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### **RELATIONS WITH INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

This document outlines some of the more significant developments concerning cooperation with inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), during the period under review. National non-governmental organizations associated with activities of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign/Action for Development have not been included. As in the past, this document is submitted to the Conference for information only.

The report is not exhaustive. It is selective, focusing on some new developments and initiatives and on FAO's efforts to further strengthen cooperation with non-UN system organizations.

At end August 1991, 285 international organizations had formal relations with FAO, of which 105 were IGOs and 180 INGOs. Cooperation and consultations are maintained with these organizations at Headquarters, regional, sub-regional and country level. Cooperation has also taken place on an ad hoc basis with organizations not having entered into formal relations with FAO.

Relations with these organizations during 1990-91 covered a wide spectrum of activities ranging from practical exchange of knowledge and ideas, exchange of selected documents and publications, joint action projects, as well as attendance at technical and policy meetings, workshops, round tables, etc.

The Regional Offices are one of FAO's major vehicles of cooperation with regional IGOs and INGOs. No distinction is made in the text below between activities carried out by Headquarters or by Regional Offices. However it will be appreciated that the Regional Offices have in most cases played an important role in implementing activities in their respective regions. The document concludes with a brief report on some activities at the international/global levels.

## **AFRICA**

### **Organization of African Unity**

1. FAO's relations with OAU have been further strengthened in the current biennium through work on the establishment of the African Economic Community (AEC). With the consent of all UN bodies and agencies concerned, FAO has been accorded lead agency status to organize the UN system-wide support for the development of a Common African Agricultural Programme (CAAP) which is expected to provide the substantive and technical foundation for the preparation of the protocol on food and agriculture of the African Economic Community Treaty. With OAU's agreement, this ongoing activity is based on FAO's study "African Agriculture: The Next 25 Years".

2. FAO has also co-chaired with the OAU working group on food and agriculture in the annual OAU/UN System meetings. FAO has collaborated closely with OAU and EEC on the Pan African Rinderpest Campaign (PARC). Through the Technical Cooperation Programme and Trust Fund arrangements, FAO has developed the communication component of the campaign and strengthened the epidemiological (rinderpest monitoring and control) capabilities for the PARC Coordination Unit. FAO is also assisting in identifying donor support for the second phase of PARC.

3. The Inter African Committee on Oceanography, Sea and Inland Fisheries, a subsidiary body of OAU, is a consultative, advisory and coordinating body in the field of fisheries. FAO actively collaborated in the preparation of a session of this Committee, held in July 1990 at Ibadan, Nigeria. FAO's participation in that meeting included the submission of FAO papers as a basis for the discussion ("Inter African Trade in Fishery Products", "Harmonization of Fisheries Legislations", "The Role of Statistics and Information in Fisheries Management", "Existing Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Fisheries Sector in Africa" and "FAO's Technical Assistance in Africa") and assisting in finalizing and printing the report.

### **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)**

4. FAO cooperated with the ECOWAS on the establishment of an ECOWAS Agricultural Research Coordinating Centre and a Pesticide Management Network for West Africa.

### **The West African Economic Community (CEAO)**

5. Through its Technical Cooperation Programme, FAO has assisted CEAO and its member states in the definition of a common agricultural policy and an action programme for its implementation. FAO has provided assistance to CEAO in drawing up eight specific cooperation programmes in areas such as promotion of agricultural trade, of utilization of agricultural inputs and equipment, agricultural credit, and development of the border zones.

6. FAO has also assisted CEAO in the preparation of a project document for UNDP assistance to implement five of these programmes. It is believed that the UNDP Action Committee will approve the proposal in the near future. CEAO has provided resources, through a Trust Fund arrangement with FAO, for FAO to elaborate a programme on plant genetic resources. CILSS will also collaborate in this effort. FAO is also providing technical

advice on, and assisting CEAO in identifying donors to establish an international centre for vegetable seeds.

#### **Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC)**

7. With the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) FAO organized Sub-Regional Workshop on Pesticide Management for SADCC member states. The Workshop, held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in May 1991, was funded by FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP). A forest industries training centre has been established in Zimbabwe under FAO/ITA TF arrangements. Under TCP, institutional support is being provided to the forestry coordination unit.

#### **Central African Customs and Economic Union (UDEAC)**

8. FAO is assisting UDEAC and its member countries, in close collaboration with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), in the elaboration of a sub-regional food security scheme. FAO is also supporting UDEAC in its efforts to rationalize the activities of the various agronomic research centres, and to prepare proposals for the creation/strengthening of veterinary research centres. The two latter activities are being carried out in cooperation with CEPGL (see below) and ECCAS.

#### **Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL)**

9. Upon request of the Institut pour la Recherche Agronomique et Zootechnique (IRAZ), a special institution of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), FAO is presently assisting the three Member States of CEPGL (Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire), to define the legal and institutional framework for the protection and the management of the shared lakes. The project is funded by the TCP, and other assistance is provided to CEPGL countries by UNDP.

#### **Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Africa (CIRDAFRICA)**

10. FAO assistance has been provided to the Centre in the reorientation of the Centre's Programme of Work and Budget for 1991-93, to strengthen its support to National Integrated Rural Development Centres (NIRDCs) and its cooperation with relevant regional and international rural development bodies in the fulfilment of its mandate.

#### **Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC)**

11. Assistance is being provided to LCBC through FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme for the preparation of a sustainable development plan of the Basin, with particular emphasis on sustainable water management and rehabilitation of the environment.

12. FAO assisted the Lake Chad Basin Commission with the preparation and organization of a Regional Seminar of Fisheries Development Planning and Management, held in N'Djamena, Chad in January 1990. Expenses incurred for the travel of resource persons and the preparation of working documents were met by FAO and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The scope of the Seminar was to bring together, for the first time in 25 years, top officials of the Fisheries Departments of Cameroon, Chad, Niger

and Nigeria to discuss the fisheries problems relevant to Lake Chad Basin and to adopt a regional programme for the rehabilitation of the fisheries.

**Mano River Union (MRU)**

13. FAO is collaborating with the Mano River Union Secretariat through the execution of the UNDP-funded project RAF/88/100 "Promotion of Trypanotolerant Livestock in West and Central Africa". Within the framework of integrated rural development programmes, the project is designed to promote the economic production of livestock in the tsetse-infested areas of West and Central Africa, with the aim of improving the standard of living of the populations residing in these areas. In view of these attempts to harmonize and rationalize the activities of IGOs in the same sub-regions, MRU greatly benefits from the technical assistance provided by FAO to ECOWAS and CEAO.

**African Regional Agricultural Credit Association (AFRACA)**

14. FAO has assisted AFRACA financially and technically in organizing a course in Mbabane, Swaziland in 1990 on the Monitoring and Evaluation of Agricultural Projects. FAO is also cooperating with AFRACA in organizing a Workshop on Fishery Credit and Marketing Development for East, Central and Southern Africa.

**Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA)**

15. FAO is collaborating with the PTA Secretariat through an FAO-executed, UNDP-funded, technical assistance project RAF/87/117 "Intra-regional Cooperation in the Development of Plantation-based Forest Industries". The project is designed to assist member countries in developing forest plantation resources, industries and markets, expanding the industrial use of plantation timber, rationalizing product planning and enhancing manpower development.

16. In view of FAO's experience in the elaboration of national, as well as sub-regional food security programmes, PTA has recently requested FAO assistance to prepare a comprehensive food security programme which would be based on increased food production/processing and intra-regional trade, and would be integrated into the PTA Trade Information Network. FAO continues to provide technical comments on various PTA proposals for assistance to the agricultural and rural sectors from the donor community.

**Joint Anti-Locust and Anti-Aviarian Organization (OCLALAV)**

17. FAO is providing assistance to OCLALAV in locust control and surveillance through trust fund arrangements with the Government of Belgium (GCP/RAF/275/BEL).

**International Red Locust Control Organization for Central and Southern Africa (IRLCO-CSA)**

18. The Director-General has approved the use of TCP funds to organize a training course on locust survey and control, under the auspices of the IRLCO-CSA, for participants from its member states.

**Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA)**

19. FAO provides technical assistance, through the UNDP-funded project RAF/88/033, to strengthen DLCO in the management of migratory pests. The project aims to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and safety of ground and aerial application of pesticides, to improve capabilities in the identification of pest targets, and to upgrade the DLCO-EA laboratory and facilities.

**Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation Among African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean**

20. Upon the recommendation of the first Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean, held in Rabat (Morocco) from 30 March to 1 April 1989, the Chairman of the follow-up Committee created by this Conference requested the assistance of FAO to implement the recommendations formulated by the Conference. FAO has in particular assisted the Secretariat of the Conference in preparing a draft Convention on Fisheries Cooperation Among African Countries Bordering the Atlantic Ocean, adopted by the second Conference, held in Dakar in July 1991. The draft convention was examined by a meeting of legal experts, jointly convened in Rome in May 1991 by the Director-General of FAO and the Chairman of the Conference. Furthermore, FAO prepared a number of documents for the second Conference, including a Directory of Fisheries Research and Training Institutions for West Africa and a compendium of fishery legislation covering all countries from Morocco to Namibia.

**Council for the Development of Social and Economic Research in Africa (CODESRIA)**

21. FAO commissioned CODESRIA to undertake a study as part of the Organization's ongoing programme of analysing and monitoring the dynamics of rural poverty in Africa for rural development management purposes and as a possible basis for a longer-term study series on the subject. CODESRIA's experience with this activity led it to the conclusion that the proposed study series is a potentially powerful educational, training and social research back-up tool for rural development management in Africa. CODESRIA accordingly offered to co-finance with FAO a joint Workshop on the Dynamics of Rural Poverty in Africa whose objectives include preparing the FAO-financed study for possible publication and formulating an initial FAO/CODESRIA Five-Year Study Programme on the Dynamics of Rural Poverty in Africa. The Workshop is scheduled to take place in early 1992.

**ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

**South Pacific Commission (SPC)**

22. The longstanding cooperation between FAO and the South Pacific Commission was further strengthened in 1990-91. SPC will co-host (together with the French ORSTOM) the first FAO Expert Consultation on Interactions on Pacific Tuna Fisheries, scheduled to take place SPC premises in Noumea in early December 1991. SPC contributed significantly to the preparatory phase of this FAO consultation by actively participating in the preparatory working groups and by undertaking a study on western Pacific skipjack movements. FAO has provided a significant

input to the activities of the SPC Standing Committee on tuna and billfishes and to activities undertaken by the South Pacific Albacore Research Group (SPAR), an informal group of scientists closely related to SPC.

**Asian and Pacific Regional Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA)**

23. FAO has provided assistance to APRACA in organizing various meetings, seminars, conferences, workshops. During the biennium, FAO and APRACA jointly organized a global workshop on fishery credit and a workshop on women's participation in savings and finance. Participants from countries in the Region, as well as from African countries, attended the workshop on fishery credit. The workshop brought awareness among the participants (bankers and policy-makers) on the need for improving access to institutional credit by poor artisanal fisher-folk.

24. Other activities in which FAO and APRACA cooperated were in organizing a study tour for senior executives of member institutions of APRACA to study rural credit systems in Japan; in preparing of the Statistical Bulletin on Indicators of Performance of Agriculture/ Development Banks in Asia and the Pacific; and in conducting the Executive Sessions and General Assemblies of APRACA. The 6th General Assembly in Indonesia in 1990 set a new strategy for APRACA focused on rural development and poverty alleviation. The 25th Executive Committee Session was hosted by FAO.

**International Jute Organization (IJO) and the International Pepper Community (IPC)**

25. FAO has worked with international commodity associations such as the IJO and IPC. As of June 4, 1991, an IJO project for improvement of retting and extraction in jute is being executed by FAO. FAO participated in the IPC's 16th Peppertech and 3rd Pepperexim meetings which were held in India in 1991. As a result of FAO's participation in these meetings, a global review of the pepper trade in 1991 was promoted.

**Asian Productivity Organization (APO)**

26. In 1990, FAO provided a resource person to give technical support and backstopping to a Multi-Country Study Mission on the Food Processing Industry in Asia and the Pacific. The major findings of the mission have been published and distributed to the countries involved.

**International Cooperative Alliance (ICA)**

27. FAO was involved in the evaluation and feedback on the project proposals drawn up by participants in the 6th ICA training course on management of agricultural cooperatives in Asia.

**International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)**

28. FAO participated in a symposium organized by ICIMOD on Strategies for Sustainable Mountain Agriculture in 1990. In 1991, ICIMOD has been invited to participate in the Eleventh Session of the FAO Regional Commission on Farm Management for Asia and the Pacific and to present a paper on Mountain Perspective-Based Approach to Farming Systems Development.

**Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reformed Rural Development (ANGOC)**

29. ANGOC has been involved in many activities of FAO including participation in the periodic meetings on WCARRD follow-up. In 1990, FAO assisted ANGOC in organizing and conducting workshops on project planning, monitoring and evaluation. Since 1980 FAO has been collaborating with ANGOC to promote Government/NGO consultation and collaboration in the implementation of the WCARRD Programme of Action in seven Asian countries: Philippines, Indonesia, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Malaysia. FAO/ANGOC activities include the promotion of NGO networking at the country and regional levels and the organization of national Government/NGO workshops on decentralized planning/NGO participation in the design, implementation and monitoring of agrarian reform and rural development activities.

30. In 1990-91, at the request of the Government of the Philippines, FAO provided TCP project support to establish an institutional mechanism at national and decentralized levels to promote joint Government/NGO dialogue and collaboration in the planning, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural and rural development projects. ANGOC was designated by the Government as coordinating agency for the project in which the Department of Agriculture, Agrarian Reform, Environment and Natural Resources, the National Economic and Development Authority and three NGO networks participated. This project has resulted in the development of a set of project design guidelines for the formulation of UNDP projects promoting people's participation in rural development; the inclusion of an NGO representative in the UNDP Programme Appraisal Committee; the development of a set of guidelines and criteria for Government/NGO project collaboration; and the formulation of three Government/NGO projects for UNDP funding within the fifth IPF cycle. In addition, ever since the inception of World Food Day (WFD), ANGOC has been promoting the involvement of NGOs in WFD activities in the Asia and Pacific Region.

**International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE)**

31. IFHE is organizing a world conference in Bangkok in 1991. FAO is assisting the Thai Home Economics Association Executive Committee in planning for the conference.

**International Centre for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM)**

32. The International Centre for Living Aquatic Resources Management is a non-governmental international non-profit organization, based in Manila, Philippines, conducting interdisciplinary research on the management of living aquatic organisms and coastal resources in tropical developing countries. Cooperation between FAO and ICLARM has ranged from participation in each others meetings, regular exchange of data and information, use of ICLARM staff as FAO consultants, joint research activities, joint organization of training workshops and consultations and publication of reports. Recently, cooperation between these two organizations has focussed on two main areas: Firstly, FAO has collaborated with ICLARM in the development of fishery software and user manuals such as the FAO/ICLARM Stock Assessment Tools (FISTAT). Secondly, on 4 January 1990, a Letter of Agreement was signed in Rome on collaborative development of FISHBASE. The collaboration of FAO in the development of this ICLARM fishery database has ranged from a restricted

financial support to a downloading of data from the already existing FAO fishery database SPECIESDAB. Finally, discussions are well advanced in view of the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding allowing the GTZ-funded ICLARM African Aquaculture project to collaborate with the Aquaculture for Local Community Development Programme of FAO (ALCOM) foreseen in the SADCC region. Cooperation between ICLARM and ALCOM is foreseen in the area of small water body fisheries and aquaculture management and development and will take the form of (i) collaborative research projects, (ii) exchange visits by scientists and other staff, (iii) training courses and programmes, (iv) information and publications exchanges, and (v) other activities as deemed necessary by the parties involved.

#### **Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC)**

33. A Regional Training Course on Fishery Project Formulation was jointly organized in Bangkok, 8 July - 2 August 1991 by FAO, the Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC) and the Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP), a field programme executed by FAO. FAO's contribution, funded through the Technical Cooperation Programme, consisted of the organization of the course, and the provision of training materials, background documentation, and FAO and international experts as resource persons. SEAFDEC financed the participation of trainees from Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand and provided secretariat facilities. BOBP financed participation from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Maldives and Sri Lanka and the provided staff members as resource persons. Twenty-five participants presented case studies and other materials on TCDC.

#### **EUROPE**

##### **Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)**

34. FAO participated in meetings of the OECD Committee for Agriculture and in several meetings of its specialized working groups; OECD participated regularly in all major FAO meetings, such as the 17th FAO Regional Conference for Europe, Committee on Commodity Problems, 27th Session of the European Commission on Agriculture and the 5th Session of the Working Party on Women. Cooperation with OECD also included exchange of documentation and information in the fields of agricultural policy, statistics, markets and trade, as well as regular consultation on subjects of interest to both organizations.

##### **Council of Europe (CE)**

35. FAO participated in sessions of the Committee on Agriculture of the Council of Europe and its Sub-Committee on World Food Problems as well as the Council's Hearing on Agriculture's Contribution to Enhancing Energy Security (Rome, Italy, 6-8 May 1991) and submitted information on the global food situation and on FAO's Early Warning System. A statement on relations between agriculture and energy and on FAO rural energy programmes was delivered at the Hearing.

##### **International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements (IFOAM)**

36. An Expert Consultation on Biological Farming in Europe was organized by FAO in collaboration with the Swiss Federal Research Station for Agricultural Chemistry and Environmental Hygiene (FAC) and IFOAM in



Bern, Switzerland from 28 to 31 May 1990. FAO has discussed with IFOAM a proposal, as follow-up to the FAO/Netherlands Conference on Agriculture and the Environment in April 1991, to organize an expert meeting on organic types of agriculture, to make an inventory of existing knowledge and experience, and to identify further data and research requirements in this field.

**International Olive Oil Council (IOOC)/International Society of Horticultural Science (ISHS)**

37. Close cooperation was established with the IOOC and ISHS for the organization of the Eighth Consultation of the European Cooperative Research Network on Olives (Bornova/Izmir, Turkey, September 1991) and the First Meeting of the Interregional Cooperative Research Network on Nuts in conjunction with the International Walnut Meeting (Tarragona, Spain October 1991), respectively.

**European Association For Animal Production (EAAP)**

38. FAO, in collaboration with EAAP, organized a Round Table on the Livestock Production Sector in Eastern Europe as affected by Current Changes (Budapest, Hungary, April 1991). The Round Table established a core group, in which FAO is represented, to monitor developments in this sector and to propose appropriate action. Cooperation with EAAP also includes joint organization of the Meeting on Fibre and Skin Production in the Mediterranean (November 1991) and preparation of a technical paper on buffalo production in Europe.

**International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)**

39. The initiative, begun in 1987, to hold informal IFAP-FAO consultations on commodities and trade, was pursued during the biennium under review. The last one took place at FAO Headquarters on 23 May 1991 on the occasion of IFAP's Annual Executive Committee meeting, the 112th, which was held in Rome. The Director-General made a statement to the Executive Committee at a meeting, also on 23 May, held to permit an exchange of views with the IFAP's delegation, composed of 31 representatives of IFAP's national member organizations from 16 countries. Matters of common interest were discussed and actions suggested toward achieving FAO and IFAP's common goals of increasing rural welfare, increasing agricultural production and incomes and promoting sustainable agricultural and rural development.

40. IFAP participated actively in the FAO/Netherlands Conference on Agriculture and the environment (S'Hertogenbosch, Netherlands, April 1991). In addition a representative of IFAP attended the 5th Session of the Working Party on Women (Prague, Czechoslovakia, October 1990).

**World Blind Union (WBU)**

41. FAO held meetings with the World Blind Union, planning potential activities such as planting of trees with products rich in Vitamin A through school programmes in areas where blindness is a serious problem.

#### **International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)**

42. The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) is a specialized organization which has been given competence by its Member States to manage tuna stocks of the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas, including the Mediterranean. So far however, only three Mediterranean States have joined ICCAT. On the other hand, the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM), an FAO body, groups 20 Mediterranean States but so far has not devoted much attention to tuna management problems. At the Nineteenth Session of GFCM, it was recommended that the two organizations should join efforts in assessing the stocks of large pelagic fish (mostly bluefin tuna, swordfish and albacore) in the Mediterranean. To achieve this objective, a joint GFCM/ICCAT Expert Consultation was organized in Bari (Italy) in June 1990; It was attended by 33 experts from eleven countries. The report of the consultation, together with eighteen scientific and technical papers, was published by both organizations.

#### **NEAR EAST**

##### **League of Arab States (LAS)**

43. FAO's cooperation with LAS and its subsidiary bodies has proved instrumental in supporting successful regional programmes. FAO has participated in various ministerial and other high-level meetings organized by LAS and invitations to participate in FAO meetings have been extended to the LAS and LAS subsidiary bodies. There is an ongoing exchange of information between the FAO's Library and the Arab League Documentation Centre (ALDOC). This centre has also processed on its computer the first draft of the Arabic version of AGROVOC under an agreement with FAO.

##### **Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)**

44. Cooperation between FAO, OIC and development banks continued during 1990 in the implementation and formulation of agricultural and rural investment projects. In other activities, food security received particular attention during 1990-91. At a meeting between agencies of the United Nations system and the OIC, held in Vienna in September 1990, FAO presented a paper on food security and agricultural development. A symposium on food security is expected to take place in Senegal in November 1991 on the occasion of the Islamic Summit.

##### **Collaboration With Other Regional Organizations**

45. FAO cooperated with the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) and with the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) with regard to the rehabilitation of agricultural statistics in the Sudan and, again with this latter organization, in assisting the Regional Centre on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development for the Near East (CARDNE) in carrying out its activities and in providing technical support to the meetings of its Executive Committee and its Governing Council. FAO also participated in the preparation of the programme of the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics (AITRS).

46. Based on a recommendation made at the Third Session of the Near East Regional Commission on Agriculture, held in Nicosia, Cyprus, from 11 to 15 September 1989, that FAO should assist in drafting a convention for the establishment of a regional plant protection body, and on the need noted by the Twenty-fifth Session of FAO Conference, to establish a Plant Protection Commission for the Near East Region, FAO initiated actions and contributed to the drawing up of a draft Agreement for the establishment of a Near East Plant Protection Organization (NEPPO). The draft Agreement is being circulated to Near East countries for comment prior to holding a government consultation on the issue, planned to be convened in Rome in April 1992.

47. Substantive technical backstopping was given by FAO to the secretariats of both the **Agricultural Food Marketing Association for the Near East and North Africa (AFMANENA)** and the **Near East and North Africa Regional Agricultural Credit Association (NENARACA)** in matters pertaining to the implementation of their present and future work programmes. FAO has cooperated with NENARACA on a joint Training Courses on the Use of DASI in the Analysis of Small-Scale Agriculture Projects with Credit. One such course was held in Amman from 25 July to 1 August 1991, and has entailed the application of the DASI software (Project Data Analysis and Simulation Programme) with exercises and a case study designed for this purpose. (A similar course was held in 1989).

#### **LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

##### **Organization of American States (OAS)**

48. OAS extended support to and participated in the First Latin American Congress on Watershed Management held in Chile. Through its Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), the OAS attended the International Round Table on the Search of Legal Mechanisms to Facilitate the Participation of Women in Rural Development, hosted by FAO in September 1990. In mid-May 1991, FAO was represented at the First General Meeting on Cooperation between the UN system and the OAS held in New York, convened with the purpose of establishing closer relations in a number of subjects. OAS will host and provide facilities for the meeting of the Inter-American Group for Plant Protection in Washington in October 1991.

##### **Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)**

49. Collaboration with IICA covered a broad spectrum of activities, ranging from reciprocal representation at meetings to the organization of workshops, seminars, training courses. During 1990-91, IICA attended events to help organize technical cooperation networks; participated at Round Tables on Production Costs and Subsidy Equivalents to Basic Grains Producers of Central America and Panama and on Peasant Participation; and the VIIth Interagency Consultation on Follow-up to WCARRD. Continued support is being provided by IICA to the adoption and application of the FAO International Code of Conduct on Application of Pesticides, the International Convention on Phytosanitary Protection and to the standards of the Committee on Pesticides Residues of the Codex Alimentarius.

##### **Latin American Economic System (SELA)**

50. FAO has maintained close cooperation with SELA, through reciprocal attendance at important meetings such as the annual meetings of the Latin

American Council and the SELA's sponsored regional meetings of Directors of International Technical Cooperation and of Coordination Mechanisms of Regional Bodies and Forums Engaged in TCDC Activities. In addition, FAO attended the first meeting on Proposals for Integrated Social Policies in relation to Macro-economic Adjustments in the Latin American and Caribbean Region, held in Venezuela, presenting a document on adjustment and the role of food policy and agriculture. FAO is also participating on the follow-up working group that was organized at the meeting. SELA has requested FAO's assistance on the feasibility of establishing a Fertilizer Information Network for Latin America and the Caribbean.

#### **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**

51. In September 1990, in Castries, St. Lucia, a meeting was held between the Directors of Agriculture of CARICOM and FAO to discuss similarities and differences between the Regional Plan of Action approved at the 20th LARC and the Caribbean Community Programme for Agricultural Development (CCPAD). The recommendations and ideas stemming from the event were incorporated into the agenda of the Joint Consultative Meeting held in Barbados in January 1991 at which broad areas of common interest to CARICOM and FAO were suggested and project ideas were identified in the areas of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. FAO has funded a TCP project (TCP/RLA/885) with the objective to assist CARICOM in the formulation of a project for the establishment of a Caribbean agricultural technology information service.

52. In 1991, FAO attended the Meeting of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Ministers Responsible for Agriculture (SCMA) in which areas for future cooperation were reviewed. FAO has cooperated with CARICOM in the preparation of a draft inter-governmental framework agreement on harmonized conditions of access for foreign fishing in the waters of member countries as well as providing the basis for possible future preferential access. This agreement has been prepared after close consultations with the member governments of CARICOM and with the Secretariat of CARICOM itself, as well as with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). FAO's assistance was provided initially under a Technical Cooperation Programme project, and has been continued under assistance provided by the Fisheries Management and Law Advisory Programme.

#### **Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)**

53. FAO has also initiated a project under the Fisheries Management and Law Advisory Programme to assist the OECS in the preparation of harmonized regulations governing fisheries for its member countries, which will relate inter alia to the licensing of local fishing vessels, the marking of fishing vessels, and the adoption of uniform safety standards. Changes will also be considered to the harmonized fisheries legislation covering registration of fisheries advisory committees, formulation of fisheries management and development plans, and the establishment of marine reserves and fishing priority areas.

#### **Latin American Fisheries Development Organization (OLDEPESCA)**

54. FAO participated in a Meeting on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture held in Bolivia by OLDEPESCA. Regular exchange of experts and information, training, identification of research projects and participation at

meetings continued. FAO is cooperating with OLDEPESCA through the implementation of a Regional Project on the Management and Planning of Fisheries in Central America and Panama, funded by the Norwegian Government, and aimed at developing skilled manpower and providing institutional support to member countries on fishery resources research and fishery economics and planning. Two joint FAO/OLDEPESCA Working Parties have been established, one on Fishery Resources Research and one on Fishery Economics and Planning. OLDEPESCA is providing the premises for the project as well as the necessary policy coordination and FAO provides the technical and operational input.

#### **Permanent South Pacific Commission (CPPS)**

55. FAO/CPPS joint activities include a regular fisheries information system and a regional data base. FAO supported CPPS with the formulation of a project proposal, to be submitted to the donor community, on the economic and social effects in the countries of the southeast Pacific of the El Niño natural phenomenon. Strengthening of relationships with the CPPS is particularly channelled through the FAO/UNDP regional project on Fisheries Development in the Southeast Pacific. FAO and CPPS were co-sponsors of a meeting convened to discuss significant changes, during the past 30 years, in the fisheries of the subregion. FAO prepared a document on sustainable development and marine resources which was presented at the high-level expert consultation which analysed a regional position on the theme of sustainable development, coastal and marine resources of the southeast Pacific. FAO attended the emergency meeting organized by CPPS at its Headquarters to discuss matters related to the cholera epidemic in the stricken countries of South America.

#### **Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions (ALIDE)**

56. The prospects of financing institutions within the framework of adjustment programmes were discussed at the XXI ordinary meeting of ALIDE. FAO participated in the meeting, held in Cuba, where regional strategies, resource mobilization for productive investment, national financial systems and development financing were featured in the agenda. FAO also supported and attended the ALIDE Seminar/Workshop on Rural Finance Policies and Systems for Small Farmers and the Rural Population of the Andean countries held in Peru. FAO's objective of helping the small farmer gives added significance to joint efforts with ALIDE and follow-up activities have been agreed with its Agricultural Finance Committee. Five national workshops on rural finance schemes for small farmers will be organized with FAO support in the Andean countries. It is expected that the conclusions of these workshops will help identify projects, which could be formulated and become operational during 1992.

#### **Amazonian Cooperation Treaty**

57. Close relationships have been established with the Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Amazonian Cooperation Treaty. A series of technical meetings on subjects directly related to environment and sustainable development organized by FAO in collaboration with national and subregional institutions will take place in 1991 in countries signatories of the Amazonian Treaty. These include a training course on agro-ecological zones and a workshop on the hydrobiological resources of the Basin. Important agreements endorsed for future cooperation include carrying out a study for the establishment of a protected area located in

the borders of three nations, the approval of a project proposal on the planning and management of protected areas of the Amazon, arrangements for the preparation of a catalogue of plant species with agro-industrial and medicinal use, and the establishment of a subnetwork for the Amazon within the framework of the Regional Technical Cooperation Network on National Parks, Other Protected Areas and Wildlife. FAO collaborates closely with the Special Task Force on the Amazon Basin instituted at Headquarters. Representatives of the signatories of the Treaty frequently attend events organized by FAO in a number of areas, in particular protected areas, wildlife, national parks, watershed management, agroforestry, agro-ecology, inland fisheries and issues related to sustainable development.

#### **Commission of the Cartagena Agreement (JUNAC)**

58. FAO and JUNAC are cooperating in a joint effort to prepare a complete catalogue of pests with quarantine significance for the Andean countries. JUNAC participated also at the Third Technical Consultation of Regional Plant Protection Organizations which was held at FAO Headquarters in May 1991.

#### **Tropical Agricultural Research and Training Centre (CATIE)**

59. FAO and CATIE sponsored a Training Course on Food Crops Genetic Engineering held in Costa Rica. The course was open to specialists from the Region. A representative of CATIE participated in the Round Table which established the technical cooperation network on plant biotechnology. CATIE supported and cooperated with the First Latin American Congress on Watershed Management held in Concepción, Chile and also attended the FAO-sponsored Expert Consultation on the use of wood-derived fuels in rural industries of Latin America. Active cooperation and exchange of information with CATIE has continued in the field of integrated pest management.

#### **Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP)**

60. A radio programme on food, nutrition and agriculture, supported by FAO, was prepared by the Institute. FAO is assisting the Institute in its efforts to advocate food and nutrition components in agricultural projects and schools. Several publications sponsored by FAO are being facilitated to INCAP. The Institute regularly collaborates on matters concerning food and nutrition surveillance, and is actively cooperating with the two workshops on training in data analysis and management for food and nutrition surveillance, scheduled during 1991 within the framework of a TCP project to benefit Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean. Also, FAO and INCAP coordinated the International Workshop on Street Food Vendors held in Guatemala and the Institute attended the FAO-sponsored International Workshop on Food and Nutrition Surveillance at the Local Level and Community Participation.

#### **International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)**

61. FAO was invited to participate in the XIVth World Irrigation and Drainage Congress organized by ICID, the first to be held in the Latin American and Caribbean Region and which took place in Brazil in May 1990. The influence of irrigation and drainage on the environment and the role of irrigation in mitigating the effects of protracted droughts were the main subjects discussed. Subsequent to the ICID Congress, FAO participated

in a Workshop on Water Management in Latin America. The workshop was jointly organized by ICID and the International Irrigation Management Institute (IIMI). FAO sponsored the attendance of specialists from six Latin American countries to both events.

#### ACTIVITIES AT INTERNATIONAL/GLOBAL LEVELS

62. FAO has maintained close collaboration with international and regional commodity councils and associations. Examples of recent joint activities include the study on the world sugar economy with the International Sugar Organization and the preparation of the cotton projections to the year 2000 with the International Cotton Advisory Committee. Support has also been provided to the African Oil Palm Development Association in the form of market information and basic data required to establish the Association's data bank.

63. The Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) has made substantial progress in strengthening its cooperation with non-governmental organizations over the past two years. As of late 1991, some 55 NGOs are cooperating and sharing information with the GIEWS. Reports received from these sources are often valuable in the monitoring of socio-economic indicators and the identification and evaluation of localized food supply difficulties. GIEWS has circulated to all cooperating NGOs copies of its field report forms as a guide to the type of information needed. Reporting by NGOs is, however, based on a flexible and ad hoc approach, which conforms as closely as possible to the existing procedures followed by the cooperating NGOs; this approach is designed to ensure that cooperating NGOs do not incur additional expenses in sharing information with the GIEWS.

64. The measures taken over the past four years by several of these cooperating NGOs to strengthen their collaboration with the GIEWS are noteworthy. Thus, Caritas Internationalis has provided its 120 affiliated societies operating in 150 countries with special guidelines for their support to the GIEWS. These guidelines have been issued in three languages as a supplement to the Caritas Internationalis Emergency Manual, together with background material on the GIEWS. Oxfam provides reports prepared by its field staff in affected countries in Africa, notably in Ethiopia and Sudan. In addition, Oxfam Headquarters' staff regularly provide the System with information for these and other countries. The League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (LORCS) provide useful country reports on emergency situations, which detail the requirements of populations targeted for special assistance. For regions affected by civil strife, the reports from the International Committee of the Red Cross are often valuable; these sometimes include detailed crop assessments in vulnerable areas. The World Council of Churches (WCC) has an extensive network in Africa, Asia and Latin America from which situation reports are frequently received.

65. Close cooperation has been initiated with the Common Fund for Commodities which has designated nine FAO intergovernmental bodies<sup>1/</sup> for sponsoring and following-up research and development projects for possible

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1/ The FAO Intergovernmental Groups on Hard Fibres; Bananas; Rice; Oils and Fats; Meat; Tea; Citrus Fruit, as well as the Sub-Group on Hides and Skins and the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade.

financing by the Fund's Second Account. The project identification and formulation work initiated under this new activity was carried out in close cooperation with a number of international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations competent in the specific fields covered by the various projects including:

In Africa - The African Oil Palm Development Association (APCC), the African Groundnut Council (AGC).

In Asia - The Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI).

In Europe - The Bureau for the Development of Research on Tropical Perennial Oil Crops (BUROTROP), the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT (ITC), the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

In Latin America and the Caribbean - International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).

In addition to proposing projects for inclusion in commodity specific research and development programmes, many of these organizations participated in two expert consultations organized by FAO in January 1991 to finalize two of these programmes.

66. Constructive participation of IGOs and INGOs in the work of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme continues in relevant technical aspects of the Work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Relations with consumers' movements through the **International Organization of Consumers' Unions (IOCU)** have been positive and the FAO/WHO Conference on Food Standards, Chemicals in Food and Food Trade identified this area as one where further cooperation would be useful. Similarly, the **International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI)** has provided valuable scientific input for the evaluations of the safety of chemicals occurring in or added to food undertaken by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives as part of FAO's work on Food Quality and Consumer Protection and was active in its support for the FAO/WHO Conference on Food Standards, Chemicals in Food and Food Trade. These positive experiences in relation to IGO and INGO inputs are expected to have beneficial consequences for similar positive inputs to the International Conference on Nutrition (ICN).

67. FAO closely cooperated with the **World Conservation Union (IUCN)** and the **World Resources Institute (WRI)** in reviewing the draft strategy for the conservation of biological diversity. FAO also commented extensively on the **Second World Conservation Strategy "Caring for the World"**, prepared by IUCN, WWF and UNEP. FAO also maintains an active exchange of information with IUCN and participated at the preparatory meeting for the **World Congress** it organized in 1990. FAO is also cooperating with IUCN and other institutions in the organization of the **IVth World Congress on National Parks and Protected Areas** which will be held in Caracas, Venezuela, in February 1992.

68. In 1990-91 a joint FAO/Population Council publication "**Rural Development and Population: Institutions and Policy**", a product of the 1987 "**FAO Expert Consultation on Population and Agricultural and Rural**



Development: Institutions and Policy", was finalized and published in New York.

69. FAO has established collaborative links with the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Studies (ICAMAS) in the area of food and agricultural policy training. This collaboration has been initiated on an experimental basis for a year and, if successful, will be continued. FAO already has a long-standing collaboration with ICAMAS on production and protection of Mediterranean fruit crops.

#### **Cooperation With Various Organizations With Regard To Marine Mammals**

70. In the early 80s, FAO prepared with UNEP a Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Management and Utilization of Marine Mammals (MMAP). The Plan was endorsed by the Fifteenth Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in October 1983, the Twelfth Session of UNEP Governing Council in May 1984, the Thirty-sixth Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission in June 1984, and the General Assembly of IUCN in November 1984. During the biennium under review, a Memorandum of Understanding was discussed among FAO, UNEP, Greenpeace International, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the International Fund for Animal Welfare, IUCN, and the WWF with a view to promoting the goals of the MMAP. FAO signed this Memorandum of Understanding in January 1991.

#### **FAO Relations with International Trade Union Organizations**

71. International Trade Union Organizations (ITUs) with official status with FAO actively participated in 1990-91 in Council and Conference meetings, at international and regional levels, as well as in a number of expert meetings and technical training workshops organized by FAO. In July 1991, the 12th Biennial Consultation between the ITUs and FAO was held at FAO Headquarters in Rome. Representatives from six ITUs and from ILO attended the meeting.

72. In May 1990, an FAO/ITU regional seminar on employment generation and rural workers participation in forestry and agro-forestry was held in Siguatepeque, Honduras. Sixteen leaders of national rural workers and small farmers' unions from Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico participated in this meeting. Participants discussed activity plans for promotion of sustainable forestry and conservation activities for the benefit of rural workers and small farmers.

73. In July 1990, a FAO/International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers (IFPAAW) national training workshop was held in Aburi, Ghana, on the design and implementation of income and employment generating projects for leaders of small farmers and rural workers groupings affiliated to the General Agricultural Workers Union (GAWU) in Ghana. Also, the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and local experts from the Ghana University and from FAO projects participated. This activity is part of an FAO/ITU inter-regional project to strengthen the institutional capacity of national rural workers organizations to assist affiliated small farmers and small-scale fishermen including rural women with skill training, improved access to production services and cooperative small-scale enterprise development.

**Ad Hoc Group of INGO Representatives to FAO residing in Rome**

74. The Ad Hoc group was established in 1979 during the preparation of the FAO World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD) in order to present the coordinated viewpoint of its members in various FAO fora and to permit an exchange of views on a regular basis on matters of common interest with FAO. Thus, during the current biennium a number of briefing sessions were held in FAO on such topics as the FAO Plan of Action for People's Participation in Agriculture and Rural Development and the preparations for the 1992 International Conference on Nutrition. The Group met four times in 1990 and four times in the first semester of 1991.

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH FORMAL RELATIONS HAVE BEEN  
ESTABLISHED SINCE 1989**

**Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)**

1. No formal relations have been established between FAO and IGOs since the last session of the Conference. The number of IGOs with status remains at 105.

**International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs)**

2. Consultative Status has not been granted to any INGO since the last session of the Conference. The number of organizations with consultative status remains at 16.

3. Specialized Consultative Status has been granted to the International Life Sciences Institute, bringing the total number to 54.

4. Liaison Status has been granted to the European Association of Agricultural Economists, bringing the total number to 110.