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SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

NINETEETH REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING ON FISHERIES
(Noumea, New Caledonia, 3-7 August 1987)

MICROCOPYING OF FISHERIES DOCUMENTS
(Paper prepared by Bess Flores of the Pacific Manuscripts
Bureau)

MICRO-COPYING OF FISHERIES DOCUMENTS - RECOMMENDATION OF PACIFIC ISLANDS
MARINE RESOURCES INFORMATION SYSTEM (PIMRIS, Part 1: Marine Resources
Information Needs (WP. 16).

States that "efforts (should) be made within the terms of the project to identify the precise country needs in micrographics and to explore further requirements of fisheries departments for such a service".

The result of organising and recording fisheries documents should be to increase the use and value of these documents. However, where few copies of any particular document exists, increased use and value = increased possibilities of loss or theft, plus increased copying and postage costs.

Microcopying would

- a) produce a master copy for safe keeping plus a working copy for reproduction and daily use
- b) reduce storage and postage costs.

The Pacific Manuscripts Bureau's chief aim is to search for, and arrange the microcopying of, unpublished and other Pacific documentary material of value to researchers. The Bureau is therefore proposing within the next three years to carry out a survey:

- a) of completed and current microform projects in the SPC area,
- b) of at-risk document material of research and development significance to the SPC area, held in SPC area archives, libraries government offices or in private hands and recommended by SPC area archivists, librarians and other authorities for urgent copying.

The general objective of the survey would be to make more widely available to archives, libraries, government offices and their clientele (government planners, research and development workers, the business community and private individuals) both the existing microcopied material and the at-risk uncopied material, held in the SPC area and of developmental, scientific, technical, medical, historical or literary importance to the SPC area.

Fisheries documents would clearly fall into these categories. The Pacific Manuscripts Bureau would therefore be happy to co-operate with PIMRIS in carrying out Recommendation 7.

Further information on the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau is available from the Bureau's Executive Officer (Bess Flores) stationed at SPC until mid-September 1987. The official address is:-

Executive Officer
Pacific Manuscripts Bureau
Room 22, Block I
Research School of Pacific Studies
A.N.U.
GPO Box 4
Canberra ACT 2601
AUSTRALIA