

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

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**ATTACHMENT OF JAPANESE FISHERY SPECIALIST TO SPC'S
COASTAL FISHERIES PROGRAMME**

(Paper presented by the Secretariat)

Background

1. The Japanese Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation (OFCF) has indicated that it will consider an SPC request to station a Japanese fishery specialist within the SPC Coastal Fisheries Programme (CFP). The request was originally made by the SPC Secretary-General in March 1990, and has received a favourable initial response from OFCF. The approach was made by SPC because a number of benefits to SPC member countries may be expected to arise as a result of such an attachment. OFCF has supported the attachment because it wishes to collaborate in providing broad support to fisheries development on a regional basis.

2. Potential benefits from the attachment would include:

- insights into aspects of Japanese fishery knowledge, techniques and technology that may be applicable to CFP activities;
- establishment of improved contacts with Japanese technical and scientific institutions in both the public and private sectors;
- access to technical fishery literature published in Japanese.

3. If arrangements are confirmed, the attachment is expected to take place at SPC headquarters for a two-year period, commencing in the first half of 1991. Minimum qualification requirements for the specialist are: a tertiary qualification in a field relevant to fisheries; appropriate practical fisheries development experience; experience of working in the Pacific islands region; and a good command of English. All direct costs of the attachment will be borne by OFCF, with SPC providing professional supervision and technical and administrative support.

4. The individual appointed will be selected jointly by SPC and OFCF. He will be based in Noumea, with provision made for regional travel in connection with SPC activities in which he is involved. The specialist will be expected to provide technical support to all CFP projects. Typical duties might include specific support to the DSFDP master fishermen's in-country activities, acquisition of fishing and other specialised technical equipment, assistance with the organisation of regional and in-country training activities, liaison with Japanese institutions, and assisting with the production of English- and French-language summaries of relevant Japanese technical documentation. Actual duties will depend on the day-to-day requirements of the work programme and the nature of requests received from member countries.

Action required

5. The meeting is invited to discuss the topic and, if appropriate, support the concept by recommending to the South Pacific Conference that the secretariat, in consultation with OFCF, proceed with finalising the necessary arrangements.