles contained in the draft document and expressed its conviction that training at all levels must be a vital ingredient in planning and implementing fisheries management and development. Emphasis was placed on the need for high-level training and basic training of staff involved in fisheries management and development. Some delegations suggested that the regional approach to training had many advantages. Other delegations emphasized the need for strengthening research capabilities and the need for including training of fishermen and seamen in navigation and marine capabilities in national programmes.

56. The Conference approved the draft text for this element of the Strategy, after having agreed to a number of amendments and additions.

## **III. Principles and practices for the rational management and optimum use of fish resources**

57. There was widespread endorsement of the principles and guidelines included in the draft text. The Conference stressed the importance of rational management of fishery resources - both marine and inland - and agreed that, in particular, the new regime of the oceans provided improved opportunities for marine fisheries management. Most delegations felt that, as the text had been carefully worked out at earlier consultations, there was little need for alteration. <sup>1/</sup>

58. Many delegations were in agreement upon the need, already emphasized in the draft text, for more information, in order to improve the practices of management. Such information should encompass not only biological but also the economic and social aspects of fisheries. The Conference fully supported the role of regional fishery bodies in the provision of such information. The importance of cooperation in this regard between coastal and distant-water fishing States was emphasized.

59. The value of regional cooperation was stressed in respect of stocks found during their life cycles within the waters under the jurisdiction of two or more States. Some delegations suggested that such cooperation was vital, not only for the provision of information but also for management and for ensuring effective compliance with national regulations <sup>2/</sup> and bilateral agreements.

60. Several delegations stressed the need not only to refer to sovereign rights but also to the duties of coastal states with respect to paragraph 11 of the Strategy.

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<sup>1/</sup> One country stated that it could not accept paragraph 14 (xiv) of the Strategy because technical and economic cooperation is usually extended in accordance with overall cooperation programmes, independently of the existence of fishery agreements between donor and recipient countries.

<sup>2/</sup> One delegation affirmed the need to ensure that measures taken to design and establish practical mechanisms of compliance control in exclusive economic zones should be in accordance with international law.

#### **IV. The special role and needs of small-scale fisheries and rural fishing and fish-farming communities**

61. The Conference recognized the great importance of small-scale fisheries in the provision of food, employment and income to large numbers of people throughout the world and agreed that special attention should be given to the development and management needs of this sector. The Conference endorsed the draft text, as amended in the light of suggestions by a number of delegations, for this element of the Strategy.

62. The Conference drew particular attention to the beneficial roles that can be played by cooperatives, village societies and non-governmental organizations in the planning and implementation of integrated development programmes and management schemes for small-scale fisheries. Some delegations also placed emphasis upon the need to enhance the exchange of information and experience between countries on the special technological, social and organizational requirements of small-scale fisheries, rural fishing and fish-farming communities.

#### **V. International trade in fish and fishery products**

63. The Conference approved the approach outlined for the promotion of international trade in fish and fishery products. There was widespread agreement that the Strategy had identified the main measures to be taken and problems to be overcome if international trade in fish and fishery products and the participation of developing countries therein were to be expanded.

64. It was noted that a high proportion of world fisheries production entered international trade and there was therefore general support for the need to further reduce barriers to the exchange of fishery products. In this connection, some delegations felt that the tying of access agreements to trading opportunities should not form part of the Strategy. However, a number of delegations expressed the view that such relationships should be retained in the form set out in the Strategy. Attention was also drawn to the impacts of legal or extra-legal sanctions on fishery trade.

65. Attention was also drawn to the possibilities of competition in export markets between fish caught by coastal State vessels and those caught by foreign vessels licensed to fish in the waters of the coastal State. Several delegations felt that such competition was undesirable, although it was recognized that in practice it would be difficult to control.

66. The Conference also supported efforts to increase the value added to fish products from developing countries. It was noted that this required technology transfer and FAO was requested to continue its efforts to this end. It was also noted that there existed substantial excess processing capacity, including that on board vessels, and efforts should be made to utilize such capacity.

67. Several delegations referred to the apparent contradiction between the achievement of national nutritional goals and the objective of increased foreign exchange earnings; this could be resolved at the national level by establishing priorities between such objectives.

#### **VI. Investment in fisheries management and development**

68. The Conference noted that the aim of investment in fisheries was the long-term maximization of the sector's contribution to economic and social growth and that many factors, apart from quantitative or even purely economic considerations, would influence the investment decision.

69. Interventions generally supported the text of this element of the Strategy. Some delegations stressed in particular the need to reinforce the coordination between the various agencies and institutions concerned with the investment process. It was suggested that this coordination should take place at the national, regional, local and inter-donor levels and that the roles of beneficiaries and international agencies should be reinforced in the coordination process. Other delegations highlighted the need to improve the competence and qualifications of those in charge of preparing and implementing investment projects through better systems for the training of such specialists; such training would also help to reduce the cost of technical assistance.

70. Reference was also made to the necessity of increasing the amount of funds available for fisheries investment, with priority to investment projects designed to develop small-scale fisheries and aquaculture. Attention was further drawn to the importance of giving greater priority to fisheries projects in the competition for funds with agriculture and other programmes. It was suggested that FAO could assist countries in assessing the contribution the fisheries sector might make to national economies.

#### **VII. Economic and technical cooperation in fisheries management and development**

71. The Conference recognized the need and usefulness of scientific, economic and technical cooperation in all aspects related to fisheries and aquaculture activities and expressed its general approval of the text for this element of the Strategy.

72. The Conference reaffirmed the increasing importance of economic and technical cooperation between developed and developing countries and between developing countries themselves. In particular, reference was made to the value of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries of the same region where common or similar experiences and development requirements were often shared.

73. The Conference emphasized the importance of the setting up of joint fishing enterprises as a possible means to promote economic and technical cooperation.

74. The Conference drew special attention to the important role of regional and sub-regional bodies in promoting and coordinating technical and economic cooperation between countries, and also expressed the hope that financing agencies might assist in reinforcing regional and sub-regional bodies dealing with fishery development and management.

75. Some delegations suggested that the principles and guidelines in the text be extended to cover additional aspects where cooperation between countries could be also useful, for example, conservation of the resources; pollution prevention and control; scientific research; extension services; surveillance and control within exclusive economic zones; and measures to reinforce the capability of developing countries in negotiating bilateral agreements.

#### **VIII. International cooperation in fisheries management and development**

76. The Conference highlighted the importance of international cooperation in fisheries within the context of the new law of the sea. It also noted the proven value of delivering technical assistance through regional and sub-regional mechanisms.

77. The Conference expressed general agreement with the text of this element of the Strategy and recognized that one of the major objectives of the Conference was to promote international cooperation in fisheries so as to improve the self-reliance of developing countries in the management and development of their fisheries.

78. The Conference drew particular attention to the importance of exchange of information on fisheries in order to improve the management and rational development of fisheries, and in this connection the potential role of regional data centres was underlined.

79. Many delegations acknowledged the usefulness of mechanisms already established to promote collaboration. The Conference recommended that such collaboration should be strengthened at all possible levels, through FAO regional bodies and through regional intergovernmental organizations. It was, however, emphasized that better coordination between the various levels of cooperation was still needed. Some delegations suggested that developing countries should, as soon as possible and within the constraints of their own capacities, increase their commitments to the technical support of such regional bodies. In addition, a few delegations suggested that developing nations should take increased responsibilities in the management of regional bodies.

80. Some delegations suggested that all interested States should participate in the activities of international fisheries organizations, including regional organizations.

81. The Conference recommended that the World Food Programme should endeavour to increase the share of fishery products in its programmes where appropriate and, in particular, through the expansion of triangular operations and also to significantly enhance the role of food aid in the management and development of fishery resources.

### Adoption of the Strategy

82. The Conference adopted the following resolution:

#### Resolution No. 1

### **THE STRATEGY FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**

*The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Aware that fish is an important part of daily diets in many countries and provides nearly one quarter of the world's supply of animal protein and that in many countries fisheries are important sources of employment, income and foreign exchange,*

*Convinced that by optimum use of the resources at present being exploited, through improved production, management and conservation and reduced wastage, and by greater production from under-used or unexploited marine species and aquaculture, fisheries can increase their contribution to national economic, social and nutritional goals,*

*Noting that, as a result of the fundamental changes which have occurred in the world's fisheries, in particular the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, national and international objectives, policies and strategies for fisheries management and development are being re-examined and adjusted,*

1. *Endorses the Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development submitted to the Conference,*
2. *Invites States and international organizations concerned to take into account the principles and guidelines contained in the Strategy when planning the management and development of fisheries,*
3. *Invites the Director-General of FAO to evolve effective measures for observing the progress of follow-up action on the decision of this Conference.*

## **TEXT OF THE STRATEGY FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**

### **Introduction**

1. The new regime concerning the resources of the world's oceans, as embodied in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982 and in the actions and practices of States particularly since the mid-1970s, has resulted in global acceptance of the coastal States' authority to manage fisheries within their jurisdiction. This authority creates new opportunities and responsibilities for coastal States and brings problems of adjustments to countries operating distant-water fleets.

2. There is thus a need for governments to review their individual and collective strategies and policies concerning fisheries management and development. In this period of change, the challenge is to provide a new and improved basis for the rational management and utilization of world fisheries resources with due regard to the requirements of the new fisheries regime. The new fisheries regime, moreover, should enhance the opportunities for fisheries to play a greater role in world food supplies, thereby helping to alleviate under-nutrition and contribute to world food security. Fisheries development should contribute to the betterment of the socio-economic conditions of the poorest sections of the population. In this respect, the re-assessment of strategies and policies for fisheries management and development must take full account of the present and potential contributions from marine fisheries, both within and outside exclusive economic zones, as well as from inland water fisheries and aquaculture. Furthermore, the essential factors of production such as fishing boats, gear and technology, skilled personnel and research capability should be considered.

3. The authority of coastal States over resources which, for the most part, previously were accessible to all and are now in their exclusive economic zones, is a necessary but not a sufficient condition for the rational management and optimum use of the resources. Problems remain in exercising that authority which call for improved management competence. Management systems must encompass all users of the resources, including both domestic and, where permitted, foreign vessels. In addition, management difficulties may continue to be experienced with those stocks occurring within the exclusive economic zones of two or more coastal States or both within exclusive economic zones and in the areas beyond and adjacent; or highly migratory species; or inland water species that at different times come under the jurisdiction of more than one country. There is thus a need for continued and, in some cases, strengthened collaboration between countries.

4. In essence, then, the fundamental changes which have recently occurred in the framework of the world's fisheries have created an opportunity for governments to review the contribution fisheries can make to national economic, social and nutritional goals and to re-examine national and international objectives, policies and strategies for fisheries management and development.

5. This Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development does not intend to reopen the issues already settled at the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. It is without prejudice to the provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Equally, the principles and guidelines incorporated in the Strategy take full account of national sovereignty and are flexible to meet special requirements of individual countries.

**I. The contribution of fisheries to national economic, social and nutritional goals**

6. The Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea focussed the attention of many governments upon the potentials of the marine resources off their shores. Through extended jurisdiction there is now an opportunity for coastal States to take greater advantage of these resources to increase the contribution they make to national economic, social and nutritional objectives. At the same time attention has been drawn to the potential roles of inland water fisheries and aquaculture as food suppliers and within the overall socio-economic context of rural development. These new opportunities and challenges call for a re-appraisal of national policies for fisheries development and management. In many countries fisheries activities can also serve as a basis for further national involvement in the study and use of the oceans.

7. States have the sovereign right to determine their policies for the development and use of their fishery resources. There is a range of alternative objectives - for example, food production, the earning of foreign exchange, generation of income and employment, resource conservation - which may be complementary in a development plan rather than conflicting for governments in setting their priorities from this range of policy alternatives. Equally clearly, there is no single model for fisheries development because of variations in human, natural, physical and financial resources, national aspirations and social economic targets. Therefore, individual governments have to determine their own policies and objectives in the light of their particular situations and requirements.

8. Whilst acknowledging the specific circumstances of each country, the following principles and guidelines should be taken into account when examining the contribution that fisheries can make to the achievement of national economic, social and nutritional objectives and options:

- (i) Fisheries comprise complex human and inter-sectoral activities of the overall national economy and within a society in general. Therefore, fishery development plans should be an integral part of national economic development and food security plans and be in accord with social and nutritional goals and established priorities. The formulation of medium and long-term plans, as central elements of fishery development, should be borne in mind in the planning of developing countries' fisheries.
- (ii) The setting of objectives should be based on an assessment of the fishery resources available, existing technology, markets to be served, social and economic conditions, the potential impact of other economic activities and other relevant factors, including foreign operations, where applicable.
- (iii) Fisheries development is often aimed at serving more than one complementary objective, but multiple objectives are not always necessarily compatible. Where compromises have to be made, it is necessary that the objectives be explicit, the comparative advantages be indicated and their relative priorities made clear.
- (iv) Since the conditions within which fisheries are conducted are highly dynamic, objectives which may be appropriate at one point in time may not be appropriate at another. Periodic evaluation of the validity of objectives is a necessity.

- (v) *As a basis for fisheries development, there is a need for governments to establish mechanisms and develop skills for fisheries planning, involving all relevant disciplines.*
- (vi) *Careful management and investment planning is necessary to achieve optimum utilization of resources. To this end, countries should introduce appropriate conservation and management measures based on scientific evidence. Where there is little information on the resources and potential yields, expansion or investment should be undertaken judiciously.*
- (vii) *Reliable and timely data and statistics on all aspects of fisheries are needed for the planning, implementation and subsequent monitoring of fishery management and development. The national capability to collect data and information should be developed. Regional and sub-regional cooperation on collection and dissemination of data should be encouraged wherever necessary.*
- (viii) *It is essential to enhance the capability of coastal States in stock assessment in order that they can determine the allowable catch of the living resources of the areas where they exercise sovereign rights.*
- (ix) *Development plans should take account of all aspects of the fisheries sector, not only harvesting, processing, marketing, servicing and material supply, but also the development of the infrastructure, technology and human resources to enable developing countries to better exploit their fishery resources, to increase the value added to the economy and to improve employment opportunities. It is essential to make all those involved understand the social value of fisheries as a source of food, employment and profit, hence the need and the desirability of using fishing methods and processes which do not jeopardize economic viability by exhausting resources.*
- (x) *In the formulation and execution of fisheries management and development plans, close consultation and collaboration are required between administrators, scientists and those involved in fish production and marketing.*
- (xi) *Legal frameworks and institutional structures are essential if the objectives for fisheries management and development are to be achieved. This applies not only to marine fisheries but also to inland fisheries and aquaculture and is of particular importance where there is competition among commercial fishermen and between commercial and recreational fisheries and where there is often intense competition from other land and water users.*
- (xii) *Small-scale fisheries development requires in most cases special support from governments. An integrated approach through, and with the participation of, fishing communities is often the best way of channelling technical, financial, and other forms of assistance. It is important to design and adopt technologies appropriate to local conditions.*
- (xiii) *Support from governments could include financing schemes for the renovation and expansion of fleets for industrial and small-scale fisheries.*

- (xiv) *Development of domestic fisheries and national harvesting capabilities becomes necessary to ensure the full and rational exploitation of fishery resources in exclusive economic zones. There should be a proper balance between the potentials and needs of both artisanal and large-scale fisheries.*
- (xv) *The potential contribution of inland waters to fish production should be fully taken into account when planning fisheries development, particularly with respect to food supply and food security in areas far removed from the sea.*
- (xvi) *The expansion of aquaculture should be encouraged, both in marine and freshwater environments, as a means of increasing the supply of fish, notably in rural areas. Aquaculture can also contribute to other national objectives, such as rural employment and the earning of foreign exchange.*
- (xvii) *Development and management plans should take into account the need to protect aquatic habitats from the effects of pollution and other forms of environmental degradation, including pollution originating from fisheries itself, especially in aquaculture where water discharge from installations is sometimes a source of pollution.*
- (xviii) *When planning the development of new fisheries, attention should be given to the production and marketing of low cost products for human consumption. More research efforts should be directed toward developing new products of acceptable quality such as the conversion of fishmeal raw material into economically viable and acceptable products for direct human consumption.*
- (xix) *In formulating price policies, the interests of both producers and consumers should be taken into account. Fishermen and fish farmers should be given encouragement to increase their production.*
- (xx) *The potential of sport fishing should be taken into account when planning fisheries development since, in many countries, it has acquired economic and social significance.*

## **II. Improved national self-reliance in fisheries management and development**

9. As a result of the changed regime of the oceans, many States - both developed and developing - need to acquire skills and technologies and establish new policies and strategies for the management and development of their fisheries. At present, some developing countries do not yet possess the human and physical resources to carry out this task without technical and financial assistance. The rational management and optimal utilization of the world's fish resources are inextricably linked with the adequacy of the knowledge, ability and skills of the people associated with their exploitation and utilization. A substantial improvement in national self-reliance and competence through training and transfer of appropriate technology is therefore a key issue facing the world's fisheries today. Many developing countries have already been assisted by multilateral and bilateral donor agencies or have established national programmes for education and training. What is now required is a sustained commitment on the part of donor agencies and development organizations to the systematic development of the technical, institutional and financial self-reliance of developing countries.

10. The following principles and guidelines should be taken into account when reviewing training needs and establishing training programmes, in pursuit of the overall objective of improved national self-reliance:

- (i) Training programmes should be elaborated within the context of overall national fisheries development plans and management policies.
- (ii) Training programmes should be based upon clearly defined needs and realistic assessments of existing trained or experienced manpower and current technology. Training should be categorized as to subject and target recipients. Governments should also determine which programmes might be undertaken using local resources and which ones need regional and extra-regional expertise.
- (iii) While the major responsibility for basic training remains at the national level, external financial and technical assistance is often required to strengthen national training capacities and to provide supplementary training, particularly for higher-level personnel and in specialized skills.
- (iv) Because of the increased emphasis on policy formulation and the design and implementation of management schemes, training programmes should be organized for high-level administrators responsible for the fisheries sector. Training of mid-level personnel is equally important for implementation of development plans. Facilities should be maintained for continuous professional training.
- (v) Training should also be provided at an advanced technical level in the various disciplines concerned with the assessment, conservation, exploitation and utilization of the resources.
- (vi) Efforts should be made to establish post-graduate courses and to develop improved training materials. To that effect, close cooperation at national level between fisheries research and academic institutions active in marine sciences and at international level among the appropriate UN organizations should be encouraged.
- (vii) Regional permanent training centres should be established with the assistance of FAO, particularly for stock assessment and evaluation.
- (viii) Particular attention should be given to the training of extension staff and training specialists and of senior and intermediate-level key staff of various disciplines, who can contribute to training and assist in bringing about a multiplier effect.
- (ix) Improved training techniques and methodologies need to be developed and special training equipment and simple materials should be prepared to meet the needs of illiterate and semi-literate people. In this respect, efforts to raise the general educational level in fishing communities are important. Institutional and on-the-job training of both deep-sea fishing crews and artisanal fishermen should be enhanced. The use of fishery cooperatives for training purposes should also be encouraged.

- (x) *Particular attention should be paid to the design and monitoring of on-the-job training programmes for selected fishing communities. Attention should be given to the training of local fishermen and fisheries administrators in basic resource management, in environmental protection, in the operation and management of fishermen's organizations, and in activities associated with social development.*
- (xi) *As women play a prominent role in production, processing and marketing in small-scale fisheries and aquaculture in many countries, they should be included in all appropriate training activities and, where necessary, special training should be designed for them.*
- (xii) *Governments should endeavour to provide incentives to ensure that manpower trained in fisheries is effectively deployed and retained within the fisheries sector.*
- (xiii) *Training programmes should be regularly reviewed to ensure their effectiveness and relevance to needs.*
- (xiv) *The transfer of technology should be promoted through pilot projects and assistance in building necessary infrastructure, product development and marketing.*
- (xv) *Encouragement must be given to the education of consumers so that they can take fuller advantage of the nutritional benefits of fishery products, particularly in regions where there is no tradition of consumption. Such training should include instruction in ways of preparing fish products.*

### **III. Principles and practices for the rational management and optimum use of fish resources**

11. *The sovereign rights of coastal States with respect to the exploration, exploitation, conservation and management of the living resources in their exclusive economic zones are the basis for the rational management and optimum use of these resources.*

12. *Management should be conceived and understood not as a constraint upon rational exploitation but as an essential tool for the sound, sustained development of fisheries. Hence, management of fisheries is an integral part of the development process.*

13. *The formulation of management decisions should be made on the basis of the most reliable data and research on the biological, environmental, economic and social aspects of fisheries. Many countries need to acquire the relevant knowledge, wider competence and experience, as well as the structures necessary for the design and implementation of conservation and management schemes. At the same time, it is evident that new conceptions and approaches to management are required. Indeed, the successful exercise of national authority to obtain benefits from fish resources in exclusive economic zones will depend in large measure upon the ability of coastal States, both developed and developing, to manage those resources effectively, including those stocks which lie within the waters of more than one State.*

14. *The following principles and guidelines should be taken into account when re-examining approaches to the rational management and optimum use of fish resources:*

- (i) *Although fishery resources are renewable, they are subject to over-exploitation, depletion and to the influence of environmental factors. Their management should be based on knowledge of their magnitude, of their distribution, variations in annual recruitment levels, and the interaction between species. Initially, such knowledge may only be approximate but, as exploitation intensifies, further studies should be pursued to render the evaluations more precise. Governments should therefore build up adequate research facilities, including research vessels, and formulate research programmes.*
- (ii) *Owing to the need to understand better the natural fluctuations of fish stocks and the relationship between these fluctuations and environmental factors, the focus of management should be shifted toward entire ecosystems using experience gained in the management of single stocks.*
- (iii) *Because of the unique conditions under which fisheries are carried out and the characteristics of the new fisheries regime, governments should play a major role in fisheries management. This role includes the acquisition and dissemination of information; the formulation of objectives; the adoption of fishery policies; and the design and implementation of management measures, and the continuous evaluation of the results.*
- (iv) *As management of fisheries is an integral part of the development process, there is a need to introduce effective management mechanisms at all stages and particularly at the beginning of fisheries development rather than wait until the effects of over-fishing have begun to be felt.*
- (v) *As the formulation of objectives for fisheries management involves and requires political decisions on the distribution of benefits from the resources or on the allocation of access privileges, this normally entails adopting compromises between different groups of resource users.*
- (vi) *It is important to involve all groups concerned, including administrators, scientists and fishermen, in the process of formulating and implementing management measures. Fishermen are more likely to comply with management measures when they are able to see the benefits which will arise from those measures and where they have been involved in the formulation of the measures.*
- (vii) *Legal and administrative frameworks are required to ensure that management systems are properly formulated and applied. Effective policy implementation calls for clear specifications of management objectives, close coordination and communication, and well defined lines of responsibility and accountability.*
- (viii) *When formulating management measures, the costs of enforcement and the ability from the technical, social and cultural points of view, to ensure compliance should be taken into account.*

- (ix) *Where there is open access to the resources for nationals, there is little incentive for individual fishermen to conserve the stocks. As stocks become fully utilized, competition among fishermen often leads to depletion of the resources, severe over-capitalization and lower earnings for individual operators. To prevent such consequences, governments should seek to ensure that fishermen have clearly-defined fishing rights and that the allowable catches do not exceed the productivity of the resources.*
- (x) *Governments and international organizations should take steps to prevent or abate pollution and any form of environmental degradation which may result from various aspects of economic development, thus helping to maintain fish resources in good condition, to protect critical coastal ecosystems such as mangroves and to secure the quality of fish as food.*
- (xi) *States should cooperate in ensuring the conservation, rational management and optimum utilization of the same stock or stocks of associated species occurring within the exclusive economic zones of two or more coastal States or occurring both within exclusive economic zones and in adjacent areas on the high seas, in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in particular with respect to its provisions on the role of regional fisheries organizations. Similar co-operation should be extended in relation to the resources of inland waters.*
- (xii) *Where stocks lie within the jurisdiction of two or more States, these States should cooperate in the harmonization of management regimes so that national regulations do not conflict with each other. Such cooperation could include harmonization of fisheries legislation and, where appropriate, access regimes and cooperative control mechanisms for foreign fishing operations, processing and transshipment operations.*
- (xiii) *Because the new legal regime of the oceans has vested new responsibilities in developing countries that do not always have the means to ensure surveillance of the areas under their jurisdiction - a prerequisite for the management and the rational development of fisheries resources - international organizations should help developing countries which so desire to set up as efficient surveillance systems as possible.*
- (xiv) *Whenever access is granted to foreign fishing vessels, its possible impact on national fishing operations should be assessed. The relevant agreements should include provisions to facilitate cooperation aimed at protecting national operations, promoting the transfer of appropriate technologies and developing national capabilities.*
- (xv) *Foreign fishing States should cooperate in making available to coastal States information relating to their past and present fishing activities in coastal States' exclusive economic zones, as well as in adjacent areas through appropriate regional organizations, including information about landings and transshipments.*
- (xvi) *States should adopt standard specifications with respect to the identification and the marking of fishing vessels in cooperation with the competent international organizations.*

- (xvii) *Where access is granted to foreign fishing vessels, the flag States themselves should take measures to ensure compliance with the terms of access agreements and with coastal State fisheries laws and regulations. Coastal States should consider including provisions to this effect in bilateral access agreements.*
- (xviii) *Conditions of access relating to compliance controls set by coastal States should be designed to facilitate compliance and to achieve the required control at the least possible cost.*
- (xix) *Measures should be taken to design and establish practical mechanisms of compliance control in exclusive economic zones at the national, bilateral and regional levels, that reduce the need for costly enforcement and do not hamper fishing activities more than necessary. Such measures could include observer programmes and regional registers of foreign fishing vessels. Where appropriate, use should be made of the latest technology in communication and other fields.*

**IV. The special role and needs of small-scale fisheries and rural fishing and fish-farming communities**

15. *As the focus of national and international assistance is increasingly directed toward small-scale fisheries and as the production from small-scale fisheries is devoted almost entirely to domestic consumption and represents about half the world supply of fish for consumption, special efforts should be made to increase the production of small-scale fisheries and to give priority to this sector in fisheries development policies. For this purpose it is particularly important to fulfil the needs of the small-scale fisherman by increasing their incomes and improving their lives and those of their families, as well as their environment. Small-scale fisheries also have an important role in providing income and employment to large numbers of fishermen and their families, who form part of the poorest and most disadvantaged communities in society. Whilst in many places a major problem is the number of fishermen in relation to the size and productivity of the resources, it is politically and socially difficult to limit entry into the fisheries because alternative sources of employment and income are scarce, particularly for young people. Moreover, fishermen as well as fishing villages are dispersed and either unorganized or only loosely organized, making it difficult for governments to respond effectively to their needs. Another problem is to reconcile the activities of small-scale and industrial fishermen exploiting the same resources in the same area; this has important social, economic and political implications.*

16. *The following principles and guidelines should be taken into account when establishing policies and implementing programmes for the development of small-scale fisheries and aquaculture.*

- (i) *Since the problems of rural fishing and fish-farming communities are not related solely to fish production, the development of this sector can often be best approached within the context of integrated rural development. The principles adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development should therefore find wide application in small-scale fisheries and aquaculture development.*

- (ii) *As a rule, the interest of the national economy may demand simultaneous and harmonized development of both small-scale and industrial fisheries. There is a need for a well-defined overall strategy, based on economic, social, biological and other factors, clarifying the role to be played by each type of fisheries.*
- (iii) *Special attention should be given to the choice of objectives vis-a-vis small-scale fisheries development as it will not be possible simultaneously to seek to improve the incomes of the fishermen and to increase employment opportunities when stocks are in danger of over-exploitation.*
- (iv) *In planning for the development of small-scale fisheries, due consideration should be given to the needs for and provision of shore facilities, adequate marketing and distribution infrastructure, services and financing.*
- (v) *The reduction of post-harvest losses through improved handling, processing, transport and distribution systems should be given high priority as it will make an important contribution to the betterment of the small-scale fisheries sector.*
- (vi) *Education and training and other forms of social investment should be made an essential part of small-scale fisheries development. More extension workers should be trained within cooperatives and small-scale fishing communities, in particular in fisheries technology, social welfare and community development and in the management and operation of small-scale enterprises and organizations. The link between extension and practical research should be strengthened. Due consideration should be given to the special role of small-scale fisheries in the economies of island States where they are often the major source of employment and foreign exchange earnings.*
- (vii) *Active participation of small-scale fishing communities in the planning and formulation of development activities should be encouraged so as to ensure their successful implementation. To achieve these aims, it would be useful to provide such participation in some countries through coordinating bodies such as councils or unions of cooperatives.*
- (viii) *Fisheries development programmes should recognize that women play often an important role in fishing communities, both in trading and processing, and provision should be made for enhancing that role.*
- (ix) *The cooperation and participation of fishermen is necessary to ensure the success of small-scale fisheries management schemes. Fishermen's organizations should be considered as a channel through which management decisions can become operative and technical/financial assistance delivered.*
- (x) *To ensure the well-being of small-scale fishermen on a sustained basis, it may be necessary in many cases to secure supplementary or alternative sources of income and employment for fishermen so as to reduce pressure on limited fishery resources, possibly by engagement in aquaculture.*

- (xi) *The adaptation and modification of locally developed methods and equipment for use in small-scale fisheries should be carefully considered before directly transferring technologies developed elsewhere, especially the introduction of capital-intensive technology.*
- (xii) *Attention should be given to making available credit facilities to small-scale fishermen on terms and conditions in keeping with their generally weak economic positions and special needs.*
- (xiii) *Governments should ensure, through their fisheries departments, planning ministries and other agencies concerned, that the interests of small-scale fisheries are given due consideration in plans concerning water and land use.*
- (xiv) *New and better methods of evaluating small-scale fisheries activities should be devised, taking into consideration not only technical and economic but also less easily measurable factors such as amenities of life, health, education and communications.*
- (xv) *Optimum resource utilization and upgrading the socio-economic status of the fishermen require a proper definition of small-scale fisheries, taking into account the technical means and methods utilized, spheres of action and the specific system of enterprise involved.*
- (xvi) *Vessel safety is a very important factor to keep in mind in small-scale fisheries. The absence or lack of proper crew training, life-saving facilities and on-board communications, and the incorrect use of gear are frequent causes of accidents and must be eliminated.*
- (xvii) *Training programmes must provide for instruction in the best fishing techniques for catching existing species and for the distribution of fishing charts indicating the location of fishing grounds. Top priority in training should be accorded to fishing communities. Training should be adjusted to the renewal of the fleet and to the characteristics of the new types of vessels, so as to improve both yields and safety and ensure a rational utilization of the exclusive economic zones.*
- (xviii) *The developing countries should plan their aquaculture bearing in mind their national potential and opportunities for the exchange of programmes, knowledge, experience, technical assistance and training, through the mechanisms of regional cooperation.*

**V. International trade in fish and fishery products**

17. *The new ocean regime has already stimulated changes in the pattern of international trade in fish and fishery products. In terms of access to raw materials, both developed and developing countries with distant-water fleets have either lost the freedom of entry to grounds where they previously fished or now pay licensing or other fees. Thereby their competitive position is affected.*

At the same time, structural changes in the pattern of international trade in fishery products have become evident among developed countries. Such trade may be further expanded by increased marketing possibilities in exchange for fishing opportunities. Obstacles still remain, however, which prevent developing countries from reaping full benefits from international trade in fishery products. These obstacles include difficulties in maintaining the level of product quality and quantity demanded by the export market, limited trade information and contacts, tariff and non-tariff barriers, restriction of exports to raw material rather than finished products, low shares in trade-related services and the legal or extra-legal sanctions that impede observance of the principles of international law recognized in the Convention on the Law of the Sea. There are also possible conflicts between the achievement of national nutritional goals and the objective of increased foreign exchange earnings through expansion of export trade in fish which should be resolved by establishing priorities at the national level. At the same time, a well-developed domestic market helps to reduce the high risks associated with an industry based exclusively on export markets.

18. The following principles and guidelines should be taken into account when examining ways of promoting international trade in fish and fishery products on the basis of equity and mutual benefit, and of seeking more equitable distribution of benefits from international trade in fish and fishery products:

- (i) Information on market situations and trends should be permanent and dynamic to help reduce unforeseeable fluctuation in markets and to contribute to a climate of general confidence and security in fish trading.
- (ii) Efforts should be made to raise the quality of products to the levels required by export markets and to promote the implementation of quality standards at the national level, as agreed under the aegis of the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission.
- (iii) Export operations should be diversified with regard to markets and products and should aim at increasing exports of final products rather than raw material. FAO may extend help in the transfer of technology needed for this purpose.
- (iv) Regulations which create barriers to trade should be regularly reviewed and, where appropriate, should be modified, harmonized or eliminated through bilateral or multilateral negotiations. In addition, regulations that impose commercial sanctions on countries that apply measures based on the exercise of their rights of sovereignty should be eliminated.
- (v) Growth in intra-regional trade in fish and fishery products between developing countries should be promoted, thus increasing their participation in trade. The introduction of trade preferences at a regional level might encourage the exchange of products between developing countries.
- (vi) Continued and strengthened support should be given to existing and proposed regional services designed to promote exports of fish products from developing countries through market information and provision of technical advice.
- (vii) Regular consultations should be held to improve cooperation at the regional and global levels between exporters and importers in order to ensure that international trade effectively contributes to fisheries development.

- (viii) Attention should be given, with the support of FAO and other international and regional organizations, to the development of criteria for fair trade, including the harmonization of inspection procedures and regulations.
- (ix) Steps should be taken to coordinate the activities related to trade promotion of interested international and regional organizations such as FAO, along with its regional bodies, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Action Committee for Seafood and Freshwater Products of the Economic System for Latin America (SELA), the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency (SPFFA), and the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI).

## **VI. Investment in fisheries management and development**

19. After several years of sustained growth, investment financing for fisheries management and development from international and regional funding institutions as well as bilateral donors has lost momentum. Reviews of the performance of past fisheries investment projects during the last decade indicate that they have often encountered significant problems during their implementation. Insufficient attention has been given to ensuring that investments are soundly based and meet identified needs. Furthermore, investment opportunities are sometimes overlooked. A contributing factor for this appears to have been a lack of coordination between agencies, donors and financing institutions concerned with fisheries development. However, the extension of sovereign rights over exclusive economic zones creates a new set of investment opportunities for developing fisheries in coastal waters, and for some coastal states the successful realization of these opportunities is critical for their social and economic development. For these opportunities to be realized, assistance is needed in identifying and evaluating investment opportunities and in transferring new technologies.

20. The following principles and guidelines should be taken into account by governments, technical assistance agencies and funding institutions in examining ways of increasing the flow of financial resources for fisheries management and development and of improving the efficiency of investment programmes:

- (i) Investment in fisheries management and development of developing countries should aim to foster their manpower, marketing, technology, research capabilities and infrastructure, so as to enable them to exploit their fishery resources in line with their national priorities and national development plans. In this respect, international and regional funding agencies should endeavour to raise substantially the level of funds for investment in fisheries.
- (ii) Investment projects in fisheries should be based on the best available information on such matters as fishery resources, equipment, facilities for the up-keep of this equipment and markets, and be integrated into national development plans.

- (iii) *International funding agencies have so far tended to place emphasis on large-scale fisheries. A larger flow of funds for the development of small-scale artisanal fisheries, aquaculture and avoidance of post-harvest losses should be encouraged.*
- (iv) *During planning, implementation and follow-up phases of investment projects, greater attention should be given to related past, current and planned technical assistance activities, which have a bearing on such aspects as the state of the resources, the appropriateness of the technology under consideration, market demand and prices, training and extension needs and socio-economic considerations. In order to achieve an adequate investment orientation of technical assistance projects, consultations with funding agencies should begin at the project planning stage. Fishery technical assistance projects should provide, whenever appropriate, brief reports on potential investment opportunities.*
- (v) *Whilst it is recognized that the complex nature of fisheries may extend the time of preparation and appraisal of fishery investment projects, all efforts should be made to accelerate the process in order to shorten the time between identification of opportunities and the implementation of such projects.*
- (vi) *Efforts should also be made to provide technical assistance for a period long enough to ensure the continued efficient operation of the project. This is particularly important for small-scale fisheries and aquaculture where technical assistance is concerned with a wide variety of inputs, which the local communities may take a long time to absorb and which may need to be continued for many years after funds have been distributed to the users.*
- (vii) *Funding institutions should allow borrower governments sufficient flexibility in implementing investment programmes. More use should be made of the "global loan" mechanism, which allows for lines of credit to be established with local financing institutions for further sub-lending. This is again of particular importance in relation to small-scale fisheries and aquaculture where loan requirements for individual projects are often too small to qualify for financing; investment needs and opportunities are thus sometimes neglected. The opportunities of financing for expendable equipment not tied to specific projects should be considered. Also, small-scale fisheries and aquaculture components might be built into rural development schemes, for the better economic use of land. While implementing development projects involving any change in the water regime, simultaneous action should be taken for rehabilitation and development of fishery resources.*
- (viii) *As the needs of small-scale producers are not solely for capital, the investment package should include provisions for institution building, education, training and extension services and may on occasion require marketing and social welfare components. The social investment needs of the small-scale fisheries sector in such fields as improved communications, health and water supplies, merit greater attention. Appropriate use should be made of food aid in increasing the consumption of fish products and in promoting fisheries development.*

- (ix) Where required, national credit systems should be rationalized and be made more accessible to small-scale producers and investors in the post-harvest sector of fisheries. Institutional arrangements should be created to enable the small-scale fishery sector to make effective use of investment funds. Potential beneficiaries should participate in the elaboration and implementation of investment programmes. New concepts in funding and borrowing should be developed and, where appropriate, incentives should be provided. Encouragement should be given to use credit systems which are in line with the financial possibilities of small-scale producers, particularly easy-term loans for procurement of supplies and equipment.
- (x) In recognition of the fact that a large part of investments in fisheries development throughout the world are undertaken by the private sector, governments and financing institutions should ensure conditions for fisheries which are comparable to those for other sectors of the economy and should provide services and basic infrastructure that result in private costs and risks being reduced to a level that will attract and sustain private investment.
- (xi) There is a need for greater cooperation between funding institutions and technical assistance agencies at the identification, preparation and implementation stages of investment projects. Consideration should be given to arranging regular consultations among the agencies and funding institutions concerned. Information on fishery investment projects in the pipeline, approved or being executed by national or international funding agencies, should be exchanged regularly.
- (xii) International financing institutions, international organizations and bilateral donors should continue to improve their coordination in the implementation of the technical assistance component of investment programmes.
- (xiii) National and international financing institutions should make maximum use of the specialized fishery knowledge and experience available in individual States and international organizations, particularly in FAO.
- (xiv) Governments should give full attention to training of personnel required to maintain the momentum gained through the investment projects, and international agencies should assist in this task by expanding their cooperation in training activities.
- (xv) The participation of national technicians in international assistance missions in their own countries and during project implementation should be encouraged.
- (xvi) Fisheries development usually requires considerable financial outlay, which is often an insurmountable obstacle to the implementation of development programmes. It is therefore necessary that the specialized agencies coordinate their efforts to attract the maximum number of sources of finance in the fisheries sector, and to study the possibility of encouraging existing organizations to specialize in fishery credit.

## **VII. Economic and technical cooperation in fisheries management and development**

21. *Economic and technical cooperation in fisheries management and development, both between developing and developed countries and between developing countries themselves, plays an increasingly important role in world fisheries. Many advantages may be gained from such cooperation including the provision or sharing of technical and management expertise, additional employment, improvements to infrastructure, training for local staff, improved knowledge of resources, increased revenues and foreign exchange earnings, and economies in the use of limited resources. Developing countries may especially benefit from collaboration or complementary activities with other developing countries in the same region by learning from past efforts and sharing in joint enterprises, for example in research, training, development of appropriate technology, resource management, production, processing and trade promotion efforts. Regional fishery bodies provide an excellent framework for such cooperation. In addition to such collaboration at the inter-governmental level, private industry and investors may have a useful role in assisting in the transfer of technology.*

22. *The following principles and guidelines should be taken into account when planning programmes or negotiating agreements for technical or economic cooperation in fisheries:*

- (i) Such collaboration should be designed to enhance and complement existing or planned national programmes. The overall objective should be balanced contributions from all the parties involved, appropriate to each nation's circumstances.*
- (ii) Under certain circumstances, joint ventures may be very useful mechanisms for the promotion of fishery development. In particular, a central element of cooperation programmes and joint ventures should be the training of national personnel and the transfer of appropriate technologies.*
- (iii) Particular attention should be given to regional or sub-regional arrangements designed to facilitate the timely collection and exchange of improved data and information in order to coordinate management and development.*
- (iv) The exchange of expertise in fisheries management and development at the regional or sub-regional levels should be promoted, for example, through specialized workshops and the use of regional research and training facilities. Such regional or sub-regional cooperation should also embrace surveillance of the exclusive economic zones, particularly the pooling of surveillance capabilities and means. To be most effective, such regional or sub-regional collaboration requires adequate follow-up activities and support.*
- (v) Opportunities should be explored for the further expansion of collaboration between developing countries in areas of common interests such as joint fishery enterprises, cooperative work in new product development and in fishing, processing and preservation technologies and regulations, intra-regional trade in fish and fishery products in particular through the institution of compensatory mechanisms (i.e., compensation funds, exchange with other products), in order to encourage commercial activities among developing countries, and to promote fish products from developing countries on the international market.*

- (vi) *The early involvement of operators in industry, trade and other enterprises in technical and economic cooperation and the transfer of know-how should be encouraged. In this respect, industry associations and other institutions may serve as effective vehicles to stimulate such collaboration and should be involved in the formulation of national development programmes.*
- (vii) *Special attention should be given to the needs of small developing island States in their efforts to improve and exchange their knowledge and experience and to establish common services.*
- (viii) *The financing bodies should give special attention to fisheries management and development programmes implemented within the framework of regional and sub-regional bodies.*
- (ix) *Measures should be adopted to reinforce the negotiating capacity of the developing countries, by strengthening their machinery for cooperation, coordination and consultation.*

### **VIII. International cooperation in fisheries management and development**

23. *The extension of national jurisdiction over 95 percent of the world's marine fish resources presently under exploitation and the increasing attention being given to inland waters and aquaculture have far-reaching implications for international collaboration in fisheries research and management. The need for international cooperation has increased for a variety of reasons including: the dangers of over-exploitation of stocks lying in waters under the jurisdiction of two or more States, the growing understanding of the complexity of fishery and environmental problems, as well as the unbalanced distribution of expertise, experience and technical and financial resources. Various mechanisms for such collaboration have already been established. Regional fisheries bodies, for example, provide an excellent means of promoting cooperation in fisheries research, management and development. They facilitate the efficient development and exchange of comprehensive and detailed data on catches, landings, fishing effort and on biological data of fish stocks. They assist in finding solutions to allocation problems in respect of those stocks occurring within the exclusive economic zones of two or more coastal States or both within exclusive economic zones and in the areas beyond and adjacent; or highly-migratory species; or inland water species that at different times come under the jurisdiction of more than one country. They can also be effective mechanisms for stimulating joint research programmes and the pooling and exchange of information among scientists.*

24. *The value of delivering technical assistance through regional arrangements has also been demonstrated, in particular the benefits which can be derived by developing countries from regional or sub-regional technical support projects, for both marine and inland fisheries, associated with regional fishery commissions or their sub-regional committees. There is a need for better coordination between bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes, and the bodies already mentioned can play a catalytic and coordinating role in their respective areas. In order to implement regional and sub-regional projects, consideration should be given to the use of assistance of developed countries possessing appropriate experience and competence in accordance with the criteria and needs of individual countries.*

25. *International collaboration in fisheries research and management has to take full account of the sovereignty of the participating States. Furthermore, the framework of international cooperation must have flexibility to take into account the particular circumstances of individual countries.*

26. *The following principles and guidelines should be taken into account when examining the changing needs for international collaboration in fisheries development and management and reviewing the present and prospective roles of existing mechanisms for such collaboration, including FAO regional fishery bodies:*

- (i) *Objectives of international cooperation should include contributions from all the parties involved on the basis of their experience and capacity, leading to enhancement of national capabilities and transfer of technology.*
- (ii) *Cooperative research efforts and technical cooperation programmes should have clearly identified objectives, responsibilities and deadlines, be given carefully evaluated priorities and be fully integrated with overall national fisheries management and development plans. The research should be practical, make fullest possible use of existing facilities, and encourage the development of appropriate technology.*
- (iii) *Scientific and technical advice provided by international bodies should be objective and made available to all concerned. Such advice has proved especially valuable to countries negotiating fishing agreements or formulating joint management measures.*
- (iv) *Planning of effective management and development requires adequate data and information upon the socio-economic aspects of fisheries. Collaboration at the regional level in the analysis of such data collected by national institutions should be encouraged, particularly through regional or sub-regional technical assistance projects.*
- (v) *Central collection and analysis of data from all fleets fishing a common resource, with the participation of all interested States, are essential and should be encouraged to allow for proper management of that resource. These data could be provided through data centres, associated with regional fishery bodies. Data should be collected and analyzed under the same conditions for all countries, taking every step to avoid an excessive burden on fishermen to provide such information.*
- (vi) *Adequate financial and other resources, administrative servicing and technical backstopping should be provided to support regional fishery bodies and their associated technical assistance projects. There is thus an urgent need to mobilize greater funds for regional collaboration. As soon as possible, developing countries themselves should increase their participation and commitment to the technical support of such bodies, as well as take full responsibility for their management.*
- (vii) *Where appropriate, closer collaboration should be established between FAO regional fishery bodies and projects on the one hand and regional economic groupings and organizations concerned with fisheries on the other.*

- (viii) *More effective steps should be taken to facilitate the coordination of activities in fishery, oceanography and related environmental research, as well as in integrated marine affairs policy-making and management, including marine resource development, between FAO and the United Nations and other agencies in the United Nations system, for example, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (Unesco/IOC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) International Maritime Organization (IMO), as well as fisheries organizations established outside FAO. Cooperation and institutional coordination are also required in the monitoring and studying of natural fluctuations and of those caused by man through fishing activities, pollution and urban development, which affect the production from both marine and inland waters.*
- (ix) *Greater emphasis should be placed upon international cooperation with regard to the role of fish in nutrition and to finding ways of making better use of fish resources. Cooperative programmes at regional and international levels in fish handling and processing technology should be strengthened. The World Food Programme should be encouraged to include more fish products in its food aid programmes and in the implementation of triangular operations in fish products produced in developing countries and also to significantly enhance the role of food aid in the management and development of fishery resources, where appropriate.*
- (x) *In order to provide the services of research vessels under acceptable conditions to countries lacking their own capacities for exploratory fishing, monitoring of stocks and research, consideration should be given to regional and sub-regional cooperative use of such vessels and to the provision of vessels and services by developed countries, including those covered by the UNDP/FAO Fisheries Vessels Pool Agreement. Guidelines for the operation and cooperative use of research vessels should be formulated.*

## PROGRAMMES OF ACTION FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES

### Report on Discussions

83. The Conference also considered the draft proposals for Programmes of Action and noted that:
- the various Programmes were to be catalytic in nature and would have a facilitating and coordination role;
  - the costs were only indicative and were considered the minimum required;
  - the Action Programmes were designed for execution by FAO but this was not to be exclusive; and that
  - what was important was the formulation of an integrated framework, not so much the individual components.

84. Several delegations requested clarification of the relationship between the content and budget of the FAO Regular Programme, the Field Programme and the proposed Programmes of Action. The Secretariat explained that the Field Programme, including the proposed Programmes of Action, were financed by extra budgetary funds. The Regular Programme, as approved by the biennial Conferences of FAO, provided technical support to the Field Programme.

85. Most delegations expressed the view that the indicative levels of funding given in document WCFI/84/3 were too low and several delegations requested clarification on the basis for the distribution of funds between regions in the different Programmes of Action. Donors were requested to take into consideration that the level of funding indicated was the minimum required for the tasks envisaged and only indicative at this stage. Some delegations stressed the need for better coordination among fishery bodies and donors in order to ensure maximum efficiency in the use of the funds and noted that FAO could perform an important role in this area. Coordination among developing countries and between developing and developed countries was also stressed.

### I. The planning, management and development of fisheries

86. Several delegations felt that this Programme of Action was probably the most important as it formed the basis for the efficient implementation of the other Programmes of Action. Some delegations were of the opinion that this Programme of Action should have been discussed after the others in order to put it in its proper perspective. The Conference agreed on the thrust of the Programme of Action but made specific comments on the various components of the Programme.

87. Many delegations commented on the usefulness of advisory services. Particular emphasis was given to the requirements for advice on stock assessment, data needs and scientific research. One delegation requested that the advisory services include inland fisheries.

88. A number of delegations considered the budget indicated for regional collaboration to be insufficient, with specific reference made to the Eastern Central Atlantic Fishery Committee, the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission/Lesser Antilles, the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, the South Pacific, and the lagoon and marine fisheries of Latin America.

89. Some delegations stressed the importance of providing and supporting fisheries development cooperation through existing regional or sub-regional organizations, such as the Action Committee on Marine and Freshwater Products of SFLA (Economic System for Latin America) and the Latin American Organization for Fisheries Development, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community, the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency, and the South Pacific Commission.

90. The Conference noted that regional collaboration could be effective if all fishing nations operating in the region were involved. Other suggestions included recognition of the need for collaboration in inland fisheries within the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission (IPFC), for cooperation with other sub-regional bodies for the Central American region, and the provision of locally based technical units for East African tuna and inland fisheries. It was also noted that for regional collaboration to be effective, national contributions in terms of staff and facilities were required.

91. There was general agreement on the activities to be undertaken for investment identification. However, a few delegations commented that investment opportunities in the South Pacific region were not clearly brought out in document WCFI/84/3 and made particular reference to the opportunities for the development of tuna fisheries by coastal States in parallel with the transfer of technology. Several delegations stressed the coordinating role FAO could take in investment project identification and subsequent project formulation.

92. The Conference recognized the importance of training and requested that greater emphasis be given to all the elements included in the training component of the Programme of Action. Specific reference was made to the need for more training in stock assessment, the management of tropical species and development planning. Delegates stressed the need for providing permanent training facilities and in this connection recommended the use of the training capabilities of existing national institutions, including universities. Assistance was requested in upgrading such facilities and in

training trainers. The delegation of Brazil offered a national training institution as a regional training centre for stock assessment in the Latin American region. The importance of retaining trained fisheries personnel within the government service was underlined. There was general consensus that the budget indicated for training was inadequate.

93. Many donors expressed their willingness to participate in the activities of this Programme of Action, either through bilateral agencies or multilaterally.

94. The Conference approved this Programme of Action.

## **II. The development of small-scale fisheries**

95. There was general agreement on the integrated approach proposed in the Programme of Action. Delegations emphasized the importance of social and human factors in general, and the role of women and village-level groups in particular. Attention was also drawn to the crucial roles to be played by extension, resource management, and investment in infrastructure, as well as to the importance of marketing and the problem of credit.

96. It was suggested that the Programme of Action should devote attention to appropriate technology, the systematic inclusion of economic appraisals in evaluating proposed actions, a mechanism for circulating current information on activities and results of integrated small-scale fisheries projects worldwide, as well as to the problem of insurance for small-scale fishermen.

97. It was recalled that national development policy should be the guiding principle in designing integrated small-scale fishery projects, and that maximum use should be made of national technical expertise. It was noted that international specialists were still required in many circumstances, especially as instructors in planning methodology, and in methods for the organization and operation of extension services.

98. Delegations requested more detailed information on the specific programmes being proposed in the various regions, including a definition of what should be considered artisanal and small-scale fisheries. It was noted that detailed project proposals were available for each regional element, and were being used in discussions with prospective donors. It was also felt that the operational definition of "small-scale fisheries" differed so much according to locations that an all-embracing definition would not be very meaningful. The Programme of Action should be understood as applying to the lowest level of fisheries which was often referred to as the artisanal sector.

99. Many delegations pointed out the serious problems which had been emerging between industrialized and small-scale fisheries, and noted the need to protect the small-scale operator against negative repercussions of larger scale operations.

100. The Conference stressed the importance of training and extension work and pointed out that the level of funding for training given in the document was too low and needed to be increased. Many delegations stressed the urgent need for training of instructors, and the advantages of regional collaboration in this matter.

101. There was general agreement on the need for regional coordination and collaboration in the area of small-scale fisheries development. Several delegations stressed the importance of coordinating assistance to the development of small-scale fisheries through existing regional fishery bodies.

102. Several delegations requested clarification on how the funding requirements for individual regional programmes were determined, as well as the criteria used in deciding where these regional programmes should be established.

103. It was explained that the list of regions selected was provisional and that other regions or sub-regions could be included. The present proposals were arrived at taking into account priorities expressed in consultations with governments and the existence of related programmes. The costs mentioned were only indicative. It was requested that several additional regional programmes should be included in the Programme of Action proposed, notably for Latin America, the Gulfs, the

Mediterranean, and for Asian inland fisheries. The list of activities under this Programme of Action was amended accordingly with the understanding that the funding requirements for each would be established on the basis of detailed project proposals.

104. There was general agreement that the funds indicated in the Action Programme would be far from meeting the needs of small-scale fisheries development. Several delegations mentioned that the additional support required would have to come through national projects operating with multilateral and bilateral support, or through the mobilization of national and local resources.

105. Several delegations, including France, Israel and the USSR, offered technical assistance related to the Action Programme in the areas of training courses and cooperation in research programmes for small-scale fisheries.

106. The Conference approved this Programme of Action.

### **III. Aquaculture development**

107. The Conference was in general agreement with the focus of the Programme of Action on Aquaculture. Most delegations declared that their countries accorded a high priority to aquaculture in their fishery development planning. It was pointed out, however, that for a number of countries, aquaculture still remained more of a potential for the future than a reality for the present. The Conference recognized that considerable assistance was needed from the more experienced countries, FAO and donors, if the less advanced countries were to realize this potential rapidly.

108. The Conference agreed that the three main components of the Programme should continue to be training, multidisciplinary research, and the development of an information network. The need for training in all aspects of aquaculture was especially singled out as a paramount concern of developing countries. In this connection, offers of additional training courses and facilities by the governments of Chile, France, India, Israel, Nepal, Romania, and the United States were warmly welcomed. Several delegations noted, however, that a wider availability of fellowships was a pre-requisite for full utilization of the training facilities offered.

109. While there was general satisfaction with the regional coverage of the Programme of Action, a number of suggestions were put forward for additional regional aquaculture centres similar to those already in operation. These included a centre for East Africa and the island states of the region; one for the Gulf region utilizing, in part, the several new research and pilot-scale projects for aquaculture within the region; and a centre for the Balkans, facilities for which were offered by Romania. FAO was further urged to work toward an early establishment of the planned centre for the Caribbean.

110. Reference was made to the immediate need to continue to provide financial support to the activities of the existing Latin American Regional Centre for Aquaculture (CERLA) and the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia (NACA). The longer term financial requirements of the other centres were also stressed.

111. Considerable emphasis was also given by delegations to the strengthening or establishment of national centres, with firm links to the regional ones, in order to ensure an effective and appropriate transfer of results to national programmes and to production units. While expressing gratitude to FAO, UNDP and donor countries for assistance already received in setting up national and regional centres for aquaculture training and applied research, the Conference stressed the need for such assistance to be continued.

112. Delegations also stressed the need to adapt the programmes of the regional networks to the differing requirements in each region, and more specifically to tailor aquaculture development planning and programmes to the special needs of each country. In this respect, there was need, through both regional and national activities, to extend the current focus of assistance programmes to include the use of locally available appropriate feed resources and the development of appropriate facilities for feed manufacture and supply, prevention and treatment of the diseases of locally important culture species. A more thorough evaluation was also needed for species that may be particularly appropriate for each country, including those not usually produced in the area.

The Conference drew attention to the importance of the evaluation of socio-economic factors which influenced the success or failure of introduced technologies or innovations. Market possibilities and constraints should be carefully explored before selecting new species or products for a development programme. A number of delegations referred to the urgent need for research leading to efficient systems for mass production of good-quality but low-cost fish and other aquatic products.

113. Several delegations stressed the need to integrate aquaculture development plans with related sectors such as capture fisheries, forestry and agriculture. They urged that aquaculture should be included in area development plans, especially in conjunction with irrigation schemes and the construction of reservoirs.

114. The Conference recognized the possible adverse effects of aquaculture, particularly the problems of carelessly introduced exotic species, the potentially hazardous side effects of water-borne diseases, and the excessive destruction of mangroves. FAO was urged to continue to work both with countries and with the other UN agencies concerned to minimize such problems.

115. The Conference approved this Programme of Action.

#### **IV. International trade in fish and fishery products**

116. The Programme of Action on international trade in fish and fishery products was supported by the Conference. Many delegations stressed the usefulness of the marketing activities so far carried out by FAO, particularly its regional marketing information services. There was a general understanding that trade in fishery products plays an important role as a source of foreign currency. Delegations emphasized a definite need for assistance in marketing information and quality improvement and drew attention to the importance of eliminating trade barriers and avoiding the imposition of trade sanctions in relation to fishery products.

117. The regional fish marketing information services INFOFISH and INFOPESEA were mentioned as having a most useful impact on the development of the fishery industry in their member countries. The expansion of the services to Africa, with the regional project INFOPECHF, and to the Arabic-speaking countries with INFOSAMAK, was welcomed. A number of developed countries also expressed satisfaction with these services. The financial contributions of participating countries required to secure the continuation of the services were regarded too high by several delegations, particularly for small island States and they requested that information services to these countries be subsidized. It was however pointed out that self-financing of the projects would be needed to ensure a lasting service to member countries. Many delegations stressed that the activities of the regional fish marketing information and advisory services should be relevant to improving product qualities and meeting quality standards.

118. The international fish market indicator system, GLOBFISH, was supported by the Conference. It was proposed to equip all regional fishery bodies and other organizations interested in fisheries, with terminals to facilitate access to the system. Several delegations also suggested increasing the commodity coverage, including information on lightly exploited species such as mesopelagic and krill.

119. Most delegations supported the idea of a multilateral framework for consultation on international trade in fishery products and welcomed the study by FAO of the possible terms of reference and the financial and other implications of an intergovernmental group on fishery products. The Secretariat was requested to make the draft document on this matter available to interested organizations and governments for future consideration. It was emphasized that, in establishing any intergovernmental group, care should be taken not to duplicate activities of other organisations and that any discussions or negotiations regarding the reduction or elimination of barriers to trade should take place only within the established arrangements of UNCTAD and GATT.

120. The Conference considered investments in infrastructure as most important in relation to entering foreign markets with quality products. FAO was requested to strengthen its assistance in the identification and preparation of investment projects.

121. The Conference approved this Programme of Action.

**V. The promotion of the role of fisheries in alleviating under-nutrition**

122. The proposed Programme of Action on the promotion of the role of fisheries in the alleviation of under-nutrition received the unanimous support of the Conference and the Government of Norway was commended for initiating and supporting the programme.

123. Many delegations and observers from international organizations expressed their willingness to participate in the Programme of Action.

124. The role of women in this programme was stressed as they had the principal responsibility for family nutrition. Several delegations considered that non-governmental organizations should be closely involved with the execution of the programme.

125. The Conference recommended that the Programme should concentrate on the improvement of simple processing methods to produce low cost, high-quality products that would be within the purchasing power of the poorest sector of the community, who were identified as the target group. It stressed the need for increased attention to the reduction of post-harvest losses and better utilization of by-catch.

126. The difficulty of changing the food habits of poor consumers was recognized. It was stressed that to make the maximum use of fish resources would require much improved information on consumer preferences and requirements. This information should be the basis for new product development and greatly expanded consumer education efforts. The potential value of fish in institutional feeding programmes was stressed, as was the need to increase the use of fish in food aid.

127. The continuation of the ongoing cooperative research programmes was strongly recommended, particularly as a means of ensuring that fishery products were adapted to local conditions and preferences. The role of FAO in coordinating these programmes was commended.

128. The need for training in all aspects of fisheries from capture to consumption was acknowledged by many delegations and in particular with regard to direct training at the grass-roots level. The requirement to monitor the nutritional impact of the programme was also stressed.

129. Some delegations felt that the proposed level of funding for a programme of this importance and magnitude was inadequate and substantially increased financial resources should be allocated.

130. The Conference approved this Programme of Action.

**APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAMMES OF ACTION**

131. The Conference adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 2**

**PROGRAMMES OF ACTION**

*The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Recognizing that the new regime of the oceans has created opportunities to promote the sustained development and rational management of the world's marine fish resources and that the role of inland water fisheries and aquaculture can also be further enhanced, both as sources of food and within the overall context of rural development,*

*Noting that after a long period of rapid expansion, the rate of growth in world fish production has levelled off, but the demand for fish as food is expected to almost double over the next fifteen to twenty years,*

*Emphasizing the need for concerted action to assist developing countries to increase fish production and improve their individual and collective self-reliance in fisheries management and development,*

- 1. Approves the five Programmes of Action submitted to the Conference and supports them as useful guidelines, both in the near future and in the long term, for further assistance to countries in the rational management and optimum utilization of their fish resources,*
- 2. Calls upon Governments of developing countries to attach high priority in their national policy to all aspects concerned with the development and management of their fisheries and related resources to provide a sound basis for bilateral and multilateral projects of technical cooperation,*
- 3. Stresses the need to increase the financial envelope envisaged for implementation of the Programmes of Action in order to enable the objectives to be fully attained,*
- 4. Urges all bilateral and multilateral donor agencies and financing institutions to continue development assistance to the fisheries sector and to provide support for the effective implementation of the Programmes of Action approved by the Conference.*

## **TEXT OF THE PROGRAMMES OF ACTION**

### **I. The Planning, Management and Development of Fisheries**

*1. Management is an essential basis for the sound, sustained development of fisheries and management requirements should be fully integrated into fishery development plans. While there are some opportunities for increased production, many marine and inland fisheries resources, including those harvested by small-scale fisheries, are already fully exploited or over-exploited. Even where catches can be increased, there is a risk that poorly planned development can lead to over-exploitation. If these resources are to provide the nutritional, economic and social benefits of which they are capable, the fisheries on them must be properly managed.*

*2. Sound management and development require a range of skills - in biology, economics, law and other subjects - which few countries possess to the full extent desirable. Even with such skills, there is a continuing need to search for improved management techniques. The purpose of the elements in this Programme of Action is to provide countries with immediate access to these skills through direct technical advisory services, with training to develop future national capacities. This Programme is also intended to reinforce international collaboration, especially in respect of those stocks occurring within the exclusive economic zones of two or more coastal States or both within exclusive economic zones and in the areas beyond and adjacent; or highly migratory species; or inland water species that at different times come under the jurisdiction of more than one country. In addition, it will assist in directing available investment funds to the most appropriate areas for development.*

### **Advisory Services**

3. The complexity of fishery management and development problems, together with the growing competence at the national level in many of the basic skills mean that, to an increasing extent, the technical assistance requirements are for high-level *ad hoc* advice through relatively short missions. Experience has shown the value of short-term multi-disciplinary missions in assisting countries to formulate their national fishery policies, plans and projects, upon their request. Particularly valuable is advice by experts from the region and from other developing countries. While this type of assistance needs to be continued, similar help is also required in a number of specialized fields, ranging from resources studies to the enforcement of regulations. The technical cooperation will be further expanded to cover similar problems in inland fisheries, with particular reference to lakes and river basins. Longer-term, sustained assistance will continue to be provided through the network of regional and sub-regional technical support units.

4. Information on the resources, including their magnitude, distribution and state of exploitation, is essential for any rational policy of fishery management or development. To assist countries in obtaining this information, advice will be provided in such matters as the collection of statistical and other data; improvement of the classification of species as recorded in catch statistics; execution of surveys of unexploited resources and regular monitoring of exploited resources; and in stock assessment analysis. Information is also required on the users of the resources, including their socio-economic characteristics, the number and types of vessels and gear, if national policies are to be effective and appropriate allocations between different user groups, especially between small-scale and industrial fisheries, are to be determined. The acquisition of such information is the responsibility of governments, and advice on techniques for data collection and analysis will be provided at their request.

5. Attention also needs to be given to the technical and economic studies necessary for determining national policies in respect of multiple use of inland and coastal waters. In all these matters, advice can be very effective through short missions. Some countries might also benefit from assistance on institutional aspects, e.g. the functions and structures of research institutes, national training programmes and the design of the legal framework and institutional structures required for the implementation of fisheries policies and plans. More basic studies are needed on the management of multi-gear fisheries and on the development of new stock assessment methods. These are particularly important in respect of the inshore and freshwater tropical resources harvested by small-scale fisheries. Research is also required on the management of fisheries on highly fluctuating and unpredictable stocks. An important element of the Programme will be to identify significant gaps in current knowledge, whether biological, social or economic, and in collaboration with other agencies, e.g., Unesco/IOC and International Labour Organisation (ILO), to stimulate and coordinate research to fill these gaps.

### **Regional Collaboration**

6. In view of the similarity of the problems faced by many countries, international collaboration in fisheries is desirable. It becomes essential in the case of activities which are related to the management and development of those stocks of fish referred to in paragraph 2. Suitable frameworks for such international collaboration exist through the various FAO regional fishery bodies, for which the FAO Regular Programme provides the basic secretariat and administrative support. This Programme of Action will therefore be largely, but not solely, concerned with providing the technical support to these

bodies <sup>1/</sup> to enable them to perform adequately their tasks of facilitating the development and management of national fisheries in the region. Collaboration with regional fishery bodies established outside the framework of FAO, for example, the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency, the South Pacific Commission, the SELA Action Committee on Marine and Freshwater Products, the Latin American Organization for Fishery Development, the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) will be maintained, developed and strengthened.

7. Some supporting activities will be essentially short-term, e.g. help in identifying and formulating national fishery development projects, in harmonizing legislation, in establishing control procedures in respect of foreign vessels fishing in the exclusive economic zones of several adjacent countries or in mapping the distribution and migration of fish stocks. Others will be of a more continuing nature, for example, the operation of common data bases and the provision of biological and economic advice, or support to workshops to review the status of the resources and recommend appropriate management action, especially for those resources, in a region which are exploited by more than one country.

8. There are advantages in delivering nearly all types of technical assistance, from biological research to design of vessels and gear, to processing and marketing, through regional mechanisms. However, the limits of the Programme will require that priority attention be given to those activities which can be carried out most efficiently and economically on a regional basis.

#### **Investment Identification**

9. One of the objectives of the Programme will be to advise governments on investment in fisheries. Experience shows that much investment in fisheries has been misdirected, increasing the exploitation of resources that are already becoming heavily fished, while other more productive areas of investment have been neglected. Additional investment on the catching side has to be undertaken very selectively and carefully, especially where a new industrial fishery may compete with existing small-scale fisheries. Opportunities for investment in catching capacity exist where coastal States have decided to replace foreign fishing vessels by a national fleet. The greatest needs for investment in such cases appear to be in the development of infrastructure facilities and of better methods of processing and distribution which will increase the benefits from a fixed volume of catch.

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<sup>1/</sup> Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) and its Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Lesser Antilles.

Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF).

General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM).

Indian Ocean Fishery Commission (IOFC) and its Committee for the Development and Management of the Fishery Resources of the Gulfs, its Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Bay of Bengal and its Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South-West Indian Ocean.

Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission (IPFC) and its Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea.

Committee for Inland Fisheries of Africa (CIFA) and its Sub-Committees for Lake Tanganyika and Lake Victoria.

Commission for Inland Fisheries of Latin America (COPESCAL).

10. The emphasis of this element of the Programme will be on a better use of investment funds. This requires a multi-disciplinary approach, based on the results of planning missions and, where appropriate, pilot development projects, which should be undertaken in close collaboration between FAO, with its full range of technical expertise, and the various international banks and other funding agencies. It is desirable that this collaboration start at the earliest stage of investment identification, and that technical assistance and investment work in harmony through all the subsequent stages of development, including such technical matters as appropriate technology for vessels, gear, processing and distribution. Investment plans should be an integral part of fishery development planning process.

### **Training**

11. The long-term objective of national governments and FAO is to promote national self-reliance through the development of the skills required. To do this considerable training is required and has to be focussed on the specific skills which are essential for management and development. These include collection and analysis of biological data, resource assessment, socio-economic analysis, management and development planning, and monitoring, control and surveillance. Particular emphasis will be given to developing a range of skills, and the encouragement of the multi-disciplinary approaches which are essential when dealing with such matters as planning the optimum use of inland waters or of coastal resources exploited by both small-scale and industrial fisheries.

12. One thrust of the training activities will be short-term training courses for high-level fisheries administrators, mostly at the regional or sub-regional level. Intermediate training is needed for fishery and development officers working in the field, including those involved in inland and marine small-scale fisheries. The success of most management and development programmes will depend on the ability of these officers to implement government policies and regulations. The officers concerned will need to be familiar with a wide variety of subjects, from the identification of commercial fish species to legal procedures, which will require adequate legislative mechanisms and the continued presence of trained personnel within appropriate parts of the government administrations. This training is likely to require the development of long-term courses in appropriate national or regional institutions.

13. At the operation level, e.g. fishing and fish handling, efforts will concentrate on the training of trainers. This type of training will be aimed at assisting countries to develop, intensify or modify their national programmes in general education and technical training to make them fully responsive to current and future national needs, in accordance with fishery development and investment plans.

**Estimated Funding Requirements  
for Programme of Action No. 1 <sup>1/</sup>**

Activities	Anticipated duration	Anticipated costs per annum (US \$)
<b><u>Advisory Services</u></b>		
1. Information/Statistics	5 years	250,000
2. Resources management	"	350,000
3. Advice on fisheries development	"	350,000
<b>Sub-Total:</b>		<b><u>950,000</u></b>
<b><u>Regional Collaboration</u></b>		
1. Technical support to FAO regional fishery bodies	5 years	3,200,000
a. IPFC/South China Sea	"	(300,000)
b. IOFC/Bay of Bengal	"	(300,000)
c. IOFC/South-West Indian Ocean <sup>2/</sup>	"	(300,000)
d. IOFC/Gulfs	"	(300,000)
e. Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)	"	(800,000)
f. Western Central Atlantic/Lesser Antilles (WEC AFC)	"	(400,000)
g. Africa-Inland waters (CIFA)	"	(300,000)
h. Latin America-Inland waters (COPESCAL)	"	(300,000)
i. Mediterranean (GFCM)	"	(200,000)
2. Tuna (Indian Ocean and Western Pacific)	4 years	400,000
3. Stocks exploited by more than one country	5 years	100,000
4. Fishery development in the South Pacific	"	300,000
5. Lagoon and maritime areas of Latin America		<sup>3/</sup>
<b>Sub-Total :</b>		<b><u>4,000,000</u></b>
<b><u>Training</u></b>		
1. Development planning	4 years	100,000
2. Data collection and analysis	5 years	100,000
3. Stock assessment <sup>4/</sup>	"	150,000
4. Management of coastal and inshore fisheries	"	100,000
5. Others	"	100,000
<b>Sub-Total :</b>		<b><u>550,000</u></b>
<b>TOTAL :</b>		<b><u>5,500,000</u></b>

<sup>1/</sup> This does not include activities presently funded under the FAO/Norway Cooperative Programme such as policy and planning missions, advice on legislation or on monitoring, control and surveillance in exclusive economic zones.

<sup>2/</sup> This does not include activities currently funded by UNDP.

<sup>3/</sup> Anticipated costs and project duration will be determined on the basis of detailed project proposals.

<sup>4/</sup> This does not include FAO/DANIDA workshops on stock assessment.

## **II. The Development of Small-Scale Fisheries**

14. There is widespread recognition by governments and donor agencies of the need to improve the welfare of marine and inland small-scale fishermen including rural fish farmers. This Programme is designed to improve the socio-economic conditions of small-scale fisheries communities and to enhance their contribution toward the rational exploitation and utilization of fishery resources. It is particularly linked with the Programme of Action on Planning, Management and Development of Fisheries, which also stresses the need for rational management of aquatic resources to ensure sustained production from small-scale fisheries, including those of small island States. Consideration has to be given to all aspects of the development process: the resources and their environment; the technology for harvesting, handling, processing, distribution and marketing, and the economic and social aspects including education, health and traditions. A programme of assistance to meet these needs must be flexible to allow for adaptation to the specific requirements of each locality and culture.

### **An Integrated Approach to Small-Scale Fisheries Development**

15. In keeping with the recommendations of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, the Programme will concentrate primarily, though not exclusively, on assistance for the integrated development of fishing communities. Such assistance will be planned and implemented with the active involvement and participation of the fishing villagers, with special emphasis on the least advantaged.

16. The Programme will be based upon:

- (i) An integrated approach taking into account both technical aspects of development and the socio-economic needs of fishing communities.
- (ii) Active participation by the small-scale fishing community in both planning and implementation of development activities.
- (iii) Mobilization of local and national resources, skills, finance and markets for the development effort, so that outside support remains supplementary or catalytic.
- (iv) Long-term technical support and in-service training, at appropriate technological levels, in order to sustain the development of the fishing communities.
- (v) A continuing and assured share of the fisheries resources for small-scale producers and their active involvement in the management of the resources.
- (vi) Explicit attention to enhancing the economic and social role of women in fish production and marketing and in family maintenance.

17. In most cases, activities under this Programme will be carried out through regional and sub-regional small-scale fisheries development groups. These groups, which will consist of small teams of internationally or regionally recruited experts based in the region, will provide assistance and advisory services to national development teams working on integrated small-scale

fisheries development. They will also establish and supervise demonstration projects which will provide in-service training for local fisheries officers and technicians. As far as possible, non-governmental organizations will be encouraged to participate actively in setting up these demonstration projects.

18. The regional development groups will assist governments to identify small-scale fisheries development needs and to formulate projects. They will liaise with similar bilaterally-funded projects; promote technical cooperation and training; encourage the adoption of appropriate technology; evaluate social investment and other factors affecting small-scale community development; and improve village-level capability in project planning and implementation.

19. Participation by women from the fishing communities is essential. This objective can be achieved by encouraging women to take an active part in development planning at village level. Women experts should be included in the national small-scale fisheries development teams and the sub-regional and regional groups.

#### **Investment and Credit**

20. A major task of the regional and sub-regional groups will be to provide assistance in the formulation of projects for submission to prospective donors and lending institutions. Of particular importance is the possibility of securing large "global loans" and lines of credit, for both fisheries production and associated social needs, from international and national lending agencies. These can then be sub-divided into smaller national allocations. The groups may also have an important role regarding investment finance for national projects for small-scale fisheries development in their areas of operation.

21. Particular attention will be given to capital requirements and investment needs of the small-scale fisheries sector in such fields as improved transport and communications, adequate housing, health, education, water supplies, and other aspects of social welfare. The regional groups, in association with national authorities and the local people concerned, should be in an excellent position to identify the most important needs of the communities.

#### **Training and Extension**

22. Training of fishermen, processors, and other fishery workers must be done at the local level by national fisheries staff, with international assistance being used to strengthen local training facilities and capabilities. The Programme will therefore concentrate upon: (i) the training of government and national development planners and administrators associated with small-scale fisheries, primarily through regional and national workshops on problem analysis, development planning, management techniques, evaluation methods related to integrated small-scale fisheries projects, and (ii) the training of intermediate and senior-level staff and extension workers to improve their ability to produce suitable training material for use at the village level.

23. Where appropriate, FAO will promote the use of existing national and regional centres for the training of small-scale fisheries administrators and extension workers from the region. These training centres could also serve as a focal point for the promotion of TCDC in small-scale fisheries development and management.

**Estimated Funding Requirements  
for Programme of Action No. II**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Anticipated duration</b>	<b>Anticipated costs per annum (US \$)</b>
<b>Support for small-scale fishery development groups : <u>1/</u></b>		<b>2,650,000</b>
1. African inland waters	5 years	900,000
2. Eastern Africa and island States in South-West Indian Ocean	"	450,000
3. Red Sea/Gulf of Aden	"	500,000
4. Lesser Antilles	"	400,000
5. Bay of Bengal	"	400,000
6. Latin America		<u>2/</u>
7. Asian inland waters		<u>2/</u>
8. Gulfs		<u>2/</u>
9. Mediterranean		<u>2/</u>
<b>Training and extension services</b>	5 years	900,000
<b>TOTAL :</b>		<b>3,550,000</b>

1/ This does not include activities presently funded in West Africa by Denmark/Norway and in the Bay of Bengal by Sweden.

2/ Anticipated costs and project duration will be determined on the basis of detailed project proposals.

### **III. Aquaculture Development**

24. In view of the increasing priority being given to aquaculture (including mariculture), FAO's assistance to its member nations in this area needs further strengthening. While there is a particular interest among countries which are landlocked, or which have restricted access to wild fish resources, nearly all countries, including small island States and many with relatively unused marine resources, are making increasing efforts to develop aquaculture. The reasons include the need to diversify rural production, to provide alternative employment for rural people, especially women, to produce more fish for local consumption, and to increase opportunities of earning foreign exchange.

25. The Programme of Action is designed to continue, strengthen and diversify the support services for increased aquaculture production organized under the inter-regional UNDP/FAO Aquaculture Development and Coordination Programme (ADCP). The regional and inter-regional aquaculture centres established under the ADCP, which undertake applied research for technology development, senior-level training and development of an aquaculture data base, should be linked to strengthen national centres for technology testing and adaptation, training of technicians and extension workers and information dissemination. The feasibility studies and technical assistance undertaken by ADCP will have to be decentralized to the regional centres in order to meet the increasing demand for development assistance and promote investment in the sector.

26. The Programme of Action will also seek to strengthen technical assistance available for aquaculture development to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing number of national projects. It will give attention to improving the collection and reliability of statistics on all aspects of aquaculture as needed for both planning and investment. The Programme of Action will give emphasis to aquaculture systems, either extensive or intensive as appropriate, for implementation by rural populations in developing countries.

#### **The Regional Research and Training Centres**

27. The most immediate need is to maintain an adequate level of funding to ensure continued development of the regional aquaculture network, as established under the ADCP, which is the only worldwide network covering this field. It is anticipated that the host countries of the regional and inter-regional centres will continue to meet the direct local operating costs of the institutes designated as such centres. However, international funds are needed if these institutes are to continue their regional and inter-regional activities. Except for the Africa Regional Centre, which will be funded until 1986, UNDP funding of all these existing centres is scheduled to finish at the end of 1984; therefore, alternate funding is urgently required.

28. The six existing regional centres referred to are located in Brazil, China, India, Nigeria, Philippines and Thailand. Another regional centre in Jamaica, for the Caribbean region, is at the planning stage and an aquaculture institute in Hungary, working on aquaculture problems of interest to all areas, has been linked with this regional network. The work of these centres comprises multi-disciplinary training for senior personnel, applied research in aquaculture technology and research and development in the field of integrating aquaculture with fisheries, agriculture and livestock. Consideration will also be given to the possibilities of establishing aquaculture centres in other regions, e.g., the Gulfs, the Balkans and East Africa and the Indian Ocean Island States. Increased emphasis will also be given to the formulation of feasibility and pilot scale projects for investment in aquaculture.

### **Linkage with National Centres**

29. Owing to the variety of culture species and systems which are being used in aquaculture, and to the considerable regional, national and local differences in resources and knowledge available in the sector, governments are faced with a major challenge in providing services and technical support to aquaculture, especially extension. The need for a wide range of training activities is acute, even in those areas where aquaculture has been practised in traditional ways. For the same reasons, developing countries need help in carrying out their own evaluations of opportunities for aquaculture development and of means to secure an orderly and rapid implementation. FAO will pay particular attention to these national requirements not only through this Programme, but also through the regional technical support units of the Programme of Action on the Planning, Management and Development of Fisheries. Assistance will, as far as possible, be channelled through FAO regional fishery bodies and projects, and in cooperation with non-FAO regional mechanisms such as SELA and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC). These regional mechanisms are particularly valuable in promoting the exchange of differing kinds of expertise within the region.

30. Many governments have already established national and local centres for aquaculture research, training and extension. Some of these require additional resources and technical assistance. Other governments still need to set up such centres and to make more adequate provisions for extension services. It is considered important that appropriate linkages be established as early as possible between these national centres and the regional network in order to ensure an efficient and rapid transfer of research results at the country level, local testing and adaptation, and dissemination of results to farmers. Such linkages are also needed to ensure that problems at the farm level are referred back to the researchers.

31. Governments should take the initiative to reinforce their own institutions, including extension services. As many countries do not have the technical and financial resources required to expand national efforts in aquaculture, the Programme of Action will provide support for national activities, especially in project identification and evaluation, and in investment follow-up. It will assist governments by both direct technical support and by mobilizing bilateral and/or multilateral assistance.

### **Aquaculture Information and Data**

32. There is a need to improve the quality of statistics and related information on aquaculture production, profitability, and other factors contributing to its development. To this end the aquaculture information system which is already established within the framework of the ADCP network will be strengthened to provide information at various production levels, from individual farms to regional and global summaries on aquaculture production systems. In particular, private, governmental, or international investors, require much more detailed information than can be provided at present. However, to meet the needs of individual governments and international financing institutions, systematic in-depth analyses and assessments of investment prospects in aquaculture at the country level are needed and will entail additional contributions from the governments concerned, FAO and, in many cases, external assistance.

**Estimated Funding Requirements  
for Programme of Action No. III**

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Anticipated duration</i>	<i>Anticipated costs per annum (US \$)</i>
<i>Coordination of inter-regional research training and information</i>	<i>5 years</i>	<i>400,000</i>
<i>Africa Regional Aquaculture Centre (ARAC)</i>	<i>3 years</i>	<i>800,000 <sup>1/</sup></i>
<i>Network of Aquaculture Centres Asia (NACA)</i>	<i>5 years</i>	<i>800,000</i>
<i>Latin American Regional Aquaculture Centre (CERLA)</i>	<i>5 years</i>	<i>800,000</i>
<i>Establishment of a Caribbean Aquaculture Centre</i>	<i>3 years</i>	<i>700,000</i>
<i>Mediterranean Regional Aquaculture Project</i>	<i>3 years</i>	<i><u>2/</u></i>
<b>TOTAL :</b>		<b>3,500,000</b>

1/ Does not include activities presently funded by UNDP until 1986.

2/ Under consideration by the Government of Italy.

#### **IV. International Trade in Fish and Fishery Products**

33. The objective of this Programme of Action is to help developing countries increase the benefits they obtain through intra- and inter-regional trade in fish and fishery products. Efforts to this end should concentrate on removing obstacles to trade, upgrading products, promoting greater international collaboration in trade-related matters, supporting investment programmes and providing training. A specific aim should be the improvement of marketing efficiency and the conclusion of more favourable trade agreements in fish and fishery products for developing countries.

34. Close coordination with regional and international organizations such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the International Trade Centre (ITC), UN Regional Economic Commissions, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), the Action Committee on Marine and Freshwater Products of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) and the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency (SPFFA) will be an essential feature of this Action Programme.

#### **Regional Fish Marketing Information Services**

35. Following the establishment of the regional fish marketing information and technical advisory services in Latin America (INFOPESCA) and the Asian/Pacific region (INFOFISH), the Programme of Action provides for the creation of similar services in Africa and the Arab countries for which preparatory activities have started. In the long term, the regional services should be financially self-supporting and function as inter-governmental organizations or be affiliated to suitable existing regional organizations.

36. In addition to providing information for intra- and inter-regional trade promotion, the regional services will give technical assistance to exporting countries in order that their fishery products can be upgraded and meet the standards of importing countries. In the short and medium term, the services should be strengthened to provide information and advice on matters related to quality assurance in association with FAO training programmes in fish technology, and to assist in the identification of marketing infrastructure requirements and related investment needs. The collaboration of ITC will be sought with regard to training in export operations and practices, including participation of developing countries in exhibitions and trade fairs.

#### **International Fish Market Indicators**

37. Another aspect of the Programme of Action would be the establishment of a system to provide continuous up-to-date trade information relating to major commodities such as shrimp, tuna, cephalopods, demersal fish and canned small pelagic fish. This would facilitate the rapid assessment of current international markets for these commodities and an indicative appraisal of future trends, supplementing information provided by the regional marketing information services and providing coordination for them. The system is intended to contribute to other activities of FAO relating to food security by collecting and disseminating information on fishery products in a timely manner so that governments and industry are in a position to take appropriate measures promptly. It will also help to improve statistics on international trade of fish and fishery products.

### **Multilateral Framework for Consultation on International Trade in Fishery Products**

38. Such a framework would be developed along the lines of existing inter-governmental commodity groups and with a structure which would allow it to become eventually eligible to receive funding from the Second Account of the UNCTAD Common Fund of Commodities <sup>1/</sup>. The establishment of an inter-governmental group on fishery products and its financial and other implications will be the subject of separate study by FAO. It is anticipated that the inter-governmental group could deal with market prospects, trading practices and criteria for fair trade, including the harmonization of inspection procedures and regulations. It could be a forum for exchanging views on technical issues of international trade in fish and fish products and for discussing possible solutions. The work of the group could also contribute to constructive debates in other fora, particularly if both government and industry are represented. The group might also regularly review barriers to trade but discussions and negotiations regarding their reduction or elimination will only take place within the established arrangements of UNCTAD and GATT.

39. Within this Programme of Action, specific studies will be made, for example, on the possibilities of improving the structure of international trade of fish and fishery products; on barter trade possibilities as a means of fish export promotion; on arrangements for financing exports and inventories. It is expected that several international organizations, notably ITC and OECD, will contribute to such studies or even agree to undertake some of them. Those activities, together with other studies which might eventually be identified, could provide the basis for a programme of market development activities which could in due course be financed from resources of the UNCTAD Common Fund of Commodities.

### **Investment Identification**

40. The information generated by the regional fish marketing information services and the system of international fish market indicators will assist FAO and financing agencies at national and international level in the identification of investment opportunities and in the preparation and appraisal of investment projects. FAO will cooperate with financing institutions to make full use of the information made available.

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<sup>1/</sup> It should be noted that fish and fishery products are presently not included in the list of commodities covered by the Common Fund Agreement. The Common Fund of Commodities itself is not yet operational (July 1984).

**Estimated Funding Requirements  
for Programme of Action No. IV**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Anticipated duration</b>	<b>Anticipated costs per annum (US \$)</b>
<b>Regional fish marketing information services</b>		<b>2,000,000</b>
1. Latin America: <i>INFOPESCA</i> <u>1/</u>	3 years	(100,000)
2. Africa: <i>INFOPECHE</i>	5 years	(800,000)
3. Arab countries: <i>INFOSAMAK</i>	4 years	(700,000)
4. Asia/Pacific: <i>INFOFISH</i> <u>1/</u>	3 years	(100,000)
<b>Strengthening of above services for work in :</b>		
Quality assurance	5 years	200,000
Marketing infrastructure	5 years	100,000
<b>TOTAL :</b>		<b>2,000,000</b>

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1/ Excluding contributions from participating countries and revenues

**V. The Promotion of the Role of Fisheries in Alleviating Under-nutrition**

41. The central objective of this Programme of Action is to reduce waste and ensure that fishery resources are rationally utilized so as to make the greatest possible contribution to food supplies for the benefit of the poorest and weakest sections of the community. The Programme of Action will also contribute to the overall aim of national self-reliance in food production and to food security. A multi-disciplinary approach, including expertise in technology, socio-economics, nutrition, public health and fisheries, is required to achieve these objectives.

42. This Programme of Action would consist of the following elements.

**Nutrition**

43. Governments will be encouraged to take nutritional aspects into account when formulating or re-evaluating national fishery policies so that fish and fishery products may fulfil their potential in alleviating under-nutrition. Similarly, the Programme will foster the systematic integration of fisheries development considerations into national food and nutrition policies and plans.

44. The Programme of Action will also give attention to the incorporation, wherever appropriate, of nutritional considerations into fishery development projects, at an early stage of formulation. A methodology will be established for assessing the nutritional impact of fishery policies and projects.

45. Many rural families in the Third World obtain a high proportion of their animal protein from fish which they either catch themselves or obtain through barter. Often this supply of fish is not recorded in statistics of production or consumption. Under this Programme of Action steps will be taken to improve the information on the contribution of subsistence fisheries to food supply in order to assist governments in establishing policies to maintain and increase protein availability.

46. This Programme of Action will draw upon nutrition expertise, not only within FAG but also in national institutes.

**Improved Utilization**

47. Action in this area should cover all sectors of fisheries from the national resources themselves to the end use of the product, and include the selection and preparation of projects specifically directed to:

- Increasing the availability of suitable raw material.
- Improvement of handling and processing, particularly directed to reduction of post-harvest losses.
- Introduction of new low-cost products, particularly from species that are presently under-utilized and from by-catch discards.
- Improvement of distribution and marketing, together with fish promotion and consumer education.

48. The Action Programme will help to assess the dietary patterns and food preferences of target groups and improve the acceptability and storage quality of traditional and new products. This will help to increase the consumption of fish among low-income groups and to improve the utilization of locally available fishery resources.

49. Improved marketing can make an important contribution to fishery development in general and to better nutrition in particular. The Programme will give attention to the marketing of acceptable low-cost fish products, particularly from small pelagic species, as well as to improving marketing facilities. Steps will also be taken to promote fishery products and to educate consumers in their use and preparation, in order to enhance nutrition standards. In this respect the Programme will include activities to strengthen the role of women who are involved in many processing and marketing operations, as well as in providing food for their families.

### **Research**

50. The development and the introduction of new fishery products to alleviate under-nutrition require a detailed knowledge of consumption habits. Studies of the attitudes and preferences of potential consumers will be undertaken prior to attempts to introduce new products. The results will be taken into account in product development and in the preparation of a methodology for consumer education.

51. Much of the research under this Programme of Action could be carried out in research institutes in developing countries, incorporating a strong element of technical cooperation between developing countries. Collaborative research networks have already been set up in Asia, Africa and Latin America, but they will require strengthening as well as contributions from research institutes in developed countries.

### **Training**

52. An essential activity to achieve the goals set out above is training of local personnel in all aspects of production, handling, processing, distribution and marketing of fish. To this end, FAO's current activities for training senior and intermediate level fisheries staff in these fields will be strengthened and expanded. The training component of the Programme will include regional, sub-regional and national workshops and seminars, as well as study tours and will encourage the sharing of experience between developing countries.

**Estimated Funding Requirements  
for Programme of Action No. V**

<i>Activities</i>	<i>Anticipated duration</i>	<i>Anticipated costs per annum (US \$)</i>
<i>Nutrition policies and statistics</i>	<i>3 years</i>	<i>100,000</i>
<i>Improved fish utilization</i>	<i>5 years</i>	<i>200,000</i>
<i>Regional cooperative programmes in fish technology research:</i>	<i>5 years</i>	<i>450,000</i>
<i>Indo-Pacific region</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>(150,000) <u>1/</u></i>
<i>Africa</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>(150,000)</i>
<i>Latin America</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>(150,000) <u>2/</u></i>
<i>Training (fish technology and processing)</i>	<i>3 years</i>	<i>350,000 <u>3/</u></i>
<b>TOTAL :</b>		<b>1,100,000</b>

*1/ Australia is already partly funding this element.*

*2/ Including activities planned for the Caribbean region.*

*3/ This item does not include regional workshops on fish technology and inspection funded by Denmark until 1986.*

RESOLUTION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY  
AND THE PROGRAMMES OF ACTION

132. The Conference adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 3**

**FOLLOW-UP TO THE CONFERENCE**

*The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Noting with appreciation the initiative taken by the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to convene the World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Recalling that FAO has a constitutional responsibility to promote improvements in production and distribution of all food and agricultural products, including those from fisheries, and to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living, thus contributing toward an expanding world economy and ensuring humanity's freedom from hunger,*

*Noting further that this Conference has endorsed a Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development and has approved five associated Programmes of Action designed to promote the self-reliance in fisheries management and development, notably of developing States,*

*Emphasizing the important role of FAO in assisting States in their efforts to achieve self-reliance in fisheries, particularly through the network of regional fishery bodies established by FAO to foster collaboration in both the management and development of fisheries,*

*Welcoming the close cooperation FAO has established to this end with organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations and other international organizations concerned with marine affairs,*

1. *Invites the Director-General of FAO to take all measures necessary to ensure the implementation of the Programmes of Action,*
2. *Requests the Director-General of FAO to provide the FAO Committee on Fisheries and the Organization's governing bodies with periodic reports on the progress achieved in implementing the Strategy and the Programmes of Action,*
3. *Encourages States, international and regional organizations to cooperate with the Director-General of FAO in the preparation of such reports,*
4. *Further invites the Director-General of FAO to bring the results of the Conference to the attention of the 86th Session of the Council, the 23rd Session of the FAO Conference, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations and the concerned international bodies.*

## **OTHER RESOLUTIONS**

### **Resolution No. 4**

#### **THE PROMOTION OF FISH IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST MALNUTRITION**

*The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Considering that fishery products have an important place in the diet of populations of many developing countries and particularly of the most deprived social groups, and that these products are now generally accepted,*

*Aware that the proportion of fish production currently used for direct human consumption should be increased,*

*Noting that large quantities of by-catch suitable for direct human consumption are dumped in the sea,*

*Considering also that some developing countries are in a position to supply fishery products that could be used as food aid,*

*Noting that fishery products represent only a small proportion of the global volume of food aid,*

- 1. Urges the World Food Programme and the food aid agencies to increase, where appropriate, the quantities of fishery products included in their emergency and food for work programmes,*
- 2. Requests FAO, in cooperation with WFP, to assist such agencies in identifying, particularly in developing countries, sources of fishery products suitable for use in food aid programmes,*
- 3. Calls upon all Member States and donor agencies, to support arrangements for channelling fishery products, including supplies from developing countries, into food aid programmes,*
- 4. Requests the Director-General of FAO to follow up this matter with all agencies concerned to ensure the success of the promotion of the role of fish products in the campaign against under-nutrition.*

**Resolution No. 5**

**THE FINANCING OF INVESTMENT PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF FISHERIES**

*The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Considering the need for the developing countries to improve and maximize their participation in the exploitation of their fishery resources in order to increase their income from these resources and augment food supplies for their people,*

*Bearing in mind the increased financing needed to implement the investment projects deriving from the Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Considering that the total amount of resources allocated to fisheries development is levelling off,*

*Noting, also, the constraints imposed on developing countries as regards their capacity and possibility for borrowing,*

1. *Asks governments to accord greater priority to investment projects for the development and management of fisheries,*
2. *Urges the World Bank Group, regional development banks, other financing institutions and bilateral donors to accord special and favourable attention to projects for investment in fisheries development and management and related activities, without the rate of indebtedness in itself constituting a brake,*
3. *Urges that countries and institutions providing loans collaborate in allocating larger amounts of concessionary aid to fisheries development,*
4. *Invites the Director-General of FAO to submit this resolution to all financing institutions so that they may consider giving effect to it,*
5. *Requests the Director-General, in addition, to review and analyse regularly the trends and amount of financial resources allocated to the fisheries sector and report the findings to the Committee on Fisheries and FAO's Governing Bodies.*

**Resolution No. 6**

**PROTECTION OF FISHERY RESOURCES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES  
FROM POLLUTION**

*The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Noting that in most developing countries the food situation remains critical, particularly in drought-stricken areas of Asia and Africa, and especially in the Sahel,*

*Noting also the growing importance fisheries development has in the struggle against under-nutrition and the contribution it can make toward feeding a hungry world,*

*Conscious of the abundance of marine resources in the coastal areas of many developing countries,*

*Conscious also of the economic, social and health value attached to the maintenance of a suitable marine environment for fishery resources,*

*Recognizing the sovereign rights of the states concerned to exploit their natural resources and their duty to protect and preserve their marine resources and environment,*

*Recognizing the limited means available to most coastal developing countries in controlling pollution in their exclusive economic zones,*

*Recognizing therefore the threat to the marine and coastal environment, its resources and legitimate uses, posed by pollution in the exclusive economic zones of coastal States, particularly those of Asia, the Gulfs and Africa, especially the Sahel,*

- 1. Invites the Director-General of FAO, in association with UNEP, to draw the attention of governments to this problem and the urgent need to take all necessary measures to revert this dangerous trend before it is too late,*
- 2. Invites other UN agencies, in particular UNEP, Unesco/IOC and IMO, and other international organizations, to continue their efforts to promote on the part of their member governments all actions aiming at preventing and fighting pollution affecting fishery resources,*
- 3. Requests the United Nations, organizations, financing institutions and donor agencies to assist the countries concerned to prevent, reduce and control marine pollution,*
- 4. Calls upon States to condemn all actions likely to cause pollution of the marine environment in any part of the world.*

**Resolution No. 7**

**THE ROLE OF THE FISHERMAN**

*The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Noting the role played by fisheries in the fight against hunger and malnutrition throughout the world,*

*Noting further that fisheries provide nearly one-quarter of the world supply of animal protein,*

*Recognizing the potential of fisheries for substantially increased food production,*

*Considering that more than ten million persons are directly engaged in the sector, most of whom are engaged in small-scale artisanal fisheries requiring special support for improving their economic and social status,*

*Recalling Resolution 1/79 of the Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference establishing World Food Day to be observed annually on 16 October,*

*Noting the world-wide celebration of World Food Day and its success in initiating lasting action programmes,*

- 1. Invites the Director-General to consider the feasibility of proclaiming an International Year of the Fisherman and make appropriate recommendations to the FAO Governing Bodies in this regard,*
- 2. Also invites the Director-General to adopt as a theme for World Food Day 1986: Fishermen and Fishing Communities, their contribution to food production, nutrition and social and economic development,*
- 3. Requests the Director-General to consider proclaiming a World Fisheries Day, to be observed on 27 June each year, in commemoration of the World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development, and make appropriate recommendations to the FAO Governing Bodies in this respect.*

**Resolution No. 8**

**DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL FISHERIES PROGRAMMES  
FOR LAND-LOCKED COUNTRIES**

The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,

Considering the situation of third-world land-locked countries which are confronted with harsh and difficult circumstances and endure a disadvantage because of their geographical location,

Noting that these countries are facing a worsening shortage of proteins from animal sources for the supply of food to their people,

Aware of the importance attached to the increase of fish availability in these countries,

Considering that the development of inland fisheries and of aquaculture is likely to help reach these objectives,

Bearing in mind the appeals to the donor community made by the Director-General of FAO in May and October 1983, Resolution 10/4 P(S.I) of the Islamic Summit Conference of Casablanca held in January 1984 which expressed particular solicitude for the dramatic plight of the Sahel, and those of the FAO Regional Conference held in Jakarta in 1982 with respect to Asia, as well as the general endorsement of the Committee on Fisheries held in Rome in October 1983,

1. Calls upon the International Community to manifest greater solidarity for land-locked countries, and upon FAO to develop special programmes for these countries,
2. Recommends to the Director-General of FAO to continue his efforts in mobilizing assistance with a view to helping them benefit more from their fish resources, expand inland water fisheries including aquaculture programmes as well as further assess their fish stocks and achieve their fishery management plans and projects,
3. Urges financing institutions and donor agencies, whether national or international, to continue their efforts and to support the efforts of the Director-General of FAO in the matter of development and management of inland fisheries and aquaculture,
4. Invites the Director-General of FAO to seek additional support for regional and sub-regional projects for the benefit of land-locked countries including those situated in the African region.

**Resolution No. 9**

**THE PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG  
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (ECDC) AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION  
AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (TCDC)**

*The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development,*

*Whereas the FAO Councils and Conferences of 1977, 1979 and 1981 have mandated FAO to promote and support ECDC and TCDC activities in food and agriculture,*

*Whereas the Council and Conference have stressed the important role of FAO particularly of FAO's Country and Regional Offices to promote TCDC specifically in identifying areas for cooperation, maintaining links and making use of national, sub-regional and regional institutions in developing countries, in promoting and supporting TCDC based on mutuality of interests,*

*Whereas the development of infrastructure, technology, manpower and research capabilities of developing countries forming the basis of their ability to exploit their fisheries resources can be accelerated greatly through ECDC and TCDC,*

*Taking into account the Programme of Action of Caracas on ECDC in the Food and Agriculture Sector, as spelled out in para. 32, as well as the recommendation of the Global Meeting on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries in the Food and Agriculture Sector, Bucharest, as spelled out in para. 55 of its report,*

- 1. Encourages the Director-General of FAO to continue and intensify his activities on ECDC and TCDC in the sector of fisheries as spelled out in the Programme of Work and Budget,*
- 2. Requests the Director-General of FAO to undertake, promote and support ECDC and TCDC activities as indicated in the above-mentioned paragraphs of the Global Meeting on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries and of the Caracas Programme of Action and in the Strategy and Associated Programmes of Action approved by the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development.*

## ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE AND CONCLUDING STATEMENTS

133. This report was adopted by the Conference at its Sixteenth Plenary Meeting on 6 July 1984.

134. The Conference was formally notified by the Delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Poland and the USSR that, while they supported the adoption of the Strategy and associated Programmes of Action, they would recognize and implement only those recommendations in fisheries management and development which did not contravene the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982.

135. In his remarks at the closing session, the Director-General of FAO re-emphasized the unique role of the Conference, being the first of its kind at such a high level, dealing with both policy and practical issues confronting world fisheries. He expressed his satisfaction with the high degree of consensus achieved. He gave an assurance that FAO would continue to fulfil its leading role, in collaboration with concerned organizations, in assisting Member States to achieve greater self-reliance in fisheries management and development. He thanked those donor agencies and countries which had already intimated their willingness to cooperate in the implementation of the Programmes of Action. He expressed his gratitude to the elected officers for their dedication and hard work which had contributed to the successful conclusion of the Conference.

136. In his concluding remarks the Chairman highlighted such key issues as the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982, the New International Economic Order and the sovereign rights of coastal States. He paid tribute to the spirit of international cooperation that had guided the Conference and influenced its deliberations. He drew attention to the leading role of FAO, in collaboration with other organizations in implementing the Programmes of Action. He expressed his profound personal appreciation for the hard work that had gone into the preparation and conduct of the Conference by the delegations and the Director-General and his staff.

137. The following delegations expressed their sincere appreciation for the success of the Conference and thanked the Chairman, the Director-General, the Secretary-General of the Conference and the secretariat staff: Thailand, on behalf of the Group of 77 and the Asia group; Canada, on behalf of the OECD group; Nigeria, on behalf of the African region; Argentina, on behalf of the Latin American group; China; the United States, on behalf of the North American group; Czechoslovakia, on behalf of the Socialist countries; New Zealand, on behalf of the Southwest Pacific region; Sri Lanka, as Vice-Chairman of the Conference; Fiji, on behalf of the small island States; India, on behalf of the countries of the Bay of Bengal Committee; Morocco, on behalf of the Arab countries; St. Lucia, on behalf of the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean; Maldives, on behalf of the small developing island States of the Southwest Indian Ocean; Cuba; and Nicaragua, on behalf of SELA.

138. The Chairman declared the Conference closed.

**AGENDA**

- I OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE
  - 1. Election of Chairman
  - 2. Address by Guest of Honour
  - 3. Statement by the Director-General
  
- II PROCEDURAL ITEMS
  - 4. Adoption of the Rules of Procedure
  - 5. Adoption of the Agenda and organization of work
  - 6. Establishment of Commissions, Credentials Committee and other sessional bodies
  - 7. Election of officers other than Chairman
  
- III STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS (Plenary)
  
- IV STRATEGY FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (Commission I)
  - 8. The contribution of fisheries to national economic, social and nutritional goals
  - 9. Improved national self-reliance in fisheries management and development
  - 10. Principles and practices for the rational management and optimum use of fish resources
  - 11. The special role and needs of small-scale fisheries and rural fishing and fish farming communities
  - 12. International trade in fish and fishery products
  - 13. Investment in fisheries management and development
  - 14. Economic and technical cooperation in fisheries management and development
  - 15. International collaboration in fisheries research and management
  
- V PROGRAMMES FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES (Commission II)
  - 16. Planning, management and development of fisheries
  - 17. Development of small-scale fisheries
  - 18. Aquaculture development
  - 19. International trade in fish and fishery products
  - 20. Promotion of the role of fisheries in alleviating under-nutrition
  
- VI CONCLUDING ITEMS
  - 21. Any other matters
  - 22. Adoption of the Report, including Strategy and Programmes of Action

Appendix B

ADDRESS BY MR. PEDRO OJEDA PAULLADA,  
SECRETARY OF FISHERIES OF MEXICO,  
UPON ASSUMING CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE CONFERENCE

Honourable Assembly,

We, attending this FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development, held at FAO Headquarters in Rome, are convinced of the urgent need for fisheries resource use based on both a just legal order and action programmes and strategies which can enlist the full support of the international community to ensure that the food requirements of all mankind will be met.

This Conference was indispensable in the light of the need to cope with the practical aspects of fisheries management arising out of the new United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, ratified in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on 10 December 1982 after more than 10 years of work. From this Convention arose a decisive, overwhelming change in the world fisheries order. This new Law very soon affected resource management and exploitation.

The sovereign will of each of the nations we represent has, since 1945, created and fostered this Organization. We have faith in the Organization's ability to channel our present efforts to promote the best possible exercise of national sovereignty over the living resources within the exclusive economic zones of each nation.

We also believe in the possibility of harmonious joint action to improve the use of fishery resources in international waters and in the inland waters of individual countries - or, indeed, wherever fishery resources are found naturally or through the creative agency of man.

It is not fishery resources alone that are at stake here. At stake also is the full panoply of cultural resources and the resources of civilization. The science and technology which give us both knowledge and the tools to achieve our objectives. We shall not simply put our minds together in an intellectual effort of an exceptional nature, which would ignore cooperation. No, we shall also unite to promote permanent, concrete international cooperation among all countries, at all stages of development.

All people and all countries aspire to achieve security in the satisfaction of their needs. The outcome of the international cooperation we propose must be national self-sufficiency of all countries in developing and managing their fishery resources, adopting plans to conserve these resources and protecting and improving their marine environments.

Our intention in adopting a fisheries management and development strategy is to set up a reference guideline which respects national sovereignties.

This special Conference is taking place under the best possible auspices as our Organization has been systematically preparing for it during the biennial Conferences and Councils, and through the Committee on Fisheries and the broad consultations with governments and experts which have culminated in the papers before us for discussion.

Edouard Saouma, our Director-General, has been a major protagonist in each of the most outstanding events. Mr. Saouma, an acknowledged scientist and humanist, has helped us bring together the knowledge needed to conciliate reason and emotion and to channel the sense and scope of what we have put forward.

Indeed, fisheries is on the threshold of a new day. The Strategy and the action programmes must therefore be reviewed and renewed, as must be the means and instruments to help transform the legitimate aspirations of men, women and children everywhere in the world to adequate food, employment and income (their basic welfare, in short) into an every-day reality.

If this Strategy is to be effective it must mesh with these final objectives and with the new Law of the Sea which has substantially increased the possibilities of coastal States to manage fisheries now under their jurisdiction.

As stated in the draft Strategy before us, "This transfer of authority creates new opportunities and responsibilities for coastal States and brings problems of adjustments to countries operating distant-water fleets. This Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development does not intend to reopen the issues already settled at the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. It is without prejudice to the provisions of the 1982 United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea."

Obviously, possessing jurisdiction is not necessarily quite the same thing as exercising it. Exercising jurisdiction requires more effective management for fisheries development.

Individual and group strategies will therefore have to be reviewed. National criteria for the achievement of the necessary national benefits must be made to mesh with the management and rational use of world fishery resources whilst respecting national sovereignty.

The action programmes presented here as draft proposals for world fisheries management and development represent a sifting through of a broad range of requirements. These proposals demand a sober, mature thinking through of the issues before us.

These action programmes imply that we bend our wills to the practical resolution of this task, and constitute an initial attempt to point our countries on the path to progressive international fisheries management.

The five programmes which we shall examine constitute a broad and varied range of activities aimed at the solution of such diverse problems as stock assessment; lack of infrastructures; communications and transport; protection from over-fishing and pollution; the adoption of fishing vessels and gear and trade in fishery products.

The action programme for fisheries management planning and development must include in-depth knowledge and assessment of fishery resources, especially in the Exclusive Economic Zones, for optimum utilization of these resources. The programme must emphasize the development of infrastructures, technology and manpower training in each country in order to achieve the foregoing. The determination and achievement of the maximum sustainable yield for each fishery is another basic imperative. Under-fishing is a sin of omission; over-fishing a crime against humanity.

The programme for the development of small-scale fisheries should be accorded clear and specific priority given its importance to the development activities of member nations.

The aquaculture development programme is an expression of the need to go beyond the stage of merely catching existing resources and move on to the expansion of resources through deliberate, intelligent human intervention. This can be the occasion for a fine display of cooperation among developing countries with the collaboration of the international organizations.

The programme of international trade in fish and fishery products is designed to achieve greater benefits from trade in fishery products through joint action. This includes technical cooperation, updated commercial data systems, mechanisms to link supply with demand and other promotional and development action. The aim of the foregoing is to offset, particularly, the North-South gap and tariff barriers in the interests of improving both access and conditions of access to world markets.

Lastly, the central objective of the action programme on the promotion of the role of fisheries in alleviating under-nutrition is rational utilization of fishery resources. The twin goal is to avoid current waste in the catch of valuable commercial species and to earmark more fishery resources for direct human consumption.

A true fisheries management and development strategy neither can nor should sidestep the issue of the enormous current waste of fishery resources due to losses incurred during handling.

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Honourable delegates,

The meaning, scope and direction of the new era of fisheries are highly dependent on the strength of our will and on our ability to convert the challenges before us into opportunities to serve progress and mankind. Only by strengthening international cooperation shall we find the answers the times in which we live demand.

We propose neither a single fisheries development model nor a universally valid one. There is a great difference between small-scale fisheries and highly-industrialized fisheries. They both require the proper approach.

It is, however, unquestionable that coastal, artisanal or small-scale fisheries in the Latin American, Asian and African worlds require an overwhelming and worldwide effort.

The coastal fisherman in all latitudes often works alone with only the most rudimentary gear. Often his only security is the effort he himself can provide. He must be a priority target of our labour and, of course, our solidarity.

Our efforts will amount to little if our action does not reach these fishermen, families and communities for whom fishing is the main daily sustenance.

By your decision, Mexico has received the distinction of chairing this Conference. I offer thanks for this high honour on behalf of my country which vigorously supports the rule of law, among individuals as among nations, as the only valid way to solve problems. My country remains unshakable in its faith that the community of nations will find the path to progress, equity and justice.

People have priority. With this firmly-held belief of Miquel de la Madrid, President of my country, and on his behalf, I greet those present, your governments, your people, your communities of fisherfolk. I have the fullest confidence that the work of this Conference will one day become an illustrious page in the history of international fisheries.

Thank you very much.

*[Handwritten signature]*

**ADDRESS GIVEN BY HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SPAIN  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE FAO WORLD CONFERENCE  
ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Chairman,  
Mr. Director-General,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me start by greeting the Director-General of FAO, Mr. Saouma, who guides this Organization with so much dynamism and farsightedness, and thanking him for inviting me to address you at the opening of this Conference. I also extend a very cordial greeting to the Chairman of the Conference and to all the delegates here present.

In opening this World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development I wish, first and foremost, to express my hope that, with the active cooperation of all the delegations, by the time the Conference ends it will have laid the basis for regulations calculated to achieve a balanced utilization of the marine world that will reconcile economic interests, scientific concerns and human needs and anxieties.

The relationship between man and the sea has changed substantially in recent years.

The oceans have begun to reveal their most intimate secrets, and their riches have the potential to relieve some of humanity's most pressing needs. But care must be taken to ensure that these riches are not squandered by short-sighted and egoistical exploitation.

The sea continues to represent, at one and the same time, the lure of far places and adventure, the daily work of men who have made it their vocation and livelihood, and a natural means of communication between different civilizations and cultures. To the challenges of former times have been added new prospects, which present us with greater responsibilities.

We must do everything in our power to safeguard what constitutes one of our main sources, not just of wealth, but of life itself. Unless we act promptly, the present negative trends may become irreversible.

It is therefore essential to seek suitable formulas for international cooperation to make the best possible use of the living resources of the sea for the benefit of all countries in the world, and in particular of the most deprived populations.

The living resources of the sea must be used fundamentally to feed people and prevent malnutrition, not only in countries that have exclusive economic zones and abundant fish stocks, but also in countries that do not have enough fishery resources to supply their markets and meet the demand of their populations.

This is the case of my country. Despite its almost 5,000 km of coastline, Spain does not harvest enough living resources to supply its people with sufficient proteins of animal origin.

There must therefore be greater cooperation between industrialized fishing countries and developing countries to encourage the transfer of technology, training in navigational and fishing techniques, the establishment of joint fishery enterprises, and the development of aquaculture in both marine and inland waters.

It is to achieve these cooperation goals that this World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development has been convened.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization itself has based fisheries development and management on three basic principles:

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First, the importance of developing small-scale fisheries in order to achieve a more equitable distribution of incomes and other benefits, including nutrition; second, the need to promote economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and between these and industrialized countries; and third, the aim to meet food requirements by sharing the resources of the sea more equitably.

It is precisely on these principles that my country bases its economic, scientific and technical cooperation aimed at encouraging integrated development of the fishery sector in developing countries.

Everyone knows that Spain is a country with a long fishing tradition. Authors cite, as the first treaty incorporating fishing clauses, that drawn up in 1351 between the King of Castile and the King of England. And in the sixteenth century Spanish vessels were fishing for cod in the waters off Newfoundland.

In recent times, with the development of modern technologies, in particular the equipping of vessels with refrigeration facilities, Spain, on the basis of the principle of freedom of the seas, has built up a large fishing fleet, which has enabled it almost to achieve self-sufficiency in protein requirements of marine origin.

During the seventies, when jurisdiction was extended beyond territorial waters, Spain also started to negotiate fishery agreements based fundamentally on the criteria of economic, technical and scientific cooperation recommended by FAO.

My country has entered into numerous cooperation agreements with developing nations which permit a considerable transfer of technology and professional training suited to the requirements of each country.

As regards our own national effort, fisheries management in our waters is enabling us - not without problems, since Spain's continental shelf is narrow and poor in resources - to adjust the balance between resources and effort so as to achieve maximum sustained yield and ensure that the best possible use is made of the biological resources.

The development of small-scale fishing is promoting a more equitable distribution of incomes among Spanish producers.

New legislative measures have been introduced to encourage aquaculture, on which my country counts to make up the population's protein requirements.

We are convinced that an increase in cooperation in all aspects of fishery can ensure a fairer distribution of the riches of the sea, without prejudicing the nutritional requirements and economic interests of the States bordering on fishing zones.

As a formula for cooperation aimed precisely at encouraging equitable participation in the living resources of the sea, my country has, through appropriate juridical provisions, encouraged the investment of private capital in other countries for the constitution and development of joint fisheries enterprises.

Finally, I must mention what is the fundamental element in all fishing activities, but one which unfortunately we sometimes forget: the fishermen.

Rarely is adequate tribute paid to them. I therefore think this is a suitable occasion for all countries to give public recognition to the hard and self-sacrificing toil of these men who, frequently away from their homes, skillfully battling with the unpredictable perils of the sea, provide us through their work with a very important contribution to our food supplies.

Aware of the difficulties under which this hard task is conducted, we must give priority to aspects such as professional training, levels of safety, the seaworthiness of vessels and overall conditions of work, in order to improve the quality of life of the fishermen.

In this field, too, international cooperation is necessary, and we must encourage it. Developing countries who wish to develop their fisheries often request assistance in this matter from countries with a higher degree of technology.

Spain, which has some good centres for navigational and fishery training and technically qualified professionals, opens its doors to those countries who wish to know how these centres operate and to benefit from their teaching.

We know that exchanges enrich knowledge. Let us therefore intensify the transfer of technology and collaboration between countries, as fishermen themselves have done for centuries.

It was natural that this Conference should be convened by FAO, the UN agency specialized in the rational management of fishery resources which, with its work, helps to expand the world economy and free humanity from hunger. I am convinced that FAO, under the energetic direction of Mr. Saouma, will be able to face the challenge of the future and convert into facts the recommendations emerging from this Conference.

Finally, I should like to encourage you in your tasks, aware that a solution to the pressing problems of the fishery sector depends, to a large extent, on the success of the Conference that is starting here today. The fishery sector must not be disappointed in its expectations.

Thank you very much.

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STATEMENT BY MR. EDOUARD SAOUMA,  
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO  
TO THE FAO WORLD CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Your Majesties,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The oceans and inland waters dominate the surface of our planet, which we arrogantly call Earth. In myth and symbol, our forefathers have crystallized the awe they felt for this alien element: source of food, and source of danger.

The twentieth century has stripped away much of the mystery. Man has acquired a new ability to use - and to abuse - the seas.

The last forty years, in particular, have witnessed remarkable developments in our capacity for harvesting the world's fishery resources. In technique and in scale, fisheries today are very different from the picture when FAO was founded in 1945.

Background to the Conference

The change now under way in the sector is no less profound, and in many ways more far-reaching, than those that have occurred in the past. The general introduction of exclusive economic zones on the part of coastal States has brought almost all high-seas fisheries under national jurisdiction. About 95 percent of the present catch from marine fisheries comes from waters under national jurisdiction. The only major exceptions are tunas and whales.

This re-shaping of the global systems, embodied in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, is undoubtedly the most important political event that will occur in world fisheries for generations to come.

The FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development is thus being held at a moment of unique historical importance in the evolution of global fisheries. It brings together the largest number of national delegations which has ever been assembled at policy level to consider the issues facing the sector.

The three principal themes of the Conference may be defined as: adjusting to the new regime of the oceans; meeting the challenge of development; and ensuring a better future for the fisherman and his family.

Adjusting to the new regime of the oceans

Let us look first at some of the main issues arising out of the establishment of extended national jurisdiction.

I would like to recall that the separation between winners and losers under the new regime by no means corresponds to the North-South divide. Among the countries whose distant-water fleets face an inevitable if slow decline are not only major industrialized nations, but also some developing countries. And among those whose fishermen stand, on the contrary, to benefit are certain advanced nations.

Two-way concessions have marked the emergence of the new fisheries regime. I deeply hope that a spirit of non-polemical cooperation among equals can be carried forward into the next stage of the work. Only thus can the world hope to achieve a truly rational management of its limited fishery resources.

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The spotlight falls, inevitably, on those countries which have gained substantial fishery resources under the new regime, but are not yet adequately equipped to handle them. According to the state of their preparedness, they can build up their own fishing capacity, they can engage in joint ventures with foreign enterprises, or they can earn income by the sale of licences to distant-water fleets. The basic decisions are theirs alone to take. Whatever these decisions may be, the international community should be ready to provide help in their implementation.

The special programme of assistance in the management and development of fisheries in the EEZs, which I launched in 1979, has been a much-demanded source of advice and collaboration in these and other matters.

An integral part of the management of resources under extended national jurisdiction must be the conservation of exploited fishery resources. Conservation is vital if countries are to protect their own interests. It becomes a duty in respect of common stocks which are shared with neighbouring States.

Rational management at country level needs to be accompanied by strengthened international cooperation. This can be sought through the existing network of sub-regional, regional and inter-regional bodies, mostly inside FAO but also partly outside. FAO bodies, in particular, provide excellent fora for reaching agreed decisions on management questions.

The task of making the network function more vigorously is one that can only be tackled by the members of the various bodies concerned. Support from organizations and aid programmes can be useful, but cannot substitute for the efforts of the member countries themselves. I am confident that the World Conference will give impulse and inspiration to the search for more intensive international cooperation.

### Meeting the challenge of development

The Conference's second major theme I have defined as meeting the challenge of development.

At global level, the last decade has been a difficult period for fisheries. The sector has come up against severe resource limitations, with a declining catch of many of the most widely fished species. At the same time, fisheries have been severely affected by cost increases, most obviously by the upswing in the cost of energy.

Demand for fish, nevertheless, has continued to expand strongly. The result, inevitably, has been a rise in the price of fish relative to other commodities. In many markets, in both developed and developing countries, fish prices have for some time been going up significantly faster than those of most forms of meat.

One of the major tasks before the Conference will be to explore ways in which the sector can overcome, at least partially, the barriers which now hold back production.

As I emphasized in my statement to the technical phase of the Conference last October, success in this undertaking will require much more than an improvement in present fisheries practices. Specifically, we must advance on two parallel fronts.

First, we must not only find ways of more efficiently managing the stocks of conventional fish, but must also take steps to tap the very considerable potential of species at present under-exploited, or even totally neglected by the fishing industry.

Secondly, we must wage a vigorous war on waste, through making better use of existing catches. By reducing losses from spoilage, and finding economic ways of using fish discarded over the side when harvesting more valuable species such as shrimp, we could make great gains without catching one single additional fish.

At the same time, we must remember that very large quantities of fish are utilized as livestock feed. Problems of technology, economics and consumer preferences have so far prevented their effective use as food, but efforts to overcome these difficulties must be kept up.

While I have addressed the problem of development which face the sector as a whole, the situation in fact varies greatly from one part of the world to another. Let us look at the specific situation of the developing countries. It is there that lie the main sources of growth in demand, and it is there that fish are of the greatest importance in helping to alleviate generally unsatisfactory levels of nutrition.

Some of the news is good. As a group, the developing nations have been increasing their fishery production in recent years by 3.4 percent per annum. Particularly high rates of growth have been achieved by production from inland waters in Asia, and by marine fisheries in Latin America - although here, of course, the trends are distorted by fluctuations in the catch of anchoveta.

The figures for Africa do not lend themselves to easy generalization. This is partly because improvements in the statistics have resulted in some retroactive adjustment. And partly it is because about 60 percent of the catch off West Africa is still taken by foreign fleets. Overall, however, it does not appear that there has been a significant increase in the catch by Africa in recent years.

Each region and sub-region must adopt its own approach to the future development of fisheries. I would not like to suggest that any one formula can be generally valid. Nevertheless, certain features of production, consumption and trade are likely to be relevant in most parts of the developing world.

So far as production is concerned, I would particularly like to emphasize the importance we attach to the development of aquaculture. It can be an effective form of land use, and can be incorporated into mixed farming systems. It can generate employment and income, as well as helping directly to improve nutrition. However, it can also bring problems in its train, for instance in the areas of seed, feed and disease control. Aquaculture needs to be wisely fostered. The Conference will have an opportunity to consider both the difficulties and the potential.

On the consumption side, the Conference is invited to consider in depth the importance of fisheries in alleviating under-nutrition. Worldwide, fish account for about a quarter of the total supply of animal protein, but the proportion is far higher in the developing world. The nutritional implications of fishery policies and programmes can be far-reaching. This is an area which is being studied in depth for the first time at a major international conference.

Alongside production and consumption, there are important trade issues. About one third of the entire world catch enters international trade circuits. The exports of developing countries have been running at about six billion dollars per annum, a level more than two and a half times higher than their imports. Fish are a major source of foreign exchange earnings for the Third World, and of course for many individual nations.

As countries which have acquired rich fishery resources build up their fishing capacity, their trade prospects will improve accordingly. There should be opportunities, also, for the establishment of processing industries. But opening up new markets is no simple matter. Problems of quality control, barriers to trade, and even a lack of information, can all hamper the efforts of newcomers. The Conference will be considering a variety of measures which could help developing countries to overcome these obstacles.

### A better future for the fisherman and his family

I have spoken, however briefly, about adjustment to the new regime of the oceans, and about the response of fisheries to the challenge of development. The third theme which I see as underlying the work of the Conference is a better future for the fisherman and his family.

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Behind the abstract terminology of fisheries management and development, lies the real world of the fisherman. It is a world in which he leads an often difficult and frustrating existence, facing dangers greater than those that attend upon the farmer, and sometimes for less reward. His calling encourages individualism rather than cooperative action. Above all, his courage and tenacity of purpose deserve our full respect. Let us remember, too, that fisher families in many parts of the developing world live in remote areas, and are among the poorest of the poor.

A special focus of attention at this Conference is the future of artisanal fishermen in developing countries. It is estimated that they represent about 90 percent of the fishing population in Africa, almost as high a proportion in Asia, and perhaps one third in Latin America. Their economic and social progress depends in part on general development, but in part also on the ability of governments to carry through special programmes and projects for the development of small-scale fisheries.

Such undertakings run into certain of the problems which affect rural development schemes. Indeed, many of the recommendations put forward by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, held here at FAO in 1979, are fully applicable to programmes and projects in favour of artisanal fishermen.

Top-down planning, for instance, is unlikely to succeed; rather, projects should be based on what the future participants themselves feel to be desirable. Again, a comprehensive approach, despite the complications which it entails, is generally unavoidable - for example, an increase in production will be a futile victory if there are no means for marketing the additional catch.

Particular attention should be paid to the role of women, which is often greatest in the post-harvest processing and marketing of fish, and in aquaculture. Projects need to be designed from the start in a way that will enable women to obtain at least an equitable share of the ultimate benefits.

The Conference is invited to draw some conclusions from past successes and failures in the development of small-scale fisheries.

### The Draft Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development

The three strands which I have identified - adjustment to the new regime, responding to the challenge of development, and a better future for the fisherman and his family - have been knit together in the fabric of the Draft Strategy which is before the Conference. The document in its present form has been the subject of extended consultations, which have been remarkably harmonious. This bodes well for the Conference's final decisions.

The Draft Strategy, and the associated Programmes of Action, are based on the most comprehensive analysis which has ever been made of activities under way in the field of fisheries development, and of gaps in what is being done. We have studiously avoided a piecemeal approach. The policy guidelines, and suggested activities, can stand on their own merits, but they also form an integral part of a design which has been conceived as a whole.

I appeal to the Conference to work for unanimous approval, or at least a whole-hearted consensus, on the final text of the Strategy. The Strategy is not binding on governments, so no legal or financial commitments are involved in its approval. Rather, it should be seen as providing a series of guidelines to be taken into account by policy-makers in individual countries.

The Strategy should embody the consensus prevailing in 1984 on the best course for the management and development of the fisheries sector: the objectives which should be sought, the considerations which should be taken into account, the types of activity which might be promoted.

This is a unique opportunity, which I am confident will be seized.

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### The Draft Action Programmes

The Draft Programmes of Action are indicative in nature, and set forth the kinds of regional and international activities which ought to be carried out in support of the Strategy. The financial implications have been kept modest, in line with the mood of stringency which is now universal. Fund-raising is not one of the functions of the Conference, but we hope nevertheless that some delegations will be ready to express an interest in one or other of the Programmes.

It is envisaged that FAO would play the major though not exclusive role in implementation. Funds may be channelled through the Organization, or directly. Naturally, I hope that governments will make maximum use of multilateral channels, in particular of FAO Trust Funds, in view of our proven objectivity and technical expertise.

### Concluding remarks

Your Majesties, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, in the course of these ten days the World Conference will be examining every aspect of fisheries management and development. During this time, the world's fishermen will be pursuing their vocation from polar seas to tropic lakes, in trawler and canoe. Our conclusions can reach out into their lives, even if they never learn of our debates.

During this time, too, the world's population will increase by perhaps two million. For a small and affluent minority of the newcomers to our planet, fish will be an agreeable option. But for a far greater number, fish will provide the substance of life itself.

The task facing the Conference is to build up the new global system of fisheries, and to strengthen the contribution it can make towards feeding a hungry world. To succeed in this endeavour is our duty.

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**LIST OF PARTICIPATING STATES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

The representatives of the following States participated in the Conference:

Afghanistan	Gabon
Algeria	Gambia
Angola	German Democratic Republic
Antigua and Barbuda	Germany, Federal Republic of
Argentina	Ghana
Australia	Greece
Austria	Grenada
Bahamas	Guatemala
Bahrain	Guinea
Bangladesh	Guinea-Bissau
Barbados	Haiti
Belgium	Holy See
Benin	Honduras
Bolivia	Hungary
Botswana	Iceland
Brazil	India
Bulgaria	Indonesia
Burundi	Iran
Cameroon	Iraq
Canada	Ireland
Cape Verde	Israel
Chad	Italy
Chile	Ivory Coast
China	Jamaica
Colombia	Japan
Comoros	Kenya
Congo	Kiribati
Cook Islands	Korea, Republic of
Costa Rica	Kuwait
Cuba	Lebanon
Cyprus	Lesotho
Czechoslovakia	Liberia
Democratic Kampuchea	Lihya
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Madagascar
Denmark	Malawi
Djibouti	Malaysia
Dominica	Maldives
Dominican Republic	Mali
Ecuador	Malta
Egypt	Mauritania
El Salvador	Mauritius
Ethiopia	Mexico
Fiji	Monaco
Finland	Morocco
France	Mozambique
	Nauru

Nepal	Sri Lanka
Netherlands	Sudan
New Zealand	Swaziland
Nicaragua	Sweden
Niger	Switzerland
Nigeria	Syria
Norway	Tanzania
Oman	Thailand
Pakistan	Togo
Panama	Tonga
Papua New Guinea	Trinidad and Tobago
Paraguay	Tunisia
Peru	Turkey
Philippines	Tuvalu
Poland	Uganda
Portugal	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Qatar	United Arab Emirates
Romania	United Kingdom
Saint Lucia	United States of America
Samoa	Upper Volta
Sao Tome and Principe	Uruguay
Saudi Arabia	Vanuatu
Senegal	Venezuela
Seychelles	Viet Nam
Sierra Leone	Yemen Arab Republic
Solomon Islands	Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of
Somalia	Yugoslavia
Spain	Zambia

Sovereign Military Order of Malta

Representatives of the following Liberation Movements also took part in the Conference:

African National Congress of South Africa  
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania  
South West African People's Organization

The Secretary-General of the United Nations sent a special representative to the Conference.

The following UN bodies and Specialized Agencies were represented:

- United Nations
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- United Nations Environment Programme
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/  
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
- International Fund for Agricultural Development
- International Labour Organization
- International Maritime Organization
- World Bank
- World Food Programme
- World Health Organization
- World Meteorological Organization

The Conference was also attended by representatives of the European Economic Community and the European Parliament.

Observers from the following inter-governmental organizations participated in the Conference:

- Arab Agriculture Ministers' Conference in the Gulf  
and the Arabian Peninsula
- Arab Federation of Fish Producers
- Asian Development Bank
- Caribbean Community
- Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
- Commonwealth Secretariat
- Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries
- Economic Community for West African States
- Inter-American Development Bank
- Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
- International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
- International Whaling Commission
- Italo Latin-American Institute
- Joint Fishery Commission

Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front  
Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission  
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development  
Permanent Commission for the South Pacific  
Sistema Económico Latinoamericano  
Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center  
South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency  
West African Economic Community

The following non-governmental organizations were also represented at the Conference:

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development  
Associated Country Women of the World  
Caritas Internationalis  
Church World Service  
Environment and Development in the Third World  
Fédération Internationale des Femmes des Carrières Juridiques  
Greenpeace International  
International Alliance of Women  
International Association of Agricultural Economists  
International Association of Fish Meal Manufacturers  
International Catholic Rural Association  
International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management  
International Centre for Ocean Development  
International Chamber of Commerce  
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions  
International Cooperative Alliance  
International Council of Women  
International Federation of Agricultural Producers  
International Federation for Home Economics  
International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers  
International Juridical Organization  
International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources  
International Union of Family Organizations  
International Christian Union of Business Executives  
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom  
World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts  
World Confederation of Labour  
World Federation of Trade Unions  
World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations

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Appendix F

SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE

Secretary-General of the Conference and Assistant Director-General, Fisheries Department	J.E. Carroz
Assistant Secretaries-General of the Conference	D. Menasveta A. Lindquist N. Kojima J.J. Kambona
Secretary, Commission I	B.F. Dada
Assistant Secretaries	J. Naylor E. Ruckes S.M. Garcia
Secretary, Commission II	W. Krone
Assistant Secretaries	P. Gonzalez-Alberdi J.-L. Gaudet P.C. Choudhury
Secretary, Credentials Committee	M.C. Troop
Secretary, Drafting Committee	M. Savini
Meetings Officer	M. Poblete-de la Fuente

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

WCFI/84/1	Provisional Agenda
2	Provisional Rules of Procedure
3	Draft Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development and associated Programmes of Action
WCFI/84/Inf.1	List of documents
2	Information for delegates and observers, timetable and arrangements for the Conference
3	List of delegates and observers
4	Statement by the Director-General of FAO
5	Address by His Majesty the King of Spain
6	Report of the Fifteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries (11-19 October 1983)
7	Address by Mr. Pedro Ojeda Paullada, Secretary of Fisheries of Mexico, upon assuming Chairmanship of the Conference
8	Address of His Holiness Pope John Paul II to participants at the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development
9	Statement of the Chairman of the FAO World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development, Mr. Pedro Ojeda Paullada, on the occasion of an Audience with His Holiness John Paul II
WCFI/84/LIM/1	Amendments to the Provisional Rules of Procedure proposed by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
2	First Report of the Credentials Committee
3	First Report of the General Committee
4	Second Report of the General Committee
5	Second Report of the Credentials Committee
6	Third Report of the General Committee
7	Fourth Report of the General Committee
8	Third Report of the Credentials Committee
9	Fifth Report of the General Committee
WCFI/84/PV/1	Verbatim Record of the Thirteenth Plenary Meeting
2	Verbatim Record of the Fourteenth Plenary Meeting
3	Verbatim Record of the Fifteenth Plenary Meeting
4	Verbatim Record of the Sixteenth Plenary Meeting