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REVIEW OF THE BECHE DE MER (SEA CUCUMBER)
FISHERY IN THE MALDIVES

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Review of the Beche De Mer (Sea Cucumber)
Fishery in the Maldives

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This paper is a review of the beche de mer (sea cucumber) fishery in the Maldives. The review was undertaken in view of the potential of the fishery for further development as well as the vulnerability of the resource to uncontrolled exploitation.

Data and information for the review were gathered in the Maldives during a one month period in May/June 1991. The review was carried out by a Programme Officer of the Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP). Assistance received by him, from Mr. Hassan Maniku Maizan (Director of Fisheries Research and Development in Male) and Dr. R.C. Andersson, FAO/BOBP Fishery Biologist, in overall planning of the study, from Mr. Hassan Shakeel (Fishery Resources Officer of the Marine Research Section, Male), in logistics and interpretation, from Mr. Abdullah Waiz (of the Marine Research Section, Male), in the collection of information from exporters, from Mr. Ahmed Hafiz (of the Marine Research Section, Male) and from numerous fishermen and exporters, in the provision of information, is gratefully acknowledged.

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This document is a working paper and has not been cleared by the government concerned or the FAO.

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Sun drying of beche de mer on platforms, Hia'haadhoo island, Baa Atoll.

Fig 1: Map of the Maldives

