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Report of the Twenty-fourth Session of the

INDO-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION (IPFC)

Bangkok, Thailand, 23 November - 4 December 1993

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (RAPA)
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

This is the final version of the report approved by the Twenty-fourth Session of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission.

ABSTRACT

This is the final version of the report of the Twenty-fourth Session of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission (IPFC), held in Bangkok, Thailand from 23 November to 4 December 1993. Major topics discussed were: socio-economic issues in coastal fisheries management, follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), matters referred for the attention of the Commission and review of the structure, functions and responsibilities of IPFC and its subsidiary bodies, including proposed amendments to the IPFC Agreement and Rules of Procedure.

Distribution:

Participants in the Session
Members of the Commission
Other interested nations and international organizations
FAO Fisheries Department
Fishery Officers in FAO Regional Office

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OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission (IPFC) held its Twenty-fourth Session and Symposium on Socio-economic Issues in Coastal Fisheries Management from 23 November to 4 December 1993 at the Central Plaza Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. The Session was attended by twenty-nine representatives of fourteen Members of the Commission, and observers from the Commission de l'Océan Indien (COI, Indian Ocean Commission), the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), and the South Pacific Commission (SPC). The list of delegates and observers is given in Appendix A.
2. At the official opening of the Session, held on 1 December 1993, the Commission was welcomed by the Chairman of IPFC, Dr Plodprasop Suraswadi, Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, Royal Government of Thailand.
3. On behalf of the Director-General of FAO, Dr W. Krone, Assistant Director-General a.i. (Fisheries), expressed gratitude to the Kingdom of Thailand for hosting the Twenty-fourth Session of the IPFC and to His Excellency Mr Sawasdi Suebsaiphrom, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, for his presence.
4. He welcomed the People's Republic of China as a new member of the Commission and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for its renewed interest and involvement in the affairs of the Commission and its subsidiaries. He considered their presence and that of other delegations as an affirmation of the importance respective member governments attach to the Commission's work.
5. Referring to major political and economic changes which had occurred recently, and the on-going consultations on international fishery matters at the UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and in FAO, he called upon the Commission to define the role and functions which IPFC and its subsidiary bodies could play in the future. While the Commission had an excellent record of fruitful discussions on technical and scientific issues, countries had to ask themselves whether current structures and working modalities were adequate to confront new issues. In this respect the emergence of other regional organizations which were involved in fishery matters should be duly recognized.
6. He informed the Commission that consequent to these developments FAO had reoriented its programme of work in fisheries to promote responsible behaviour in fishing activities, sustainable fisheries management and the integration of fisheries (including aquaculture) into coastal area management. He encouraged the Commission to establish the appropriate institutional structure and functions that would enable performance of its tasks in terms of decision-making and concerted action in fisheries management and development in the Asia-Pacific region.
7. Inaugurating the Session, H.E. the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of the Royal Government of Thailand, Mr Sawasdi Suebsaiphrom, stressed the importance of the Symposium that had been recently conducted in conjunction with the present session as it was in line with the efforts of the Government of Thailand to improve the socio-economic conditions of its fishers. He also indicated that external assistance was still needed in Thailand to promote sustainable development and management in the fisheries.

8. He concurred with the idea of restructuring the IPFC in view of the proliferation of regional fishery institutions and the need to avoid duplication and strengthen technical operation in fisheries. He expressed the hope that, with its new functions and structure, IPFC could strengthen its activities in technical and policy fields.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

9. The Commission adopted the Agenda given in Appendix B. The documents placed before the Commission are listed in Appendix C.

REPORT ON THE SYMPOSIUM ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC ISSUES IN COASTAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

10. A Symposium on Socio-economic Issues in Coastal Fisheries Management was held from 23 to 26 November 1993 in conjunction with the Twenty-fourth Session of the IPFC. Working documents, as well as country and experience papers were presented and discussed. These focused on the problems of overfishing and its socio-economic impact on millions of coastal fishers and their households directly and indirectly dependent upon these resources for employment, income and livelihood. The report of the Symposium was forwarded to the Commission by the Convenor, Dr Arporna Sribhibhadh (document IPFC/93/3).

11. The Commission noted the conclusions and recommendations put forward by the Symposium for its consideration (Appendix D). A number of countries commented, however, on the Symposium's recommendations specifically referring to the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in fisheries and environmental management. The positive and negative aspects of NGO activities in fisheries were discussed. Concerning Recommendation No. 10 of Appendix D, a view was expressed that it was not necessary to strengthen the capacity of NGOs, regardless of the appropriateness of such NGOs, to contribute to and participate in fisheries and environmental management. However, it was clarified that the NGOs mentioned in the Recommendation referred mainly to community-based fishery cooperative organizations. The Commission noted with appreciation the role of NGOs in fisheries development, but was concerned that some international NGOs misinterpreted available information on social and economic cost-benefit issues when dealing with coastal fisheries aspects. For this reason, the Commission agreed on the need to establish closer working relations with appropriate national NGOs in promoting community-based activities and resources management in their respective countries. The Commission likewise agreed with the need to work closer with appropriate international NGOs to make such organizations aware of the Commission's activities in the field of coastal fisheries management.

12. The Commission endorsed the report of the Symposium.

FOLLOW-UP TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCED)

13. The Secretariat introduced the documents IPFC/93/4 containing the proposals for follow-up to UNCED by FAO, IPFC/93/Inf.14 on the International Conference on Responsible Fishing and IPFC/93/Inf.15 on Agenda 21, Chapter 17 on oceans, enclosed seas and coastal areas.

14. The Commission recognized the utmost importance of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and of the Cancun Conference for the future of fisheries and the need to examine their implications at national, regional and international levels. It took note of the commitment of FAO to develop a Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing as requested by the Cancun Conference and endorsed by the FAO governing bodies.

15. The Commission was informed that Japan will organize, in close collaboration with FAO, an International Conference on the Sustainable Contribution of Fisheries to Food Security, with particular attention to island States and developing countries dependent on living marine resources. It is expected that this conference, taking into due consideration the scientific, social and economic aspects of fisheries, will help to narrow the gap between supply and demand for food from the sea. It is also expected that it will provide elements to be included in the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing.

16. Responding to a question, the Secretariat confirmed that no decision had been taken yet, in FAO, on whether there will be, in the Code of Conduct, separate chapters for the high seas and for exclusive economic zones.

17. The Commission agreed that fisheries affected resources and their environment and that some impact was necessary in order to provide food from the sea. It also agreed that such impact must be contained within acceptable levels. Particular reference was made, in this respect, to the impact on biodiversity and to the need to implement programmes of species transfers in a responsible manner.

18. In referring to the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission/International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (EIFAC/ICES) Code of Practice and Manual of Procedures for Consideration of Introductions and Transfer of Marine and Freshwater Organisms, the Commission was informed that FAO was preparing a document of a similar nature and scope adapted to tropical fisheries in developing countries.

19. Regarding the issue of Integrated Coastal Areas Management (ICAM) the Commission was informed that FAO was developing sectoral guidelines which could be used by fishery sectors to defend their position in an ICAM context when competition for space and resources is becoming increasingly difficult.

20. The Commission also noted the need to consider the adoption of precautionary approaches to fisheries and aquaculture in the absence of good scientific evidence and stressed that it should not be confused with the banning of development activities.

21. Some delegations emphasized the importance of the UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks. They also stressed that, in order to implement Agenda 21, the developing countries of the Asia-Pacific region needed better access to Global Environmental Facility funds (GEF).

22. In conclusion, the Commission recommended that the issue of sustainable environment and development of fisheries be given due consideration at national level, improving communication with appropriate non-governmental organizations, associations of fisherfolk, industry, etc., and preparing for further international dialogue on this issue.

MATTERS REFERRED FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMISSION

(a) Report of the Sixty-fifth Session of the IPFC Executive Committee

23. The Secretariat presented the Executive Committee's Report (document IPFC/93/5). The Commission was informed that the Executive Committee had reviewed the actions to follow-up on the recommendations of the IPFC at its Twenty-third Session, including activities of the IPFC subsidiary bodies during the intersessional period.

24. The Executive Committee endorsed the proposed Study Group to determine the feasibility of establishing an intergovernmental technical secretariat for the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea (CDMSCS) as recommended by the CDMSCS at its Seventh Session (July 1991).

25. The Committee also agreed that collaborative research networks in fish technology between Member countries should be encouraged in order to promote continued research on quality control and inspection as well as on the full utilization of low-value species, as recommended by the IPFC Working Party on Fish Technology and Marketing at its Eighth Session (September 1991).

26. The Executive Committee discussed and endorsed the preparations for the Twenty-fourth Session of the IPFC, the Symposium on Socio-economic Issues in Coastal Fisheries Management and the Seventh Session of the IPFC Standing Committee on Resources Research and Development (SCORRAD).

27. The Executive Committee discussed the recommendations of the ad hoc Committee on Structure, Functions and Responsibilities of IPFC, established by the Commission at its Twenty-third Session, and the proposed amendments to the IPFC Agreement. The Commission took note of the Executive Committee's recommendations on the restructuring of the IPFC but deferred its decision for discussion under Agenda item 6.

(b) Report of the Seventh Session of the IPFC Standing Committee on Resource Research and Development (SCORRAD)

28. Mr. Anton R. Atapattu of Sri Lanka, Chairman of SCORRAD, presented the report of the Seventh Session held in Bangkok from 29 November to 1 December 1993 (document IPFC/93/6). The Commission noted that various papers related to management-oriented research were discussed at the Seventh Session focusing on the application of bio-economic analysis in fisheries, regional collaboration in research and future arrangements for the provision of scientific advice to the IPFC.

29. SCORRAD recognized constraints in the application of bio-economic analysis in developing countries, including insufficient data and relevant information on socio-economic aspects in addition to the lack of qualified socio-economists.

30. Progress had been reported in respect of the three collaborative research efforts of interest to the region. These included the Penaeid Recruitment Programme (PREP), the tuna tagging programme and the Study of Interactions in Pacific Tuna Fisheries.

31. The Commission noted the active participation of FAO in the follow-up to the Study on International Fisheries Research (SIFR) and recognized the role of the SIFR Secretariat to channel requests for funding of research projects to the international donor community through the Fishery Development Donors Consultation.

32. The Commission adopted the report of SCORRAD. In particular, the Commission recommended that:

- (i) a training workshop on the application of bio-economic analysis to the fisheries in the region be conducted in which SEAFDEC had agreed to cooperate with FAO for the implementation;
- (ii) attempts to secure funding for PREP should be continued and national commitments of the participating countries be strengthened; and
- (iii) regarding SIFR, an effort be made to identify additional priority activities in resources research in the region.

33. Regarding the SCORRAD recommendations related to the structure of the Commission (coverage of Working Parties) and the next symposium, the Commission decided to discuss these issues under the relevant agenda item.

(c) Report of the Eighth Session of the IPFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea (CDMSCS)

34. The Secretariat presented the report of the Eighth Session of the CDMSCS which was attended by all its members, to the Commission (documents IPFC/93/7 and IPFC:DM/SCS/93/Inf.5). The discussions of the Committee had been entirely devoted to the conclusions and recommendations of the Study, carried out by an independent and highly experienced consultant, Dr Deb Menasveta, in close consultation with national counterparts from CDMSCS Member countries on the feasibility of establishing an inter-governmental technical secretariat for CDMSCS.

35. The Commission noted the conclusions and recommendations of the Eighth Session of the CDMSCS, particularly the four options contained in the Study Group's report to the Eighth Session of the CDMSCS (see paragraphs 20 to 27, document IPFC/93/7) and the Committee's view on each of the options presented. It was confirmed that the opinions and views contained in the report of the Study Group were not the views of FAO. In connection with option 4, the Commission agreed that the Secretariat should consult informally with the

Secretariats of ASEAN and SEAFDEC to consider ways and means of establishing suitable mechanisms for strengthening regional technical cooperation in fisheries, which could then be discussed at a joint meeting by members of the three organizations. The Commission requested the Director-General of Fisheries of Thailand to participate in these consultations and appreciated the offer of Thailand to host the joint meeting.

36. In conclusion, the Commission approved the report of the Eighth Session of the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea.

REVIEW OF THE STRUCTURE, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY OF IPFC AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES, INCLUDING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE IPFC AGREEMENT AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

37. The Commission recalled that the Committee on Fisheries (COFI), at its Eighteenth Session in April 1989, had recommended that the Commission undertake an in-depth review of its functions and structure with a view to revitalizing it and strengthening its activities in the technical and policy fields. The Commission recalled, further, that at its Twenty-third Session in May 1990 it had established an Ad hoc Committee to draw up a report on the above matter with proposals for action to be taken.

38. The Report of the Ad hoc Committee as well as the views of the Seventh Session of the IPFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea had been considered by the IPFC Executive Committee at its Sixty-fifth Session in November 1992. The Report of the Executive Committee had proposed major changes to the structure and functions of the Commission, in particular:

- (i) change the name of the Commission to the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC);
- (ii) establish an Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Committee (IFAC) to deal with matters concerning inland fisheries and aquaculture together;
- (iii) establish a Working Party on Marine Fisheries and Statistics under the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea;
- (iv) amalgamate the Working Party of Experts on Inland Fisheries and the Working Party on Aquaculture into a new Working Party on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture;
- (v) rename the Working Party on Fish Technology and Marketing to serve both the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea and the new Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Committee;
- (vi) establish a Joint Working Party on Fishery Economics to advise on socio-economic aspects of fisheries and aquaculture;

(vii) disband the Standing Committee on Resource Research and Development (SCORRAD) and transfer its functions to other working parties; and

(viii) disband the Special Committee on Management of Indo-Pacific Tuna.

39. The Commission took note of the Report of the Eighth Session of the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea and, in particular, the proposals which it had made with regard to the future orientation and terms of reference of the Committee which would henceforth confine itself to marine fisheries management.

40. The Commission noted that there would be budgetary implications resulting from the restructuring of the Commission and that the activities of the subsidiaries would be included in future work plans of the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAPA), the International Institutions and Liaison Service (FIPL) of the Fishery Policy and Planning Division and the technical divisions of the Fisheries Department and other relevant units of FAO. The activities would be covered through the shift of available resources within the budgetary allocations in the Regular Programme and extra-budgetary resources as and when available.

41. The Commission recognized that the new objectives and orientation foreseen would have to be clearly defined and that the Agreement should be reframed in order to allow for greater flexibility and evaluation of the activities of the Commission, as may be required in future. The Commission agreed that two committees should be established; one committee would be on marine fisheries and the other on aquaculture and inland fisheries.

42. The Commission recognized the desirability of streamlining the procedures and work of its subsidiary bodies in order to avoid unnecessary delays in the implementation of action proposals and expressed the hope that this would be feasible under its newly revised structure.

43. The Delegation of France expressed the view that, within the framework of the new subsidiary structure, the role of the Executive Committee should be modified. Because of its restricted composition, this body was in fact a bureau and not a real Executive Committee as in other international organizations. Therefore, this Delegation suggested that the Secretariat transmit all pending issues between two sessions of the Commission to the Committee on Marine Fisheries or the Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries Committee, which are supposed to meet on a yearly basis. In case of urgency, the Secretariat may be authorized to contact the Executive Committee and seek its advice.

44. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the amendments proposed to the Agreement and to the Rules of Procedure as set forth in Appendixes E and F. However, it ascertained that only 13 Members were present in the room and thus there was not a quorum as provided for in Article IX of the Agreement. The Commission requested therefore that, in these circumstances, there should be a vote of the Members represented to approve the amendments and that absent Members be informed thereof and requested to vote by a written communication addressed to the Director-General of FAO **within ninety days** of the closing of the present Session, it being understood that the vote would have to be either affirmative or negative and would not be valid if it were conditional. The Commission then approved the aforementioned amendments by **thirteen** affirmative votes. The Commission noted that the amendments would be considered to be adopted when the required majority had been

obtained, it being understood that they will take effect only after concurrence by the FAO Council or the Conference in accordance with Article IX of the Agreement.

45. The Commission decided to amend the Terms of Reference of the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea and to rename it **Committee on Marine Fisheries**, and to establish an **Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries Committee**. The new Terms of Reference of these Committees together with the revised titles and Terms of Reference of their Working Parties are given in Appendix G.

ANY OTHER MATTERS

(a) Theme of the next symposium

46. In view of the importance of UNCED and the responsibility of countries in implementing both Agenda 21 and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing, the Commission agreed with the proposal of the Seventh Session of SCORRAD that the theme for the next Symposium be **Environmental Aspects of Responsible Fishing and Aquaculture**.

(b) Tuna Statistics

47. The Commission recognized that IPTP's role in southeast Asia was phasing out, but appreciated SEAFDEC's willingness to assist the member countries in collecting tuna statistics. The delegation of Sri Lanka reiterated the continued provision of host facilities for IPTP, or a successor organization which would replace it after the phasing out period. It was also noted during the Symposium on Socio-economic Issues in Coastal Fisheries Management that there was a need for member countries to start collecting socio-economic data in fisheries. The Commission, therefore, recommended that the Secretariat take the initiative to contact both IPTP and SEAFDEC to arrange the transfer of responsibilities. The Commission also recommended that the proposed Joint Working Party on Fishery Statistics and Economics and the Working Party on Marine Fisheries be responsible for the analysis of tuna statistics and the elaboration of scientific advice for tuna management in the region.

(c) Assessment of small pelagic fisheries

48. The last regional assessment of the small pelagic resources in the South China Sea was conducted in 1978, but since then, there had been a rapid development of the fishery. It was, therefore, timely to review the status of small pelagic resources in the region. The Commission recommended that the first meeting of the Working Party on Marine Fisheries should have this issue on its agenda.

(d) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

49. The Commission was informed by the delegation on Japan of recent developments on the draft resolution of the criteria for listing species in the CITES Appendices. The draft was generally an improvement, in that the provisions relating to incidental catches and ecologically related species, such as feed species, had been deleted. In addition, provisions calling for

consultation between CITES and the state proposing amendments to CITES Appendices, with inter-governmental organizations, whose views would be fully considered, were also included. However, the present draft was only a basis for future discussion and there was a possibility for it to be changed again before the next CITES Conference of the Parties to have contents that could pose a serious threat to fisheries.

50. The Commission was also informed of the schedule for the adoption of the resolution for new criteria. The deadline for receipt by the CITES Secretariat of comments on the draft resolution is 31 December 1993. The Asian Regional meeting of CITES will be in Tel Aviv, Israel, 14 - 16 March 1994. Subsequently the Thirty-first meeting of the Standing Committee will be in Switzerland from 21 to 25 March 1994 where the draft resolution will be adopted. It will then be submitted to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held in Florida, USA, 7 - 18 November 1994.

51. The Commission urged members of IPFC to examine the contents of the draft resolution and comment immediately to ensure that the views of the fisheries sector would be represented in their governments' comments. It was noted that it would also be advantageous if fishery officials could attend forthcoming meetings related to CITES.

(e) Regional Symposium on Sustainable Development of Inland Fisheries under Environmental Constraints

52. The Commission was informed that the above Symposium, was tentatively scheduled to be organized by IPFC at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific from 19 to 21 September 1994, will review the present status of inland capture and culture-enhanced fisheries in the Asia-Pacific region with a view to identifying constraints and management approaches for sustainable development.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

53. The Republic of Korea and the Philippines were unanimously elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively.

54. Indonesia and Japan were unanimously elected to serve as the other two members of the Executive Committee, in addition to the immediately-retired Chairman (Thailand).

DATE AND VENUE OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION

55. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Republic of Korea agreed to host the Twenty-fifth Session. The exact date and place of the Session will be decided by the Director-General of FAO in consultation with the Chairman and the authorities of the host country.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

56. The report of the Session was adopted on 4 December 1993.

APPENDIX A

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS

IPFC MEMBER STATES

AUSTRALIA

STAPLES, Derek
Head, Resource Assessment Section
Bureau of Resource Sciences
Department of Primary Industries and
Energy
Canberra, ACT 2600
FAX: (61-6) 272 4014
TEL: (61-6) 272 4754

PASCOE, Sean
Senior Economist
Fisheries Economics Section
Australian Bureau of Agriculture
and Resource Economics
Edmund Barton Building
Broughton St., Barton, GPO Box 1563
Canberra ACT 2601
FAX: (61-6) 272 2001
TEL: (61-6) 272 2045

BANGLADESH

CHOWDHOURY, Ahmed Shahriar
Economic Counsellor and Alternate
Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to
ESCAP
Embassy of the People's Republic of
Bangladesh
727 Soi Thonglor, Sukhumvit 55
Bangkok 10100, Thailand
FAX: (66-2) 391 8070
TEL: (66-2) 392 9437-8, 381 1145

CAMBODIA

CHINA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

CUI, Lifeng
Programme Officer for International
Cooperation
Division for Foreign Economics and
Techniques
Bureau of Aquatic Products
Ministry of Agriculture
No. 11 Nongzhanguan Nanli
Beijing 100026
FAX: (86-1) 500 2448
TEL: (86-1) 500 3366-4920

FRANCE

DUPONT, Philippe
Permanent Representative of France to
ESCAP
Embassy of France
35, Soi 36 Charoenkrung Street
Bangkok, Thailand
FAX: (66-2) 236 7973
TEL: (66-2) 266 8250

INDIA

JAYARAMAN, Mahadevan
Attache and Assistant Permanent
Representative of India to ESCAP
Embassy of India
46 Soi Prasarnmitr, Sukhumvit 23
Bangkok 10110, Thailand
FAX: (66-2) 258 4627
TEL: (66-2) 258 0300-6

INDONESIA

ABDULLAH, Ir. H. Muchtar
Director General
Directorate-General of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture
Jl. Harsono R.M. No.3
Ragunan - Pasar Minggu
Jakarta 12550
FAX: (62-21) 780 3196
TEL: (62-21) 780 4526
TLX: 47318 djikan ia

ADISUKRESNO, Ir. Sukotjo
Director, Fisheries Resources Management
Directorate-General of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture
Jl. Harsono R.M. No.3
Ragunan - Pasar Minggu
Jakarta 12550
FAX: (62-21) 780 3196
TEL: (62-21) 780 4076

JAPAN

SHIBUKAWA, Hiroshi
Director
Research Department
Fisheries Agency
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100
FAX: (81-3) 3504-2643
TEL: (81-3) 3591-1086

HANAFUSA, Katsuma
Deputy Director
International Affairs Division
Fisheries Agency
1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100
FAX: (81-3) 3504-2649
TEL: (81-3) 3591 1086

SASAKI, Minoru
Assistant Director
Coastal Fisheries Division
Fisheries Agency
1-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100
FAX: (81-3) 3502 0794
TEL: (81-3) 3502 8111 (Ext. 5524)

KOREA, (REPUBLIC OF)

YANG, Bong Ryull
Director
Energy and Resources Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
77 Sejongro, Chongrogu
Seoul
FAX: (82-02) 720 2355
TEL: (82-02) 720 2328

AHN, Kook-jeon
Director
Deep-Sea Fisheries Development Division
Fisheries Promotion Bureau
National Fisheries Administration
Seoul
FAX: (82-02) 753 5026
TEL: (82-02) 753 8331

JANG, Maeng-Soo
Assistant Director
International Cooperation Division
National Fisheries Administration
541 Namdaemoon-ro 5-ka
Jung-ku, Seoul

OH, Choong-Shin
Assistant Director
National Fisheries Administration
541 Namdaemoon-ro, 5-ka
Jung-ku, Seoul

BAE, Eun-jung (Ms)
Officer
International Cooperation Division
National Fisheries Administration
Seoul
FAX: (82-02) 753 8331
TEL: (82-02) 753 4963

MALAYSIA

DERAHMAN, Mohamad Shaupi bin
Head, Fisheries Management Section
Department of Fisheries Malaysia
Ministry of Agriculture
Wisma Tani, Jalan Sultan Salahuddin
50628 Kuala Lumpur
FAX: (60-3) 291 0305
TEL: (60-3) 298 2011

MYANMAR

NEPAL

NEW ZEALAND

PAKISTAN

PHILIPPINES

MORALES, Guillermo L.
Director
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
860 Arcadia Building
Quezon Avenue, Q.C.
Metro Manila 3008
FAX: (63-2) 988 517; 922 231
TEL: (63-2) 965 498; 988 574

SRI LANKA

ATAPATTU, Anton R.
Director
Department of Fisheries and Aquatic
Resources
Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Maligawatte Secretariat
P.O. Box 1707
Colombo 10
FAX: (94-1) 441 184
TEL: (94-1) 449 170
TLX: 21419 MINFISH CE

THAILAND

SURASWADI, Plodprasop
Director-General
Department of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Kasetsart University Campus
Phaholyothin Road
Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900
FAX: (66-2) 579 2421
TEL: (66-2) 579 4529

JAIYEN, Kitjar
Deputy Director-General
Department of Fisheries
Phaholyothin Road
Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900
FAX: (66-2) 579 2421
TEL: (66-2) 579 4528

PHASUK, Boonlert
Senior Marine Fishery Adviser
Department of Fisheries
Phaholyothin Road
Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900
FAX: (66-2) 579 4529
TEL: (66-2) 579 4528

BHUKASWAN, Thiraphan
Senior Inland Fishery Adviser
Department of Fisheries
Phaholyothin Road
Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900
FAX: (66-2) 579 4529
TEL: (66-2) 579 4528

CHARUSOMBAT, Virat
Director, Foreign Fishery Affairs Division
Department of Fisheries
Phaholyothin Road
Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900
FAX: (66-2) 579 4529
TEL: (66-2) 579 4528

HIRANWAT, Sompong
Director
Fishery Policy and Planning Division
Department of Fisheries
Phaholyothin Road
Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900

PAWAPUTANON, Oopatham
Director
Coastal Aquaculture Division
Department of Fisheries
Phaholyothin Road
Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900
FAX: (66-2) 579 2421
TEL: (66-2) 579 2427

YUKTANONDA, Sumalee (Ms)
Secretary
Department of Fisheries
Phaholyothin Road
Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900
FAX: (66-2) 579 4529
TEL: (66-2) 579 4529

UNITED KINGDOM

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HOGAN, David
Fisheries Officer
Office of Marine Conservation
Bureau of Oceans and International
Environmental and Scientific Affairs
Department of State
2201 C. St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520
FAX: (1-202) 736 7350
TEL: (1-202) 647 2335

VIETNAM

CHUNG, Bui Dinh
Director
Research Institute of Marine Products
Ministry of Fisheries
170 Le Lai Street
2500 Haiphong
FAX: (84-4) 45153
TEL: (84-4) 46656, 46664
TLX: 311226 FICOM VT

OBSERVERS FROM INTER- GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

INDIAN OCEAN COMMISSION

OUIRDANE, Said Omar
Executive Director
Commission de l'Océan indien (COI)
(Indian Ocean Commission)
Association Thoniere
Antananarivo, Madagascar
FAX: (261) 2-32184
TEL: (261) 2-32183
TLX: 22473 ATCOI MG

SWEENARAIN, Soobaschand
Economist
Regional Tuna Project Phase II
Indian Ocean Commission
Antananarivo, Madagascar
FAX: (261) 2-32184
TEL: (261) 2-32183

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES
DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SEAFDEC)**

DUANGSAWADI, Maitree
Secretary-General
SEAFDEC Secretariat
Charn Issara Tower II, 24th Floor
2922/278 New Petchburi Road
Bangkok 10310, Thailand
FAX: (66-2) 308 2462
TEL: (66-2) 308 2460/61

INOUE, Kazuo
Deputy Secretary-General
SEAFDEC Secretariat
Charn Issara Tower II, 24 Floor
2922/278 New Petchburi Road
Bangkok 10310, Thailand
FAX: (66-2) 308 2462
TEL: (66-2) 308 2460/61

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION (SPC)

LEWIS, Antony David
Chief Fisheries Scientist
Tuna and Billfish Assessment Programme
South Pacific Commission
B.P. D5
Noumea CEDEX, New Caledonia
FAX: (687) 263818
TEL: (687) 262000
TLX: SOPACOM 3139 NM

FAO

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

(via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100
Rome, Italy, FAX: (39-6) 5225 6500)

KRONE, W.
Assistant Director-General a.i. (Fisheries)

GARCIA, S.
Director
Fishery Resources and Environment
Division

JAMES, D.
Principal Fishery Research Adviser
Fishery Information, Data and
Statistics Service

MARTOSUBROTO, P.
Fishery Resources Officer
Marine Resources Service
Fishery Resources and Environment
Division

CORTEZ, J.P.
Fishery Planning Officer
Fishery Policy and Planning Division

LEGAL OFFICE

STEIN, Richard M.
Chief
General Legal Affairs Service
FAX: (39-6) 5797 4408

FIELD

ARDILL, D.
Programme Coordinator
Indo-Pacific Tuna Development and
Management Programme (IPTP)
NARA Building, 1st Floor
Crow Island
Mattakuliya, Colombo 15
Sri Lanka
FAX: (94-1) 522 371
TEL: (94-1) 522 369/70

ENGVALL, L.O.
Programme Director
Bay of Bengal Programme
Post Bag 1054
Madras 600 018
India

**REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND
THE PACIFIC**

(Phra Atit Road, Bangkok 10200, Thailand)

HONGSKUL, V.
Regional Fishery Officer

CHAIRMAN

SURASWADI, P.

SECRETARY

HONGSKUL, V.

SECRETARIAT

Host Government

(Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kasetsart University Campus, Phaholyothin Road, Bangkok 10900, Thailand)

Liaison Officer:

Ms Sumalee Yuktanonda
Dr Atchara Wongsangchan
Ms Jiraporn Chotemanatham
Mr Sompong Nimchuar
Mr Smith Thummachua
Mr Komol Jirachaisuthikul
Ms Karnnikar Ukos-skul
Dr Chaipat Rojanavipat
Dr Apichart Termvichakorn
Ms Sauvalak Vinyunantakul
Ms Pornpip Pholthubthun
Mr Pramote Lao-sunthornvanit
Mr Pongpat Boonchuwong
Mr Chumjet Karnjanakesorn
Mr Phantip Lertpradith
Mr Thana Yingcharoen
Ms Naiyana Thammasak
Ms Kullapa Kwanmink
Mr Suphol Chitrapong
Mr Somsak Tantisawapap
Mr Pornpot Kantanaturapoj
Ms Sumalee Pratumtin
Ms Napaporn Burakitpachai
Ms Pitsamai Jensuang
Ms Kruerwal Sthitirat

FAO

Meetings Officer:

Webb, J.C.
Fishery Policy and Planning Division
Fisheries Department
FAO, Rome

Technical Assistant:

Sanbua, P.
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Phra Atit Road, Bangkok 10200

Secretaries:

Van Lierde, A.
Fishery Policy and Planning Division
Fisheries Department
FAO, Rome

Boonyamanop, K.
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Phra Atit Road, Bangkok 10200

Interpreters

Mr H. Ben Ameer
Ms C. Pouget-Alderton
Mr J.P. Allain
Mrs D. Toulet
Ms S. Tejpar-Dang
Mr C. Colomer

APPENDIX B

Agenda

1. Opening of the Session
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Report of the Symposium on Socio-economic Issues in Coastal Fisheries Management
4. Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)
5. Matters referred for the attention of the Commission
 - a) Report of the Sixty-fifth Session of the IPFC Executive Committee
 - b) Report of the Seventh Session of the IPFC Standing Committee on Resources Research Development (SCORRAD)
 - c) Report of the Eighth Session of the IPFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea (CDMSCS)
6. Review of the structure, functions and responsibilities of IPFC and its subsidiary bodies, including proposed amendments to the IPFC Agreement and Rules of Procedure
7. Any other matters
8. Election of Officers
9. Date and place of the Twenty-fifth Session
10. Adoption of the Report

APPENDIX C

List of Documents

IPFC/93/1	Provisional Annotated Agenda and Timetable
IPFC/93/2	Prospectus of the Symposium on Socio-economic Issues in Coastal Fisheries Management
IPFC/93/3	Report of the Symposium on Socio-Economic Issues in Coastal Fisheries Management
IPFC/93/4	Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)
IPFC/93/5	Report of the Sixty-fifth Session of the IPFC Executive Committee, Bangkok, Thailand, 3-6 November 1992
IPFC/93/5 Suppl.1	Summary report of the IPFC Informal Consultation, FAO, Rome, 19 March 1993
IPFC/93/6	Report of the Seventh Session of the IPFC Standing Committee on Resources Research Development, Bangkok, Thailand, 29 November - 1 December 1993
IPFC/93/7	Report of the Eighth Session of the IPFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea, Bangkok, Thailand, 27-29 November 1993
IPFC/93/8	Review of the structure, functions and responsibilities of IPFC and its subsidiary bodies
IPFC/93/9	Proposed Amendments to the IPFC Agreement and Rules of Procedure

Information documents

IPFC/93/Inf.1	Provisional List of Documents
IPFC/93/Inf.2	List of Delegates and Observers
IPFC/93/Inf.3	Report of the Twenty-third Session of IPFC, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 14-24 May 1990

IPFC/93/Inf. 4	Report of the Sixty-fourth Session of the IPFC Executive Committee, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 17-18 May 1990
IPFC/93/Inf. 5	Report of the Sixth Session of the IPFC Committee on Resources Research and Development, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 18-21 May 1990
IPFC/93/Inf. 6	Report of the Seventh Session of the IPFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea, Kowloon, Hongkong, 22-26 July 1991
IPFC/93/Inf. 7	Report of the Eleventh Session of the IOFC Committee for the Management of Indian Ocean Tuna, Bangkok, Thailand, 9-12 July 1990
IPFC/93/Inf. 8	Report of the Seventh Session of the IPFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Bay of Bengal, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 24-26 January 1991
IPFC/93/Inf. 9	Report of the Eighth Session of the IOFC Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the Bay of Bengal, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 3-5 April 1993
IPFC/93/Inf. 10	Report of the <u>Ad hoc</u> Committee on Structure, Functions and Responsibilities of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission (IPFC), Bangkok, Thailand, 11-14 December 1990
IPFC/93/Inf. 11	Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission: Agreement and Rules of Procedure
IPFC/93/Inf. 12	Structure of the Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission and Directory of its Subsidiary Bodies
IPFC/93/Inf. 13	Progress Report of the Indo-Pacific Tuna Development and Management Programme (IPTP), 1992-93
IPFC/93/Inf. 14	Report on the International Conference on Responsible Fishing, Cancun, Mexico, 6-8 May 1992
IPFC/93/Inf. 15	Programme Areas of UNCED Agenda 21, Chapter 17, Protection of the Oceans, all kinds of Seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and coastal areas and the protection and rational use of their living resources
IPFC/93/Inf. 16	Report of the Technical Consultation on High Seas Fishing, Rome, 7-15 September 1992
IPFC/93/Inf. 17	Report of the Twentieth Session of COFI, Rome, 15-19 March 1993
IPFC/93/Inf. 18	Progress Report on the Marking of Fishing Gear

- IPFC/93/Inf. 19 Report on the UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, New York, U.S.A., 12-30 July 1993
- IPFC/93/Inf. 20 List of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Specialists in the Indo-Pacific Region (FIRI/C.796 (Rev.1))
- IPFC/93/Inf. 21 Agreement Adopted at the Twenty-seventh Session of the FAO Conference held in Rome, 6-24 November 1993

APPENDIX D

Main conclusions and recommendations made by the IPFC Symposium on Socio-economic Issues in Coastal Fisheries Management Bangkok, Thailand, 23-26 November 1993

The following recommendations were discussed and agreed upon by the Symposium*.

1. Considering that coastal marine fisheries of many IPFC member nations have experienced significant over-exploitation; and

Considering that a large portion of those employed in the fisheries sector of many IPFC member nations live under conditions of poverty;

Therefore, Symposium participants recommend the adoption of appropriate policies by IPFC member nations to establish and strengthen coastal fisheries management programmes that will limit access to heavily exploited fishing stocks.

2. Considering that millions of small-scale fishers in the IPFC region depend on marine fish stocks for a major part of their living; and

Considering that coastal fisheries resources in the region in general already are heavily exploited;

Therefore, Symposium participants also request that FAO promote further sharing of experience in this matter, and to assist in the formulation of projects which facilitate the generation of opportunities for alternative employment for the coastal fisheries sector.

3. Considering that the job of effectively managing marine fisheries resources is an exceptionally difficult task, and

Considering that many IPFC member nations represented at the Symposium reported difficulties in enforcing existing regulations; and

Considering that participants from several IPFC member nations drew attention to the operation and positive benefits derived from traditional resource management systems; and

* Paragraph 118 of the Report of the Symposium, adopted on 26 November 1993.

Therefore, Symposium participants recommend that those IPFC member nations experiencing difficulties in enforcement identify alternative participatory management measures. These may include the strengthening of community-based management systems where they exist, and also the encouragement of fisher's organizations to co-manage the resource.

4. Considering that effective fisheries management and development policies require a solid information base in both the social and the biological sciences; and

Considering that there is no systematic collection of social and economic data pertaining to the fisheries sector in many IPFC member nations;

Therefore, Symposium participants also encourage member nations strengthen efforts devoted to the systematic collection of social and economic data pertaining to the fisheries sector; and

Therefore Symposium participants further recommend FAO strengthens its effort to develop and maintain the Fisheries Policy and Planning Database for Asia and the Pacific, which represents a compilation of available data gathered at the national level.

5. Considering the interconnected nature of marine fisheries and other coastal resource systems; and

Considering the multiplicity of government agencies and private sector actors with interests in the coastal zone; and

Considering that effective coordination of different government agencies requires clear lines of responsibility and authority;

Therefore, Symposium participants encourage IPFC member nations to promulgate a clear and comprehensive national ICAM policy and enact appropriate national legislation providing for effective coordination and management of the coastal zone;

Therefore, Symposium participants recommend the conduct of multi-disciplinary training at policy and technical levels in line agencies, for resource users and industry, and at all levels of government, including senior staff of ministries and elected representatives.

6. Considering that demand conditions contribute to over-exploitation of marine resources; and

Considering that both fishers and fisher traders at all levels mutually depend on the sustainability of marine resources;

Therefore, symposium participants encourage IPFC member nations to provide training to both fishers and fish traders on the benefits of fisheries management.

7. Considering that fishers are highly dependent on selling their product at a fair price; and

Considering that parastatal fish marketing organizations in some countries have had mixed results with regard to their effectiveness in improving fishers' incomes;

Therefore, Symposium participants encourage IPFC member nations to strengthen efforts to establish market conditions, including appropriate market information systems, that are responsive to fisheries management goals; and

Therefore, Symposium participants also encourage IPFC member nations to review the role and contribution of parastatal fish marketing bodies with a view towards making them more responsive to fisheries management goals.

8. Considering that there is a strong need to promote inter-sectoral awareness of fisheries and other coastal resources and environmental management issues; and

Therefore, Symposium participants encourage IPFC member nations to strengthen educational programmes that increase awareness of resource users, including fishers, regarding the consequences of resource depletion and environmental damage; and

Therefore, Symposium participants also suggest that such educational programmes include primary and secondary schools as well as adult education and extension activities.

9. Considering that indigenous methods of resource management and environmental protection often combine effectiveness and ready acceptability by local residents; and

Considering that fishers and fisheries scientist both can contribute to each other's knowledge of fisheries and coastal resource systems; and

Considering that extension activities provide a potentially useful mechanism for such collaboration between fishers and fisheries scientists;

Therefore, Symposium participants further encourage IPFC member nations to establish mechanisms through which fishers and fisheries scientists can interact on a regular basis to improve their mutual understanding of issues related to resource management; and

Therefore, Symposium participants additionally encourage IPFC member nations to support the use of indigenous methods of resource management and environmental protection where they exist; and

10. Considering the important role being played by FAO in facilitating the exchange of experience regarding fisheries resource management among IPFC member nations;

Therefore, Symposium participants request that FAO devote its efforts to strengthening the capacity of NGO's to contribute to and participate in fisheries and environmental management.

APPENDIX E

Amendments to the IPFC Agreement

1. The title of the Agreement shall be amended to read as follows:
" Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC)".
2. All references in the Agreement to the "Indo-Pacific are" shall be amended to read **"Asia-Pacific area"**.
3. Article IV, paragraph (b) (i) shall be amended to read as follows:
"increase the efficiency and sustainable productivity of fisheries and aquaculture;"
4. Article IV, paragraph (e) shall be amended to read as follows:
"to encourage, recommend, coordinate and undertake, as appropriate, research and development activities in all aspects of fisheries;"

APPENDIX F

Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Agreement on the "ASIA-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION (APFIC)"

1. Rule I shall be amended to read as follows:

"Agreement:

The Agreement for the Establishment of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission formulated at Baguio, Philippines, 26th February 1948 as amended* in conformity with Article IX thereof."

2. Rule III-I (j) shall be amended to read as follows:

"(j) items, if any, referred to the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission....." (The rest without change.)

3. Rule IX-4 shall be amended to read as follows:

"4. Each Committee or Working Party may adopt and amend its own rules of procedure, which shall be consistent with the Rules of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission..." (The rest without change).

* Provisionally adopted at the First Session (March 1949), revised at the Ninth Session (January 1961) and amended at the Twelfth (October 1966), Sixteenth (November 1974), Seventeenth (November 1976), Eighteenth (March 1978) and Twenty-fourth (December 1993) Sessions.

APPENDIX G

Amendments to the Terms of Reference of the IPFC Subsidiary Bodies

(a) COMMITTEE ON MARINE FISHERIES

The responsibilities of the Committee are to promote the full and proper utilization of living marine resources by the sustainable development and management of marine fisheries in the Asia-Pacific region in conformity with the objectives of its Members. Its functions shall be:

- (a) to keep under review the state of these resources, of the industries based on them and of their environment;
- (b) to formulate and recommend measures and to initiate and carry out programmes or projects to:
 - (i) increase the efficiency and sustainable productivity of marine fisheries;
 - (ii) conserve and manage resources;
 - (iii) protect resources from pollution;
- (c) to keep under review the economic and social aspects of fishing communities and recommend measures aimed at improving the living and working conditions of fishers and other workers in the fishing industries and otherwise at improving the contribution of marine fisheries to social and economic goals;
- (d) to encourage, recommend, coordinate and undertake, as appropriate, research, training and extension activities in all aspects of sustainable marine fisheries;
- (e) to assemble, publish and disseminate information regarding the living marine resources and fisheries based on these resources;
- (f) to direct and provide guidance to the relevant Working Parties established under this Committee; and
- (g) to carry out such other activities as may be necessary for the Commission to achieve its purpose as defined above.

(b) AQUACULTURE AND INLAND FISHERY COMMITTEE (AIFC)

The responsibilities of the Committee are to promote the full and proper utilization of living inland aquatic resources by the sustainable development and management of inland capture fisheries, culture-enhanced fisheries and aquaculture activities in the Asia-Pacific region in conformity with the objectives of its Members. Its functions shall be:

- (a) to keep under review the state of these resources, of the industries based on them and of their environment;
- (b) to formulate and recommend measures and to initiate and carry out programmes or projects to:
 - (i) increase the efficiency and sustainable productivity of inland fisheries and aquaculture;
 - (ii) to conserve and manage resources;
 - (iii) protect resources from pollution;
- (c) to keep under review the economic and social aspects of fishing communities and recommend measures aimed at improving the living and working conditions of those involved in inland fisheries and aquaculture and otherwise at improving their contribution to social and economic goals;
- (d) to encourage, recommend, coordinate and undertake, as appropriate, research, training and extension activities in all aspects of sustainable inland fisheries and aquaculture;
- (e) to assemble, publish and disseminate information regarding the living inland aquatic resources, fisheries based on these resources and aquaculture;
- (f) to direct and provide guidance to the relevant Working Parties established under this Committee; and
- (g) to carry out such other activities as may be necessary for the Commission to achieve its purpose as defined above.

(c) WORKING PARTY ON MARINE FISHERIES

The responsibilities of the Working Party are to advise IPFC, through the Committee on Marine Fisheries, on scientific matters relating to the development and rational utilization of the living marine resources in the Asia-Pacific region. In particular, its functions shall be:

- (a) to review and advise on the state of living marine resources, fisheries and their environment, in particular, shared stocks and migratory species;
- (b) to encourage, recommend and coordinate collaborative management-oriented research and training programmes in the fields of living marine resources and environment;
- (c) to provide scientific advice for the management and sustainable development of marine fisheries; and
- (d) to report to and carry out other activities as directed by the Committee on Marine Fisheries.

(d) WORKING PARTY ON AQUACULTURE AND INLAND FISHERIES

The responsibilities of the Working Party are to advise IPFC, through the Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries Committee, on scientific matters relating to the development and rational utilization of the living inland aquatic resources and to aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific region. In particular, its functions shall be:

- (a) to review and advise on the state of living inland aquatic resources, fisheries, aquaculture and environment;
- (b) to encourage, recommend and coordinate collaborative management-oriented research programmes, training and extension, in the fields of living inland aquatic resources, environment and aquaculture;
- (c) to provide scientific advice for the management and sustainable development of inland fisheries and aquaculture; and
- (d) to report to and carry out other activities as directed by the Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries Committee.

(e) JOINT WORKING PARTY ON FISH TECHNOLOGY AND MARKETING

The functions of the Working Party shall be:

- (a) to encourage, recommend and coordinate collaborative research programmes in the fields of fish product development, quality control and inspection and maximum utilization of the fish harvest;
- (b) to provide advice and coordinate market research on fishery products;
- (c) to assist Members in data and information dissemination on markets and export/import regulations for fish and fishery products from the region; and

- (d) to assist the appropriate Committee where problems of fish product development from fisheries and aquaculture have been identified.

(f) JOINT WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS AND ECONOMICS

In cooperation with other IPFC Working Parties, as required, the functions of the Working Party shall be:

- (a) to encourage and advise on the improvement of national fishery statistics;
- (b) to study the dynamics of fisheries from an economic perspective and their implications for fisheries management;
- (c) to provide advice on the social and economic implications of proposed management measures for the sustainable development of fisheries;
- (d) to encourage, recommend and coordinate management-oriented research and training in the field of fishery economics;
- (e) to promote and coordinate surveys on the economic status of fisheries; and
- (f) to coordinate collection and dissemination of data and information on fisheries.

APPENDIX H

SUMMARY OF MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS, DECISIONS AND DIRECTIVES OF THE COMMISSION

I. Recommendations

Agenda Item 3 - Report of the Symposium on Socio-economic Issues in Coastal Fisheries Management

The Report, including the following recommendations, were endorsed by the Commission (paragraph 118 of the Report of the Symposium):

- 1) Appropriate policies be adopted by IPFC member nations to establish and strengthen coastal fisheries management programmes that will limit access to heavily exploited fishing stocks.
- 2)
 - (a) IPFC member governments are encouraged to promote economic diversification and enterprise development in rural coastal fishing communities as a means of reducing pressure on fisheries resources and improving standards of living within these communities.
 - (b) FAO is requested to promote sharing of experience and to assist in the formulation of projects which would facilitate the generation of opportunities for alternative employment for the coastal fisheries sector.
- 3) IPFC member nations, experiencing difficulties in fishery enforcement, were recommended to identify alternative participatory management measures which may include the strengthening of community-based management systems and the encouragement of fisher's organizations to co-manage the resources.
- 4)
 - (a) IPFC is requested to consider to hold an expert consultation to address socio-economic data and information needs for more effective management of fisheries resources in the region.
 - (b) IPFC member nations are encouraged to strengthen efforts devoted to the systematic collection of social and economic data pertaining to the fisheries sector.
 - (c) FAO is requested to strengthen its effort to develop and maintain the Fishery Policy and Planning database for Asia and the Pacific, which represents a compilation of available data gathered at the national level.
- 5)
 - (a) IPFC member nations are encouraged to promulgate a clear and comprehensive national ICAM policy and enact appropriate national

legislation providing for effective coordination and management of the coastal zone.

- (b) Conduct of multi-disciplinary training at policy and technical levels in line agencies, for resource users and industry, and at all levels of government, including senior staff of ministries and elected representatives.
- 6) IPFC member nations are encouraged to provide training to both fishers and fish traders on the benefit of fisheries management.
- 7)
 - (a) IPFC member nations are encouraged to strengthen efforts to establish market conditions, including appropriate market information systems that are responsive to fisheries management goals.
 - (b) IPFC member nations are also encouraged to review the role and contribution of parastatal fish marketing bodies with a view towards making them more responsive to fisheries management goals.
- 8) IPFC member nations are encouraged to strengthen educational programmes that increase awareness of resource users, including fishers, regarding the consequences of resource depletion and environmental damage, and that such educational programmes include primary and secondary schools as well as adult education and extension activities.
- 9)
 - (a) IPFC member nations are encouraged to establish mechanisms through which fishers and fisheries scientists can interact on a regular basis to improve their mutual understanding of issues related to resource management.
 - (b) IPFC member nations are also encouraged to support use of indigenous methods of resource management and environmental protection where they exist.
- 10)
 - (a) FAO is requested to facilitate programmes between countries in the IPFC region where groups of policy makers, administrators, fishers' representatives and NGOs can be trained and exposed to a variety of fishery management experiences.
 - (b) FAO is requested to devote its efforts to strengthening the capacity of NGOs to contribute and participate in fisheries and environmental management.

Agenda Item 4 - Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)

- 1) The issue of sustainable environment and development of fisheries be given due consideration at national level, improving communication with appropriate non-governmental organizations, associations of fisherfolk, industry, etc., and preparing for further international dialogue on this issue. (paragraph 22 of the Report)

Agenda Item 5 - Matters referred for the attention of the Commission

(b) Report of the Seventh Session of the IPFC Standing Committee on Resource Research and Development (SCORRAD)

- 1) Conduct a training workshop on the application of bio-economic analysis to the fisheries in the region, in which SEAFDEC agreed to cooperate with FAO for the implementation. (paragraph 32 (i) of the Report)
- 2) Attempts to secure funding for PREP should be continued and national commitments of the participating countries be strengthened. (paragraph 32 (ii) of the Report)
- 3) An effort be made to identify additional priority activities in resources research in the region. (paragraph 32 (iii) of the Report)

Agenda Item 7 - Any other matters

(b) Tuna Statistics

- 1) The IPFC Secretariat take initiative to contact both IPTP and SEAFDEC to arrange the transfer of responsibilities of assisting member countries in collecting tuna statistics. (paragraph 47 of the Report)
- 2) The Joint Working Party on Fishery Statistics and Economics and the Working Party on Marine Fisheries be responsible for the analysis of tuna statistics and the elaboration of scientific advice for tuna management in the region. (paragraph 47 of the Report)

(c) Assessment of small pelagic fisheries

- 1) The first meeting of the Working Party on Marine Fisheries should review the status of small pelagic resources in the region. (paragraph 48 of the Report)

II. Other Decisions and Directives of the Commission

- 1) Establish closer working relations with appropriate national NGOs in promoting community-based activities and resources management in the respective IPFC member nations. (paragraph 11 of the Report)
- 2) Need to work closer with appropriate international NGOs to make such organizations aware of the Commission's activities in the field of coastal fisheries management. (paragraph 11 of the Report)
- 3) Recognized the utmost importance of the outcome of UNCED and of the Cancun Conference for the future of fisheries and the need to examine their implications at national, regional and international levels. (paragraph 14 of the Report)
- 4) The Secretariat should consult informally with the Secretariats of ASEAN and SEAFDEC to consider ways and means of establishing suitable mechanisms for strengthening regional technical cooperation in fisheries, which could then be discussed at a joint meeting by members of the three organizations. (paragraph 35 of the Report)
- 5) Establishment of two Committees: one Committee would be on marine fisheries and the other on aquaculture and inland fisheries. (paragraph 41 of the Report)
- 6) Approval by the Members represented at the Session of the amendments proposed to the Agreement and to the Rules of Procedure as set forth in Appendix E and F. The absent Members were requested to vote within 90 days on the proposed amendments. (paragraph 44 of the Report)
- 7) Amend the Terms of Reference of the Committee for the Development and Management of Fisheries in the South China Sea and to rename it Committee on Marine Fisheries. (paragraph 45 of the Report)
- 8) Establishment of an Aquaculture and Inland Fisheries Committee. (paragraph 45 of the Report)
- 9) Approval of the Terms of Reference of the Committees and Working Parties as set forth in Appendix G. (paragraph 45 of the Report)
- 10) The theme of the next Symposium be Environmental Aspects of Responsible Fishing and Aquaculture. (paragraph 46 of the Report)
- 11) Members of the Executive Committee 1993-1995: Republic of Korea as Chairman, Philippines as Vice-Chairman (paragraph 53 of the Report); Indonesia and Japan as elected members (paragraph 54 of the Report); Thailand, immediately retired Chairman (Rule IX of the IPFC Rules of Procedure).

- 12) Place of the Twenty-fifth Session is tentatively in the Republic of Korea.
(paragraph 55 of the Report)