

available to all research workers, and that it sponsor periodic international conferences of fishery technologists to discuss problems arising in the various countries.

Sociological and economic: Fishermen and shore workers are, as a rule, in the low-income group of labour. FAO should encourage studies on the relation of fishery methods of production and employment to general well-being and public health, to occupational hazards and diseases and to opportunities for education and community life. Few studies have been made in this field. Research should extend to the economies of production, processing and distribution (involving studies related to costs, prices and investments) and to consumption. It should likewise cover such problems as collective bargaining and labour organization, labour exchange, social security, living conditions, insurance laws, co-operatives and others of the kind. In this work it is recommended that FAO co-operate with such international bodies as those concerned with labour, health and education.

3. Education

FAO should encourage the establishment of fishery schools or fishery courses at existing institutions. The schools should be the centre of extension work for the dissemination of information to fishermen and shore workers. FAO should encourage the further development of existing research laboratories, the establishing of new ones, where necessary, in the major producing regions and the use of research vessels. The laboratories could serve as centres from which to carry on exploratory work to locate virgin fishing grounds and to demonstrate the newer techniques of producing, processing and marketing fish.

4. Conservation of resources

For the present at least it is recommended that FAO confine its efforts in the field of conservation to stimulating interest in research and promoting international co-operation. Because problems of conservation are different in various areas it is considered preferable that international action be taken on a regional basis. The nations should be invited to consider the desirability of periodic conferences between regional authorities. One of FAO's immediate activities should be to draw the nations' attention to the necessity of reviving existing international organizations for the study of fisheries and the desirability of establishing councils to co-ordinate research in areas not served by such organizations. With respect to the improvement of fishing methods, FAO should encourage practical demonstrations of modern fishing vessels and gear and should encourage the adoption of pond-fish culture wherever practicable.

5. Processing, marketing and distribution

Processing: The fundamental problem of irregularity of supply should be the concern of all maritime nations. More efficient methods of catch must be employed and the application of new methods of preservation must be studied. FAO should encourage the assembling and dissemination of this information in usable form.

Marketing and Distribution: Fish, one of the least expensive food products at the point of production, is one of the more expensive foods in the retail store, and this retards consumption. Studies should be undertaken and procedures recommended that will bring fish within the reach of low-income consumers. Standardization of quality, packaging and weight should also be studied.