

ORIGINAL : ENGLISH

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

THIRTEENTH REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING ON FISHERIES
(Noumea, New Caledonia, 24 - 28 August 1981)

OFFER BY GOVERNMENT OF CHILE TO REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT AT THE THIRTEENTH
REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING ON FISHERIES

INTRODUCTION

Chile has a long coast with an extension of more than 4.500 kilometers (without including the Antarctic territory) and one Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) with more than 1.6 million km².

The major part of its fishing resources are concentrated within a narrow band that extends from the coast to a depth of 200 meters and with a surface area close to 100 thousands km².

With request to world fisheries, Chile has experienced considerable growth, of a worldwide landing estimated at 70,000,000 tons; for the present year our country will contribute a total of 3.5 to 4 million tons, which means a 5% of the total world landings.

In spite of this, our fishing development is rather recent because only during the decade of the 50's the Industrial Trawling Fishing was expanded and lately during the decade of the 60's the Industrial Fisheries was developed. This rapid and permanent development (in the average period) has necessitated that Chile obtain and determine the necessary elements to achieve an efficient administration of its fishing resources. At the present time, we believe that we have valuable elements and above all valid experience that we can make available to friendly countries, which may be reaching similar development. We are convinced that this international assistance or cooperation constitutes a valuable instrument for the economic and social development of the countries in the region. At the present time, Chile is providing technical assistance to several countries through bilateral agreements.

Assistance Areas

1. The Artisanal Fishery

There was an incipient artisanal fishery before the development of industrial fishery and this kind of fishery had to adapt itself to the competition due to the industrial fishing development. Over all in relation with the marketing for fresh sea-products as the haka, which received a good price and was of high quality. Because of this situation, the artisanal fishery was orientated to catching species with a high price and quality which cannot be obtained on a large scale.

In the artisanal fishery, we have accumulated vast experience in terms of fisheries strategies and gear development and systems along with the best utilization of different kinds of vessels.

Efforts in research are being done at the present time in order to develop the management capacity and commercial potential of this subsector.

2. Industrial

2.1 Coastal fishing of pelagic species

In the seine fishery very important experience has been accumulated in several basic fields.

- (a) Ships : The characteristics and structures of the best ships for the catch of pelagic species have been specified. We are talking about fishing several mackerel species, sardines and anchovies.
- (b) Fishing gear: The most recent technical advances from all over the world have been incorporated in order to achieve a high level of efficiency (petrel system of purse seining).
- (c) Monitoring techniques : There has been important developments in aerial detection, using planes to conduct fishing works. Acoustic instrumentation is used to a certain extent by the industry.

We have accumulated valuable experience in the use of acoustic methodology for monitoring scientific assessment for pelagic resources.

2.2 Trawling coastal fishing

Because the relevant characteristics in possessing a narrow continental shelf, the trawling fishery is able to operate between 0 and 500 meters in depth adapting the fishing gear to very rough and restricted bottoms. This kind of fishing began with medium size ships (using ice) of about 300 TRB and for 4 days operations. Recently, in 1978 a fishing trawler factory-ships with freezing system has been developed in the South of our country, these are large ships (3.000 to 3.500 TRB) with a very high autonomy.

2.3 Fishing research

Along with the development of a national fishery and due to the need of preserving the resources, biological and technical fishing research has been developed; this happened during the last 15 years. In this way, we are trying to supply the need of developing administration of resources and especially management. We have experience in both development and management especially in the research of fishing systems and monitoring of the abundance by acoustic methods.

2.4 Sea cultivation

In Chile we have technical experience related to the cultivation of oysters and mussels, of course this experience is very difficult to share when we are talking about a different kind of species. However, there has been a strong development in the biological research related with the sea cultivation. This experience and the right approach to develop an orientated research can be considered as a valuable contribution in terms of technical assistance.

2.5 Inspection systems

A system has been developed in order to check the catch quota in Southern Chile where factory-ships operate. During the years 1977-78 many foreign ships operated in this area and for this it was necessary to perform a careful inspection work. This activity was related with the licensing fees. With respect to this we have adequate experience which may be easily transferred.

3. Areas of International Technical Assistance

The country is in good condition to provide technical assistance in the following areas:

3.1 Development of Artisanal Fishery

3.1.1 Area of Harvesting

3.1.2 Area of Management Organization, basically in Marketing.

3.1.3 Area of Processing (dried, salted)

3.2 Development of Coastal Industrial Fishery

3.2.1 Area of Extraction Technology

Trawling gear

Seining gear

Electronic instrumentalization

Evaluation of different kinds of vessels

3.2.2 Area for processing

Development of the industrial infrastructures

Equipment and industrial processing (frozen, fish meal, oil)

3.3 Development of Studies and Fishery Research in order to manage Resources

3.3.1 Establishment of systems for fisheries information

3.3.2 Establishment of monitoring system on the abundance through periodical quantification (acoustic method, trawled area and others)

3.3.3 Establishment of programs on biological research for the cultivation of mollusc

3.3.4 Adjustment of cultivation technologies based on point 3.3.3.

3.4 Development of Management on Resources and Inspection on the
Established Regulations

3.4.1 Organization of inspection mechanisms (observers, inspection and
landing control, etc.).
