

Appendix A

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Appendix B

AGENDA

TUESDAY, 26 March 1996

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Election of Chairman
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. State of the Programme
5. Annual Report 1995 - Coastal Fisheries Management (BOBP)
 - a. Progress during 1995
 - b. Workplans for 1996
6. Annual Report 1995 - Post-Harvest Fisheries (ODA-UK)
7. Annual Report 1995 - Cleaner Fishery Harbours (IMO/BOBP)

WEDNESDAY, 27 March 1996

8. Discussion on Selected, Themes in Fisheries & Aquaculture Management
 - a. SIFR Proposal on Fisheries Information for BOBP Region
 - b. ITQ Approaches to Fisheries Management
 - c. Learnings from BOBP Second Phase
 - d. GEF Proposal
9. Other Matters
10. Next Meeting

THURSDAY, 28 March 1996

11. Field Trip to Pulan Payar Marine Park (fish sanctuary)

FRIDAY, 29 March 1996

12. Adoption of the Report

Appendix C

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of documents
3. List of participants (Provisional)
4. State of the Programme
5. Annual Report 1995 and Workplan 1996 (Coastal Fisheries Management)
6. Annual Report 1995 and Workplan 1996 (Post Harvest Fisheries)
7. Annual Report 1995 and Workplan 1996 (Cleaner Fishery Harbour)
- 8a. SIFR Project Proposal on Fisheries Information Systems
- 8b. The Quota Management System of Property Rights for Fisheries Through Individual Transferable Quotas By Bruce Shallard
- 8c. GEF Proposal

Appendix D

STATE OF THE PROGRAMME 1995

GENERAL

01. 1995 has been an interesting and challenging year for both the member countries and BOBP. The 8-month transition between the termination of the BOBP's second phase project on Small-scale Fisherfolk Communities (GCP/RAS/118/MUL) and the start of the main new Third Phase project on (Integrated) Coastal Fisheries Management in the Bay of Bengal (GCP/RAS/150/DEN and 151/JPN) has provided the BOBP family of member countries time to pause and think through 15 years of BOBP presence in the region. Member countries have been anxious and eager for BOBP to start its regional activities again.

02. The Third Phase BOBP is considerably reduced in size not only in staff number and funding support but is expected to do more with less. This reduction in staff and funding should be kept in mind in the design and implementation of activities in the member countries. However, with greater stakeholders' awareness on the need for and benefits and methods of fisheries management, especially by actively bringing in and involving fishermen and other stakeholders into the management process, greater efficiency and cost-effectiveness can be achieved.

03. The tasks ahead are not entirely new, only more complex. With hindsight and lessons learned over the last few decades, not only are management concepts more clearly defined or clarified but also more focussed or directed. Witness the improved vocabulary or **language** used to articulate old issues, problems, concepts and solution options.

04. Past fisheries management initiatives had not worked out nor had the desired or expected impact due to the piecemeal or ad-hoc nature of the efforts. Successful fisheries management calls for closer coordination, co-operation and commitment among all the concerned parties.

05. Even though the Third Phase became officially operational in May 1994, the international staff came on board only in December 1994. In effect, 1995 was operationally the first year of the Third Phase.

06. So far, member countries have completed the situation analyses of their respective fisheries in order to prioritise fisheries issues, problems and constraints -- the resolution of which can go a long way towards improving the living conditions and quality of life of the communities which the member countries seek to address under the Third Phase of BOBP.

07. The BOBP/ODA Post-Harvest Fisheries Project in India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka continued its momentum into the third year of its third five-year phase which is expected to run till 1997.

08. The BOBP/IMO Cleaner Fishery Harbour Project in the Maldives and Sri Lanka saw further progress and is expected to be completed during 1996.

09. Unlike previous phases, the Third Phase relies on national execution of Programme activities, with a catalytic and enabling role from BOBP. Because of the new and innovative thrust on national execution, member countries are expected to play a leading role in spearheading Programme activities in laying the foundation for Third Phase activities.

10. The foundation (and/or preparatory work to lay the foundation) to implement Third Phase activities is either already present or have been well laid out. The member countries are in various stages of “preparedness”, some more so than the others. The latter can be traced to available budgets at the national level and tedious administrative procedures to secure them. But all are anxious to start or self-start as the report on the progress, status and indicative workplans will reveal below.

OVERVIEW AND REVIEW OF PROJECT

11. As spelled out in the Project Document (Prodoc), the Project is intended to address the problems of stagnating and decreasing fish catches and corresponding low fishing household incomes, lack of basic infrastructures, amenities and social services as well as threats of environmental degradation.

12. The ultimate objective is to achieve sustainable development in coastal communities, through an integrated coastal area development approach with the following inputs: conservation of fisheries resources, economic diversification, provision of infrastructures and social services and environmental protection.

13. However, the main BOBP project thrust is the containment and regulation of fishing capacity and fishing effort through entry restrictions employing licensing and registration, as well as other fisheries management measures and practices. The latter comprise of both old and new innovative approaches.

14. Old approaches may not necessarily be bad just because they have not had the expected impact. One can still benefit from old management practices, but one should avoid mistake(s) made earlier. The old management practices, combined with new methods, can go a long way toward the desired outcome and impact.

15. The Project’s immediate objective is to increase awareness and knowledge of the need, benefits, practices and methods of fisheries management. This objective is to be achieved by:

- a) multi-media and multi-stage campaigns aimed at target groups of beneficiaries at different levels from policy-makers to fishermen and other stakeholders in increasing their awareness and knowledge on the need for, benefits of and methods of fisheries management
- b) national and regional seminars and workshops on fisheries management strategies, methods and practices for national staff, fishermen and other stakeholders
- c) advisory services on specific management issues
- d) consultation and exchange of information and experiences in Project implementation

16. The Project is simple and straightforward. It innovatively provides for national execution. Under this national execution mechanism, all activities are implemented through national institutions in the respective member countries responsible for fisheries management.

17. Such activities are to be closely coordinated with and supplementary to other ongoing national efforts since the activities are an integral part of the respective national fisheries plans. The national staff assigned by the member governments are the main inputs to the Project including necessary government budgetary allocations. BOBP's role is only as facilitator and catalyst.

COASTAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN THE BAY OF BENGAL

18. Although it is easy to articulate, clarify and understand what fisheries management is, it still frequently means different things to different people. One can start understanding the need for, benefit of, practical approaches to and methods and practices of fisheries management by defining what overfishing is.

19. An ideal definition of overfishing provides for a threshold that should not be crossed or exceeded, rather than a target. It should be based on sound theory, operationally unambiguous, and at least neutrally conservative in protecting against recruitment overfishing. The definition must be quantifiable and linked to management action as well as biologically sensible with no obvious improvement to the pre-determined criteria or threshold evident.

20. Integrated coastal area management, however is a more complex and complicated task requiring not only multidisciplinary inputs but also total commitments. Its widespread practice needs to be stepped up to ensure environmental and resource sustainability and integrity.

21. Next, to cultivate the habit of and institutionalise fisheries management, it is essential to reward such habits and attitudes. Fishermen and the other stakeholders will manage their fisheries or resources if they see the benefits of doing so.

22. The low literacy level of fisherfolk, our target clientele, inhibits them from obtaining the necessary information to better their lives. The mission of BOBP is thus how to put more information into their hands, to build awareness and educate them and evolve an environment where the learning can be put to use. This in a nutshell is the fundamental basis of our work in the Third Phase. Like many others, fishermen will willingly participate in the management process if they know the why, what and how of management. That is to say, "We Know, therefore We Participate".

23. Has the Programme lived up to its mandate, mission and vision in 1995, especially in terms of the objectives and delivery of outputs: activities agreed to in our workplan for 1995: BOBP (regional) and individual country (national)?

The answer is a qualified yes.

24. In four to five years' time, that is, by the year 1999/2000, the following outcomes

and impact would have been achieved in the pilot areas designated by the member countries for joint country/ BOBP activities:

AA. Integrated management of Pulau Payar Marine Park in Malaysia

25. An excellent beginning on sustainable multi-resource use and livelihood security for rural communities dependent on Pulau Payar coastal resources initiated through a fully operational Special Area Management Plan or SAMP under an integrated coastal area management or ICAM institutional framework. Management awareness inputs have targeted area fishermen, stakeholders as well as government and non-government officers through multi-media and multi-stage information channels, a community learning centre, travelling roadshows and seminars under the guidance and direction of Tier I and II Committees.

BB. Model fishing village for Tapanuli Bay fisheries in Indonesia

26. Improved levels of awareness and confidence in government and community intervention and participation in integrated coastal resource management and conservation stewardship. Existing fisheries management plan amended and consensus-building mechanism developed to provide for closer coordination and consultation among stakeholders to resolve competitive or conflicting multi-resource use problems between and among small-scale and medium-scale fishermen, anchovy fishermen and cage culture fishermen/operators over shared waters and resources. Fishing zones demarcation for different activities reviewed and modified to suit the present resource situation and condition in terms of level of exploitation and development.

CC. Phang-Nga Bay model community-based fisheries management system in Thailand

27. Existing Thai fisheries management laws, regulations and rules amended to accommodate and provide for greater community participation and responsibility in managing growing scarcity of fisheries resources in Thai waters. Similarly, a good start on sharing of fisheries management authority is in place in the Bay between the government and local resource users and stakeholders. The Phang-Nga Bay model for community-based fisheries management system is introduced to other Thai waters. Savings from enforcement costs through reducing the fleet size or the number of patrol boats and staff are used for other more productive activities within the fisheries sector. The Department of Fisheries, in close consultation with the fishermen, established criteria and means to guide the fishermen in managing their resources. A useful illustration and valuable experience is the curb on trawling in inshore waters and gear diversification of the trawler fleet such as switching to gillnet, baby trawl equipped with BED/TED and larger codend mesh size; and gradual phasing out of pushnets.

DD. Estuarine set bag net and push net fisheries in Bangladesh

28. Demonstrate the feasibility of alternate fisheries and non-fisheries options to the existing use of estuarine set bag and push nets such as gillnets. This is because of the awareness-building and public education campaign targeted not only at the estuarine set bag net fishermen but also at net manufacturers to convince them that the gear is detrimental

to the long-term sustainability of the fisheries resources as well as their own livelihood security. Learnings about participatory mechanisms of management enhanced among fishermen and other stakeholders.

EE. Integrated reef resources management in the Maldives

29. Sustainable exploitation, development and management of the island-nation's reefs and fisheries resources are now governed by a flexible and adaptive fully-operational integrated reef resources management plan. The fishermen and stakeholders are directly involved in the management process, sharing full responsibility for the health and sustainable production of the reefs. Compatible inter- and cross-sectoral multiple use of reef resources achieved. Marine resources development is now the engine driving the growth of the national economy. The experience from the joint Maldives/BOBP work in the four atolls will be used to initiate efforts in the other atolls in the country.

FF. Coastal fisheries and aquaculture management in India

30. The existing trawler fishing fleet on the east coast is increasingly retrofitted with alternative fishing gear such as gill nets and long lines. They are now fishing outside the 50-metre depth. Those fishing offshore are also equipped with BED/TED.

31. Aquaculture in the coastal zone of India's east coast, dominated as it were by shrimp aquaculture, has evolved a system of production based on well-managed, low-conflict, low-impact and low-chemical/nutrient input technology which is not only sustainable but also meets the stringent HACCP requirements of the importing country for wholesome products in terms of heavy metal, toxic or organic waste contamination.

GG. Managing ornamental fish fisheries in Sri Lanka

32. The structure, conduct and performance of the ornamental fish industry in Sri Lanka strengthened by a) improving the availability of information on market prices b) increasing export opportunities c) determining the species allowed for export and those on the endangered list d) making available the ICLARM fish base on CD-ROM and waterproof species identification guides e) making available safety-first training guides for divers and other industry-support services such as formulations for ornamental fish feed and packaging for export.

IMPLEMENTATION CONSTRAINTS

33. It should be pointed out here that a combination of unique administrative procedures and Project start-up problems, such as full-time counterpart staff commitment, and in a couple of cases political uncertainty, have delayed timely achievements and progress of the Project. Overall, in 7 member countries, about 80 % of the member country activities for 1995 have been successfully implemented.

34. Awareness-building of the need for, benefits of and methods and practices of fisheries management, being the main mandate of the Project, took priority and all efforts were

geared not only toward fishermen but also toward policy-makers and field personnel at government and non-government levels, and included *inter alia*:

- a) Workshop on Fisheries Management and Development in Bangladesh
- b) Workshop on Community-Based Fisheries Management in Thailand
- c) Training Workshop on Stakeholder Analysis in Bangladesh
- d) Training Workshop on Stakeholder Analysis in Indonesia

INFORMATION SERVICES (GCP/RAS/117/MUL)

35. The member countries have continued to support BOBP's Information Services (GCP/RAS/117/MUL) through cash contribution of US\$90,000 a year. The Information Services, formally attached to the main Project (GCP/RAS/150/DEN and 151/JPN), were contracted out to a firm to cut costs while benefiting from the collective services that the firm provides which includes library, information and editorial services.

36. With the Third Phase's main thrust on awareness-building and education, the role and contribution of the Information Services within BOBP and member institutions is crucial.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

37. The 19th Meeting of the BOBP's Advisory Committee, realising that the task the Programme was expected to undertake would be complex and difficult with the relatively low level of funding, recommended that BOBP seek additional donor support. New Zealand has shown interest in supporting an initiative to introduce and familiarise member country institutions and others in the region with their experience concerning quota management approaches to fisheries management.

38. Similarly, the Global Environment Facility is looking into the possibility of collaborating with BOBP on its International Waters/Biodiversity programme under its incremental funding mechanism. BOBP has submitted a regional proposal to GEF on "Sustainable Environmental Management of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (LME)".

39. As the Third Phase is implemented, more and more like-minded donors and agencies will be approached to explore cost-sharing activities and leverage BOBP's financial resources to benefit not only BOBP member countries but the region as well.

OTHER BOBP ACTIVITIES

40. The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) contracted SWEDMAR to undertake a review of BOBP with the purpose of evaluating the impact of Swedish contribution to BOBP over the last 15 years. The report is awaited.

41. BOBP also organised a children's art competition in selected fishing communities in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa on the theme "Care for the Seas and the Seas Will Care for Us".

42. BOBP in cooperation with the local missions of UNICEF and UNHCR organised the 50th UN Anniversary Celebration with a public forum, exhibition of posters and photographs, including light entertainment, presented by the Madras Musical Association at the Alliance Francaise, Madras, India.

POST-HARVEST FISHERIES PROJECT

43. The second largest project under BOBP umbrella deals with post-harvest fisheries and is executed by the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) of the United Kingdom (UK) supported by the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) of UK at a level of US\$2.25 million over a five year period (1993-1997). The project activities are restricted to Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka with a view to enhance incomes of artisanal fishing communities and petty fish traders, to increase the diversity of fish products marketed by these communities and to strengthen the ability of NGOs to replicate and secure sustainable benefits from project activities.

44. With the overall thrust of BOBP in enabling and facilitating fisheries management, post-harvest fisheries activities take on growing importance by showing the way to adding value to raw materials. Such post-harvest activities will help fisherfolk to earn more incomes. While the main Project and the post-harvest fisheries project aim to generate synergy by working together, as the Advisory Committee pointed out during the last AC Meeting, there is a need to further identify operational mechanisms by which post-harvest inputs can be made available to member countries who are not involved in the BOBP/ODA project ambit.

CLEANER FISHERY HARBOUR PROJECT

45. Awareness-building to promote cleaner fishery harbours in the Maldives and Sri Lanka is the last of a series of pilot activities supported by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in the Bay of Bengal region, with a budget of US\$90,000. Awareness campaign materials have been developed in both countries and will be put into use during 1996, the last year of the project.

46. Given the demand for similar activities, particularly from the governments of Bangladesh and Indonesia and IMO's inability to continue support beyond the present activities, BOBP looked into other sources of support. A proposal for an activity in Bangladesh has been submitted to the World Bank and discussions are in progress with the regional IMO/UNDP project on the Prevention and Management of Marine Pollution in East Asian Seas for possible cooperation.

47. While the discussions show promise, it is still too early to be certain whether these initiatives would lead to actual activities. Given the increasing emphasis of importing countries on the wholesome quality of seafood imported and on the environmental conditions in which or where seafood is captured, cultured, landed, handled and stored, there is clearly a definite need to support quality assurance efforts of member countries. Promoting and facilitating cleaner fishery harbours will play an important role.

48. It is encouraging that the IMO has made available a grant of US\$50,000 to share the learnings of the Cleaner Fishery Harbour project through the preparation of a manual which will be undertaken during 1996.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

49. As with any project, the ultimate success of the project depends on the commitments and active participation of our colleagues in the member countries.

50. Integrated Coastal Fisheries Management (GCP/RAS/150/DEN and 151/JPN), supported by the Governments of Denmark and Japan, is a five year activity with a total budget of US\$3 million or US\$600,000 a year. With the agreement of member countries on the problems prioritised in their respective situation analyses, BOBP set about close consultation and preparatory activities. The preparatory activities which included but were not necessarily limited to the following activities — identification of stakeholders, stakeholder analysis, stakeholder perception and attitudes, and communication systems — have led to improved understanding of the problems and needs of the target beneficiaries.

51. BOBP's year-long activities during 1995 with member institutions and staff produced detailed workplans and implementation modalities and strategies, indicative budgetary outlays for 1996 and to a small degree for the remaining period of the Project.

52. Lastly, it is to the credit of the member countries that in spite of human power and budget limitations, Project activities were implemented by member institutions with little or no assistance from BOBP, implying that member countries are committed to national execution.

53. BOBP can provide the mechanism and forum through which well-balanced discussion, including debate on regional interests consistent with national priorities, can take place among member countries.