



COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS
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REPORT: CPPS

THE PERMANENT COMMISSION FOR THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Background

The Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS) is a Regional Maritime Organization responsible for the coordination of the maritime policies of its Member States which are COLOMBIA, CHILE, ECUADOR and PERU. The Organization was established on the 18th of August, 1952, as a result of "Declaration on the Maritime Zone" subscribed in Santiago by the Governments of Chile, Ecuador and Peru. Colombia joined the organization on the 9th August, 1979.

The CPPS is a strategic alliance in the Southeast Pacific, established to consolidate the presence of its coastal States in this important geographic zone; another function of CPPS is to extend its influence to adjacent zones, and further its relationship with the Pacific Basin countries.

CPPS's coordinating, promoting and executing organ is the General Secretariat, who works in compliance with the mandates established by its General Assemblies. The Secretary General coordinates the political matters of the organization, and is assisted by an Under-Secretary who oversees the legal themes; a Scientific Director and an Economic Affairs Director also assist the Secretary General in the oceanographic, atmospheric and living resource management (including fisheries) areas. The Secretary General is also the Executive Secretary of the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the Southeast Pacific. Panama is a participant of this Action Plan.

The relation between the CPPS and the Governments of its Member States is through the National Sections, subordinate to the Ministry of Foreign Relations of each State.

Fisheries Statistics

Within CPPS, the production of fishery statistic has been very important and constantly mentioned as a priority in its General Assemblies. However, due to external factors, its production as a region has been discontinued since 2001. Before that 13 publications and two triptychs were published.

Publications

CPPS had published thirteen Fishery Statistics Bulletins for the South East Pacific since 1989 till 2001. Furthermore, CPPS also produced some triptychs with condensed five year information on fisheries statistics. These publications were suspended due to the fact that two of its member countries almost discontinued their production of fishery statistics.

As mentioned by Ecuadorian fisheries authorities, in the year 2000, the fishery statistic unit was eliminated within the Under Secretariat of Fisheries with the purpose of being outsourced, but this never happened. Moreover, the Colombian Government decided in 2001 to eliminate de National Institute for Fisheries and Aquaculture INPA created in 1984 and trespassed some of their responsibilities to the National Institute of Rural Development INCODER. The production of fishery statistics was abandoned at this time.

Workshops and Meetings

CPPS coordinated a workshop on fisheries statistics in October 2006, in Lima, Peru, with the technical assistance of FAO; attached is the final report of this meeting. Previous workshops were coordinated in the past, even working groups were organized, but these stopped in 2001.