

SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

UNDP/PAO/SPC

SECOND CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Noumea, New Caledonia

18 - 22 October 1971

DRAFT PAPER PRESENTED BY DR CLUTTER

SPIEDA REEFS AND LAGOONS SUB-PROJECT: RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Adopt a policy of development that ensures that the local marine industries remain the property and responsibility of the indigenous peoples, and that production does not endanger the resources, the marine ecosystems in general, nor the evolving social structures of the indigenous peoples.
2. Encourage and assist pilot projects in aquaculture, especially oyster culture, in selected locations (eg New Caledonia, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, French Polynesia, Palau).
3. With respect to aquaculture in particular, prepare a pamphlet outlining the principles of production and a checklist of operation records that must be kept.
4. Generally discourage ill-planned, ambitious development projects, and set up a review board for competent but disinterested appraisal of new proposals for development.
5. Initiate pilot projects to assess underused fishery resources especially benthic shelf fishes; this might include submarine observations and exploratory fishing with simple gear.
6. Begin agitating for intensified research on the detection of ciguatera (poison fish).
7. Initiate or somehow implement an experiment to evaluate the production potential of reef fish populations through harvesting.

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8. Begin negotiations for establishing a reef and lagoon research institute, to include both basic and applied investigation related to aquaculture and resource management.
 9. Establish an information storage and dissemination system to eventually be associated with the research institute.
 10. Outline procedures for training indigenous peoples in techniques of aquaculture, fishing and resource management when the pilot projects have progressed far enough to warrant it.
 11. Communicate with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature regarding possible involvement in the suggested plan to pursue integrated experimental development in an appropriate island territory.
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