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REPORT OF THE EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON SEA USE
PLANNING AND COASTAL AREA MANAGEMENT IN
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

(Santiago, Chile, 28 November-1 December 1989)

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I. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date

1. The Expert Group Meeting on Sea Use Planning and Coastal Area Management in Latin America and the Caribbean, organized by the Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in co-operation with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, from 28 November to 1 December 1989. It was convened for the purpose of considering the experience of a number of countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as of other countries from outside the region. The main objective of the meeting was to identify --through the above-mentioned national experiences-- priority needs faced by the countries of the ECLAC region in the field of sea use planning and coastal area management and to examine possible solutions to their problems.

Attendance

2. The participants included experts from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Jamaica, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States and officials from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Regional Office for Science and Technology of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Permanent Commission for the (CPPS). South Pacific Representatives of various Chilean bodies also participated as observers.

Agenda

3. The meeting based its discussions on the following agenda:
1. Opening meeting
 2. Review of national experiences in coastal and ocean planning and management
 - a) Sea use planning and coastal area management in Chile
 - b) Emergencies and risks in coastal areas in Chile

- c) The Brazilian coastal management programme and technical and legal aspects of the surveying and evaluation of the continental margin and planning of the coastal areas of Brazil
 - d) Ocean and coastal development planning in Colombia
 - e) Planning and integrated management of the coastal areas of Ecuador
 - f) Initiatives in coastal resource management and planning in Jamaica
 - g) Coastal management programme in Costa Rica: negative and positive aspects
3. State of the art in coastal and sea use planning and management
- a) Marine policy in the North Sea Region: the experience of the Netherlands
 - b) Report on ocean policy development in the State of Oregon (United States of America)
 - c) The development of sea use management for Latin America and the Caribbean
 - d) Human resources development: an outline for a training course in ocean management
4. Co-operation among countries of the region: role of the United Nations and regional organizations
- a) The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
 - b) Sea use planning in the light of some economic and social development problems in Latin America
 - c) Economic aspects concerning the protection of the marine environment
 - d) Regional co-operation in the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS)
 - e) The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and coastal management: some experiences in the South-East Pacific
 - f) UNEP's ocean and coastal areas programme for the Wider Caribbean Region: the Caribbean Environment Programme
 - g) FAO activities on fisheries planning and management in Latin America and the Caribbean
 - h) Research and training on coastal systems in Latin America and the Caribbean and their relationship with the continental shelf (COMAR/COSALC/UNESCO)
 - i) The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission: its relationship to sea use planning and coastal area management
5. Identification of major needs in the countries of the region.

Opening meeting

4. The opening meeting began with a statement by Mr. Gert Rosenthal, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, who welcomed the participants and noted the importance of initiatives of this kind in providing guidance for international bodies as to the most effective way of working with the countries of the region to integrate the ocean dimension properly into economic and social development policies. The floor was then taken by Mr. Jean-Pierre Levy, Director of the United Nations Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, who, after conveying the best wishes of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea, Mr. S. Nandan, reported on the main international developments relating to the law of the sea and State practice in that respect. He explained the purpose of the meeting and noted that it was hoped that its conclusions would give rise to guidelines for responding adequately to the priorities identified by the experts. Finally, as agreed by the experts, the Executive Secretary of ECLAC invited Mr. Rafael Steer-Ruiz, of Colombia, to chair the meeting and Mr. Victor Ariel Gallardo of Chile and Mr. Hance Smith of the United Kingdom to act as rapporteurs in Spanish and English, respectively.

II. SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS

Review of national experiences in coastal and ocean planning and management (item 2 of the agenda)

a) Sea use planning and coastal area management in Chile

5. Mr. Victor Ariel Gallardo said that, as in the case of countries which had developed earlier, in Chile the use of marine spaces and resources, including the country's extensive coastal areas, had been diversifying and intensifying as economic and technological progress was made. While Chile had adequate institutional capacity and human resources to cope with the challenges posed by the management of its large jurisdictional responsibilities (e.g., the exclusive economic zone) and the use of its coastal area, a national policy was needed to guide the development of an integrated management strategy and thus make it possible to visualize the many possibilities for interrelationships among the various uses and to minimize conflicts and problems so that the marine dimension of Chile could be incorporated in its plans for sustainable development.

b) Emergencies and risks in coastal areas in Chile

6. Mr. Marco Antonio Retamal described the principal natural hazards to which continental Chile and its island possessions were exposed and analysed the magnitude of the major disasters which had occurred and their impact on coastal areas. In conclusion, he referred to the alert systems in use and to the various emergency mechanisms installed in order to provide the population with maximum possible protection.

c) The Brazilian coastal management programme and technical and legal aspects of the surveying and evaluation of the continental margin and planning of the coastal areas of Brazil

7. Mr. Renato Herz noted that coastal management in Brazil was a dynamic programme co-ordinated by the Interministerial Commission on Marine Resources, set up in 1986. Regional Law No. 7661 of 16 May 1988 was designed to guide scientific research in line with methodological principles that would facilitate identification of the structure of the coastal system. Macrozonning and monitoring of the coastal zone areas were the main components of the coastal management activities, and they also made it possible to introduce environmental parameters into the legislation enacted, so as to preserve natural resources and promote integrated land use. The Interministerial Commission on Marine Resources also co-ordinated the programme for the delimitation of the continental margin. The oceanographic and geophysical research carried out included the main hydrographic activities planned for surveying the areas under national jurisdiction recognized by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Finally, he described some of the inherent technical limitations affecting the generation of sufficient data for meeting the regulations on delimitation laid down in the Convention.

d) Ocean and coastal development planning in Colombia

8. Mr. Rafael Steer-Ruiz, described the efforts made in Colombia to plan the development and management of ocean and coastal areas, which prior to 1970 had been handled in an empirical and intuitive manner. As from that year, the first interinstitutional mechanisms were set up for co-ordinating and promoting activities connected with the sea. The most important of the bodies set up had been the Colombian Oceanographic Commission, which served as an advisory body for the Government on these matters and co-ordinated the activities of over 50 other national bodies. In 1980 the first national plan was produced, in which the Government formulated policies designed to give some direction to ocean-related activities, such as the National Coastal Area Development and Management Programme, which had been executed only in part. That was followed by proposals for marine development which had not yet

been implemented satisfactorily, and currently attention was concentrated on the preparation of a development plan covering the years 1990-2000 which emphasized the coastal areas. A bill to set up a national fishery and aquiculture institute was currently before Congress.

e) Planning and integrated management of the coastal areas of Ecuador

9. Mr. Luis Arriaga Mosquera began by referring to the agreement signed in 1986 between the Government of Ecuador, the University of Rhode Island and the United States Agency for International Development. That agreement marked the initiation of the process of planning for the integrated management of the coastal resources of Ecuador. Subsequently, in January 1989, the Government formally established the Coastal Resources Management Programme, whose main objective is to develop the coastal area through intersectoral administrative integration within the framework of conservation of the various resource bases. If petroleum was left out of the reckoning, the coastal area produced the majority of the country's foreign exchange income, derived primarily from the exportation of shrimps, bananas, coffee, cocoa, fish meal and other fishery products. The growth in the population of the coastal areas had put great demographic pressure on their resources and increased conflicts among their users. The coastal management programme included the temporary creation of six special management areas (five on the continental coast and one in the Galápagos Islands) with the aim of designing specific integrated management and development plans for each of these zones. A National Coastal Resources Management Commission at the interministerial level was responsible for providing the central government with guidelines and political support, while a technical secretariat had the task of facilitating substantive assistance and co-ordinating it at the national level.

f) Initiatives in coastal resource management and planning in Jamaica

10. Mrs. Valerie Gordon explained that Jamaica's coastline was between 495 and 550 miles in length and was punctuated by numerous inlets and bays. Its varied and irregular configuration gave rise to a unique ecosystem which included rocky shores, sandy beaches, harbours, estuaries, bays, coral reefs, mangrove forests and coastal woodlands. Those features were among the chief attractions of Jamaica, making it one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. At present the tourist industry was the mainstay of the island's economy, contributing more than 50% of the gross domestic product. In addition to its tourist centres, the island's principal industrial, commercial and population centres were also located on the coast, and the pressures resulting from those

diverse activities had seriously compromised the integrity of coastal ecosystems throughout the island. Chief among the problems affecting coastal resources were domestic and industrial pollution, overexploitation of beach and fishery resources, degradation of wildlife habitats and ill-conceived building of coastal structures. Those problems had been exacerbated in September 1988, when the passing of hurricane Gilbert caused enormous damage to the coastal environment, estimated at some US\$200 million. The evaluation, development and management of coastal and marine resources in Jamaica was carried out through the co-ordinated action of various government bodies and institutions. In spite of the fact that there were a number of legal instruments administered by those bodies and that there was an individual and joint awareness of the need to develop an integrated plan for coastal areas, however, such a plan had still not been prepared. The topic had been actively discussed, however, and policy guidelines for putting this initiative into effect had been proposed to the Government. It was hoped that those guidelines would be adopted next year when Jamaica's laws on the environment were reviewed.

g) Coastal management programme in Costa Rica: negative and positive aspects

11. Mr. Robert Chaverri said that Costa Rica initiated its coastal management programme in 1977 when it promulgated Law No. 6043, with the corresponding regulations, on the Marine and Terrestrial Zone. The programme covered the four successive stages needed for successful management, beginning with the basic survey; the preparation of plans regulating soil use for each coastal sector; the granting of concessions for private use after payment of a rent for each concession; and finally, monitoring and surveillance of the fulfilment of the basic objectives of the law, the general and specific plans, and the correct use of each concession, penalties being provided for under the law in case of violation.

State of the art in coastal and sea use planning and management
(item 3 of the agenda)

a) Marine policies in the North Sea Region: the experience of the Netherlands

12. Mr. Henk van Horn said that the North Sea was one of the most heavily used expanses of water in the world and was seriously polluted, so that the management problems involved were manifold, both at the national and regional levels. The main problems concerned the deterioration of the marine environment and conflicts among users. In 1982, the Netherlands developed a method of harmonizing its North Sea policies which resulted in a pragmatic and comprehensive action programme to improve the quality of the marine environment, to establish a balanced control of ocean space,

to improve project control and enforcement and to enhance knowledge about the North Sea. In 1988, a revised programme was adopted which reflected a new, more goal-oriented and future-oriented, approach in the Netherlands North Sea policy. At the regional level the key issues were the management of North Sea fisheries and the protection of the North Sea environment.

b) Report on ocean policy development in the State of Oregon (United States of America)

13. Mr. Eldon Hout noted that the Oregon Ocean Resources Management Programme was an unprecedented effort by a state to protect the long-term values and benefits of renewable ocean resources and activities. The programme extended Oregon's comprehensive statewide land use planning and coastal zone management programme seaward to provide a co-ordinated, comprehensive policy and a management framework for state and federal agencies and Oregon's local governments. Its objective was to produce a framework for decisions that recognized both the environmental links between the marine ecosystem and ocean resources and the economic importance of ocean resource use to coastal communities and the nation. Oregon's initiative focused on ocean resource planning and management in a part of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. The Oregon Programme asserted the state's right and responsibility to plan for and jointly manage ocean resources and uses which affected the state, through the creation of an Ocean Stewardship Area.

c) The development of sea use management for Latin America and the Caribbean

14. Mr. Hance Smith expressed the view that the development of sea use management could be traced from the North Sea case, which had occupied a central place in the evolution of the global economy for some five hundred years. From a management point of view it was necessary to identify the fundamental sea and coastal use groups, followed by first-order objectives concerned with the actual interactions of man and the sea and associated with four technical management areas, namely, scientific, technological, environmental and social. General management was concerned with the co-ordination of technical management with second-order objectives concerned with indirect environmental, economic, social and political factors acting on the sea use management system.

15. Regionally, the sea use management system could be divided into urban, rural, and wilderness categories, based on different degrees of application of management resources. The regional development of integrated management approaches was directly linked to the global pattern of development. In that respect, it was possible to distinguish the four major industrial core regions of

Western Europe, Russia-Ukraine, Eastern North America and Japan, together with a series of smaller cores at various stages of development. These were surrounded by peripheral regions, also at varying stages of development, with development of sea use management ranging from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in Australia to the UNEP Regional Seas Programme. Finally, there was some measure of global integration, supplied mainly by international agencies.

16. In applying global experience to the ECLAC region, while simultaneously taking into account experience within the region, it was possible to identify core urban industrial regions at various stages of development and to apply the management system regionalization outlined above. It was further suggested that four broad management regions could be identified, namely, the Caribbean and island States, the eastern seaboard of South America, the western seaboard, and the deep ocean. In conclusion, the primary needs in the ECLAC region were for the continued development of integrated technical management measures with a clearly defined set of regional priorities, working as far as possible with existing organizational structures.

d) Human resources development: an outline for a training course in ocean management

17. Ms. Stella Maris Vallejo stated that in the field of ocean management, one of the most urgent needs that would be faced in the 1990s was the training of personnel in the theoretical and practical skills required for ocean management --among them, the application of a conceptual approach, the use of analytical methods, and responding to operational requirements. Training would assist in the strengthening of national capabilities to formulate and implement policies and programmes for the integrated development and management of the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and to effectively integrate that area into national development planning, thus optimizing the benefits inherent in the new ocean régime. She outlined a new training course in ocean management which took into consideration the most pressing needs faced by both developed and developing countries and went on to examine the conceptual foundation, design characteristics, structure and content that such a training course could have, as well as outlining a suitable curriculum.

Co-operation among countries of the region: role of
the United Nations and regional organizations
(item 4 of the agenda)

a) The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

18. Mr. Jean-Pierre Levy outlined the provisions of the new Law of the Sea contained in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. He emphasized in particular the importance of the establishment of an exclusive economic zone, especially with regard to the rights and duties of coastal States: an aspect in which coastal area management and ocean planning needed to be taken into account. Since the sea had many uses and resources, coastal countries were increasingly conscious of the need to promote integrated approaches in that respect. The Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea was trying to help developing countries to adopt and implement integrated marine policies: a process which naturally called for the close co-operation of the whole United Nations system of organizations. He noted that the proceedings of the Expert Group had clearly shown the validity and pertinence of the concept, as could be seen from the national experiences which had been described.

b) Sea use planning and some economic and social development problems in Latin America

19. Mrs. Carmen Artigas de Santamaria gave a brief description of the activities carried out by ECLAC in the field of marine resources, concerning both matters focused on specific groups of countries and those suitable for a regional approach. She then analysed various examples of utilization of coastal areas in the region pointing out the conflicts in their different uses and the problems arising out of the lack of suitable management policies. She emphasized the need to promote a systematic and integrated approach to problems related to ocean policy, through the calling-together of all the sectors involved and the employment of multidisciplinary mechanisms. She described the importance of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea as a framework for national legislation to strengthen the institutional aspects of any coastal area development strategy and gave some examples of the ways in which the different Parts of the Convention could facilitate the formulation of integrated ocean policies. Finally, she suggested some guidelines for regional action with the concerted participation of international and intergovernmental bodies having competence in this field.

c) Economic aspects of the protection of the marine environment

20. Mrs. Rosa Aguilera briefly described how the economy could make its contribution to the process of resource use management.

The analytical framework was that of the concept of sustained development, within which the objectives of development policy (economic growth --social equity-- conservation) must be treated as an indivisible whole in order to help improve the quality of life of the population. She noted that in order to do that it was necessary to adapt science and technology to satisfy human needs: in other words, it was not enough for projects to be technically viable and economically profitable; they must also be socially acceptable. In the final analysis, it was a question of maximizing social welfare. She added that her presentation contained some elements of the environmental protection economy, since it was recognized that the environment was one of the elements involved in coastal area management and ocean use planning. Finally, she said that there were some requirements which would have to be satisfied from the economic point of view if the process of environmental management was to be effective.

d) Regional co-operation in the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS)

21. Mr. Jairo Escobar recalled that in November 1981 the Plenipotentiaries of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru adopted a Regional Action Plan for the protection of the marine environment and coastal areas in the South-East Pacific, one of the five regions where the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) --through its Ocean and Coastal Areas Programme and in co-operation with governments-- had fostered the establishment of Regional Action Plans. The Plan in question was co-ordinated by the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS), an intergovernmental organization created in 1952 by the Governments of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru to implement the marine policies announced by them through the statements of their Foreign Ministers. Marine policy in the field of environmental management was implemented by the CPPS with the support of UNEP through the above-mentioned South-East Pacific Action Plan, whose co-operation and co-ordination mechanisms provided for the participation of international organizations and national institutions through co-operative agreements and/or specific requests for assistance. At the national level, activities were co-ordinated through five focal points, one in each participatory country. Environmental assessment was the main component of the Regional Action Plan, and within it priority was given to the determination of marine environmental quality, including, *inter alia*, studies on different uses of coastal areas and their trends, with the aim of providing a suitable basis for appropriate policies and management of those areas. On the basis of that component, the Third Intergovernmental Meeting on the Plan (Bogotá, April 1987) issued a recommendation for the elaboration of a Draft Plan for the Management of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the South-East Pacific, which was approved by the Fourth Intergovernmental Meeting (Paipa, Boyacá, Colombia, September 1989) together with a strategy for its

application in the region, starting with a pilot study. In June 1989, the Expert Group Meeting on Co-operation in Ocean Mining and Sea Use in the South-East Pacific, through the Co-operation Group on Sea Use Planning, identified national problems which warranted the drafting of a Plan and recommended, inter alia, the formulation of a regional co-operation programme on planning and integrated management of coastal areas within the framework of the South-East Pacific Action Plan, with the support of UN/OALOS, UNEP, IOC/UNESCO and other international organizations. Finally, Mr. Escobar outlined the proposed Plan for Environmental Management, the co-ordination and co-operation mechanisms envisaged, and the recommended strategy for its execution in the South-East Pacific.

e) The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and coastal management: some experiences in the South-East Pacific

22. With reference to protection of the marine environment, Mrs. María Teresa Infante said that the legal instruments negotiated under the CPPS/UNEP Plan of Action offered the possibility of developing basic general principles which could be worked out in greater detail through more specific and functional instruments. The instruments referred to above constituted a fundamental frame of reference for analysing the various uses of the sea within the global context of maritime policy and the principles underlying the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The main instrument should be the 1981 Agreement on the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the South-East Pacific, which defined the basic obligations assumed by member States. That Agreement was supplemented by the Agreement on Regional Co-operation to Combat Contamination of the South-East Pacific by Hydrocarbons and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency; the Additional Protocol to the latter Agreement; the Protocol for the Protection of the South-East Pacific from Land-based Contamination; the Protocol for the Protection of the South-East Pacific from Radioactive Contamination, and the recently signed Protocol for the Conservation and Management of Protected Areas of the South-East Pacific. Those instruments shared some common features which were worth emphasizing: they were integrated in a Plan of Action which included those matters facilitating the fuller knowledge of their content and scope; they used a regional administrative support infrastructure through the Plan of Action, while through the Executive Secretariat of the CPPS they sought to use national-level mechanisms, both through laws and regulations and through national programmes; they were of a complementary nature, and they provided for their periodic review or examination. Among the most significant functions which those instruments could fulfil were those relating to the environmental responsibility of States and of agencies dealing with the marine environment and the contribution they could make to the solution of conflicts over

different uses of coastal areas and the marine environment, as well as those arising from cases of overlapping competence in those areas.

f) UNEP's Ocean and coastal areas programme for the Wider Caribbean Region: the Caribbean Environment Programme

23. Mrs. Beverly Miller said that the Caribbean Environment Programme was a regional co-operative initiative aimed at the effective management of the coastal and marine resources of the Wider Caribbean Region. The Programme was comprised of programmatic, legislative and financial components. The Caribbean Action Plan adopted in April 1981 was the programmatic component and had as its major objectives:

- the control and abatement of pollution of coastal and marine resources;
- the protection of sensitive coastal and marine ecosystems; and
- the provision of integrated planning mechanisms for utilization at the national and regional levels.

In support of the Programme, two major legal instruments had been adopted: the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region, and a Protocol concerning co-operation in combating oil spills in the Wider Caribbean Region. In addition, a Trust Fund supported by member nations had been established in order to act as a catalyst for attracting appropriate funding for the activities to be undertaken by the Programme. The Regional Co-ordinating Unit established in September 1986 was responsible for the overall implementation of the Caribbean Environment Programme and provided policy guidance, project co-ordination and administrative oversight for the components of the Programme. The Unit acted under the overall direction of the intergovernmental meetings through a nine-member Monitoring Committee which was responsible for supervising the development of the Programme as well as providing overall policy direction in the period between intergovernmental meetings and meetings of the Contracting Parties. In the 1990-1991 biennium, activities under the Caribbean Environment Programme would be addressed through the following regional programmes:

1. Regional Programme on Information Systems for the Management of Marine and Coastal Resources (CEPNET);
2. Regional Programme for Integrated Planning and Institutional Development for the Management of Marine and Coastal Resources;
3. Regional Programme for Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife;

4. Regional Education Training and Public Awareness Programme for Appropriate Management of Coastal and Marine Resources, and
5. Regional Programme for Assessment and Control of Marine and Coastal Pollution.

g) FAO activities on fisheries planning and management in Latin America and the Caribbean

24. Mr. Andrés Mena-Millar explained that, in view of the nature of FAO, its activities in the field of sea use planning and coastal area management were concerned with the fisheries sector. He then went on to describe FAO's "EEZ Programme", which was designed to provide assistance to developing coastal countries which had acquired sovereign rights over extensive areas of sea but lacked the necessary technical and financial capacity for the full investigation, allocation, management and exploitation of the fishery resources which now belonged to them. He also referred to the 1984 FAO World Conference on Fishery Organization and Development, which had formulated a new strategy in that respect, together with five associated programmes to act as a catalyst for international co-operation and help the developing countries, thus covering practically all the objectives of the previous FAO EEZ Programme. He then mentioned a Plan of Action recently prepared by FAO in order to assist the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in their efforts to develop the fisheries sector. That Plan of Action took account of the results of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the recommendations of the 1984 FAO World Conference on Fishery Organization and Development, and the individual development needs of the countries of the region. Finally, he listed the main activities carried out by FAO in the region in the last two years, namely, promotion of the capacity of the countries to plan, develop and manage their fishery sectors; development of the use made of existing catches and promotion of trade in fishery products, and development of the use of underutilized fishery resources.

h) Research and training on coastal systems in Latin America and the Caribbean and their relationship with the continental shelf (COMAR/COSALC/UNESCO)

25. Mr. Victor Scarabino said that the Major Interregional Project on Training and Research in the Integrated Management of Coastal Systems (COMAR) had been formally established by the General Assembly of UNESCO as part of the Organization's Marine Sciences Division in 1980. The Project was multidisciplinary and multinational and its main objective was to promote research and training in key aspects of coastal marine systems in order to establish a reliable basis for the management of the coastal marine environment and its resources through university training and

research programmes, the training of managers and technicians in the public service, and the provision of information and guidelines for decision-makers and users. That had given rise to the execution of regional projects in various coastal areas of Asia and the South-West Pacific, Africa, the Arab States, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The latter project, whose symbol was COSALC, was implementing three pilot projects on coastal area stability in island countries of the Easter Caribbean (COSALC I); Caribbean coastal marine area productivity (CARICOMP), and temperate coastal systems of Latin America (COSALC VII). He then went on to give a brief description of the features and functioning of these projects, stressing the pressing need for joint or complementary action by the various bodies in order to optimize their fields of activity and capacities for the benefit of all the States.

i) The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission: its relationship to sea use planning and coastal management

26. Mrs. Laura Piriz said that as more time elapsed, the more pressure was exerted on the marine/coastal environment and on its resources. There could therefore be no doubt of the need for making progress in incorporating the marine environmental dimension in the field of economic and social development policy-making and decision-taking in most of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Within that context, access to sufficient information about the state of the marine environment, its resources and the processes governing it became very important. The specific purpose of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission was to promote scientific research aimed at increasing knowledge about the nature of the oceans and their resources, through the harmonized action of its members. Further, it was the responsibility of the IOC to establish the bases for international co-ordination mechanisms concerning the study of the oceans and their resources and marine environmental management. She concluded her presentation by providing information on the role and work of the IOC in the context of sea use planning and coastal area management in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Identification of major needs in countries of the region
(item 5 of the agenda)

27. Following the presentation of experiences in coastal area development and sea use planning by the experts, the Group decided to concentrate on the major areas of concern identified in those presentations.

28. The Group realized that there were a wide variety of needs which could not all be addressed by the meeting. However, it was

generally felt that there were major needs within the following six areas:

- a) Raising awareness of the need to develop an integrated marine policy;
- b) Information;
- c) National legislation;
- d) Institutional aspects;
- e) Planning, development and implementation;
- f) Co-operation;
- g) Education, training and public awareness.

29. In identifying these needs, the Group also attempted to take account of possible solutions appropriate to the States of the region.

- a) Raising awareness of the need to develop an integrated marine policy

30. In the first place, raising the level of awareness must be based on fundamental philosophical principles such as the recognition that development should take place in harmony with the environment and be socially equitable. The Group therefore recognized the need for an integrated approach to coastal and sea use planning.

31. The process of generation of awareness varies according to regional differences and the historical, cultural and sociological background of the country involved, including its maritime interests.

32. In order to be effective, the development of maritime awareness must take place at different socio-economic levels, including the top political, technical and public awareness levels. It is particularly necessary to convey to the top political levels the economic and social implications of the policies or lack of policies for the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and coastal areas.

33. The purpose of raising awareness is to obtain popular and political support in order to ultimately establish an integrated marine policy which will permit sustained development of coastal and ocean resources.

34. This integrated marine management policy should include the existing coastal areas management policy, if it exists, so as to cover the exploitation and conservation of marine and coastal resources, and it should be in line with the overall development policy of the country concerned.

35. Concerning the development of coastal areas, consideration should be given to the management needs imposed by the particular conditions of land/ocean interface inherent in such areas.

b) Information

36. There are three fundamental areas of information, namely, policy-oriented, technical and public information.

37. Technical information is the starting point from which both policy and public information is derived. Considerations that must be taken into account regarding the provision of technical information for sea use planning include:

- the identification of the purposes for collecting information and its evaluation for management purposes; it is particularly important that the acquisition of information be related to planning requirements;
- the need for consistency in the quality of the basic data acquired, including the application of academic standards of peer review to assess information quality;
- the conduct of baseline surveys, intercalibration of scientific techniques and standardization of methodologies;
- the identification and availability of data banks and the possibility of their enlargement;
- the application of new technologies such as remote sensing.

38. After obtaining the data, there is a need to increase the ability of countries to distribute, analyse and apply the information in the process of coastal and sea use management. It is also desirable to attempt to standardize the format applied to case studies to ensure their comparability at both the national and regional levels, including social, political and other aspects.

39. The presentation of policy-oriented information based on this technical information must be done in such a way as to be useful to the decision-maker.

40. There is also a regional and global dimension to be considered in the provision and use of information, including the availability and use of existing data bases in the region and elsewhere.

c) National legislation

41. Efficient sea use planning at the national level requires an overall legislative framework, consisting of a system of measures that reflect the multidisciplinary nature of the problems related to the ocean dimension.

42. Instruments such as the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provide a global framework for approaching the various issues concerning ocean management undoubtedly represent a valuable frame of reference for the adoption of national legislation giving adequate consideration to the complex nature of sea use planning.

43. Many international agreements adopted by conferences convened by different bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system also provide important guidelines for legislating at the national level.

44. Regional or subregional legal instruments adopted by various groups of States in Latin America and the Caribbean likewise represent a valuable source of models for national legislation, and owing to their general character they facilitate the consistency of the measures enacted by countries.

45. The countries of the region clearly show different degrees of development concerning the application of the new Law of the Sea, and also as regards the complexity of the regulations required by the adoption of an ocean policy.

46. In many countries, quite apart from the legal gaps, problems are often encountered concerning the need for harmonization among norms of different origin, enforced by entities with different fields of competence, that in many cases have nothing to do with ocean affairs, as is frequently the case with mining legislation.

47. In the enforcement of the law, there is a need to reconcile legal norms with reality. This implies, inter alia,

- i) The promotion of a consistent approach and harmonization of existing legislation, fostering the compatibility of new norms with the global legal framework.
- ii) The strengthening of institutions involved in the application of legal provisions, including the capacity to revise the law when required.
- iii) The use of cases in the context of future scenarios influencing progressive development of the law.
- iv) The exchange of legal expertise between organizations and countries dealing with similar problems.

48. Further, there is a need for regional agreements and for their harmonization with public international law in a number of fields, not only in respect to the Law of the Sea, but also in other areas such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the International Whaling Convention (IWC), the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Habitats for Aquatic Birds (RAMSAR), the UNESCO International Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, as well as various international agreements

adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and others.

d) Institutional aspects

49. There is a need for co-ordination machinery among governmental organizations at all levels in order to promote effective integration of management and planning.

50. This co-ordination includes legislative co-ordination; communication of information; and the preparation of joint plans by the organizations involved in the planning and application of marine policy.

51. In the establishment of national interagency commissions or other co-ordinating machinery, there is a need to emphasize that they should have enough authority to ensure implementation of the measures adopted.

52. In the matter of organizations devoted to coastal and ocean management, the basic requirement is for autonomous, properly financed institutions.

53. In the operation of the institutions in question it is necessary to make provision for compulsory consultation among the decision-making groups involved.

54. Effective public relations between the organizations with responsibility for the planning and application of marine policy will also contribute towards the fostering of co-ordination.

55. The integration of resource users, governmental organizations and the community at large in the process of planning and development of coastal and ocean areas is a key element for promoting the conservation of the resource base. It is most important that this process should be supported by the organizations of the United Nations system.

e) Planning: development and implementation

56. In the development and implementation of integrated coastal and ocean resources planning, it is necessary to consider the basic structure of the planning system, the operational aspects of technical measures and the provision for consultation with all interested sectors.

57. In providing for consultation with all interested parties in the planning process there is a particular need for liaison with organizations, on the one hand, and public participation on the

other by special interest groups, local communities and individuals concerned with the issues involved.

58. As far as the basic structure of the planning system is concerned, it is important to distinguish between global planning on the one hand, which is concerned with the basic structure and strategic considerations of the planning system, and detailed planning on the other, concerned with the technical application of planning measures.

59. The technical application of planning measures should be adapted to the spatial and temporal conditions which affect coastal and ocean uses and resources. Measures should be implemented in stages, keeping close linkages with the established planning process.

60. In the coastal and ocean planning process it is essential to take into consideration the long- and medium-term environmental fluctuations induced by natural phenomena.

f) Co-operation

61. Two particularly important themes emerged in the discussion of co-operation. The first of these concerns the need to develop and increase awareness of the value of integrated projects within the United Nations system. There is a need for coastal and sea use management to be viewed as a new area suitable for tackling through interdisciplinary projects in order to obtain adequate financial support for specific tasks. The implementation of these projects takes several forms, including concerted actions among all components in order to avoid any possibility of overlap and to maximize efforts.

62. The second theme concerns co-operation among the countries within the region. Such co-operation is very valuable and takes practical forms which include the transfer of technology, the provision of equipment, data gathering, training and the raising of finance for planning and development.

63. Also, at the national level, forms or degrees of legal horizontal co-ordination vary, and in that sense, national application of the Law of the Sea is a suitable field for the promotion of technical co-operation actions among countries having different regulatory frameworks.

g) Education, training and public awareness

64. It is perhaps in the development and implementation of integrated sea use planning that the need for specialist training is greatest.

65. A number of different training requirements exist, including the technical, policy, legal and planning fields as well as those concerning other specific groups such as fishermen.

66. Further, a distinction has to be made between short-term requirements, such as short courses, on the one hand, and long-term efforts on the other, including post-graduate education in the field of sea use planning.

67. The above requirements imply the promotion of institutional capability for training, at the various different levels, of those responsible for coastal and ocean planning and management.

68. It is also important to establish training programmes within institutions responsible for law enforcement.

69. There is a need to train legal and non-legal experts involved in the elaboration of new legislation, as well as to raise the level of expertise of the specialists who negotiate legal norms at the international, regional and subregional levels.

70. At the level of public education there are again different requirements, including a need to communicate basic information and awareness via the media, in some cases with the participation of public personalities.

Annex I

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Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. Work Programme
2. Abstracts
3. Planificación de los usos del mar y administración de las zonas costeras en Chile (V. Gallardo)
4. The Brazilian Coastal Management Programme (R. Herz)
5. Technical and legal aspects of the surveying and evaluation of the continental margin and planning of the coastal areas of Brazil (R. Herz)
6. Planificación del desarrollo oceánico y costero en Colombia (R. Steer-Ruiz)
7. Programa de manejo costero en Costa Rica: Lo positivo y lo negativo (R. Chaverri Pattison)
8. Initiatives in coastal resource management planning in Jamaica (V. Gordon)
9. Planificación y administración integral de las zonas costeras ecuatorianas (L. Arriaga)
10. The development of sea use management for Latin America and the Caribbean (H.D. Smith)
11. Marine Policies in the North Sea Region: The experience of The Netherlands (H. van Hoorn)
12. Report on ocean policy and development in the State of Oregon (E. Hout).
13. Human resources development: An outline for a training course in ocean management (S.M. Vallejo)
14. La planificación de los usos del mar frente a algunos problemas del desarrollo socioeconómico en América Latina (C. Artigas)
15. La cooperación regional en la Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (CPPS) (J.J. Escobar Ramírez)

16. UNEP's Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme for the Wider Caribbean Region: The Caribbean Environment Programme (B. Miller)
17. FAO EEZ Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean (A. Mena-Villar)
18. El Programa COMAR de la UNESCO (V. Scarabino)
19. The Activities of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission: its Relationship to Sea Use Planning and Coastal Area Management (L. Piriz)
20. Los aspectos económicos de la protección del ambiente marino (R. Aguilera)
21. Red Operativa de Cooperación Regional entre Autoridades Marítimas de Sudamérica, México y Panamá (ROCRAM), Estrategia 1990-2000 para la protección del medio marino.