



**THIRD SOUTH PACIFIC NATIONAL
PARKS & RESERVES CONFERENCE**

CONFERENCE REPORT — VOLUME 1

**SUMMARY RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
OF MINISTERIAL AND TECHNICAL SESSIONS.**

© Copyright South Pacific Commission, 1985.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any process, whether for sale, profit, material gain, or free distribution without written permission. Inquiries should be directed to the publisher.

Original text: English.

Prepared for publication at
South Pacific Commission headquarters, Noumea, New Caledonia
and printed at

Universal Print, 18-20 Lorne Street, Wellington, New Zealand.

"Reprinted July 1987"

THIRD SOUTH PACIFIC NATIONAL PARKS
AND RESERVES CONFERENCE

Apia, Western Samoa

24 June - 3 July 1985

CONFERENCE REPORT - VOLUME 1

SUMMARY RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
TECHNICAL AND MINISTERIAL SESSIONS

FOREWORD

The Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference was held in Apia, Western Samoa, 24 June - 3 July 1985, and as its title implies, was the third in a series of meetings of Pacific countries on the issues of protected areas and conservation. The previous two conferences were held in New Zealand and Australia in 1975 and 1979 respectively.

The principal objective of the conference was to facilitate the conservation of nature in the South Pacific Region by raising awareness of the importance of nature conservation and by encouraging governments to protect and manage both their terrestrial and marine ecosystems. The theme of traditional conservation knowledge and practice was central to the conference. Other themes which were developed included legal, administrative and regional issues; marine and coastal issues; training; and tourism, resource and park management.

The conference was organised by the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme of the South Pacific Commission in conjunction with the host country, Western Samoa and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Contributions from sympathetic governments and non-government agencies provided the funds for the conference and particularly, for the attendance of two delegates from all island countries within the SPC region. This ensured a high level of participation from these countries and a conference orientated towards the needs of the South Pacific.

Supporting governments and non-government organisations included:

Government of Australia (NSW)
Government of New Zealand
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and
the Pacific (ESCAP)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),
Regional Office, Bangkok
UNESCO
World Bank
World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

The conference comprised two main sessions:

- (i) A six day Technical Session at which Country Review, Key Issue and Case Study papers were presented, a draft Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the Pacific Region prepared, and resolutions formulated, for adoption by the subsequent Ministerial Session.
- (ii) A three day Ministerial Session at which the resolutions and draft Action Strategy from the Technical Session were considered and adopted, options for a Convention on Nature Conservation for the South Pacific were discussed and statements of country commitments to protected areas and nature conservation were presented.

A one week training course in protected area management followed the conclusion of the conference.

This report is Volume One of four volumes which comprise the full report of the conference. It summarises the Technical and Ministerial Sessions and records the highlights of papers presented, principal points of discussion and the resolutions and decisions of both meetings.

The other two volumes comprising the full Conference Report are:

- Volume 2. Key Issue/Case Study Papers
- Volume 3. Country Reviews
- Volume 4. Report on Conference Organisation.

Additional publications arising from the conference are an Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific Region and a Training Manual for Protected Area Management in the South Pacific.

All publications are available from the:

SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
South Pacific Commission
B.P. D5
NOUMEA.
New Caledonia.

Noumea
September 1985.

CONTENTS

PART I - TECHNICAL SESSION

	<u>Page</u>
1. Opening Statements	1
2. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman	8
3. Conference Objectives, Papers and Procedures	8
4. Country Reviews	10
5. Summary of Issues Raised in Key Issue and Case Study	
Papers and Discussion Periods	13
Theme: Administrative and Regional Issues	13
Theme: Marine and Coastal Issues	15
Theme: Traditional Use and Practices	17
Theme: Training	20
Theme: Tourism	22
Theme: Resource Management	23
Theme: Protected Area Management	25
6. Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific and Resolutions	28
7. Closing Statement	29

PART II - MINISTERIAL SESSION

	<u>Page</u>
1. Summary of Opening Statements	30
2. Election of Meeting Chairman and Vice Chairman	32
3. Objectives of Meeting and Adoption of Agenda	33
4. Meeting Procedures	33
5. Brief Opening Statements from Delegations	33
6. Legal Options for the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific	34
7. Review and Adoption of Draft Action Strategy for Protected Areas	35
8. Review and Adoption of Resolutions	35
9. Country Statements of Commitment to Protected Area Establishment and Management	40
10. Other Business	46
11. Adoption of Meeting Report	46
12. Closing of Meeting	47

Annexes

1. Text of Opening Statements to the Ministerial Session	49
2. Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific Region	58
3. Text of Closing Statements to Ministerial Session	78
4. Conference Participant List	82

P A R T I

SUMMARY RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

TECHNICAL SESSION

24 - 29 June 1985

1. OPENING STATEMENTS

The opening statements of the Honorable Mr Toi Aukuso, Minister for Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries, Western Samoa; Mr Tamarii Pierre, Director of Programmes, South Pacific Commission; and Mr Harold Eidsvik, Chairman, IUCN Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas are reproduced in full below.

THE HON. MR TOI AUKUSO, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTS AND FISHERIES.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Government and people of Western Samoa, I extend to you all a very warm welcome to Apia. It is indeed an honour for our Government and people to be able to host such a meeting of distinguished scientists and park managers and I hope you will find the environment of Apia conducive to your discussions and deliberations.

As Minister for National Parks and Reserves in Western Samoa, I am vitally interested in parks development world-wide and am sure will be able to enhance my knowledge further by attending and listening to some of your deliberations in the next few days.

Western Samoa as a developing nation gives emphasis and priority on use of land and forests for agricultural, timber, and other related industrial developments because they yield quick returns for the overall national economy. Parks and reserves on the other hand get the back seat treatment even with their important contributions in satisfying the educational, scientific, and recreational needs of the people. I am, however, certain that all of us assembled here to-day, fully acknowledge the necessity to retain some of our land in their natural state, equal if not more so, to the need to utilise our land for cash economy.

Over the past years, our Government has compromised the use of our limited land areas between the accommodation of the nation's foremost economical needs and the preservation of the people's natural and cultural heritage. We believe that these two objectives should complement rather than conflict with each other. Our work so far in our parks and reserve programmes is worthy of mention but we still have a long way to go with difficult tasks to overcome before we can match our conservation awareness to our development efforts. The knowledge that we are preserving for coming generations a heritage to which they have a right equal to ours is substantial and satisfying reward of our effort.

It is only practical for us to-day to accept the numerous problems associated with the allocation of such enormous land areas for conservation purposes. By the same token we should be even more vigorous in finding solutions to these problems. Such is the purpose for meetings like this one to-day, where an atmosphere of sharing and co-operation within and beyond our region is mostly needed. With this understanding established, we can then steadily implant the necessity and importance of Parks and Reserves in the minds and lives of our respective societies.

I commend the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme for the untiring efforts in keeping the conservation ethic alive in the region. I believe the concept has spread rapidly in the region over the past few years, and I further believe that the parks established thus far, were for the most part, the product of "western" ideals. Perhaps this Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference should now design a genuinely South Pacific conservation concept to meet the respective needs of our island nations and other third world countries and I would like to leave that thought with you.

Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me once again to expound my Government's deep appreciation in your honouring Apia as the venue for this widely represented conference. I believe there are opportunities provided for you to visit and see the beauty of our countryside and protected areas from which I hope you will share and agree with the need to preserve these areas for the benefit and enjoyment of our people.

In concluding my remarks, I leave with you my best wishes for the success of your deliberations and I look forward to discussions of your resolutions during the meeting of Ministers next week.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is now my great pleasure to declare this Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference officially open.

SOIFUA.

Mr. Tamarii PIERRE
Director of Programmes
SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

The Hon. Toi Aukuso, Minister for Agriculture of Western Samoa, Distinguished Delegates and Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Mr. Minister, may I thank you for your warm words of welcome. The Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission, Mr. Francis Bugotu, has asked me to extend his apologies for being unable to attend this meeting and the Secretariat's deep appreciation to you, Sir, and to the Government of Western Samoa, especially the Chairman, Mr. Iosefatu Reti, and members of the local Organising Committee for the substantial contribution in planning and conducting the conference and associated events.

There is no doubting the importance placed on this conference by countries of our Region. Approximately 90 people are participating in the events of the next three weeks, from twenty four countries and eleven regional and international organisations.

This Session of the conference on technical aspects of conservation and protected area management has attracted 17 Country Reviews, and 40 Key Issue and Case Study papers. This is an exceptional response which alone represents a major contribution to the cause of nature conservation in the South Pacific.

Yet the main working objective of the conference is the use of this information to prepare and adopt a draft action strategy of practical and specific steps which we must follow in the establishment and management of a system of protected areas in the South Pacific. The draft strategy would provide the detailed work programme of activities serving to implement the broad conservation and protected area objectives of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme Action Plan. The Strategy would add impetus to the activities already under way within the context of SPREP.

The draft strategy will be submitted for review and adoption in final form by the Ministerial Meeting to be held for three days next week.

Another objective of the Ministerial Meeting is to provide a forum at which a number of outstanding matters relating to the 1976 Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific can be discussed and on which a firm directive can be given for future action. The aim is to settle on the most suitable legal expression for a regional agreement on shared conservation goals.

An opportunity also will be provided for Ministerial delegates to make country commitments related to protected areas and to indicate how each might take action to implement the adopted strategy.

A five day training course on conservation and park management follows the Ministerial Meeting at which fifteen countries will be represented. The course will include sessions on protected area development, conservation education and environmental assessment methods. The theme of traditional knowledge and practice central to this conference, will also be the focus of the training course. Participants will assist in the preparation of a comprehensive training manual for use in future courses of this kind.

We have a very full schedule ahead of us and I will not delay the work of the conference further, except to express the appreciation of the South Pacific Commission and the Coordinating Group of SPREP to the Governments and Organisations that have contributed to the holding of this most significant gathering.

I have already paid tribute to the substantial contributions of the Government of Western Samoa. I would now like to summarise the assistance of other contributors.

The conference was organised in collaboration with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) which, with its sister organisation the World Wildlife Fund, contributed US\$ 30,000 in addition to assistance in the preparation of conference working papers.

The New Zealand Government is a major supporter of the conference and associated events. New Zealand contributed US\$ 20,000, and provided two Parks Officers on secondment, one for six months to assist SPREP in conference organisation, the other for one month to co-ordinate arrangements for, and to conduct the Park Managers' Training Course.

The State Government of New South Wales, Australia has also provided a seconded officer for four months to help organise the conference and generously assisted in the preparation of conference publicity materials such as the attractive banners, T-shirts and logo stickers.

To date financial contributions also have been made as follows:

	US\$
ESCAP	10,000
WORLD BANK	5,000
UNESCO	5,000
UNEP through IUCN	4,000
Australian Government	2,700
US National Park Service	(assistance with printing costs of training manual).

Without the contributions of these governments and organisations this important gathering would not have been possible.

Honourable Minister, please accept our heartfelt thanks for being with us to open this meeting. I know that each one of us has been inspired by your address and we look forward with anticipation to the remainder of our stay in your wonderful country.

Opening remarks on behalf of

International Union for Conservation of Nature and
Natural Resources (IUCN) Director General,
Dr Kenton R. MILLER

Delivered by Dr. James W. THORSELL
Executive Officer, IUCN Commission on National Parks
and Protected Areas

The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) is extremely pleased to be a co-sponsor of the Third South Pacific Parks Conference. I am delighted that we have been able, through our Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas, and with the support of WWF, to again contribute to your deliberations as we did at the First Conference in 1975 in New Zealand. That the conference is now being held here in the centre of the region, also indicates your progress since then.

In these intervening 10 years, much has transpired in the field of protected area management as we have become more mature, more scientific and more professional and more adaptable in our approach to nature conservation. You in the Pacific Island region, with your long history of living in harmony with the environment, have much to contribute in demonstrating to the world how the traditional conservation practices of your people have fostered the concept of protected areas in a cultural sense at the same time providing for sustainable resource use and development. The Commission of National Parks and Protected Areas' (CNPPA) regional vice-chairman for the Oceanian Realm, Birandra Singh, brought this out very well in his keynote address in Bali during our World Congress on National Parks, as well as indicating where these traditional systems are under stress. In this regard we place great importance on the preparation of the protected area action strategy for the South Pacific by the Conference participants in the next week.

Allow me briefly to share with you some information about IUCN. As you may be aware, our organization is a membership Union represented by over 500 governmental and non-governmental bodies in 110 States throughout the world. Our conservation network includes over 2,000 experts in our six voluntary Commissions: National Parks and Protected Areas, Species Survival, Ecology, Environmental Planning, Environmental Education and Environmental Policy, Law and Administration. Our operation is managed by a small but effective secretariat located in Switzerland. In addition, IUCN maintains its Conservation Monitoring Centre in the United Kingdom, and its Environmental Law Centre in the Federal Republic of Germany. Another Centre of the Union, the Conservation for Development Centre, is located at IUCN headquarters.

IUCN's work is guided by our conservation programme, the framework of which is adopted by the IUCN members meeting in our triannual General Assemblies. In addition to our on-going focus upon global conservation issues, the current programme contains several elements of special concern to conservation in the South Pacific region. In particular, we are presently in the midst of a major thrust for wetland conservation, with a special sub-programme developed for strategic work and field projects aimed at the conservation of wetland areas. Building upon this basis, we intend to move to another special sub-programme next year on the theme of "islands" and, following that, on the theme of "marine conservation". To coordinate our activities in this area we have established last month a marine officer post at Headquarters. The South Pacific region will thus figure very prominently in our programme for the next five years.

We have recognized that, with these programme initiatives, it is important for IUCN to enhance its relations with the countries of the South Pacific region and with organizations active in the region. I am therefore delighted that we have been able to collaborate in this meeting. As part of the process, we have also taken steps to formalize close working relations with SPREP to ensure continued cooperation following this conference. This will take the form of a cooperative agreement with SPC which we hope to sign later this week. And, of course, IUCN is already working closely with UNEP in the promotion of the Regional Seas programme.

At this meeting, you will receive various technical inputs prepared by IUCN's Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas, IUCN's Conservation Monitoring Centre, IUCN's Environmental Law Centre, and a field report from our representative in Irian Jaya. Our four staff and Commission members who are present at the meeting look forward to fruitful discussions with you. While I very much regret my inability to join you, let me extend the best wishes of IUCN for a most successful Conference and pledge our intention to intensify cooperation in the South Pacific region in the field of protected area management as one element in the implementation of the World Conservation Strategy.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.

The meeting appointed the following delegates as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively:

- . Mr Iosefatu Reti, Assistant Director of Forests and Conservation, Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries, Western Samoa.
- . Mr Karol Kisokau, Secretary, Department of Environment and Conservation, Papua New Guinea.

3. CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES, PAPERS AND PROCEDURES.

The Chairman outlined the broad objectives of the Technical Session as being:

- . To facilitate the conservation of nature in the South Pacific Region.
- . To encourage island countries to identify and establish protected areas and prepare management plans for areas of land and water thus increasing the existing stock of protected areas in the region.
- . To encourage, as appropriate, the concept of multipurpose use of protected areas.
- . To raise awareness concerning the importance of traditional knowledge and practice in maintaining a sound ecological balance.
- . To incorporate, where appropriate, traditional knowledge and practice into modern conservation policy and programmes, into park management plans and into training courses for Park Managers.
- . To document examples of traditional knowledge and practice that have served to protect the environment.
- . To raise community awareness to the recreational and ecological value of protected areas.

He explained that the central working objective of the conference was the preparation of an Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific Region. This was intended to guide the development and implementation of nature conservation and protected area policies in the South Pacific over the next four years, until its review at the next conference in 1989. The Strategy would also provide governments outside the SPC region and non government agencies with a basis on which to develop programmes of assistance which reflected the priorities of Pacific island countries.

The three principal types of papers to be presented at the Technical Sessions were outlined:

- (i) Country Reviews - Statements on the current status of protected area establishment and management in each country.

- (ii) Key Issue Papers - Papers of regional relevance under conference themes:
 - . Administrative and Regional Issues
 - . Marine and coastal issues
 - . Traditional use and practices
 - . Training
 - . Tourism
 - . Resource management
 - . Protected area management

- (iii) Case Studies - Relating to themes introduced in Key Issue Papers and providing specific examples relating to the South Pacific.

4. COUNTRY REVIEWS.

Each country invited to the conference was requested to prepare a Country Review paper for presentation to the Technical Session. Papers were prepared in a standard format comprising two parts:

Part 1: A General Report consisting of:

- . an introduction, covering the physical, geographical and cultural features of the country;
- . sections on: policy; law (including comment on traditional customs and practices facilitating nature conservation); parks and reserves administration; and lists of protected and proposed protected areas, using IUCN categories where appropriate;
- . summaries of problems, needs and prospects for protected areas and nature conservation;
- . appropriate maps and references.

Part 2: A series of Information Sheets on Protected Areas. These consisted of twenty-five specific subject headings covering: the identification and management category of an area; level of legal protection; geographical, physical and biological features; cultural significance; past, present and potential research projects; and administration details such as staffing, budgets etc.

This format was chosen to facilitate the eventual incorporation of the information into a joint IUCN/SPREP Directory of Protected Areas in the South Pacific which is currently being prepared.

Country Review papers were presented by:

American Samoa	Palau
Australia	Papua New Guinea
Cook Islands	Solomon Islands
Fiji	Tokelau
Guam	Tonga
Kiribati	Vanuatu
New Caledonia	Wallis and Futuna
New Zealand	Western Samoa
Northern Mariana Islands	

A number of common issues relating to protected area establishment and management, and nature conservation in general, arose from the Country Reviews and subsequent discussion. Where appropriate, these were incorporated in the draft Action Strategy prepared by the Technical Session Working Group. These issues included:

- . A general awareness amongst countries that increasing populations and levels of material expectations are placing a great deal of pressure on their limited resources. However, political commitment to protected areas and nature conservation, which often meant a reduction in the level of resource use is, in many instances, difficult to obtain.
- . Often policies and legislation promoting nature conservation and enabling the establishment of protected areas are in existence. However, use of legislation is frequently hampered by a lack of political commitment and problems such as land tenure and traditional user rights.
- . Administration of protected areas is often fragmented between several agencies, sometimes with conflicting conservation/development responsibilities. Most countries lack a central agency to co-ordinate environmental policy or undertake protected area management and where these do exist, obtaining adequate finance and staffing is a problem.
- . Land tenure and the difficulties of negotiating agreements over customary or commonly owned land, coupled with a lack of finance for purchase or lease of land, are major problems in establishing protected areas. Several countries urged the development of more flexible approaches to these issues.
- . There was a general consensus on the need for countries to develop and expand environmental education programmes and public awareness campaigns to promote community awareness of the benefits and values of conservation and protected areas.

- . Environmental education programmes were seen as the longer term answer to many of the protected area management problems identified in the Country Reviews. These problems included: illegal activities such as fishing with dynamite and chemicals; hunting and poaching; exploitation of protected marine species especially trochus; burning and the sometimes exploitative activities of yacht crews.
- . The need for assistance from, and greater co-operation with, regional and international agencies on matters relating to nature conservation and protected areas was expressed, particularly with aspects such as research, resource data collection and staff training.

The Country Review papers provide important base line data on the state of protected areas in the South Pacific and for this reason are published in full in Volume 2 of the Conference Report.

5. SUMMARY OF ISSUES RAISED IN KEY ISSUE AND CASE STUDY PAPERS AND DISCUSSION PERIODS.

This section summarises the main points identified in papers presented to the Technical Session and discussion periods. This section is summarised under each of the seven conference themes.

THEME: ADMINISTRATIVE AND REGIONAL ISSUES

1. The need for protected areas is particularly apparent in the South Pacific. There are perhaps 2,000 kinds of ecosystems in Oceania and many of these are under threat from pressures of resource exploitation. A major problem is the failure to use island resources in ways that can be sustained into the future. In many cases the threats are gradual and it is thus easy to concentrate on the short term and ignore or forget long term consequences.
2. Protected areas can be important vehicles in achieving conservation, since within them, ecological processes can continue without disturbance. Samples of genetic diversity of plants and animals are maintained in protected areas, and species and ecosystems can be protected from development or overuse. However, conventional concepts of national parks need to be broadened if they are to be successfully applied in the South Pacific. Much more use could be made of protected areas in the islands, going beyond their narrow use for nature conservation, to combine conservation with water supply protection, the maintenance of tourism resources, fisheries management, and wildlife resources management. These broader types of protected areas could help to make the most efficient multiple use of island resources on a sustainable basis.
3. There are a number of steps towards achieving an adequate system of protected areas in the South Pacific. These include:
 - . Adequate legislation is required for protected area establishment and management. Even where National Park Acts exist in the Pacific, they are often too narrow to allow the creation of a range of protected areas suited to island conditions. There should be provision for the creation of at least some types of protected areas on freehold or customarily owned land, either with the consent of the owners or through easements, leasehold or other arrangements.

- . Each country should survey potential protected areas with natural or cultural interest. Such a survey can be used by planners to steer development away from sites with conservation interest even when it is not possible to provide formal protection for all sites immediately.
 - . Valuable natural areas that are in immediate danger should be identified for priority conservation action.
 - . A few carefully selected parks and reserves should be established as demonstrations to show the values of such areas and to accustom the public to this approach to island development and management.
 - . The development of public support is essential to the establishment of a system of protected areas in the South Pacific. A strong "local constituency" was important to the development of the US National Parks system and it was suggested that the lessons learnt there would also be applicable to the development of protected area systems in the South Pacific. Park Managers are advised to "make a major effort in public information and education so that the people will understand and support the parks and reserves. Without such support, enforcement will be almost impossible; with it, enforcement will hardly be necessary".
 - . An adequate management capability is integral to the success of a protected area system. Areas that are protected only on paper can give a false sense of conservation accomplishment while the real damage to the country continues.
4. There are benefits of the "Man and the Biosphere" and "World Heritage" approaches in the South Pacific. For example, the diverse terrestrial and marine ecosystems, with varied cultural histories and traditions as well as diverse traditional land-use systems in the Pacific islands provide good opportunities for applying the concept of cluster biosphere reserves. The application of the Biosphere reserve approach in the South Pacific could open avenues for funding for protected area programmes as well as fostering regional co-operation towards protected area establishment and management. The World Heritage Convention has not made good progress in the Pacific and reinforces the many benefits of applying these concepts, with emphasis on assistance that is available for parties to the convention.

5. The need for a regional approach to protected areas was emphasised in a number of papers to the conference. The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) provides a framework for protected area establishment and management in the South Pacific and future protected area projects should either be coordinated by, or linked with, SPREP.
6. There is a need for developing regional goals in protected area establishment. At least 3 specific targets or goals for conservation accomplishments need to be achieved by the time of the next South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference:
 - . the establishment of at least one protected area in each country and territory of the region;
 - . an increase to 40 percent in the number of ecosystems receiving some kind of protection; and
 - . the establishment of 50 new protected areas in the region (on the average hardly more than two per country).

THEME: MARINE AND COASTAL AREAS

1. The use of coastal resources, particularly for fishing, is a distinctive feature of life in the South Pacific. The need for conservation of coastal resources has become an increasingly pressing need, with impacts occurring in many Pacific marine areas such as overfishing, sedimentation and sewage eutrophication.
2. Specific problems were documented in papers, including:

Dynamiting: The practice of dynamite fishing can have a substantial impact on coral reefs. This was described for Western Samoa and the impact of dynamiting in Palau was outlined in the resource management section of the conference. Exploitation of coral: The destruction and collection of coral is a problem in some South Pacific countries. Specific provisions have been implemented for regulating the collection of coral in New Caledonia. Industrial and waste disposal and pesticides: Often industrial and human waste drain directly into adjacent marine environments in the South Pacific. Overfishing: This problem was documented for Western Samoa and New Caledonia. Often the problem is due to a number of factors, such as commercial fishing, recreational fishing or dynamiting. Adjacent land uses: Different land uses adjoining marine areas can have a major impact on the marine environment. For example, land clearing leading to soil erosion can have a major effect on corals.

3. The use of marine areas in the South Pacific is often strongly linked with traditional use and practices. In the past native subsistence came mainly from agriculture and fishing and these two sources of livelihood were often protected by a system of customary rights.
4. Some of the key issues in coastal zone management in the South Pacific are:
 - . The need for new and more comprehensive approaches to conservation of marine animal species such as cetaceans, turtles, dugong.
 - . The challenge of developing multiple resource management regimes which provide for nature conservation and which effectively incorporate the knowledge and tenure systems of traditional communities.
 - . Resolution of the problem of legal and administrative distinctions between land and sea which frustrate successful coastal zone management.
 - . Slow progress in helping the public and governments of the South Pacific to understand the importance of nature conservation and to make the necessary commitment.
 - . The need for conservation of specific ocean features.
5. There is a need for systematic approaches to address the types of problems identified above. One approach being implemented in South Pacific countries is the establishment of marine reserves, with regulations on the use of marine resources within such areas. In relation to marine reserves, it is important that there be adequate planning for the area. The benefits of this were shown for Fagatele Bay in American Samoa where a plan was prepared which set out clear directions for resource protection, research, education and the incorporation of traditional practices into management practices.

It is important to incorporate aspects of traditional use practices into coastal management programmes. This would facilitate adequate conservation and would encourage support for such programmes from island communities.

6. Coastal management programmes should be integrated with the Action Plan for the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). An example of this is the regional programme in coastal zone management which is being prepared by the Commonwealth Science Council within the framework of the SPREP Action Plan.

THEME: TRADITIONAL USE AND PRACTICES

1. Traditional use was identified as one of the major issues facing the development of a protected area system in the South Pacific. Traditional use is intimately linked with the issue of land and water tenure. South Pacific countries have a long history of human interrelationship with the land and sea, these often seen as having spiritual, mythical and historical significance. Traditional ownership incorporated a number of rights, which dictated use, such as rights to fish or hunt, rights to cultivate land and rights to use certain areas of the coastline. These rights were in some cases conferred on individuals by the village chief; in others by the concensus of the village community.
2. Many of these rights served to conserve the environment. The identity of the traditional community group with an area and the widely held concept of it being held in trust for future generations, led directly to careful management of natural resources. The role of the land and sea in providing for the immediate needs of the community also dictated careful husbandry of the land. This was reflected in traditional land use practices which served to improve soil fertility, and protect important trees and wildlife species. The application of taboos was an important aspect of traditional community life. These taboos imposed restrictions on the use of certain areas or resources and as such were an important means of ensuring the survival of certain wildlife species and controlling the over exploitation of resources. Thus, practices of wise resource use and "protected areas" were well established before the coming of Europeans to the Pacific Islands.

3. The impact of Europeans was most pronounced on the Pacific Islands. One of the major impacts was the alienation of land from the customary system of land ownership, linked with a disruption to traditional practices of land use. The new systems of land tenure concentrated the rights to own and use land in the ownership by leasehold and freehold titles. Thus, in many countries of the South Pacific a dual system of land tenure evolved. There was the alienated section which included land owned by government and private interests, held under registered titles and with boundaries surveyed and marked. In contrast, customary land was unregistered and had boundaries formed by natural features; knowledge of these and inherited rights were handed down orally from one generation to the next.
4. There are many implications of this land tenure system for the development of a protected area system in the South Pacific. Publicly owned land for addition to the protected area estate is in very short supply in Island countries and available land is often subject to competing land use claims, such as for forestry purposes. Most Pacific Island countries have legislation which allows Governments to acquire lands for public purposes, either by negotiation or by compulsory acquisition. However Governments are reluctant to use this power due to the political unpopularity of such actions and also the length of time involved in acquisition procedures.
5. The consequence of this lack of available land is that alternative approaches to the establishment of protected areas need to be explored. One alternative is to establish protected areas within the framework of customary land tenure and land use. This would involve aspects such as the negotiation of agreements with landowners to protect certain areas or species on land under their control. It could also involve the selective incorporation of traditional use practices into protected area management. For example, the application of Taboos in protecting specific areas or wildlife species may prove to be an effective management tool, particularly in isolated areas in island countries where traditional group controls are strongest. This blending of traditional use concepts with protected area management implies a broadening of national park concepts. However, customary ownership should not be a problem, but a benefit. Traditional use based on tapu and conservation are problems only if a strict preservationist attitude is adopted.

6. There are specific examples of this approach in the South Pacific. The Papua New Guinea Government has been developing a network of Wildlife Management Areas, where the land remains under customary tenure and where regulations protect certain species of wildlife. The Wildlife Management Area approach allows for the continuation of traditional land use practices and has the major advantages of involving the local community in decisions affecting conservation and land use. Another example of such an approach is in Fiji, where the National Trust has entered into a cooperative agreement with land owners to protect a rare wildlife species. In this instance, the landowners receive regular payments and in return act as wildlife wardens. Integral to the success of such programmes in the Pacific Islands is a programme of community education about the values of conservation and protected areas. It is particularly important that local communities do not view conservation and protected areas as something that is a barrier to progress for landowners.

7. In the future, there should be emphasis on incorporating traditional use approaches into protected area management. A sympathetic approach to this area should ensure a future increase in the number of parks and reserves on customary land in the South Pacific. There also needs to be a strengthening of both traditional and modern environmental controls on other areas of customary land. A model for protected area development in the South Pacific region might include:
 - . A limited number of full national parks established on government land. These would be fully protected, adequately staffed and have recreational and interpretative facilities.
 - . Nature reserves and sanctuaries strictly controlled by government with access limited and wildlife species protected.
 - . A network of traditional conservation areas on customary land, managed by local land-owners who make their own regulations. Some hunting and fishing would be allowed, but the emphasis should be on the use of traditional methods for subsistence purposes.
 - . Larger areas which would stay under customary tenure but which would be subject to land use and development controls. In particular primary forest, water catchment areas and coastal zones would be protected in this way.

THEME: TRAINING

1. A major barrier to the effective management of protected areas in the South Pacific is the absence of trained staff. A complement of trained and committed staff is the foundation of the operation of any protected area system.
2. Training of protected area managers in the South Pacific must be based on an assessment of needs and must be tailored to South Pacific conditions. In the South Pacific the establishment and management of protected areas is at a very early stage; park management agencies are characterised by a lack of staff and resources and, in many cases, existing staff lack basic park management skills. In the Pacific Island situation staff are called on to undertake many different functions. For example, a protected area manager in the South Pacific would be responsible for the full range of tasks from the building and maintenance of facilities to public and community relations, and would have to operate under an extreme shortage of equipment, funds and administrative support.
3. The implication for training protected area staff in the South Pacific is that training should initially concentrate on the development of practical all round skills rather than specific areas of skill i.e. training should emphasise producing generalists rather than specialists. Training should also focus on the initial acquisition of basic skills with the subsequent development of more specialised skills, i.e. concentrate on training from the bottom up. The key issues associated with protected area development in the South Pacific often revolve around public attitudes to protected areas, particularly the lack of public appreciation of, and support for, protected area concepts. The implication for training protected area managers is that training emphasis should be on developing public relations and communications skills.
4. The development of future training programmes needs to be approached in a systematic manner. This should incorporate an assessment of training needs within the region which should aim to identify specific training requirements and priorities.

5. There are a number of approaches for addressing training needs in the South Pacific region. These include: the development of in-service training courses; participation of island staff at regional and international training programmes; development of bilateral training opportunities (e.g. secondment of officers); and the inclusion of protected area management skills in relevant education curricula. There is unlikely to be a magical answer to the protected area training requirements of South Pacific Countries. The most appropriate approach will probably involve a combination of the above options. Whichever combination is adopted it is essential that training be practically oriented and focussed on issues relevant to the region.

6. The initiation of a comprehensive protected area training programme will require adequate financial resources. Potential avenues for funding should thus be identified and approached. Possible sources include:
 - . bilateral aid programmes from Australia and New Zealand.
 - . WWF/IUCN
 - . SPREP
 - . World Heritage Fund of UNESCO

Adequate planning and documentation should precede approaches to potential funding organisations. This pre-planning should facilitate the most cost effective use of resources and also increase the likelihood of funding success.

7. Future training in the South Pacific Region should flow from the direction in the "Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific". A number of proposals for specific training workshops arose from the Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference and these were:
 - a major training course to be held for protected area managers in New Zealand in 1987.
 - a short, intensive training course on a protected area topic to be organised in Fiji in 1986.

THEME: TOURISM

There was only one paper presented under this Theme. However, there were a number of points raised about Tourism in discussion periods and these are summarised below.

1. In the South Pacific tourism is one of the major growth areas and provides a major input to national and local economies. There is an integral relationship between tourism and the establishment and management of the protected areas, with the attractions of the protected areas often providing the focal points for encouraging tourists.
2. There are many socio-economic benefits of tourism, particularly in relation to protected areas.
 - . Tourism can provide an economic justification for conservation i.e. it can provide an economic argument against short term gains from resource exploitation.
 - . Tourism can promote public awareness of and support for protected areas, by enabling public enjoyment of such areas.
 - . Tourism focussed on protected areas can encourage local employment and economic development, through aspects such as concession development in park areas, and employment of local people in park management activities.
3. However, tourism development can be a double edged sword in relation to protected areas. If overdeveloped or uncontrolled, tourism can endanger natural areas, cause visual and cultural pollution and destroy the resource on which it is based. The potential dangers to national park and protected area values can be severe and thus there is need for careful and sympathetic tourist development, when it occurs in protected areas.

4. The potential threats and benefits necessitate clearly defined tourism guidelines in relation to protected areas:
 - . There is a need for close communication and cooperation between the tourist industry and protected area managers. There should be an attempt to educate tourist operators about the values of protected areas and the need for sympathetic developments which do not detract from primary resource values.
 - . There should be an avoidance of large scale, open-ended developments in protected areas.
 - . Tourism developments should blend with surroundings to maintain the environment's natural appearance.

THEME: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

1. Protected areas were seen as having an important role to play in the management of the diverse range of natural resources on which the lifestyles of many Pacific island communities depend. In the past, use of these resources was controlled by local communities practising traditional methods which included taboos, seasonal controls over harvesting, rotational use and ownership rights. By these means they were able to ensure these resources, which were vital to their way of life, were utilised on a sustainable basis.
2. However, pressure from increasing populations and desire for the material benefits of western style development have tended to place the effectiveness of traditional resource management methods in jeopardy, creating pressure on the resources and new problems for local people and government resource managers alike. The availability of new technology, particularly in the form of improved transport, techniques and materials for agriculture, forestry and fishing, has provided the means for large scale resource exploitation previously beyond the capabilities of communities using traditional methods. Particularly affected have been the marine resources of the ecologically sensitive lagoon and coral reef systems including black coral, turtles, giant clams and some popular inshore fish species. Throughout the South Pacific Region populations of these and other species are now depleted and suffering from commercialisation and over-exploitation. Illegal fishing using dynamite and chemicals, together with poaching, are further exacerbating the problem in the South Pacific.

3. Land has always been a limited resource on the smaller Pacific islands and to-day expanding populations are utilising once productive natural areas for settlement. The conversion of natural forest to agricultural and forestry systems has brought about further environmental deterioration and depletion of natural resources. Forestry operations have also led to reduction in wildlife habitat and the populations of many species. Wildlife is also threatened by illegal poaching and hunting activities and the introduction of feral predators such as rats, cats and pigs.
4. Pacific countries are becoming aware of the need to introduce conservation measures to maintain a sustainable resource base for future development.

Conservation may be even more critical in the island environment where resources are limited, ecosystems fragile, and where because of the isolated and fragmented nature of the islands, human societies have had to remain interdependent components of their island ecosystem. The concept of a micropark(1) was advanced as a new type of protected area status, which incorporates local involvement and the integration of traditional resource utilisation methods into area management. Several other concepts or models for protected area systems which recognise this need to involve local communities and integrate traditional resource management practices into protected area management were advanced in papers presented in the Traditional Use and Park Management Sessions. In discussion it was pointed out that the IUCN have identified 10 different categories of protected area of which National Park was only one. It was considered that within the other 9 categories there would be sufficient flexibility to accommodate the special requirements of the South Pacific region.

(1) A micropark is defined as any small-scale, local-level park or conservation area which does or could serve the purpose of preserving important natural and cultural resources for the long-term sustainable use of local people.

5. On a more practical note, common problems facing resource managers in the region were highlighted in the papers from Palau, Tonga and Kiribati. Although administrations are often aware of the general nature of specific resource management problems, they tend to lack the means or capacity to undertake the scientific research essential for a comprehensive understanding of the problem and the development of a scientifically based management response. Similarly, implementation of resource management is often hindered by a lack of finance, equipment and trained staff. Consequently, Pacific island countries will need to look to their more developed neighbours and regional and international conservation agencies for assistance in resolving their resource management problems. In this respect SPREP will have an important role to play and the resource management issues in the Action Strategy together with the Conference resolutions will prove a valuable guide to priority areas for future action.

THEME: PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT

1. Unlike many countries in the world where there is a long history of involvement in National Park and protected area management, this field is still in its infancy in the South Pacific Region. Protected area managers are faced with a host of difficult management problems. In many cases these are attributable to:
 - . the difficulties arising from imposing western concepts and criteria for protected areas on the traditional social and cultural environments of Pacific islands,
 - . the low political priority assigned to conservation and protected area establishment and management by the governments of the region,
 - . a lack of finance, equipment and trained staff,
 - . difficulties of access to the more sophisticated planning and management techniques employed in countries with well developed protected area systems.

Thus, by comparison with their overseas counterparts who frequently have the political backing and resources to effectively carry out their management responsibilities, the task facing the protected area managers in the South Pacific Region is daunting. The internationally recognised IUCN definitions and the relatively inflexible criteria for National Parks can be a source of management conflict when applied to the Pacific island situation. The high standards implicit in these definitions and criteria hinder adaptation by small island countries. For example, the IUCN criteria that National Parks be of a large size and be established by the highest competent authority, is often unrealistic in the island situation where land area is small and local rules and lines of authority traditionally dominate land use decisions.

2. It has been suggested that an inherent conflict exists between the strict "preservationist" philosophy behind protected areas, especially National Parks, and the traditional patterns of customary land ownership and resource use rights which prevail in Pacific island countries. For example, attempts by central government authorities to alienate and protect land held under customary ownership, where authority over this land has traditionally rested with the head of the local community, is an imposition on the traditional rights and authority of the community. If pursued arbitrarily, such action will inevitably cause deep seated local opposition to the concept of the protected areas and make achievement of management objectives and the task of the Park Manager extremely difficult. While some opposition to protected areas in terms of "locking up" natural resources is universal wherever new protected areas are mooted, such opposition takes on a special significance in countries where the people rely on the resources for their subsistence. Forests and forest resources are traditionally commonly owned and freely available for public use. Strict protection of forest areas will therefore be considered a denial of traditional rights effecting the lifestyle of the local people, giving rise to major management problems. Conflict between preservation and traditional rights also arise where traditional practices such as shifting agriculture spill over into protected areas or where permanent or temporary dwellings are established illegally on what was once customary land.

3. Flexible criteria for protected areas were necessary to enable individual countries to develop systems for protecting their natural and cultural heritage. In this respect the multiple use concept of Forest Parks in New Zealand may serve as a useful model for the South Pacific region. It was also stressed that although several of the IUCN's internationally recognised protected area categories were based on strict preservation criteria, others were more flexible in providing for human use and resource use.
4. The need for good dialogue between protected area managers and the local communities to achieve local acceptance and understanding of protected area objectives was emphasised. An example was given of Fiji where good dialogue with the local community during the early establishment phase, and subsequent local involvement in management of the protected area, was instrumental in achieving local co-operation and acceptance.
5. At the regional level there are a number of ways Pacific island countries can collaborate to strengthen their management capability for protected areas. It was pointed out that regional collaboration has proved most effective for developing the management capabilities of the ASEAN member countries. Regional collaboration had, among other things, led to the development of standard protected area definitions and criteria and had been instrumental in securing expert assistance in management planning and other facets of protected area management in government and non government agencies. In this respect delegates recognised that SPREP, through its implementation of the Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific, has an important regional role to play in encouraging collaboration and strengthening protected area management capabilities in the region.

6. ACTION STRATEGY AND RESOLUTIONS

The principal objective of the Technical Session was the preparation of a Draft Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific Region. To assist the conference in this task a working paper incorporating a draft Strategy had been prepared by IUCN Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas (CNPPA) regional councillors, prior to the conference. This paper was introduced early in the Session and the task of developing it was given to an open working party of country delegates, IUCN and SPREP and chaired by the Fiji delegate and IUCN regional councillor Mr B. Singh. This group met at the end of each day's session to refine the draft and incorporate relevant points distilled from the day's proceedings.

The draft Action Strategy prepared by the working party reflected the priorities and needs of the Pacific island countries, and was referred back to the Technical Session together with six draft resolutions. These were endorsed with the recommendation that they be referred to the Ministerial Session for adoption. Both the Action Strategy and the resolutions appear in Part II as they were finally adopted.

7. CLOSING STATEMENT

The Chairman, Mr Iosefatu Reti of Western Samoa officially closed the Technical Session after delivering the following brief closing statement:

Fellow Delegates,

On behalf of my delegation I would like to say that for us it has been a great pleasure to see you all here in Western Samoa. I hope that you, like I, have gained a lot from the Conference and have enjoyed your stay in our country. I believe that we have all learnt much and gained many new ideas from the papers presented and our discussions. Hopefully a record of these will be made available shortly to assist us to begin to put them to good use. My sincere appreciation goes to the conference organisers and sponsors, particularly the SPC, IUCN, UNEP and the Governments of New Zealand and New South Wales (Australia), and all other governments and non government agencies without whose contributions this conference might not have been possible. It is my belief that this conference, which is one of the most widely represented meetings I have attended, has generated new concepts and approaches for protected areas in the South Pacific region. I hope the delegates here will promote the need for their rapid implementation on their return home and will be encouraged to ensure that the co-operation and exchange of information begun here will continue within the region.

I would also like to thank the Secretariat for their efforts. I have extended our thanks to the tea ladies for the fine repasts we have enjoyed. For those of you leaving us I wish you a safe journey and for those staying on for the Ministerial Session, I look forward to working with you next week.

Finally, it has been a pleasure and great honour to have chaired this meeting and I very much appreciate having had the opportunity to do so. With these few words I declare the Technical Session of this Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference officially closed.

P A R T II

SUMMARY RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

OF MINISTERIAL SESSION

1 - 3 July 1985

1. OPENING STATEMENTS

Summaries of the opening statements made by delegates are included below. Edited versions of the statements by the delegates from Western Samoa, South Pacific Commission, IUCN, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand are included as Annex 1 to this report.

The Honorable Mr. Toi Aukuso, Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries, Western Samoa.

In his opening statement, the Honorable Mr. Toi Aukuso warmly welcomed the delegates and emphasised that the protection and conservation of the vulnerable natural environments of our islands was a matter of concern for all Pacific countries. He suggested that South Pacific countries should be united in their approach to nature conservation and protected area management and that the successful achievement of regional and national objectives in these fields would depend largely on regional co-operation.

Mr. Tamarri Pierre, Director of Programmes, South Pacific Commission.

In replying to the opening statement of The Honorable Toi Aukuso, Mr. Pierre expressed the sincere appreciation of the South Pacific Commission and the delegates for the willing co-operation and hospitality which had been extended by the Government and people of Western Samoa in hosting the Conference.

He referred to the draft Action Strategy for protected areas in the Pacific Region which had been produced by the technical session during the preceding week for consideration at the Ministerial Meeting. Mr. Pierre pointed out that adoption of the Action Strategy by the meeting would both reinforce the success of the technical session and enhance the ability of SPREP to promote and facilitate action in the region relating to protected areas.

Related to this was the need for Governments to settle on a regional legal framework for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific. In this respect the discussion of the Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific by the meeting was seen as an important step to this end.

Mr. Pierre noted the rapid increase in environmental awareness in the region since the first initiative was made towards a Conservation Convention in Western Samoa in 1976. Of particular importance was the development of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme which provided an umbrella for co-operative activities within all environment management fields including conservation and protected area establishment. Mr. Pierre also noted the third important objective of the meeting, this being to provide an opportunity for countries to make policy statements and commitments in the field of conservation and protected area management.

In his concluding remarks Mr. Pierre highlighted the significant supporting contributions of the many governments and organisations which had made the Conference possible and expressed the strong hope that a genuine South Pacific conservation concept, orientated towards meeting the needs of Pacific island countries, would emerge from the deliberations of the Conference.

Mr. Harold Eidsvik, Chairman, Committee on National Parks and Protected Areas, IUCN.

Mr. Eidsvik provided background information on the IUCN and indicated the wish of IUCN to cooperate with South Pacific countries and SPREP in the field of protected area establishment and management in the South Pacific. Mr. Eidsvik gave the joint cooperative agreement between the SPC and IUCN as a positive example of this approach. He also referred to the 1987-88 IUCN Marine programme and informed delegates that it will have the theme of "Island Conservation". Delegates learnt that IUCN was working closely with UN Agencies to develop new initiatives under this theme.

The Honorable Mr. Soso Tomu, Minister of Environment and Conservation, Papua New Guinea.

Mr. Tomu emphasised the need for Pacific island countries to be concerned for the protection and conservation of their environment and suggested they should look to successful traditional principles of resource management when developing policies for conservation and environmental protection.

Mr. Tomu indicated that Papua New Guinea was of the view that the Apia convention should be brought into force by the Pacific island countries represented at the meeting. He expressed the view that such an instrument was essential to unite the independent States of the South Pacific region in their efforts towards nature conservation and environmental protection.

The Honorable Mr. Koro Wetere, Minister of Lands and Forests, New Zealand.

Mr. Wetere mentioned New Zealand's almost 100 years of experience with National Parks and Reserves and its importance in terms of the conservation of the diversity of flora and fauna in the South Pacific region. He saw cooperation between Pacific countries as being of considerable importance in furthering regional and national conservation objectives. In this respect the Apia Convention was seen as being important for the establishment and implementation of sound environmental policies.

Mr. T. Richmond, on behalf of the Minister of Arts, Heritage and Environment, Australia.

Mr. Richmond referred to the successful meeting of experts at the preceding technical session at which the draft Action Strategy had been prepared. One of the issues likely to arise from meeting's discussions of the strategy was that of regional cooperation in its implementation. In this respect he believed Australia could contribute significantly, especially in the area of protected area management training. Mr. Richmond also considered the Action Strategy would be valuable for defining protected area objectives and priorities.

Mr. Richmond also referred to his country's wish to accede to the Apia Convention in the near future.

Delegations from Fiji, Cook Islands, New Caledonia, France and Tonga.

In brief opening statements, a representative from each of these delegations expressed their thanks to the Government of Western Samoa for hosting the conference which was seen as an important event in the development of regional initiatives in the fields of nature conservation and environmental protection. They expressed appreciation of the work done in the technical session and were supportive of the need for the Apia Convention to enter into force.

2. Election of meeting Chairman and Vice Chairman

The meeting appointed the following delegates as Chairman, Vice Chairman and Deputy Vice Chairman respectively;

- . The Hon. Mr. Toi Aukuso, Minister of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries, Western Samoa.
- . The Hon. Dr. Teariki Matenga, Minister for Internal Affairs and Conservation, Cook Islands.
- . The Hon. Mr. Koro T. Wetere, Minister of Lands and Forests, New Zealand.

3. Objectives of meeting and adoption of Agenda

The chairman outlined the objectives for the meeting as:

- I. To resolve a course of action in relation to the Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific.
- II. To resolve a course of action in relation to the Draft Action Strategy for Protected Areas, prepared by the Technical Session of the Conference.
- III. To provide countries with an opportunity to outline commitments to protected area establishment and management in the South Pacific and other activities to further the goals of the Draft Action Strategy.

The provisional agenda was adopted by the meeting.

4. Meeting Procedures

The meeting procedures were outlined by the chairman covering the types of papers before the meeting, the procedures for proposing resolutions and the procedures for preparation, review and adoption of the meeting record.

5. Brief Opening Statements from Delegations

A number of countries made introductory statements to the meeting and the following sentiments were expressed:

- . a warm appreciation to the Government of Western Samoa for hosting the Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference;
- . the importance of the conservation issues to be discussed at the meeting to the countries of the South Pacific Region;
- . the need for delegations at the Ministerial Meeting to work together in a spirit of regional co-operation, to settle on an Action Strategy and the future of the 1976 Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific.

6. Legal Options for the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific

The options in relation to the 1976 Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific were introduced by Mr. Harold Eidsvik of IUCN. Two key points were raised by delegates during the discussion which ensued:

- . that the Convention provides a useful legal basis for the establishment and management of protected areas in the South Pacific and despite some weaknesses it should be supported.
- . There is scope for amending the Convention once it enters into force. Such amendments could be incorporated as specific protocols subject to the concurrence of participating countries.

The delegations of France, Papua New Guinea and Western Samoa, as signatories indicated they would urge their Governments to take all necessary steps to ratify the Convention.

In addition, the delegations of the following countries indicated the commitment of their Governments to accede to the Convention: Australia, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Wallis and Futuna.

The following country delegations also supported the intent of the Convention and indicated that their Governments would consider accession: Fiji, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau and Tonga.

The Western Samoa delegate stated that his Government, as Depository for the Convention, looked forward to receiving the instruments of ratification or accession from these Governments at the earliest time possible so that the convention may enter into force. Western Samoa also welcomed the receipt of instruments from other Governments which might wish to join the Convention.

The meeting also passed a Resolution urging Governments to accede to the Convention as soon as possible (see Resolution 1).

7. Review and Adoption of Draft Action Strategy on Protected Areas

The Action Strategy was adopted by the meeting which commended the work of the technical session to the Conference in its preparation. The following principal points arose from the discussion preceding adoption:

- . There was an urgent need to expand the existing network of protected areas in the Pacific Region.
- . The Action Strategy was recognised as a valuable new regional initiative which would greatly assist the implementation of the conservation objectives on the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.
- . The Action Strategy complements the IUCN programme for the development of regional conservation strategies and provides regional and international agencies with a point of reference when considering support for conservation and protected area activities in the region.
- . Implementing the Strategy goals would be expensive for smaller island countries and would require assistance from other countries participating in SPREP as well as from regional and international organisations.

The full text of the Action Strategy is included as Annex 2.

8. Review and Adoption of Resolutions

The Meeting reviewed and adopted three resolutions when addressing Agenda Items 6 and 7. The resolutions No. 1 - 3 concern the Apia Convention on the conservation of Nature in the South Pacific, the need to link the Apia Convention with the SPREP Draft Convention for the Protection and Development of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region, and the adoption of the Strategy for Protected Areas.

Five Resolutions (Nos. 4-8) submitted by the Conference technical session also were reviewed and adopted. These resolutions concern conservation areas on customary/traditional lands and waters, destructive fishing methods, future South Pacific Nature Conservation and Protected Areas Conferences and appreciation to contributing governments and organisations.

The Resolutions as adopted follow:

Resolution Number 1.

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Recognising the value of the Apia Convention in supporting the principles of nature conservation in the South Pacific;

Noting that the technical session supported the Apia Convention being brought into force and that delegates at this Ministerial Meeting have indicated similar support;

Urges that Governments concerned sympathetically consider acceding to the Apia Convention as soon as possible as evidence of their commitment to nature conservation in the South Pacific.

Resolution Number 2.

LINKING THE APIA CONVENTION OF NATURE WITH THE SPREP DRAFT CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION.

Recognising that the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme provides an appropriate framework for implementation of the Apia Convention;

Mindful of the negotiations, nearing completion, on the draft SPREP Convention for the Protection and Development of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region;

Recognising the necessity to clearly link the two Conventions;

Requests that to this end SPREP prepare alternative proposals for consideration by the Fourth Meeting of Experts on the SPREP Convention to be held in November 1985.

Resolution Number 3.

ACTION STRATEGY FOR PROTECTED AREAS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION

The Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference

Having reviewed the Draft Action Strategy prepared by the technical session of the Conference;

Adopts the Strategy for implementation within the framework of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

Resolution Number 4.

CONSERVATION AREAS ON CUSTOMARY/TRADITIONAL LANDS AND WATERS

The Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference:

Recognising that in order to achieve nature conservation objectives on land and waters under traditional community jurisdiction, innovative new approaches to the definition, establishment and management of conservation areas are needed;

Appreciating that the nature of customary/traditional land and marine tenure is very complex, has changed to a varying extent in different localities in response to outside influences, and has variable relevance for nature conservation;

Considers that appropriate elements of customary/traditional land and marine tenure should be used to achieve the aims of nature conservation so that a lasting foundation for nature conservation in the land and waters of traditional communities might be established;

Requests that there be a detailed and critical review of current efforts to achieve conservation objectives in land and water areas subject to some form of traditional jurisdiction, the review to involve individuals from within and outside tenure systems who have detailed understanding of the complexity of such systems;

Suggests that this review could be made and guidelines for nature conservation developed by a small ad hoc group made up of:

- . Individuals experienced in the more innovative efforts to achieve conservation goals on traditional areas.
- . Individuals who have a detailed understanding of the traditional tenure and resource rights of one or more of the Region's traditional societies.
- . Individuals who have some understanding of nature conservation and of traditional community associations with land and waters and who can assist in clarifying principles and issues and prepare written accounts.

Requests SPREP to identify the members of the working group, draw up detailed terms of reference and to seek funding to support this project.

Resolution Number 5.

DESTRUCTIVE FISHING METHODS

The Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference:

Recognising that destructive forms of fishing, such as the use of explosives, poisons and the breaking or smashing of corals have damaged or destroyed many productive coastal areas, creating a serious problem for the conservation of marine life;

Requests the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme to examine the extent of this problem in the region and provide assistance to countries through educational materials and by advice on control measures.

Resolution Number 6.

FUTURE CONFERENCES

The Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference:

Noting the valuable contributions made by the series of South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conferences to the advancement of nature conservation in the region;

Requests the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme at the South Pacific Commission to undertake the organisation of the Conferences in collaboration with IUCN as outlined in its agreement with SPC, the Conferences to include opportunity for workshops on key issues during the technical sessions.

Resolves that the name of the Conference be changed to the South Pacific Nature Conservation and Protected Areas Conference and that the Conference should continue to be held every four years.

Resolution Number 7.APPRECIATION TO CONTRIBUTING ORGANISATIONS

The Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference:

Expresses appreciation to the following Governments and Organisations for generous financial and other assistance in the support of the Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference:

- . Western Samoa
- . South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
- . International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
- . World Wildlife Fund
- . New Zealand Government
- . New South Wales Government, Australia
- . Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
- . World Bank
- . United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
- . United Nations Environment Programme
- . Australian Commonwealth Government
- . United States National Parks Service

Resolution Number 8ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF WESTERN SAMOA

The Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference:

Having met in Apia from 24 June to 3 July 1985 at the generous invitation of the Government of Western Samoa;

Having adopted the Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific Region;

Recognising that the preparations made and the assistance provided by the Government of Western Samoa contributed greatly to the Conference;

Appreciative of the generous hospitality extended by the Government and the people of Western Samoa to members of the delegations, the observers, and the Secretariat attending the Conference;

Expresses its gratitude to the Government and the people of Western Samoa.

9. Country Statements of Commitment to Protected Area Establishment and Management

Summarised versions of statements of country commitments to protected area establishment and management follow:

Australia

The delegate representing Australia referred to the following initiatives in protected area management taken in Australia in recent times:

- . The increase of the land reserved under different protected area categories to 30.95 million hectares or 3.95% of the land area of Australia.
- . The establishment of approximately 200 marine and estuarine protected areas totalling over 37 million hectares in area.
- . The initiation of the first full time ranger training programme for Aboriginal people in Kakadu National Park and the development of a similar course by the N.S.W. National Parks and Wildlife Service.
- . The granting of title to the traditional Aboriginal owners of Ayers Rock and its subsequent leaseback as a National Park involving Aboriginal people in its management.
- . The design and development of a regional training seminar on parks and wildlife administration for senior field managers.
- . Areas for future action will include:
 - (i) improved protection of wetlands
 - (ii) assessment of further areas for wilderness area status and
 - (iii) protection of the Australian rainforests.

Cook Islands

The delegate representing the Cook Islands referred to the following initiatives and proposed future courses of action:

- . The passing of the Nature Conservation Act in 1975 enabling the establishment of National Parks and Reserves such as Suvarrow Atoll National Park which was established in 1978.

- . Proposals to set aside nature and wildlife reserves for the protection of the rare and endangered bird, the Rarotonga flycatcher.
- . Plans to declare Takutea Island a Wildlife reserve.
- . Plans to undertake baseline resource data surveys of existing and proposed national parks and reserves.
- . Initiation of a public education and awareness campaign to aid protected area conservation.

Fiji

The delegate representing Fiji referred to the following initiatives in conservation and protected area establishment taken by his country:

- . The drafting of a National Parks and Reserves Bill and a new Town and Country Planning Bill and their imminent introduction to Parliament.
- . The development and implementation of a plan for a system of National Parks and Reserves.
- . A government commitment to a programme of public education aimed at increasing environmental awareness.
- . The preparation of a National Conservation Strategy in 1985/86.
- . Participation in technical meetings on the draft SPREP convention.
- . Assessment of possible involvement in international conservation agreements and conventions.

Guam

The delegate representing Guam reaffirmed his country's commitment to the establishment and management of a National Parks and Reserves System representative of the island's ecology. Proposed future initiatives included:

- . The evaluation and establishment of new protected areas.
- . Public education programmes on nature conservation.

- . Improvement of the regulations for protected areas and training of Park personnel.
- . Emphasis given to developing the tourist potential of protected areas.
- . Co-operation and information exchange with other Pacific island countries will be pursued.

Kiribati

The delegate representing Kiribati indicated the main thrust of his country's conservation programme would be:

- . To protect the indigenous birdlife.
- . To implement a feral animal eradication programme.
- . To develop a National Conservation Strategy.

Marshall Islands

The delegate representing the Marshall Islands indicated that although his country did not have any official protected areas he had learnt much from the Conference about the establishment and management of such areas.

He endorsed the intent of the Apia Convention and the goals and objectives of the Action Strategy for Protected Areas. The hope was expressed that technical expertise and assistance would be made available to assist the Marshall Islands to develop and implement a National Conservation Strategy.

New Caledonia

The delegate representing New Caledonia referred to the information on protected areas contained in his Country Review presented to the Technical Session as an indication of New Caledonia's commitment to conservation.

In addition to the extensive terrestrial and marine areas already protected, new initiatives for the future would include:

- . A strengthening of the public education programme for nature conservation and the protection of New Caledonia's natural features by the introduction of manuals or teaching aids on these subjects to schools.
- . Establishment and implementation of territorial charters to further protect the territory's natural and cultural heritage.
- . The establishment of a central agency responsible for the planning and management of protected areas.
- . The assessment and establishment of further protected areas in accordance with IUCN categories.

New Zealand

The delegate representing New Zealand referred to the following initiatives taken in his country in conservation and protected area management:

- . The development and implementation of a comprehensive National Conservation Strategy aimed at achieving the integration of conservation and development.
- . A restructuring of its system for environmental administration.
- . A comprehensive survey of its remaining indigenous flora and natural ecosystems and the further development of a reserves system fully representative of these features.
- . Recommendation that two new national parks, the Punakaiki and Wanganui National Parks, be established.
- . Ratification of the World Heritage Convention and nomination of two sites, Fiordland and Mt. Cook/Westland.
- . A four-month training course for protected area managers and rangers from the Pacific region in August 1987. Participants' costs to be met by the New Zealand Government as part of the celebration of the Centennial of National Parks in New Zealand in that year.
- . A substantial contribution in manpower and funds towards the Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference.

Palau

The delegate representing Palau stated his country's commitment to conservation was reflected in a policy for the Conservation of a beautiful, healthful and resourceful natural environment under Article VI of the Constitution of the Republic of Palau. Practical initiatives taken or to be taken in nature conservation and protected area management included:

- . The designation of Ngeiukewid as a wildlife reserve.
- . The promulgation of laws protecting over-exploited marine life and the marine environment.
- . The promotion of repopulation activities aimed at increasing populations of over-exploited marine species including trochus, clams, dugong and turtles.
- . The identification and assessment of ways to improve management capabilities for protected areas.

Solomon Islands

The delegate representing the Solomon Islands indicated his country's commitment to nature conservation and protected area establishment was reflected in the recent establishment of an Environment and Conservation Division within the Ministry of Natural Resources. Other initiatives taken include:

- . The proposed establishment of a Protected Area System within the context of the 1985-1990 National Development Plan.
- . Support of the Apia Convention.
- . Action towards the reinstatement of the status of the Queen Elizabeth Park, the country's first National Park.

Tonga

The delegate representing Tonga referred to his country's passing of the Parks and Reserves Act in 1976 as a major initiative for Nature Conservation and protected area establishment in Tonga. Other initiatives taken include:

- . The establishment of five marine reserves under the Parks and Reserves legislation.
- . The subsequent establishment of Monuate and Malinoa islands as National Parks.
- . The implementation of a Cumulative Environment Field Analysis project to identify additional prospective protected areas (still to be completed).
- . The implementation of an environment awareness public education programme.
- . The preparation of a Land and Environmental Planning Act which will promote conservation the wise use of natural resources and the further development of a National Parks system.

Wallis and Futuna

The delegate representing the Territory of the Islands of Wallis and Futuna emphasised that in order for the small land area (160Km) of the territory to support the population of 12,500 inhabitants, the entire area must be looked upon as a protected area and its natural resources conserved. Specific protection measures include:

- . The traditional (tapu) protection of the Zoha Vao Tapu forest and water catchment area and the regulation of pigeon and flying fox hunting in this area.
- . Protection of lakes, rivers, underground water resources and the coastal zone by controls over clearfelling of forests, use and disposal of pollutants and through physical coastal protection measures.
- . Control of the exploitation of the 200 mile Economic Zone.

Western Samoa

The delegate representing Western Samoa referred to the points made by the Western Samoan Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests at the opening of the meeting and the Country Review presented at the Technical Session as reflecting his country's deep and sincere commitment to nature conservation and protected areas. Future initiatives may include:

- . The development of new means to facilitate the establishment of protected areas on non public land.
- . Encouragement of resource surveys to assist with the identification of possible new protected areas and the management of existing areas.
- . Improved school and public education programmes promoting nature conservation and environmental awareness.
- . Improved regulations and management planning to aid protected area managements.
- . Greater emphasis on training for protected area managers and increased funds for the management of such areas.

10. Other Business

The Meeting expressed its appreciation to the delegation of Papua New Guinea for offering to host the Fourth South Pacific Nature Conservation and Protected Areas Conference scheduled for 1989.

Also the Meeting thanked the delegate of Kiribati for the willingness of his Government to have Christmas Island considered as the alternative venue for the next Conference.

11. Adoption of Meeting Report

The summary record of proceedings was reviewed and adopted as an accurate record of the meeting.

12. Closing of Meeting

The following are summaries of the closing statements made by the Director of Programmes, SPC, Mr. Tamarii Pierre and the Chairman of the IUCN Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas, Mr. Harold Eidsvik, representing the co-sponsors of the Conference. These statements were followed by closing remarks by representatives from the delegations of the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Tonga who joined the previous speakers in expressing their thanks to those individuals and agencies responsible for the Conference. The Conference was then officially closed by the Chairman, the Honorable Mr. Toi Aukuso.

Mr. Tamarii Pierre, Director of Programmes, South Pacific Commission.

Mr. Pierre expressed the view that the Conference had been a considerable success, being the first of its type to be held in an island country. It represented an historic occasion in the development of a regional approach to nature conservation and protected area establishment and it also provided a sound base on which future similar conferences could build and he looked forward to the fourth conference to be held in Papua New Guinea being even more successful.

Mr. Pierre referred in particular to the assistance, guidance and moral support given to the conference by the Government of New Zealand and the State Government of New South Wales in the Commonwealth of Australia. Other supporters without whom the conference could not have proceeded included the IUCN, World Wildlife Fund, ESCAP, the World Bank, UNESCO, UNEP and the Australian Commonwealth Government.

He expressed the hope that SPREP could rely on the continuing support, experience and guidance of these organisations in carrying out the work set for it by the Conference, particularly in relation to implementation of the Action Strategy.

An impressive aspect of the conference and one which contributed much to its success was the high level of support and participation by the Honorable Ministers and Distinguished Delegates as well as the officials at the Technical Session. This had ensured that a realistic assessment of the needs of the region was reflected in the Action Strategy adopted by the meeting.

Mr. Pierre confirmed that the meeting report and Action Strategy would be submitted for consideration at the forthcoming South Pacific Conference in Honiara in September 1985. He urged all delegations to ensure their representatives to this and the preceding South Pacific Forum meeting, were adequately briefed on the decisions and outputs of the conference. Mr. Pierre concluded his comments by expressing his thanks on behalf of the Coordinating Group of SPREP to the Conference Secretariat, the Government of Western Samoa and the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Deputy Vice Chairman of the Ministerial Session.

Mr. H. Eidsvik, Chairman, Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas, IUCN.

Mr. Eidsvik endorsed the comments of Mr. Pierre in thanking those responsible for the conference. He emphasised the importance IUCN and other international agencies placed on the Action Strategy and other conference outputs. These allowed the Agencies to develop projects and focus assistance in the full knowledge they are acting on priorities set by the countries of the region.

Edited versions of Messrs. Pierre's and Eidsvik's Statements are included as Annex 3.

ANNEX 1OPENING STATEMENTS TO THE MINISTERIAL SESSION OF THE
THIRD SOUTH PACIFIC NATIONAL PARKS AND RESERVES CONFERENCE

The Honorable Mr. Toi Aukuso, Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries, Western Samoa.

Honorable Ministers and Distinguished Delegates, It gives me great pleasure to extend to you all a very warm welcome to Western Samoa. It is an honour for me and the Government and people of Western Samoa to host this meeting of Ministers from South Pacific Island countries concerned with the protection and conservation of our natural environment, - an issue that is of significant importance to us all, and upon which our economic growth is dependent.

Our island ecosystems are extremely vulnerable due to their small land masses, their limited fauna and flora, and their lack of species diversity. However, I believe we have many compensating advantages. Our extensive ocean area containing rich mineral and marine life is probably unequalled by any other region of the world. We are therefore, not as disadvantaged as we sometimes tend to think. However, the ocean and land based resources can only continue to provide for our needs as long as we accord them the proper management and protection they deserve. Therefore, I am particularly happy to note that during your meeting, you will be looking at ways and means of fulfilling this most desirable objective. I hope you will agree with me that only through our uniting together as a region can we successfully protect and monitor our natural environment to ensure that the Pacific remains as we wish to have it.

You will be faced with a difficult task in the next few days. There will be sensitive issues to be discussed and your judgment as leaders will be called upon often during the course of your discussions. I am confident however, that the spirit of "Regional Cooperation" will prevail and that practical resolutions will emerge from your deliberations, for the benefit and advancement of our region.

May I conclude by wishing you all a satisfying and fruitful conference, as well as a most pleasant and enjoyable stay in Apia.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to declare this Ministerial Meeting officially open. Soifua.

Mr. Tamariri Pierre, Director of Programmes, South Pacific Commission, Noumea, New Caledonia.

The Honorable Toi Aukuso, Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries of Western Samoa, Honorable Ministers and Distinguished Delegates.

Mr. Minister, it is an honour for me to express to you on behalf of the Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission, Mr. Francis Bugotu and the Secretariat, our gratitude for the very warm welcome that you have extended to us and the thought-provoking statements that you have just made in opening this conference. Through you Mr. Minister, I would also like to extend to the Prime Minister of Western Samoa and to your Government our sincere appreciation for the willing co-operation that has been extended to us by the Government and people of Western Samoa in hosting this Conference. I trust Sir, that your Ministerial Colleagues from around the Pacific, the delegates, co-sponsors and observers at this Conference would not consider it presumptuous of me to express similar sentiments on their behalf.

The number of working papers presented at the preceding Technical Session is impressive but more important is the consistently high quality of those papers which laid a firm base for stimulating discussions. Amongst other things, the Technical Session achieved its prime objective of preparing a draft Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific together with a number of complementary resolutions.

Tempted as I am to describe the Technical Session as a highly successful event, I am hesitant about doing so at this stage, as I am very much aware that one of the primary objectives of this Ministerial Meeting is to consider and hopefully adopt the draft Action Strategy for Protected Areas in our region and the resolutions prepared by the Technical Session. It is really for you, honourable ministers and distinguished delegates at this Ministerial Meeting, to decide on the degree of success that might be attributed to the Technical Session.

There is no doubt that the adoption of a meaningful action strategy such as that prepared at the Technical Session will greatly enhance the ability of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, otherwise known as SPREP, to promote and facilitate action at the regional and national levels pertaining to protected areas. Such a strategy would also provide much needed stimulus for urgent action by Governments of our region in this field. Directly related to the adoption and implementation of an Action Strategy for protected areas is the need for Governments of our region to settle on the most appropriate course of action aiming to provide a regional legal framework for nature conservation in the South Pacific. This therefore is one of the primary objectives of this meeting.

The focus for discussion on this objective is the Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific. The initial draft of this agreement was prepared through consultation between IUCN and the SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION, then circulated for comment to Pacific countries. The text was finalised exactly nine years ago in Apia at a Plenipotentiary Meeting in which a number of you might have participated. Unfortunately the Convention never entered into force having to this day only three of the required four signatories.

It is appropriate therefore, that the legal framework for nature conservation in our region should be further considered here in Western Samoa where the first initiative towards this end was made. The last nine years have seen a rapid increase in environment initiatives at national and regional levels. The most significant activity at the regional level has been the development of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme which provides the umbrella for co-operative activities within all environment management fields including conservation.

It is clear that without an Action Strategy and an appropriate legal framework SPREP will not have the impetus and teeth that it requires for accelerated action; nor would interested regional and international agencies have a basis for concerted action with SPREP and regional governments in the South Pacific. Therefore from the Secretariat's viewpoint the bringing into force of the Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific, otherwise known as the "Apia Convention", would be the most appropriate course of action to take. We are hopeful that such action might at least be initiated at this meeting.

In addition to the two objectives that I have already referred to, there is yet another major objective for this meeting. It is intended that this meeting would provide a forum for countries to announce current initiatives in the field of conservation and protected areas and to make commitments or statements of intention on ways in which each might take action towards implementing the agreed strategy. We consider this to be an important aspect of this meeting and look forward with great interest to hearing statements on the planned action by Governments in this field in the light of the Action Strategy that this meeting might adopt.

To sum up therefore, this meeting has three main objectives:

1. To settle on the most appropriate course of action aiming to provide a regional legal framework for nature conservation in the South Pacific;
2. To consider and adopt an Action Strategy on Protected Areas in the South Pacific; and,
3. To provide an opportunity for countries to make policy statements and commitments in the field of conservation and protected area management.

Honorable Ministers will be aware that this Conference is jointly sponsored by the South Pacific Commission through SPREP and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. We are confident that this will be the first of many joint activities between SPREP and IUCN given the signing last week of a Memorandum of Understanding between IUCN and SPC which provides a working framework for future joint activities between the two organisations.

Significant contributions have also been provided for this Conference by the host Government, Western Samoa; the World Wildlife Fund, the New Zealand Government, the Government of the State of New South Wales in Australia, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the World Bank, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Government of Australia. Without the support of these Governments and Agencies it would not have been possible for this Conference to take place - a conference which we consider to be highly appropriate in meeting the challenges of a changing and increasingly more fragile South Pacific environment.

Mr. Minister, it is our hope that a genuine South Pacific conservation concept to meet the respective needs of our island nations as you enunciated in opening the Technical Session will emerge from the deliberations of this Conference. The high level of co-operation already reached between governments, and regional and international agencies in bringing all of us together for this Conference bodes well for future co-operative action in relation to the conservation of our cultural and natural heritage.

On behalf of my Secretary-General and the Secretariat I would like to extend to you all our very best wishes in deciding on the most appropriate framework for environmental conservation in our region. Soifua.

Mr. Harold K. Eidsvik, Chairman, IUCN's Commission National Parks and Protected Areas (on behalf of Dr. Kenton Miller, Director General of IUCN).

Mr. Chairman, Honorable Ministers and Distinguished Delegates. I bring greetings from Dr. Kenton Miller, Director General of IUCN who regrets that he cannot be present. It is a special privilege to be invited to deliver these opening remarks to your session to-day, the day of Parks Canada's centennial celebrations. As an organisation concerned with conservation IUCN is pleased to jointly sponsor the Third South Pacific Parks Conference as we did, the 1971 Regional Symposium on Conservation of Nature, Reefs and Lagoons at Noumea and the 1st Parks Conference in 1975. We are greatly impressed by the progress that has been made in the past ten years.

Your technical representatives have worked diligently during the past week and I think as you enter this week's deliberations you will find that the foundation has been well laid by last week's work which is reflected in the Strategy which you will be considering.

We, from IUCN have noted how the approach to nature conservation in the Pacific region, has become more mature, more scientific, more professional reflecting your long history of living in harmony with the environment. For our part, we have I believe, become more flexible and more adaptive in our programs, recognising that global conservation can only be achieved through regional and national action.

Allow me to share briefly some information about IUCN. Our organisation is a membership Union of more than 100 government agencies in 56 states. As well we have more than 300 non-governmental members. Our network includes more than 2000 technical experts upon whom we can call. Our main office is in Switzerland and our Conservation Data Centre is located in Cambridge in the UK.

I should also like to add that we have several Commission officers and Vice Chairmen based in the Region and at this meeting we have also had an opportunity to further strengthen our membership. I would be pleased to elaborate on IUCN activities at any time.

Some highlights of IUCN activities since the last conference may be of interest to you;

- . the World Conservation Strategy 1980 was and is a far reaching document and is changing global approaches in an effort to harmonise nature protection with society. The 1982 World National Parks Congress, BALI proceedings reflect these new directions.
- . In 1987-88 our major program will focus on "Island Conservation". To initiate this we have recently hired a Marine Conservation Officer to work full time on this program. The program is one of the primary reasons I am here at this Conference and in this respect we have also worked closely with UN agencies such as UNESCO and particularly UNEP in relation to its Regional Seas Program.

Closely related to these cooperative efforts is the agreement which we signed last week with the South Pacific Commission to formalise our desire to work more closely with Pacific island countries and with SPREP.

In closing I would wish to emphasize that we are very much aware of the sovereign role of governments in designing and executing programs for the welfare of your people. We believe the draft strategy you will review and hopefully endorse at this meeting will be a good one. The legal Conventions which you will also be reviewing this week can provide useful international tools to support your decisions.

We will at your request be pleased to assist in implementing the objectives of these instruments.

Again my apologies that our Director General could not be with you.

The Honorable Mr. Soso Tomu, Minister of Environment and Conservation, Government of Papua New Guinea.

Mr. Chairman, Honorable Ministers and Distinguished Delegates.

Mr. Chairman I extend my congratulations to you on your election to the chair for this important meeting and I am pleased to have this opportunity to make a brief statement on the theme of the Conference and its implications.

Before I do that, I would like to take this opportunity to express both my personal and my Government's deep appreciation to the Government of Western Samoa for hosting such an important Conference.

Mr. Chairman, our presence here to-day shows our common concern towards protection of our fragile ecosystems. Our forefathers had great respect towards their environment and have used its resources with great care. However with development, all manner of changes are occurring and will continue to occur. Some of these may be good and others bad. Therefore, we must try to understand some of the ways our forefathers used their resources and apply their principles to our management of the same resources if we are to protect and preserve our heritage.

I had the opportunity to look through the draft copy of the Action Strategy yesterday and I am pleased and impressed with the effort our technical experts have put into this report. The Draft Action Strategy has highlighted some of the issues concerning the establishment and management of protected areas in the South Pacific. Papua New Guinea has no objection to the Action Strategy.

As you all know, Papua New Guinea has signed the Apia Convention. Western Samoa and France have also signed the Apia Convention. However, as mentioned by the Director of the SPC, we are aware the Convention is inactive and ineffective.

It is our view that we, the South Pacific countries, should ratify the Apia Convention. It is essential to have such a convention which will strongly unite the independent states of the South Pacific region in their efforts towards nature conservation and environmental protection.

However, in doing so it is important that the Apia Convention is not confused with SPREP Convention, which covers broader areas of environmental protection and management. In our view both conventions should be seen to complement each other.

Mr. Chairman, if the Apia Convention is finally ratified Papua New Guinea would like to make the following points:

1. With the adoption of the Action Strategy, Papua New Guinea would like to request that countries such as Australia and New Zealand and other international organisations dealing with environmental conservation assist us financially in pursuing our desire to look after our region.
2. Although Papua New Guinea has signed the Convention, we will be prepared to consider other options.

Once again Mr. Chairman, I thank you and your government for hosting this very important conference. We look forward to the forthcoming discussions and would like to place on record our willingness to host the next meeting in Papua New Guinea, subject to the agreement of my Executive, if this is considered appropriate by the meeting.

The Honorable Mr. Koro Wetere, Minister of Lands and Forests, New Zealand.

Mr. Chairman, Honorable Ministers and Distinguished Delegates.

I thank you Mr. Chairman and your Government for hosting this Conference.

The initiative was taken by the New Zealand Government in 1975 in hosting the First South Pacific Conference of National Parks which was followed by the Australian Government in hosting the second conference in Sydney.

I congratulate our friends from Canada on their 100 years of national parks, celebrated to-day. In 1987 New Zealand will also attain that age, when we commemorate the gift by Te Heu Heu Tukino who, on behalf of the Ngati Tu Wharetoa, gifted the central core of the Tongariro National Park to the people of New Zealand.

I appreciate being here because New Zealand has much to contribute to the conservation of the diverse range of flora and fauna we have in the South Pacific. We see co-operation as being of the utmost importance in furthering regional and national conservation objectives.

As Minister of Forests in New Zealand, I believe the use of natural indigenous forests will cease within the next 20 years and the world will then be dependent on the use of man made forests for timber production. It is therefore important as we make our pathway towards the 21st century, that we establish sound environmental policies. We have here to-day for consideration the Apia Convention which I believe will be very important in setting in place such policies. Conferences such as this are important for endorsing the objectives of conservation which are important for our future.

I am therefore grateful for the opportunity to participate in this Conference. Kia Ora Tatou.

ANNEX 2ACTION STRATEGY FOR PROTECTED AREAS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION

(This is also available as a separate document)

INTRODUCTION

The South Pacific is a vast region extending over 29 million sq km, or seven times the area of the Caribbean. Of this, only about 500,000 sq km is land. The island environments present special, often critical, problems for nature conservation. Geographical and ecological isolation have led to the evolution of unique species and communities of plants and animals, many of which are adapted to only one island or island group, and found nowhere else in the world. There are about 2000 different types of ecosystem throughout the South Pacific, and on some islands 80% or more of the species are endemic. Limited space means that ecosystems are restricted, with small biological populations and this increases their vulnerability.

Population growth, steady habitat destruction from increasing demands on limited land resources, and competition and predation by introduced species have all combined to put pressure on natural environments and native species. A recent comprehensive review of environmental concerns in the region highlighted the problems of land and habitat destruction due to accelerated soil and coastal erosion, coastal reclamation, mining activities, excessive harvesting of native forests and of coastal fish resources, and pollution of both inland and coastal waters. On many islands of the region the diminishing area of natural undisturbed environments has become critical. Relatively large numbers of native plant and animal species are endangered (or extinct). There are about seven times more endangered bird species per capita in the South Pacific than in the Caribbean, and one hundred times more than in North America or Africa, placing heavy responsibilities on small island nations.

Some island countries have made great efforts in protecting natural environments. By 1985 there were 95 protected areas in the region, totalling approximately 800 sq km. However, this represents only about 0.15% of the total land area and there is an urgent need for expansion of the protected area network. This Strategy, therefore, is based on the premise that further establishment of protected areas is vital in the South Pacific, both on land and at sea. Sustainable development of resources through conservation can be aided by protected areas and protected species systems because:

- they assist in the maintenance of traditional customs and culture,
- they maintain the main life support systems and enhance the resource values of these systems,
- they contribute to the maintenance of island biological diversity and the conservation of genetic resources,
- they provide opportunities for research and education, and
- they provide economic opportunities through recreation and tourism.

Protected areas and protected species systems thus serve environmental, social, economic, cultural and spiritual needs of societies.

Establishment and effective environmental management of protected areas and species involves several considerations. These include an enforceable legal framework, a close working relationship between governments and community groups in planning and management, the integration of modern and traditional skills applied in the field, and support from research, training, education and information services. Pacific countries also have a need to consider a wider range of categories of protected areas for management of those essential resources and processes which maintain the balanced and healthful environment on which island people depend for survival.

This Strategy aims to provide a work programme to implement the conservation and protected area objectives of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme Action Plan for Managing the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region. The Strategy was developed by the Technical Session and adopted by the Ministerial Meeting of the Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference conducted within the framework of SPREP in Apia, Western Samoa, 24 June to 3 July 1985. It incorporates the views of IUCN's Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas which was a co-sponsor of the Conference.

APPROACH

This Strategy has five goals concerned with conservation education, conservation policy, the establishment and management of protected areas, and regional and international cooperation. A number of objectives are identified within each goal under which are listed activities needed at national, regional and international levels. Specific project suggestions for each South Pacific country appear in the Appendix.

GOAL A: TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAMMES AND EXPAND EFFORTS IN CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE VALUES AND BENEFITS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION INCLUDING PROTECTED AREAS.

OBJECTIVE A.1

To facilitate maximum possible community involvement in the development of protected areas systems and to ensure public awareness of their benefits.

ACTIVITIESNational Level

1. Develop extension programmes, with emphasis on grass roots approaches, to deliver the message to local people.
2. Provide relevant educational and interpretive facilities (visitor centres, nature trails, publications, etc.) in protected areas.
3. Train staff in communication techniques with special emphasis on developing local support for conservation.
4. Provide publications in appropriate languages for each protected area in the region for distribution to schools.
5. Place signs and exhibits at isolated island anchorages to solicit understanding and cooperation of visitors.
6. Develop environmental education manuals for teachers.

7. Prepare films and slide presentations on parks and other selected conservation topics.
8. Develop at least one demonstration park in each country with a full range of educational facilities and programmes (e.g. visitor centre, nature trail, exhibits).
9. Sponsor radio programmes and provide media coverage of activities of the protected area agency.
10. Encourage the involvement of non-government organizations in education projects.

Regional and International Level

1. Support local workshops for developing local capacity in education and communication methods.
2. Provide educational material and supplies (e.g. mobile education units).
3. Support attendance at training courses and seminars in conservation education.
4. Support SPREP's activities through its Education, Training and Information Network.

GOAL B: TO DEVELOP CONSERVATION POLICIES WHICH PROMOTE PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF NATURAL RESOURCE USE

OBJECTIVE B.1

To expand the use of appropriate types of protected areas and other conservation measures to encompass the management and maintenance of those resources and environmental processes on which people depend for their survival.

ACTIVITIES

National Level

1. Integrate protected area inventory activities (Goal C.1.1) with preparation of resource inventories identifying areas of critical importance for water supplies, erosion control, disaster protection, soil conservation, waste purification and other factors essential to maintaining the carrying capacity of islands.

2. Develop plans and programmes to protect these essential features and processes including, where appropriate, their inclusion in a protected areas system.
3. Ensure that renewable island resources such as forests, agricultural land and fisheries are developed on a sustainable basis.
4. Initiate monitoring programmes to follow changes in essential resources or processes that may require remedial action.
5. Give prominence to the establishment of protected areas in regional, national, and local plans for conservation or development of natural resources.

Regional and International Level

1. Provide assistance to countries in the preparation of National Conservation Strategies.

OBJECTIVE B.2

To implement the protected area components of national conservation strategies by the development of general policies for protected areas and their application through management plans for specific areas.

ACTIVITIES

National Level

1. Develop general policies for the management of systems of protected areas which would guide the preparation of plans for specific areas.
2. Develop general policies through a process of public consultation according to needs and use the resultant policies as mechanisms for information and education.

GOAL C: TO ESTABLISH A REPRESENTATIVE NETWORK OF PROTECTED AREAS WITHIN THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION

At present less than 20% of the ecosystem types in the South Pacific region are represented in protected areas. There are a large number of unique island ecosystems and associated species that are vulnerable to complete disappearance. Each country should have a representative system of protected natural areas and cultural sites which, together with other conservation measures, would assure the survival of all the ecosystems and species that make up the country's natural heritage. The creation of such a system in the South Pacific will take time and must take into consideration the unique characteristics of the South Pacific Islands, including traditional patterns of land use.

OBJECTIVE C.1.

To develop an inventory of plant and animal habitats and ecosystems within each country.

ACTIVITIES

National Level

1. Undertake inventories of major natural landscapes, ecosystems and habitats (both terrestrial and marine) and assess their potential for reservation as protected areas. Include consideration of areas of exceptional scientific, ecological and cultural value, areas containing particularly rich and diverse native biota, and localities of rare, endangered and endemic species and identify areas which are particularly fragile or at risk.

Regional and International Level

1. Assist island countries in developing national resource information surveys.
2. Prepare and conduct a protected area systems review for the South Pacific Region and disseminate its results widely, linking the distribution of habitats and species in order to provide a framework for national action. (In preparation by IUCN, to be completed by late 1985).

3. Develop a protected area data base from information collected by governments and other sources, and publish relevant data as a directory of South Pacific Region Protected Areas. (In preparation by IUCN, to be completed by end 1985).
4. Collaborate with governments in developing a biogeographical classification system which could be used throughout the Region, in protecting biological diversity.
5. Strengthen national capacities for resource surveys and inventories through regional information and training programmes.
6. Support efforts to develop a regional capacity to use data processing, remote sensing and other technologies for improved inventories, maps, planning and monitoring of resources. Emphasis should be on methods appropriate for use by local communities in the South Pacific Region.

OBJECTIVE C.2.

To establish a representative system of protected areas within each country.

ACTIVITIES

National Level

1. Develop a national programme to protect the natural and cultural resources of the country through conservation programmes and particularly by the systematic establishment of protected areas. The IUCN has identified ten basic categories of reserves and these should be examined to determine which are the most appropriate for the country and for the area concerned.

For example, Category I may be appropriate in areas where strict nature conservation is required. Categories V, VII and VIII may be more suitable for small countries or where it is desired to apply nature conservative reserves in inhabited areas. The inclusion of international categories such as Biosphere Reserves, World Heritage Sites and wetlands (RAMSAR) sites should be encouraged.

2. Attempt to achieve the following targets within the next four years:
 - the establishment of at least one protected area in each country and territory of the region and to establish an additional 50 protected areas in the region as a whole, and
 - an increase to 40% the number of ecosystems receiving some kind of protection.
3. Obtain adequate financial support for the establishment of protected natural areas, including the leasing of customary land. Because protected natural areas are of international benefit and importance, it is appropriate that financial support for their establishment should come from both national and international sources.

OBJECTIVE C.3

To ensure appropriate status and legal protection for protected area systems.

ACTIVITIES

National Level

1. Prepare appropriate legislation to provide for protected area establishment. Such legislation should recognise and reinforce any traditions and taboos which protect natural resources.
2. Introduce measures through the constitution or by legislation to provide the means for protecting and ensuring the continued existence of parks and reserves.
3. Examine and encourage alternative means for protecting areas outside the formal dedication of reserves and protected areas. This could involve conservation measures on freehold or customary owned land, either with the consent of the owners or through easements, leasehold or other arrangements. Where possible, emphasis should be placed on ways in which customary land holders and, when appropriate, freeholders can protect their land without relinquishing ownership.

GOAL D: TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN AN ADEQUATE CAPACITY FOR EFFECTIVE PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION.

Responsibility for protected area management in the South Pacific is often fragmented between a number of government departments or statutory authorities. Few countries have established specific departments or statutory authorities for protected area management. The development of an agency with specific responsibilities for protected area management is an essential first step. This should also incorporate provision for an adequate number of appropriately trained staff. The training of protected area staff is a major priority in South Pacific countries and is addressed in objective D.3.

OBJECTIVE D.1.

To encourage each country to establish an agency responsible for overseeing the establishment and management of protected areas, which is adequately staffed and equipped.

ACTIVITIES

National Level

1. Develop a strong central directorate responsible for conservation and protected area management and develop mechanisms within government for appropriate consultation with other departments concerned with national development and resource exploitation.
2. Ensure that there are adequate staff for the administration, planning and management of protected areas - both terrestrial and marine.
3. Establish strong links with community consultative committees, to establish and maintain liaison between policy makers and local communities.
4. Supplement staffing of agencies by facilitating the involvement of local people in management, e.g. as wardens, rangers, caretakers.

Regional and International Level

1. Assist in the establishment of agencies responsible for protected area management through technical advice, the secondment of officers in this field to work with Pacific Island Governments and the funding of positions.

OBJECTIVE D.2.

To ensure that adequate management plans are prepared for all protected areas.

National Level

1. Document the values and objectives of each protected area, specifying clearly the purpose of its protected status.
2. Prepare a management plan for each protected area, ensuring that the local community and the staff are fully involved in the process.
3. Develop compatible management objectives for buffer areas surrounding the protected areas.

Regional and International Level

1. Assist with the development of guidelines for preparation of management plans, giving particular consideration to the educational value of such plans.
2. Assist with training workshops to ensure that local managers can prepare management plans for their own protected areas, thereby ensuring the local commitment to implementation of the plans.

OBJECTIVE D.3.

To develop training programmes to ensure the availability of adequately trained manpower.

ACTIVITIES

National/Regional/International Levels

1. Encourage the inclusion of appropriate protected area management skills in relevant educational curricula.
2. Publish and distribute a training manual on protected area management in the South Pacific.
3. Develop and undertake in-service training programmes to develop protected area skills drawing on appropriate regional expertise. Emphasis to be placed on the practices of traditional use and their incorporation into contemporary park management procedures.
4. Encourage participation of staff at regional and international training programmes.
5. Encourage bilateral training involving secondment of officers, from countries within and outside the region, to facilitate on-the-job training of local staff.
6. Undertake a regional manpower requirement survey to identify future training needs and opportunities.
7. Provide basic reference manuals and publications on protected area management to all park officers in the region.

GOAL E: TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION IN PROMOTING CONSERVATION IN THE REGION AND SUPPORT FROM INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

The framework for regional cooperation in environment management in the South Pacific is provided by the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

OBJECTIVE E.1.

To promote cooperation among the countries of the South Pacific to ensure effective management and protection of their natural resources.

ACTIVITIESRegional and International Level

1. Support provision of a full time person to SPREP to assist in implementation of this strategy.
2. Encourage interchange of ideas, information and expertise in conservation amongst countries, at senior policy, professional and research levels.
3. Offer study tour and working tour facilities to examine conservation activities within countries of the region.
4. Encourage interchange of expert staff between national management agencies, particularly where expertise is needed to address specific problems.
5. Establish a regional data base on aspects relating to protected area management and the establishment of mechanisms for circulating this information between countries.
6. Provide support for SPREP as the regional coordinating body for protected area management issues.
7. Facilitate exchange of information and expertise concerning conservation activities.
8. Provide support to international conservation agencies and conventions particularly the World Heritage Convention.
9. Encourage conservation officers to contribute to newspapers, magazines, journals and other media thereby contributing to increasing awareness of conservation within countries and at the regional level.
10. Promote the establishment of joint protected areas along common boundaries to effectively conserve shared resources.

APPENDIXSOUTH PACIFIC COUNTRY PRIORITIES FOR ACTION ON PROTECTED AREAS

This annex is a summary of information submitted by country delegates. It is a provisional list of project ideas relating to conservation and protected areas identified by delegates as those matters which are in most urgent need of implementation in their countries. The projects relate to the goals and objectives of the Strategy and offer specific suggestions where it could be implemented. It is hoped that, after suitable consultation, these and other project ideas will be developed and formalised in each country and implemented as resources permit and with regional or international assistance if required.

AMERICAN SAMOA

- Implement recommendations regarding new areas for reservation and taking fish (C.2.)
- Possible reservation of reef area at island of Ofa (C.2.)
- Possible reservation of forest on Mt. Lata (Tau) (C.2.)
- Implementation of management programme at the Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary (D)

COOK ISLANDS

- Complete baseline survey, prepare management plans and recruit and train personnel for Suvarrow Atoll National Park (C, D)
- Establish Kakerori Reserve on Rarotonga Island including completion of baseline survey, preparation of management plans, and conducting a public education and awareness campaign (C, D)
- Develop and implement a public education and awareness campaign for the establishment of Rarotonga Water Catchment and Wildlife Reserve (A)
- Develop a National Conservation Strategy (B)
- Designate Island of Takuten as a Wildlife Sanctuary through negotiation with customary land owners and a public education and awareness campaign followed by preparation of management plans (C, D)

FIJI

- Development of the National Conservation Strategy - a framework exists but further development of strategy requires recruitment of an experienced team leader (B)
- Final drafting and enactment of the National Parks and Reserves Act emphasising local customary ownership of lands required for the system of protected areas (C)
- Development of Garrick Reserve as a national park pilot project (C)
- Development of Tai-Elevuka reef environs as a marine national park pilot project with the help of customary fishing right owners (C)
- Designation of Sigatoka Sand Dunes as a project area - management plans and programmes to be developed nationally (C, D)
- Training staff, developing an environmental awareness programme and production of education resource material obtaining international funding for the establishment of identified protected areas which will include leasing of customary lands, such as for Wasainali Reserve, and other areas (A, C, D)

GUAM

- Establish the Hilaan area as a protected area (C)
- Conduct a multimedia public education programme on the need for further protected areas (A)
- Develop tourism programme to give emphasis to parks and protected areas (A)
- Complete the survey of proposed protected areas (C.1)
- Facilitate the exchange of management and resource information, particularly with the Northern Marianas (E.1.)

- Revise regulations to improve management of protected areas (C.3.)
- Implement management activities for established protected areas and training programmes for staffing of these areas (D.3.)
- Request USA, in cooperation with American Samoa and Northern Marianas, to ratify and enforce international agreements (E.2.)

KIRIBATI

- Formulate a National Conservation Strategy (B)
- Implement the Feral Animal Eradication Programme on Christmas Island (D)

MARSHALL ISLANDS

- Seek technical assistance in identifying potential protected natural resources and reserves (C)
- Seek assistance in formulating legislation and governmental policies which would take into account customary land ownership (C.3)
- Seek assistance in the development of a comprehensive environmental educational programme (A)
- Obtain assistance in seeking funding sources, to promote conservation and protected area goals (B, E)
- Develop a National Conservation Strategy (B)

NEW CALEDONIA

- Intensification of education and public information activities relating to nature conservation, with special attention being paid to school text-books for use at all levels. (A-1)
- Adoption of a Territorial "charter" on the protection of the natural and the cultural heritage. (B)
- To establish new areas of protection of the environment, classified according to the IUCN categories, as follows:

- . bird reserve on Chesterfield Islands
- . rotating marine reserves in reef areas
- . extension of "Riviere Bleue" Territorial Park
- . preservation of the lake ecosystems of the "Plaine des Lacs" (C.2)
- . legislative measures to ensure the permanency of parks and reserves. (C.3)
- . redrafting of forestry legislation, taking into account customary ownership. (C.3)
- . protection of endangered endemic species. (C.1)
- . establishment of a central structure for the management and planning of protected areas. (D.1)
- . support of SPREP's activities and promotion of co-operation among international scientists and experts with a view to furthering knowledge in the field of ecology. (E)

NORTHERN MARIANAS

- Develop public information and education programme through the training of staff in effective communication techniques and development of education strategies including audio-visuals, posters and publication of articles in newspapers (A, D.2.)
- Formulate management plans for wildlife reserves (D.1.)
- Train personnel in park management (D.3.)

PALAU

- Develop an effective conservation agency with adequate staffing (D)
- Recruit and train wardens to manage and protect Ngerukewid reserve (D)

- Assess living and non-living resources with a view to establishing new reserves (C)
- Review and update all laws and regulations pertaining to environmental protection and develop management plans and policies (C, D)
- Develop educational programmes for conservation (A)
- Obtain financial assistance for creation and development of protected areas including leasing of customary lands and waters (C)
- Provide adequate resources to control dynamiting of reefs (D)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

- Review conservation legislation (C.3.)
- Develop public awareness programmes in environmental education (A)
- Review administrative structures to effect efficient implementation of environmental and conservation policies (D.1.)
- Review "protected area register" (C.2.)
- Draw up list of endangered species of plants and animals (C.1)
- Review the effectiveness of the current system of protected areas (C.2.)
- Undertake a comprehensive survey of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and design a representative system of protected areas (C.1.)
- Secure assistance and support for the preparation of management plans for Mt. Wilhelm National Park, McAdam National Park and Mt. Gahavisuka Provincial Park (D)
- Develop a National Conservation Strategy (B)

SOLOMON ISLANDS

- Develop a National Conservation Strategy to review all environment aspects of development (B)
- Develop, expand and implement a national environment awareness programme including radio broadcast, publications, and the establishment of a mobile unit (A)
- Review and update all existing legislation relating to protected areas and conservation, and, where necessary, draw up new legislation (C)
- Undertake staff training in the fields of biology, botany, ecology and park management (D)
- Develop the following areas as protected areas:
 - . Oema atoll and the island of Oema as a wildlife sanctuary
 - . Mount Austin, Mount Galego
 - . Island of Arnavon
 - . Lake Te Nggono and its flora and fauna (C, D)

TOKELAU

- Safeguard populations of clams and turtles by the establishment of turtle hatcheries and by clam farming. Assistance is needed specifically in the exchange of information and, if possible, in sponsoring training for three Tokelauans in the techniques of clam farming and turtle hatching (D)
- Record traditional knowledge and practice on the use and conservation of resources

TONGA

- Develop and implement intensive public education and training programme including radio broadcasts on environmental conservation and grants for overseas study on environment related disciplines (A)
- Survey all potential protected areas, followed by preparation of management plans and provision of funds for management (C.1.)
- Develop a national environmental strategy (B)
- Prepare a resource inventories to help in identifying areas of critical importance for resource conservation (C.1.)
- Exchange environmental expert staff between countries of the region for short periods to cooperate in addressing specific problems and in exchanging ideas (E.1.)

VANUATU

- Develop a National Conservation Strategy (B)
- Establish a Kauri Reserve on Erromango Island involving:
 - . negotiation with and compensation of customary land owners as appropriate;
 - . survey and inventory of proposed area;
 - . development of management plan;
 - . support for park officer training and positions (C)
- Establishment of recreational reserves on Espiritu Santo involving:
 - . survey and inventory of proposed areas
 - . negotiations with and compensation of customary land owners as appropriate (C)
 - . development of management plans (D.2)
 - . support for park officer training and, if necessary, positions. (D.3)

WALLIS AND FUTUNA

- Protect the underground water lens against pollutants (B)
- Prepare a training and information programme in relation to the Action Plan (A, D.3)
- Establish an efficient monitoring system for marine reserves (C.1.)

WESTERN SAMOA

- Develop a national environmental strategy (B)
- Investigate the remaining traditional marine and fishing rights (C.1.)
- Train researchers and managers in the marine field (D.3.)
- Assess conservation status and availability of reef and lagoon areas (C.1.)
- Include environmental concerns in education systems (A, B)
- Establish an Environmental Management Unit responsible for environmental assessment, liaison, environmental education, legislation and environmental reporting (D.1.)
- Map all national ecosystems (C.1.)
- Make an inventory of flora and fauna, particularly endangered species (C)
- Prepare management plans for all protected areas (D)
- Develop a national environmental public awareness campaign to be implemented through schools, mass media and Pulenu'us (A)
- Set aside areas which include ecosystems not covered by existing parks and reserves (C.2.)
- Complete a review of marine resources (C.1.)
- Send the Superintendent of Parks and Reserves to the 1987 Parks Management Training Course in New Zealand (D.3.).

ANNEX 3CLOSING STATEMENTS TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING

Mr. Tamarii PIERRE, Director of Programmes, South Pacific Commission.

Thank you, Mr Chairman. Since I know that there are a lot of other delegations wishing to make statements at this closing, I will be brief. At the opening of this Ministerial Meeting I had the privilege of speaking. I referred to the Organisations and the Governments that have given the Secretariat assistance in bringing this Conference to reality and also, I was hesitant at calling the Technical Session last week a successful session since this was dependent on the outcome of this meeting. I think now there is no doubt that the Technical Session was successful and that the people who participated in it, made the work of this particular Meeting easier.

In the Secretariat we feel that this Conference has been an historic occasion. It is the first South Pacific Conference on National Parks and Reserves to be held in an island country. New Zealand and Australia paved the way. We have been privileged to have had the opportunity of working with the Government of Western Samoa and a very hard-working and efficient local organising committee in bringing this Conference about. It has been very efficiently organised on the national level. We trust that, with the experience that we have gained in putting this Conference together, the next one, the fourth one, to be held in Papua New Guinea, will be even more successful.

I wish again to mention the particular assistance that we have obtained from the Government of New South Wales and the Government of New Zealand. Jeremy Carew-Reid, the Coordinator of the SPREP has outlined to the Technical Session all financial contributions, but in addition we received a lot of moral support and guidance from both of those governments and from Mr Bing Lucas in particular. I remember, he had all the ideas about how the National Parks and Reserves Conference could be made more applicable to the needs of the countries of our region, rather than placing it in the context of the Australian and New Zealand systems. In fact as long ago as three years he suggested a change to the name of this Conference so it would better fit the requirements of the Pacific Island countries, and that change has come about at this session.

I would like again to refer to those organisations and governments that have provided support to this meeting. These are the IUCN, who are the joint sponsors of this meeting, the World Wildlife Fund, the New Zealand Government, the New South Wales Government, ESCAP, the World Bank, UNESCO, UNEP, the Australian Commonwealth Government, and the United States National Parks Service. We look forward to greater co-operation with these Institutions and Governments in implementing the work that this Conference has decided that SPREP, with the co-operation of the Governments of the region, should carry out in the next few years until the next conference.

It is essential for SPREP to obtain additional assistance not only in terms of funds, but in terms of expertise and guidance to assist us with this task. SPREP is moving into a new area of operation. Therefore it is particularly important that it receive the guidance of experienced organisations such as IUCN, the World Wildlife Fund and, of course, from the Governments of Australia and New Zealand who are closest to us in these islands. We are very much aware that we will not succeed in implementing the Conference decisions without your strong support.

The most important part of the Conference I believe has been the support and the participation of the Honorable Ministers and Distinguished Delegates as well as the officials at last week's session. The Secretariat can produce a lot of paperwork but still come up with nothing if the participation is not active and relevant to the needs of the countries of the region.

There is no doubt that participation has been particularly valuable and discussion to the point throughout the Conference. This has brought about the realistic assessment of the needs of the region through the Action Strategy that this meeting has adopted and the identification of the types of specific activities that should be carried out.

The Conference report will be submitted to the South Pacific Conference which is to be held in September/October later this year. As you know this is one of the bodies to which SPREP is required to report, the other being the South Pacific Forum which is to be held in August. It is important for us all to remember the need to brief as well as possible our respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs. There have been occasions in the past where decisions made at meetings like this have not been properly implemented or discussed at the South Pacific Conference or the South Pacific Forum because of lack of adequate briefing, and I sincerely hope that the results of this particular Conference will not suffer that fate, because the decisions made here are far-reaching and will have particular relevance and value to the people of our region.

I know that the other members of the Co-ordinating Group of SPREP, that is the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation which provides the Chairman, SPC, UNEP and ESCAP would have wanted me to extend to you all their sincere thanks for your participation and for making this a successful Conference. I would also like to say thank you to my own staff from the SPREP unit and from other sections of the SPC because they have carried the load for this Conference. I think they have done very well, remarkably well under the circumstances, over a two-week period. The support provided by the two additional temporary staff from New Zealand and from the New South Wales Government is very much appreciated by the Secretariat because again, without their support it would not have been easy to put this Conference together. The Government of Western Samoa is to be especially thanked by the Secretariat because of their courage in offering to host the Conference in the first place and then seeing it through with such efficiency and with a minimum of fuss. They have given the Secretariat every assistance and more than we have required in a very pleasant atmosphere which has made the work so much easier for our staff.

I have spoken long enough, Mr Chairman. I would like to express our thanks to you as Chairman of this Ministerial Meeting, to the Vice-Chairman, to the Deputy Vice-Chairman for the efficient manner that the work of this meeting has been brought to a conclusion. To you all, on behalf of the South Pacific Commission, particularly my Secretary-General, I would like to wish "Bon Voyage". Thank you very much Mr Chairman.

Mr. H. EIDSVIK, Director of the Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas, IUCN.

Thank you very much Mr Chairman. First in the name of the Director-General of IUCN, I would like to endorse everything that Mr. Pierre has said. Also on behalf of IUCN I would like to thank the Ministers for accepting us at your table. It is a rare occasion, when we from IUCN can join and participate with Ministers in meetings and the opportunity is much appreciated.

When I look back on the first week of this Conference I saw a group of strangers trying to put flesh on the bare bones of a strategy. There was a lot of hard work and strangers became friends. A report was produced and this is usually where non-governmental meetings end - with a report! And that report then heads to some obscure shelf where it never sees the light of day again. To have had the opportunity to present this strategy to Ministers and to receive your blessings on that document with its changes has indeed been invaluable. It means that we from IUCN and others can now develop an implementation programme with the full knowledge that we are acting on your priorities. To be able to communicate this advice to our programme designers and to the organisations that fund us is indeed helpful and it will mean that we can move more quickly on implementing the parts of the programme that you would like us to work on. So for us this has been a unique experience and a fruitful one. It shows that "the Pacific way" can also be an efficient way.

I would like in closing, to draw your attention to the fact that Harold Coolidge, the first Chairman of the Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas, passed away last February. He was a great friend of the Pacific Islands and I am sure he would have been pleased with the progress that has been made this week at this meeting. Finally, on behalf of IUCN, my thanks to all of the staff who worked so hard this week and I thank you again very much for giving us the opportunity to join you.

THIRD SOUTH PACIFIC NATIONAL PARKS AND RESERVES CONFERENCE
TROISIEME CONFERENCE DU PACIFIQUE SUD SUR LES RESERVES ET
PARCS NATIONAUX

(Apia, Western Samoa, 24 June - 3 July 1985)
 (Apia, Samoa Occidental, 24 juin - 3 juillet 1985)

LIST OF CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS
PARTICIPANTS A LA CONFERENCE

COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES
REPRESENTANTS DES PAYS

American Samoa
Samoa Américaine

Mr. Toese Sagapolutele,
 Deputy Director,
 Department of Parks and Recreation,
 P. O. Box 3684,
PAGO PAGO
 American Samoa 96799.

Mr. Apelu Aitaoto,
 Public Information Officer,
 Governor's Office,
 Environmental Quality Commission,
 P. O. Box 2210,
PAGO PAGO
 American Samoa 96799.

Australia
Australie

Mr. Tim Richmond,
 Assistant Director,
 Australian National Parks
 and Wildlife Service,
 Box 636,
CANBERRA CITY. ACT 2601.
 Australia.

The Honorable Bob Carr, M.P.
 Minister for Planning and
 Environment,
 Parliament House,
SYDNEY. 2000.
 Australia.

Australia (contd.)
Australie (suite)

Mr. George King,
 Senior Assistant Director,
 N.S.W. National Parks and
 Wildlife Service,
 P. O. Box N189,
 Grosvenor Street,
SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000
 Australia.

Mr. James McEvoy,
 Director of Field Operations,
 Queensland National Parks and
 Wildlife Service,
 P. O. Box 190,
BRISBANE NORTH QUAY
 Queensland. Australia.

Mr. Don Saunders,
 Director of National Parks Victoria,
 240 Victoria Parade,
EAST MELBOURNE
 Victoria 3002. Australia.

Mr. Brian Martin,
 Project Co-ordinator,
 Australian National Parks and
 Wildlife Service,
 Box 636,
CANBERRA CITY ACT. 2601
 Australia.

Mr. Peter Fitzgerald,
 Senior Policy Advisor,
 Minister for Planning and
 Environment,
 N.S.W. State Government,
SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000
 Australia.

Cook Islands
Iles Cook

Dr. Teariki Matenga,
 Minister of Internal Affairs
 and Conservation,
 Department of Internal Affairs
 and Conservation,
 P. O. Box 98,
RAROTONGA.
 Cook Islands.

Cook Islands (contd.)
Iles Cook (suite)

Mr. A. Utanga
 Secretary for Internal Affairs
 and Acting Director of Conservation,
 Department of Internal Affairs,
 P. O. Box 98,
RAROTONGA, Cook Islands.

Mr. Tearora Mani,
 Youth and Conservation Officer,
MAUKE, Cook Islands.

Fiji
Fidji

Mr. J. P. Gautum,
 Permanent Secretary for Housing
 and Urban Affairs,
 Ministry of Housing and Urban
 Affairs,
 Government Buildings,
 P. O. Box 2131,
SUVA
 Fiji.

Mr. Birandra Singh,
 Conservation Officer,
 National Trust for Fiji,
 P. O. Box 2089,
 Government Buildings,
SUVA
 Fiji.

Mr. M. Hannif,
 Senior Town Planner,
 Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs,
 Government Buildings,
 P. O. Box 2350,
SUVA
 Fiji.

France

Son Excellence M. Jacques Bourgoin,
 Ambassadeur de France en
 Nouvelle Zélande,
 French Embassy,
 P. O. Box 1695,
WELLINGTON
 New Zealand.

M. Gaston Le Paudert,
 Second French Delegate to the
 South Pacific Commission,
NOUMEA
 New Caledonia.

Guam

Mr. Vicente S. San Nicolas,
Commissioners Council,
P. O. Box 786 Agana,
AGANA
Guam. 96910.

Mr. David T. Lotz,
Department of Parks and Recreation,
490 Naval Hospital Road,
AGANA HEIGHTS
Guam 96910.

Kiribati

The Honorable Mr. Teatao Teannaki,
Minister of Home Affairs and
Decentralisation,
C/- Foreign Affairs,
P. O. Box 68,
Bairiki,
TARAWA
Kiribati.

Mr. Komeri Onorio,
Senior Assistant Secretary,
Ministry of Line and Phoenix Groups,
C/- Foreign Affairs,
P.O. Box 68,
Bairiki,
TARAWA
Kiribati.

Marshall Islands
Iles Marshall

The Honorable Mr. Kessai Note,
Minister of Interior and Outer
Island Affairs,
Majuro,
REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLANDS

Mr. William Allen,
Assistant Secretary of Foreign
Affairs,
Majuro,
REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLANDS

New Caledonia
Nouvelle Calédonie

M. Yves Magnier,
Vice Président du Gouvernement
du Territoire,
Ministre des Ressources Naturelles,
de la Recherche Scientifique et
de l'Environnement,
Gouvernement du Territoire,
B. P. C 5,
NOUMEA
Nouvelle Calédonie.

New Caledonia (contd.)
Nouvelle Calédonie (suite)

Mr. Jacques Kusser,
 Secrétaire du Comité pour la
 Protection de l'Environnement,
 Ministère de l'Environnement,
 B. P. 285,
NOUMEA. Nouvelle Calédonie.

New Zealand
New Zealand

The Honorable Mr. Koro T. Wetere,
 Minister of Lands and Forests,
 Parliament House,
WELLINGTON. New Zealand.

Mr. P. H. C. (Bing) Lucas,
 Director General of Lands,
 Department of Lands and Survey,
 Private Bag,
WELLINGTON. New Zealand.

Mr. Dave McKerchar,
 Director of National Parks and
 Reserves,
 Department of Lands and Survey,
 Private Bag,
WELLINGTON. New Zealand.

Mr. John Holloway,
 Assistant Director, Environmental
 Forestry Division,
 N. Z. Forest Service,
 Private Bag,
WELLINGTON. New Zealand.

Mr. Rex Mossman,
 Chief Ranger,
 Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park,
 Department of Lands and Survey,
 P. O. Box 5249,
AUCKLAND. New Zealand.

Mr. Greg Kay,
 Second Secretary,
 N. Z. High Commission,
APIA. Western Samoa.

Mr. Neil Ryan,
 Private Secretary to the
 Minister of Lands,
 Parliament House,
WELLINGTON. New Zealand.

Northern Mariana Islands
Iles Marianne du Nord

Mr. Arnold Palacios,
 Acting Chief, Division of
 Fish and Wildlife,
 C.N.M.I. Government,
 P. O. Box 261,
SAIPAN. CM 96950.

Palau

Mr. Noah Idechong,
 Fisheries and Marine Specialist,
 Marine Resources Division,
 Koror,
PALAU. 96940

Papua New Guinea
Papouasie Nouvelle-Guinée

The Honorable Soso Tomu,
 Ministry of Environment and
 Conservation,
 P. O. Box 6601,
BOROKO
 Papua New Guinea.

Mr. Karol Kisokau,
 Secretary,
 Department of Environment and
 Conservation,
 P. O. Box 6601,
BOROKO
 Papua New Guinea.

Mr. Stephen Babo,
 Department of Environment and
 Conservation,
 P. O. Box 6601,
BOROKO
 Papua New Guinea.

Mr. Bing Siga,
 Parks Officer,
 Department of Environment and
 Conservation,
 P. O. Box 6601,
BOROKO
 Papua New Guinea.

Mr. Gilbert Kose,
 Private Secretary to Minister of
 Environment and Conservation,
 Central Government Offices,
WAIGANI
 Papua New Guinea.

Solomon Islands
Iles Salomon

The Honorable Mr. Daniel Sande,
Minister of Natural Resources,
Ministry of Natural Resources,
P. O. Box G. 24,
HONIARA
Solomon Islands.

Mr. Henry Isa,
Principal Conservation Officer,
Ministry of Natural Resources,
P. O. Box G. 24,
HONIARA
Solomon Islands.

Thailand
Thailande

Mr. Boonlert Phasuk,
Director,
Phuket Marine Biological Centre,
Phuket P. O. Box 60,
Phuket. 83000,
THAILAND

Tokelau

Mr. Simeti Moala,
Deputy Director of Administration,
Office of Tokelau Affairs,
P. O. Box 865,
APIA
Western Samoa.

Dr. Karl Josef Marschall,
C/o Office for Tokelau Affairs,
P. O. Box 865,
APIA
Western Samoa.

Tonga

Mr. Sione L. Tongilava,
Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Lands, Survey and
Natural Resources,
P. O. Box 5,
NUKU'ALOFA
Tonga.

Mr. Uilou Samani,
Ecologist and Environmentalist,
Ministry of Lands, Survey and
Natural Resources,
P. O. Box 5,
NUKU'ALOFA
Tonga.

United States of America
Etats Unis d'Amérique

Mr. Bryan Harry,
 Pacific Area Director,
 U.S. National Parks Service,
 300 Ala Moana Blvd.,
HONOLULU
 Hawaii, 96850.

Mr. William J. Thomas,
 Sanctuary Programs Division,
 OCRM/NOAA,
 3300 Whitehaven St., NW,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20235
 U.S.A.

Wallis and Futuna
Wallis et Futuna

Mr. Katoa,
 Conseiller Territorial,
ILES WALLIS ET FUTUNA

Mr. B. Tui,
 Administration Générale,
 B. P. 59,
 Mata'Utua,
ILES WALLIS ET FUTUNA

Western Samoa
Samoa Occidental

The Honorable Toi Aukuso,
 Minister of Agriculture, Forests
 and Fisheries,
 Department of Agriculture, Forests
 and Fisheries,
 P. O. Box 206,
APIA
 Western Samoa.

Mr. Iosefatu Reti,
 Assistant Director of Forests and
 Conservation,
 Department of Agriculture, Forests
 and Fisheries,
 P. O. Box 206,
APIA
 Western Samoa.

Dr. Kilifoti Eteuati,
 Deputy Secretary to Government,
 Prime Minister's Department,
APIA
 Western Samoa.

Western Samoa (contd.)
Samoa Occidental (suite)

Mr. Lui Bell,
Marine Biologist,
Fisheries Division,
Department of Agriculture,
Forests and Fisheries,
P. O. Box 206,
APIA
Western Samoa.

Mr. Kalati Poi,
Chief Ranger,
National Parks and Reserves,
Department of Agriculture,
Forests and Fisheries,
P. O. Box 206,
APIA
Western Samoa.

Mr. Tavas Leota,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
P. O. Box 193,
APIA
Western Samoa.

Mr. T. Taogaga,
Community Forester,
Department of Agriculture,
P. O. Box 206,
APIA
Western Samoa.

Mr. John R. Cannell,
Watershed Management,
Forestry Division,
Department of Agriculture,
Forests and Fisheries,
P. O. Box 206,
APIA
Western Samoa.

Mr. Malaki Iakopo,
Forestry Planning Officer,
Department of Agriculture,
Forests and Fisheries,
P. O. Box 206,
APIA
Western Samoa.

Western Samoa (contd.)
Samoa Occidental (suite)

Mr. Seumanutafa Aeau Tiavolo,
Deputy Director of Lands,
Department of Lands and Survey,
Private Bag,
APIA
Western Samoa.

Ms. Florence Saaga,
P. O. Box 862,
APIA
Western Samoa.

ORGANISATION REPRESENTATIVES
REPRESENTANTS D'ORGANISATIONS

Australian Institute of
Aboriginal Studies

Dr. Nancy Williams,
Australian Institute of
Aboriginal Studies,
P. O. Box 553,
CANBERRA, ACT 2601.
Australia.

Commonwealth Science Council

Dr. Graham Baines,
P. O. Box 36,
GIZO
Solomon Islands.

Conservation Foundation

Mr. William Reilly,
President,
Conservation Foundation,
1717 Massachusetts Avenue - NW,
WASHINGTON DC. 20036
U. S. A.

Island Resources Foundation

Dr. Edward L. Towle,
President,
Island Resources Foundation,
1718 P Street Northwest,
Suite T 4,
WASHINGTON DC. 20036
U. S. A.

also representing:

Virgin Islands Resource
Management Cooperative

Red Hook Centre,
Box 33,
St. Thomas,
US VIRGIN ISLANDS
00802 U. S. A.

International Union for
the Conservation of Nature
and Natural Resources (IUCN)/
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

Mr. Harold Eidsvik,
Chairman,
Commission on National Parks
and Protected Areas,
C/- IUCN,
Avenue du Mt. Blanc,
1196 GLAND
Switzerland.

or
Dept. of the Environment,
Parks Canada,
RM 52 B,
10 Wellington Street,
HULL, PQ.
Canada.

Dr. James Thorsell,
Executive Officer,
Commission on National Parks and
Protected Areas,
IUCN,
Avenue du Mt. Blanc,
1196 GLAND
Switzerland.

Ms. Susan Wells,
Senior Research Officer,
IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre,
219C Huntingdon Road,
CAMBRIDGE CB30DL.
United Kingdom.

Mr. Martin Jenkins,
Senior Research Officer,
IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre,
219C Huntingdon Road,
CAMBRIDGE CB30DL.
United Kingdom.

Mr. Ronald Petocz,
WWF/IUCN Project Leader,
P.O. Box 525,
JAYAPURA, IRIAN JAYA. 99001
Indonesia.

- Papua New Guinea University
of Technology
- Mr. Onsa Keon,
Research Assistant,
PNG University of Technology,
Department of Fisheries,
Private Bag,
LAE
Papua New Guinea.
- Native Forests Action Council
- Mr. Guy Salmon,
Director,
Native Forests Action Council,
P. O. Box 756,
NELSON. New Zealand.
- United Nations Education,
Scientific and Cultural
Organization
- Dr. Kuswata Kartawinata,
Programme Specialist in
Ecological Sciences,
UNESCO Regional Office for Science
and Technology for Southeast Asia
(ROSTSEA)
Jl. Thamrin 14,
P. O. Box 273/JKT,
JAKARTA, 10001. Indonesia.
- United Nations
Environment Programme
- Mr. Msahiro Ohta,
Deputy Regional Representative,
UNEP,
Regional Office for Asia and
the Pacific,
United Nations Building,
Rajadamnern Avenue,
BANGKOK 10200
Thailand.
- University of Papua
New Guinea
- Dr. Peter Eaton,
Director of Land Studies Centre,
P. O. Box 402,
University Papua New Guinea,
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
- University of the
South Pacific
- Dr. Harley I. Manner,
Senior Lecturer in Geography,
University of the South Pacific,
P. O. Box 1168,
SUVA
Fiji.

U.S. Peace Corps

Mr. Gary Patzke,
Peace Corps Volunteer,
Peace Corps,
Private Bag,
APIA
Western Samoa.

INDIVIDUALS

Dr. C. M. Macdonald,
P. O. Box 41,
EAST MELBOURNE
Victoria. Australia.

Mr. Iamo Ila,
C/o Centre for Resource Management,
Lincoln College,
CANTERBURY
New Zealand.

South Pacific Commission/South
Pacific Regional Environment
Programme

Mr. Tamarii Pierre,
Director of Programmes (SPC)

Dr. Jeremy Carew-Reid
Co-ordinator, (SPREP)

Commission du Pacifique Sud/
Programme Régional Océanien
de l'Environnement

Ms. Neva Wendt
(SPREP)
Environmental Education Officer

South Pacific Commission,

Mr. David Sheppard
(SPREP)
(on secondment from the N.S.W.
National Parks and Wildlife
Service, Australia.)

B. P. D 5,
NOUMEA
New Caledonia.

Mr. Peter Thomas
(SPREP)
(on secondment from the Department
of Lands and Survey, New Zealand)

Dr. Arthur Dahl
(SPREP)
Environmental Consultant
Gorré Riblé
29127. PLOMODIERN
France.

South Pacific Commission/South
Pacific Regional Environment
Programme (contd.)

Mrs. Phillida Stephens
Interpreter / Translator

Mr. Edward Marie-Magdeleine
Interpreter / Translator

Ms. Michelle Vansintejan
Interpreter / Translator

Mr. Patrick Cowan
Translator

Miss Anne Dubois
Secretary

Mr. Dave Mills
Maintenance Technician