INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE IN SUPPORT OF FISHWORKERS —— ICSF ——



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES 1998-1999 to 2001-2002

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INTRODUCTION

he period since the 13th Session of the General Body (GB) Meeting of the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) in Trivandrum, India, in 1998, has been the most active since the inception of the organization, as far as programmes and the number of countries covered are concerned. During the period, participants from 42 countries, both from the North and the South, were involved in the various programmes of ICSF.

The period also witnessed the setting up of ICSF's Documentation Centre (DC) in Chennai, which produced, for the first time, interactive CDs that contained comprehensive information on fisheries resources and legislation as well as fishing communities of the Indian Ocean Region and Sub-Saharan Africa. In this period, ICSF also produced two video films on women in fisheries.

A principal aim of the workshops and conferences organized by ICSF was to enhance regional and international networking amongst fishworkers. During the period under review, ICSF collaborated with universities (in Newfoundland, Canada), and NGOs like the Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) and the International Ocean Institute (IOI) to organize workshops and conferences.

The period was also one in which key policymakers participated in ICSF programmes. The Senegal workshop and fair on artisanal fish processing and trade and the Indian Ocean Conference in Chennai, for example, attracted the participation of senior-level government officials. Both these were rather unique forums where policymakers, representatives of fishworker organizations, scientists and NGO representatives met face-to-face to discuss and debate fisheries issues and to propose policy measures. Also, for the first time, a comprehensive study on social security in the fisheries sector was undertaken. The focus on issues of concern to women of fishing communities was sustained during the period.

The Indian Ocean Conference broadened ICSF's concerns with human-rights abuse on board distant-water industrial fishing vessels, and of small-scale fishers

in the Asian region. Similarly, the programme on the status of fisheries from a fishworker perspective broadened the scope of a 1988 programme of ICSF. The programme's emphasis has now changed to the perspective of fishworkers on fisheries resources within the exclusive economic zones (EEZs) of their countries. Also, during the period under review, the perspective of ICSF programmes got transformed, in several respects, from one of protecting small-scale fishworkers—an imperative that seems to be now better recognized in many developing countries—to one of defending their rights to the fisheries resources of the EEZ, as became evident during the Indian Ocean Conference.

During the period, ICSF was invited to important conferences to present the perspectives of small-scale fishworkers on issues such as fishing rights, coastal area management, dissemination of FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management, and fishing subsidies.

In the meantime, the United Nations Fish Stocks
Agreement, a process ICSF has been associated with
since the beginning, received, in September 2001, the
minimum number of ratifications needed (30) to enter
into force. Another significant international
development is the inclusion of fisheries subsidies issues,
in particular, in the November 2001 Doha Ministerial
Declaration of the World Trade Organization (WTO).
On the whole, the period under review, 1998-2002, has
been a very significant one for ICSF.

BACKGROUND

International Conference of Fishworkers and their Supporters (ICFWS), held in Rome in 1984, parallel to the FAO's World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development. A number of fishworker organizations and concerned intellectuals, academics and social activists felt that the FAO conference had chosen to overemphasize the commercial, industrial, scientific and fishery resource aspects, at the expense of the actual real-world, life-and-blood people involved in fishing worldwide—fishworkers—who are often sections of the population marginalized from mainstream society.

When attempts to attain the participation of fishing communities at that FAO conference failed, a group of activists from around the world, who had good contacts with such communities, took the initiative to shift the bias, as it were, and swing the spotlight on to areas that really mattered. The result was the well-attended ICFWS, since then called the Rome Conference, which attracted 100 individuals from 34 countries, as many as 60 of whom were fishworkers themselves. From their deliberations emerged the idea of forming an appropriate platform that would continue to support fishworkers' organizations at the national, regional and international levels, and articulate and defend the concerns of artisanal, small-scale fishworkers.

In 1986, many of these supporters of fishworkers from the Rome Conference met at an international interdisciplinary workshop on fisheries issues, at the invitation of the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) and the South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS) in Trivandrum, India. They felt the need to study and monitor international developments in the fisheries sector, to lobby at international levels on relevant issues of concern to fishworkers, to disseminate information and exchange experiences among fishworker organizations. The aim was to generate greater awareness about fishworker organizations and small-scale artisanal fisheries among the international community.

Thus was born ICSF to, as declared in the *Statement of Shared Concern* that came out of the Trivandrum meet, "express concrete signs of support to the struggles of fishworkers and the programmes of their organizations."

Since then, ICSF has acted as a catalyst to influence local, national, regional and international decision-making processes in fisheries, and to establish and strengthen artisanal fishworker organizations in the South.

The main aims of ICSF are to:

 monitor issues that relate to the life, livelihood and living conditions of fishworkers around the world;

- disseminate information on these issues, particularly amongst fisherfolk;
- prepare guidelines for policymakers that stress fisheries development and management of a just, participatory and sustainable nature; and
- help create the space and momentum for the development of alternatives in the small-scale fisheries sector.

ICSF's ACTIVITIES

he activities of ICSF fall broadly into five main categories:

- · Monitoring and Research
- Exchange and Training
- Campaigns and Action
- Communications
- Co-ordination

These heads are related and complement one another, and ICSF activities may straddle different heads.

OBJECTIVES: 1998-2002

he 1998 GB meeting of ICSF decided that the following would be the primary overall objective for its work over the triennium 1999-2002:

 to support fishing communities and fishworker organizations and resist the adverse impact of globalization, from a perspective of equitable, gender-just, self-reliant and sustainable fisheries.

The same meeting decided that ICSF's priorities for the triennium 1999-2002 should fall into four main areas:

- Communities, Coastal Resources and their Management
- Trade, Markets and Investments in Fisheries
- Alternative Livelihoods and Social Well-being in Fisheries
- Technological and Environmental Changes and their Impact on Fisheries

MONITORING AND RESEARCH

onitoring and Research programmes enable ICSF to document and communicate important aspects of artisanal and small-scale fisheries. Studies under these programmes generate information useful for lobbying, for example, international conferences and multilateral bodies.

Most of these studies, on topics like the Lomé Agreement, fisheries resource management, women in fisheries, fishing legislation, credit and insurance systems, fish diseases, conditions of work on distant-water fishing vessels and on coastal area management, have been published by ICSF.

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The State of World Fisheries from a Fishworker Perspective This programme was conceived, *interalia*, to generate reliable information about fishworkers and their communities in different parts of the world, in light of the fact that while information about fisheries resources is readily available, little is known about workers who harvest these resources for their life and livelihood.

The programme further seeks to capture the perspective of fishworkers on fisheries-related issues, using both qualitative and quantitative information. In the long run, the studies undertaken by this programme would help establish the comparative advantages and relative importance of artisanal/small-scale/inshore fisheries, compared to industrial fisheries.

The initial idea was to undertake, in the first triennium, studies in about 11 to 14 countries important from an artisanal fisheries perspective. In 1999, studies were initiated in seven countries, namely, Sri Lanka, Senegal, Ghana, Brazil, Chile, Canada and Gujarat (India), based on general guidelines prepared by the ICSF Secretariat. The Programme Advisory Committee, comprising the late Michael Belliveau, John Kurien, Antonio Carlos Diegues and Sebastian Mathew, had decided that whilst there should be a common framework, there need not be a uniform methodology for the studies undertaken. It was decided to go for country-specific methodologies and to add to the guidelines a new midterm objective, namely, to provide support to fishworker organizations, to facilitate their ongoing

work and to help their emergence, where necessary. Although the study was undertaken in Canada, Senegal, Chile, Ghana, Brazil, Sri Lanka, and Gujarat (India), it was completed only in the latter four countries.

Sri Lanka

The Sri Lankan study was co-ordinated by Oscar Amarsinghe, Senior Lecturer of Agricultural Economics at the University of Ruhuna in Sri Lanka. The working document prepared by him was discussed at two meetings in Matara and Negombo in Sri Lanka, when representatives from all fisheries-related NGOs in the country and a few fisheries co-operatives participated. The final report was prepared through this process and it has since been published in Sinhala. The English edition is also available.

India (Gujarat)

Gujarat is a province on the west coast of India bordering Pakistan. It currently accounts for the largest marine fish production in India. It has mainly a trawlerdependent fishery, primarily comprising vessels below 20m OAL.

Gujarat is the only maritime fishing State in India that does not have a fisheries legislation to regulate fishing activities in its waters. The study, titled *Gujarat Fisheries: Time to Move from an Exploitative to a Conservation and Management Regime*, was prepared by Sebastian Mathew after visiting important fishing centres of Gujarat. ICSF and the Gujarat Institute for Development Research (GIDR), organized a one-day workshop in Ahmedabad, the capital of Gujarat, on 4 August 2000 to discuss the report. The workshop brought together representatives of NFF, the Gujarat Boat Owners Association, the Gujarat government's Fisheries Department and several other national and regional fisheries research centres.

Brazil

The study on Brazil, undertaken by Antonio Carlos Diegues, a Member of ICSF and Professor of Anthropology at the University of Sao Paulo, was undertaken in Portuguese and translated into English. In the study, titled *Artisanal Fishing in Brazil: Problems and Strategies for their Sustainable Development*, Diegues uses an ecological and cultural perspective to look at artisanal fishing in Brazil, which, unlike Sri Lanka, has received

little assistance from the government in the development of its fisheries. What is rather unique about artisanal fishing in Brazil is that, in spite of coastal degradation and government bias in favour of industrial fisheries, it has been able to win recognition as a result of its role in supplying fish to the local and regional markets. This recognition, however, is yet to be translated into better policy regimes for unencumbered development and effective management. While no worthwhile measures are taken to address the concerns of artisanal fishing communities about pollution of coastal waters from land-based sources, conflicts with the tourism industry, lack of landing facilities, marketing arrangements and credit, the current government's fisheries policy emphasizes revenue considerations and focuses on developing highly migratory tuna resources through joint ventures in the Brazilian EEZ. One of the interesting points made in the study is about the access of artisanal fishing communities-men, women and children—to social security, which, in Brazil, is available for all nationals

Ghana

The study from Ghana was co-ordinated by David Eli of Technical Services for Community Development (TESCOD), Ghana, and an associate member of ICSF. Titled The State Of World Fisheries From A Fishworker Perspective: The Ghanaian Situation, it was prepared by a team comprising M A Mensah, former Director of Fisheries, K. A. Koranteng, Fisheries Scientist, and two economists, A Bortey and D A Yeboah. The study looks into the economic and political vicissitudes of fisheries in Ghana, particularly focusing on fishworkers and recommends better fisheries management measures, programmes for poverty alleviation, alternative income options and the need for establishing incentives for responsible fisheries. It exhorts the government fisheries department to actively defend the interests of the artisanal fisheries subsector.

While studies from Chile (by Confederacion Nacional de Pescadores Artisanales de Chile, CONAPACH), Senegal (by Centre de Recherches pour le Developpement des Technologies Intermediaires de Peche, CREDETIP) and Canada (by the late Michael Belliveau) were also initiated, they could not be completed for various reasons.

Although the original target for the number of studies could not be met, those actually completed do constitute a good compilation of information on the sector, perhaps not easily available from other sources. Fishworker organizations and policymakers will find them valuable.

The Sri Lankan fishworkers, for example, found it useful that their country's status report was published in Sinhala. The two workshops organized to prepare the status report were occasions for Sri Lankan fishworker organizations to have face-to-face meetings for the first time. The Sri Lanka report provided valuable inputs into programmes of ICSF like the Indian Ocean Conference.

All fisheries in Sri Lanka can be defined as small-scale and the Sri Lankan report provides a graphic account of the asymmetry between the development of capitalism in Sri Lankan fisheries and the development of institutions for sustainable utilization of fisheries resources, and for fishworkers' welfare, especially with regard to those who do not own any fishing assets. Sri Lanka's fisheries sector, particularly the multi-day tuna and shark fisheries, is increasingly attracting investments from entrepreneurs who have no previous involvement in fishing. Partly as a result of this phenomenon, wage labour arrangements are becoming more common. Absentee owners are often interested in maximizing their profits at the expense of the working class. This is exacerbating tensions between owners and workers, almost indicating a polarization along class lines.

Unlike in other parts of India, the workers on board Gujarat trawling vessels are paid wages and not a share of the catch. There is significant migration of unemployed youth from poor fishing and forest-based communities from different parts of the country to the Gujarat trawl fishery. Although the owners come from traditional fishing communities, they do not, in general, undertake fishing operations. During the cyclone in Gujarat in 2000, hundreds of these migrant workers died at sea.

The India study was able to make concrete proposals to influence policymaking, especially to adopt a management approach in marine fisheries rather than to continue with developing fisheries resources, ad infinitum. The study clearly demonstrated the links between external incentives that contribute to enhance fish production. It showed that even South-South trade most of the fish production in Gujarat was in response to demand for croakers and ribbonfish or hairtail in the Chinese market—could contribute to overfishing pressures in marine fisheries in the face of incessant demand and absence of fisheries management regimes. The study explored ways and means to influence the State fisheries administration to move towards conservation and management regimes, offering some concrete recommendations. It also provided information on subsidies to the Gujarat trawler fisheries.

Among the countries included in the programme, Ghana seems to be the first—perhaps in the whole developing world—to have attempted modernization of its artisanal fishing fleet through the introduction of outboard motors, under the auspices of the government, in 1955. There seems to be significant migration of fishers along the seaboard, including to the marine waters of neighbouring countries as well as to inland waters. There are conflicts between non-trawl gear-like gillnets, purse-seines and various forms of line fishing-and bottom trawling. With increasing crew size and fixed labour share of fishing operations, the individual share of the catch that accrues to workers who do not have an ownership share in boat, engine or gear is on the decline, indicating impoverishment of workers in artisanal fisheries.

Ghana seems to have introduced Community Based Fisheries Management Committees under a World Bank-assisted programme called Fisheries Sub-sector Capacity Building Project during 1995-2000.

Some interesting findings emerge from the country studies on the matter of participation of women in fishing. In Brazil, the majority of women worked to gather and market shellfish and crabs from mangroves and shallow waters. In Ghana and Sri Lanka, they were

mainly active in shore-based activities like fish handling and marketing. In Ghana, they also doubled up as financiers of fishing operations as well as those who set prices of fish. The Buddhist women in Sri Lanka, however, do not participate in fishery-related activities due to their religious beliefs and the prevailing sociocultural context.

Child labour seems to be actively present in Sri Lankan and Ghanaian fisheries; in the former, mainly comprising school dropouts. In Ghana, children between the age of 8 and 12 can be commonly seen as part of fishing crew, especially in communities where there are no schools located close to the beaches. The child labour issue, however, has not been addressed in the Brazil and Gujarat reports.

On the question of organization, at least on paper, the fishers seem to be better organized in Ghana and least organized on the other side of the Atlantic, in Brazil. In Ghana, there are several professional fisheries associations: for fishers' welfare, to supply inputs into the fishery, to organize credit, and to represent the interests of the fishing industry at the national level; the oldest—National Fisheries Association of Ghana dates back to 1971. All these associations have representation of all fisheries subsectors. The only exception is the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council, founded in 1982, to look exclusively into the welfare of the canoe fishermen. There is, however, no information on how effective these organizations are in defending the interests and addressing the concerns of artisanal fishworkers.

On the matter of the role of the State, the studies show that, with the exception of Brazil, there has been an active involvement of the State in the development of artisanal and small-scale fisheries. Brazil, Ghana and India witnessed migration of workers into small-scale fisheries from non-fishing occupations and communities. The experience of Ghana and Sri Lanka also shows that the artisanal subsector is capable of overfishing resources, a fact that underscores the need to adopt effective management measures.

As far as the process of preparing the status reports is concerned, only the Sri Lankan and the Indian studies were vetted by fishworker organizations and NGOs working on fisheries issues. It will be worthwhile to have similar workshops in Ghana and Brazil too. There is little information in the Sri Lanka report on Tamildominated fishing centres in the north of Sri Lanka. Once the civil strife in Sri Lanka eases, an attempt should be made to document the status of fisheries in northern Sri Lanka as well. The India report focuses only on the trawling subsector and an attempt needs to be made to look at the non-trawl subsector. There is need to update information on the north and northeastern parts of Brazil in more detail in the Brazil report, especially to look at the impact on coastal fisheries resources of government programmes for input supply to the artisanal sector.

The status reports, in general, enabled ICSF to develop its position on subsidies in small-scale fisheries and to influence the UNEP fisheries workshop in Geneva in February 2001. They were further used to lobby the WTO Secretariat on issues related to fisheries subsidies in small-scale fisheries in developing countries.

In the light of the status reports, ICSF may take a relook at the overall objectives of this programme. The corpus of information thrown up by the reports is very useful and justifies continued effort for such studies in other countries as well. This would contribute to developing reliable baseline information on fishworkers and trends in artisanal fisheries. Some aspects already discussed could also be taken up in greater detail. An aspect that needs to be looked into in particular is the emergence of wage labour in small-scale fisheries and its social and economic implications. There is certainly growing inequality in artisanal and small-scale fisheries, and owner-operators seem to be benefiting from modernization of fisheries and greater market access. However, the actual status of workers and their dependents, who are wage labourers or earning a share of the catch, which has been shrinking in value over time, needs to be looked into.

Crisis in World Fisheries: Response of Fishworker Movements When fisheries in several regions of the world are seen to be in crisis, it is particularly relevant to study the response of artisanal and small-scale fishworker organizations and their politics of engagement for the sustainability of resource use in fisheries. This programme was intended to document these processes by facilitating opportunities for dialogue between those part of, or supporting, fishworker movements.

As part of this programme, Nalini Nayak, the late Michael Belliveau and Aliou Sall, founding members of ICSF and members of the outgoing Animation Team (AT), got together to reflect on, and record, their experiences as supporters of, and activists in, the fishworker movements of their respective countries, namely, India, Canada and Senegal. The resulting document, titled *Conversations*, has been published and it was officially released at the Maputo GB meeting.

Conversations is among the most significant publications of ICSF. The text of Conversations is divided into two sections: The first is a trialogue amongst the three persons mentioned above, while the second part of the text is a more detailed documentation of the fishworker organizations they work with. Their discussions focus on the inshore and artisanal fisheries of the three regions they come from.

According to the editor of the work, though it focuses on the specific milieu of fisheries, *Conversations* deals with themes that are timeless—power, discipline, intervention, organization, motivation, will, identity. Part oral history, part polemic, part ideology, part philosophy, the trialogue takes on the nature of a freewheeling disquisition in search of understanding.

The book's blurb calls it "a work of abiding value that goes beyond fisheries, fishworkers and organizations, offering powerful insights, inspired reasoning and composed passion. In *Conversations*, Aliou Sall, the late Michael Belliveau and Nalini Nayak talk the reader through a world of tribulation, challenges, success, failure, temerity and grit, all in the belief that 'we make no contribution to the world by just getting agitated by what is going on around us. We have to find the right point at which to strike.'

ICSF's experience with the *Conversations* project has been particularly gratifying. It is an extremely valuable volume that documents the histories of the fishworkers' movements in three countries. It has also generated a methodology of documentation that can prove useful in recording various experiences of artisanal fishers.

The clear worth of the exercise that led to *Conversations* must now be acknowledged through a repetition of the process in other contexts and with other participants. Such efforts would form part of ICSF's efforts to valorize the artisanal fisheries sector.

The Impact of Trade on Fishing Communities

A draft paper, Shell Out: The Shrimp-Turtle Dispute at WTO: Conserving Sea Turtles and Protecting Livelihoods, was prepared by Sebastian Mathew to study the implications of multilateral environmental and trade agreements for small-scale fisheries. The study shows how artisanal fishing communities inadvertently become the victims of international trade disputes over fishing methods. Marine reserves created to protect the breeding stock of olive ridley turtles, in Orissa State, India, especially to protect them from trawl nets, also excluded poor, artisanal fishing communities from accessing their traditional fishing grounds, in the process impoverishing them even further.

The paper highlights trade-environment linkages, especially in relation to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and the WTO agreements. It also brings out the irrationality of wildlife protection measures that eventually end up denying artisanal fishers legal access to their fishing grounds.

ICSF also collaborated with Fair Trade e.v., a German fair trade organization, to develop guidelines for fair trade in fisheries. Further, ICSF worked on developments related to ecolabelling in fisheries. In this context, Sebastian Mathew from the Secretariat produced an article for the BRIDGES magazine, comparing fair trade and ecolabelling. He also prepared a note on behalf of the ICSF to influence the position of developing countries on ecolabelling.

Although the linkages between trade and environment issues have been of concern for some time (consider, for example, the debate in SAMUDRA Report on ecolabelling in the context of the launch of the Marine Stewardship Council), this is perhaps the first time that ICSF has made an effort to look at the linkages between multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and WTO rules and their exemption clauses. This is particularly relevant in the light of the Doha Round of WTO to look at the relationship between WTO rules and specific trade obligations under multilateral environment agreements. Similar studies need to be done in areas of potential conflicts between fishing and environmental interests, especially in contexts where we fear that artisanal fishing communities' access to livelihood could be threatened.

4

Social Security of Fishworkers and the Role of Subsidies The need to study social security systems in the fisheries sector was first proposed by FIUPAP, Peru, to gain information on the possible forms of social security that could be provided in the artisanal sector and how such systems operated in other countries.

In 2000, the report titled Social Security for Fishworkers: A Study of Welfare and Development Assistance Programmes in the Marine Fishery Sector of Kerala State, India, put together by John Kurien and Antonyto Paul of the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, was published in English as a SAMUDRA monograph. The study analyzes the growth and changing composition of social security provisions in the fisheries sector of Kerala for the period 1964-1998. The study showed that, even with limited means, a developing State can conceive and adopt innovative social security measures that tackle the issue of poverty and livelihood security. Above all, the study stresses organized and sustained collective action by fishworkers as the single most effective source of pressure on the State to honour its welfare commitments. In 2001, the monograph was translated into Malayalam, the language of Kerala, for wider distribution. The feedback received has been very positive.

This is the first in a series of studies planned by ICSF to understand the diverse systems of social security that have evolved in different countries, in relation to the artisanal fisheries sector. It is important to undertake a few more studies in different continents to understand the variety of such measures that exist and their effectiveness in providing safety nets to small-scale fishworkers. As a sort of first approximation, it may be useful to get a listing of the various basic social security schemes (promotional and protective) that exist in the fisheries sector; for example, accident insurance; equipment and life insurance; pension funds; health insurance; housing schemes; educational scholarships, etc. This can then be substantiated with information on the provisions for each scheme and data on the magnitude of funds available and the mechanisms for their dispersal. The timing and the circumstances under which each of the schemes was initiated will provide insight into the relative bargaining power of the fishworkers vis-à-vis the State. This is a task that interested ICSF members can easily undertake, with the help of other competent persons.

5

Women in Fisheries (WIF) Programme Supporting the role of women in fisheries and enhancing their roles in decision-making processes at various levels has been a focus area for ICSF since its inception. The WIF programme has been instrumental in highlighting and valorizing, through workshops, country programmes, publications and studies, the vital role of women in fisheries and fishing communities in the South.

It is necessary to stress that the programme is not seen as a 'woman's programme'. The feminist perspective on fisheries, as has evolved within the programme, connects with the larger feminist critique of development, that is, it critiques development models that benefit the few at the expense of the majority (especially at the expense of the poor, particularly poor women); increase the vulnerability of local communities and destroy their means of livelihood; and undervalue and overexploit natural resources. The underlying perspective thus raises vital questions on the current development model, on mainstream thinking and on

technology, and makes visible the links between these issues and the issue of women's marginalization. This perspective also stresses that production of life, usually called reproduction, should be brought into the reckoning and be valued, as it provides the base for extended production and cannot be separated from it.

WIF Country Programmes

To build up the participation of women in fishworker organizations and in decision-making processes at various levels, several programmes have been undertaken in countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America through fishworker organizations and NGOs working with fishing communities. The emphasis has been on creating within organizations a core group of people with a 'feminist perspective' who are capable of continuing the work on these issues. One of the objectives of the WIF programme was also to work with concrete development activities in different regions, at different levels, and in income generation and resource management, through organizing women to retain their spaces in production, processing and marketing.

In the period since 1998, specific support was provided to the WIF programmes in Ghana and Brazil and, to a very limited extent, in Senegal and India. The programme in Brazil was co-ordinated by Maria Cristina Maneschy, ICSF Member and Associate Professor of Sociology, Federal University of Belem, Para. It worked with women's groups in several fishing communities in the State of Para in northeast Brazil. Most of these groups were already in existence as mother's clubs or church-based associations at the community level. Besides working to enhance the participation of women in côlonias, the local-level bodies representing fishworkers, thereby leading to an acknowledgment of their work in the fisheries, it supported the efforts of these groups in undertaking various kinds of income-generating activities. It also helped in linking these groups with a host of other organizations working on fishworker and peasant issues in the country. This was to create cross-sectoral alliances of indigenous people, landless workers and artisanal fishworkers, demanding action from the State to protect their lives and livelihood.

It is also significant that as a result of the efforts under the WIF programme, organizations that have been working with fishing communities for some years already have, for the first time, begun to focus special attention on women's issues in fisheries. Along with the Conselho Pastoral dos Pescadores (CPP) and other organizations making films for social movements, a Portuguese video titled Land Partners was produced, to highlight the complementary and vital roles women play in fishing and agriculture activities, roles that are crucial to the very survival of fishing communities. There are plans to dub the video into English.

The programme in Ghana worked with women's groups in fishing communities. It worked through the local NGO, TESCOD. The focus was on helping women of fishing communities organize to defend their activities as processors and vendors and on developing appropriate technologies for improved fish smoking and storage, and for alternative income-generating activities.

In India and Senegal, the ongoing work of organizations in building up women's groups was supported to a limited extent. A film on the work of women fishworkers in India, titled *A Step Forward*, has been prepared to highlight the work women do in the fisheries and the problems they face, such as the lack of affordable transport for women vendors and the absence of appropriate credit services.

In recognition of its initiatives to valorize the work of women of fishing communities, ICSF was invited to share the experience from the WIF programme at the Constituent Assembly of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fishworkers (WFF) at Loctudy in October 2000. The presentation stressed that the understanding on WIF issues within ICSF had evolved through a collective process, over years of interaction with fishworker organizations and women of fishing communities, many of whom were represented at the meeting. ICSF also co-ordinated a working group on women in fisheries to discuss the women's perspective within WFF, based on a paper prepared beforehand by the WFF Secretariat.

The country-level processes initiated under the WIF programme have had variable impacts. Working towards a greater recognition of women's roles in the fisheries is undoubtedly a complex, difficult and challenging task. This is partly because there is still a resistance to looking at fisheries as a synthesis of activities comprising pre-harvest, harvest and post-harvest tasks; more emphasis continues to be given to the harvesting side in which women are usually not as active as men. Work in fish processing and marketing is commonly seen as an extension of domestic work, and women engaging in these tasks are not considered fishworkers.

This being said, the impact of the WIF programme has been more visible in countries with existing organizations of fishworkers, where the work and perspective of the programme could be taken up on a larger scale and continued even after ICSF support had come to a close. It also needs to be stressed that the WIF programme often supported existing initiatives by organizations in these countries. It also worked in collaboration with other organizations, as in Brazil. It would, therefore, be difficult to claim that certain positive or negative developments are a direct consequence of the programme. This needs to be kept in mind in the discussion that follows.

In Brazil, the programme has been effective in promoting the participation of women in *côlonias*, among other things. It has been able to network effectively with other organizations working with similar concerns, such as CPP and MONAPE, the national fishworker organization of Brazil, thereby ensuring that the focus on women in fisheries issues remains even after the programme comes to a close.

In Ghana, where artisanal fishworkers are not well organized, the impact has been more limited. The women's groups could not be sustained and further work is required to translate some of the technology-related needs of women processors into practical outcomes. The need to work on oven designs that minimize the impact of smoke on the health of women processors, for example, remains a priority.

In Senegal, women fishworkers were able to effectively raise the issue of taxes imposed on the movement of fish within the country and seek their withdrawal. Women members have come to play important roles within CNPS, the national fishworker organization in Senegal, a fact that was particularly evident during the workshop and fair on artisanal fish processing and trade, organized by ICSF in collaboration with CNPS and CREDETIP, in Senegal in June 2001.

In India, the WIF programme has worked to highlight issues of concern to women fishworkers. Some of the issues that have been effectively highlighted include the poor conditions of work of migrant women workers in shrimp processing plants, as well as the lack of adequate transport and market facilities for women fish vendors and traders.

In general, based on the experience so far, women are better represented at local than regional and national levels. It would be fair to say that the participation of women has strengthened the organizations in which they are represented and has broadened their agendas. Women have been able to raise issues that concern women as fishworkers, even as they have actively supported the struggles of fishermen. In Senegal, for example, women have been in the forefront of the struggle against inequitable fisheries access agreements. Most significantly, women have raised issues that concern the quality of life in fishing communities, such as access to health, sanitation and education. The programme in Brazil, for example, has organized special workshops on women's health, in response to requests by women from these communities. Thus, women have been able to raise issues that concern women as fishworkers and that concern the quality of life within fishing communities. They have brought in a community perspective to the fisheries debate.

The interaction at the WFF meeting in Loctudy was meaningful. WFF had laid great emphasis on women's participation and had ensured that gender parity was maintained in all country delegations to the meeting. Many of the women present at the meeting were coming to such a gathering for the first time. A background paper on issues of concern to women of

fishing communities across countries had been prepared through an extremely consultative process. Women delegates met regularly after the sessions on each day to share experiences and arrive at a common perspective.

Workshop on Gender and Coastal Fishing Communities in Latin America The workshop on Gender and Coastal Fishing Communities in Latin America was held from 10 to 15 June 2000 in the coastal fishing village of Prainha do Canto Verde in the State of Ceara, Brazil. In preparation for the workshop, case studies on women's participation in fisheries in Chile, Peru, Mexico and Brazil were prepared. These contain useful information on women's participation in fisheries in four Latin American countries, information not otherwise easily available. It was clear from the studies that statistics on women's work, especially in processing and marketing and in supporting the work of fishermen by taking care of land-based tasks such as liaising with banks, are completely lacking in all the countries. It was also clear that only those who are working in capture activities are considered to be part of the fisheries sector.

The workshop brought together 36 persons, including representatives of fishworker organizations, NGOs and academic institutions from five countries in the Latin American region, namely, Chile, Peru, Brazil, Ecuador and Mexico, to discuss these issues.

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- develop an understanding of trends in fisheries development and their implications for coastal fishing communities in Latin America;
- make visible, women's roles in fisheries and fishing communities in Latin America, and reflect on strategies to strengthen their meaningful participation; and
- facilitate greater networking among organizations representing, and working with, artisanal fishworkers in the Latin American context.

Several proposals and strategies to implement them emerged from the workshop. Proposals were geared towards increasing, as much as possible, the role of women in fisheries; getting them better recognition and encouraging participation; reinforcing the visibility and political power of artisanal fishing communities; and mapping out socially just and responsible strategies for fisheries development.

Participants proposed the formation of a Latin American network to take forward these proposals from the workshop. However, as none of the participant organizations were able to take the initiative to co-ordinate the network, this objective could not be realized. In Brazil, however, organizations working in different northeastern States have maintained contact and are jointly bringing out a newsletter in Portuguese on gender and fisheries, called Faces of the Mermaid. The newsletter is being prepared in a very participatory way, and involves local-level workshops to allow for people of fishing communities to contribute to the newsletter. The articles in the newsletter have focused on, among other things, violence at sea targeting fishermen, problems faced by women fishworkers in accessing social security, etc. The newsletter is being widely circulated in northeast Brazil.

The ICSF Secretariat has continued to maintain contact with the participant organizations, and ICSF's gender and fisheries newsletter, *Yemaya*, has subsequently carried several articles from Chile, Brazil and Peru on efforts to integrate women of fishing communities into fishworker organizations. The report of the workshop, along with the case studies that were to be prepared, will be put online in English and Spanish at ICSF's website. The English version is already online, while the Spanish version will be online by September 2002.

Some Reflections

In Latin America, the organizational space available to women of fishing communities remains, in general, limited, even though efforts to change this situation are being made, both by the leadership of organizations and by women's groups. In Chile, for example, the participation of women in the struggle against Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs) and in defence of the five-mile zone for artisanal fisheries, has made clear to the leadership the importance of building up women's participation within the organization.

The workshop represented an initial step in the effort to bring issues of women of fishing communities into central focus. It was significant that even the male leadership of fishworker organizations participated in the workshop, and demonstrated their commitment to taking on board the concerns of women of fishing communities. For many of them, that was the first occasion for a debate on these issues.

The workshop became a forum for organizations in the region to exchange views on these issues, and to arrive at some sort of a common understanding on gender issues in fisheries. It was recognized that the challenge was to ensure that fishworker organizations move beyond recognizing the need to increase women's participation, to actually creating the environment for the meaningful participation of women. As one of the participants at the workshop said, "Increasing women's participation should also mean creating forums within organizations to discuss specific issues that are of concern to women. They should not be seen merely as agents who support the agenda of the men."

Workshop on Gender, Globalization and Fisheries, Canada While there has been no specific WIF country programme in the North, active communication and exchange has been maintained, especially with women's groups in Europe and Canada. Members and contacts of ICSF in the North, working with women of fishing communities in their countries, have been linking with ICSF's WIF programme on a regular basis.

The workshop on *Gender*, *Globalization and Fisheries* was organized by Barbara Neis of the Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada in June 2000. ICSF was one of the partners in organizing the workshop. Barbara Neis had been one of the resource persons at the workshop on *Gender Perspective in Fisheries* in Senegal in June 1996, which was organized by ICSF at the end of the first phase of the WIF programme. The Senegal workshop had brought together women fishworkers and supporters from the North and South, and one of the objectives was to develop a shared analysis and perspective on the problems facing women of fishing communities, whether in the North or South.

The Canada workshop was organized as a sequel to the Senegal workshop, to take forward the discussion and analysis initiated there.

Participating at the workshop in Canada were women and men from both the North and the South. Women fishworkers from the east coast of Canada were well represented at the workshop, including women workers at processing plants, seaweed cultivators, and women who fished from boats. The interaction with them was excellent and revealed, among other things, how women fish-plant workers in this part of Canada are losing their jobs with the automation of fish processing plants. Discussions at the workshop helped participants identify concrete ways in which globalization has hurt women, their families, and coastal communities in both the North and the South.

Some Reflections

The interactions between women from the North and the South have been very meaningful in helping understand differing realities and in building solidarity. The Canada workshop helped to develop an analysis on how women fishworkers in the North and the South are being affected in similar, if specific ways, by globalization processes. The need to form alliances between women fishworkers from the North and the South to counter developments that work against their interests, such as the spread of technologies that lay off people and destroy resources, is important and should be taken into account in future programmes.

Asian Fisherfolk Conference

ICSF, along with the Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) and several other organizations from Thailand and the Philippines, co-sponsored a conference titled *Cut Away the Net of Globalization*, held between 25 and 29 January 2002 at Prince of Songkhla University, Hat Yai, Thailand.

Asia contains about 85 per cent of the world's fishing population, a vast majority using small-scale and artisanal technologies to eke out their livelihoods. Fishing communities in the region, faced with problems caused by overfishing, habitat degradation, takeover of coastal lands, etc., are organizing to highlight these issues.

It was against this backdrop that the workshop was organized. It brought together representatives—men and women—of fisherfolk and peasant organizations, as well as NGOs from 11 countries in Asia.

The workshop was meant to:

- analyze the impact of globalization, specifically liberalization, privatization and deregulation, on the small-scale fisheries sector;
- document initiatives and gains by Asian fisherfolk to improve their situation, such as, but not limited to, organizing, peoples' campaigns, advocacy, resource management and lobbying;
- learn about the role and situation of women in the fisheries sector; and
- consolidate networks among fisherfolk organizations in the Asian region.

Participants felt that globalization processes are leading to the loss of income and livelihood, dislocation from fishing grounds, denial of access rights, degradation and destruction of aquatic resources and violations of human rights, among other things. Participants also focused on the transborder movement and arrest of small-scale fishermen in the Indian Ocean Region, a theme earlier discussed at the Indian Ocean Conference organized by ICSF and the International Ocean Institute in October 2001 (see under Campaigns and Action).

At the end of the workshop, participants formed a follow-through committee (FTC) to take forward the issues discussed. The report of the workshop *Cut Away the Net of Globalization: Asian Fisherfolk Conference* 2002 was published by the FTC in 2002. To support the work of fishworker organizations in Asia, the FTC has requested ICSF to provide research- and training-related inputs to fishworker organizations in the region, and to provide specific inputs towards their lobbying efforts at various levels.

Some Reflections

The Hat Yai workshop is the latest in a series of efforts to ensure better networking amongst organizations in the Asian region to effectively respond to developments adversely affecting the lives and livelihoods of those in the artisanal fisheries sector. Its impact will be gauged by

the extent to which organizations in the region are able to co-ordinate their activities to defend their interests. ICSF will need to play a continuing role in supporting this process and in meeting the research and training needs of fishworker organizations and other NGOs in the region.

This was the first time ICSF was organizing a workshop in co-ordination with so many organizations, some from non-fishery backgrounds, and the experience has been educative. It reflects the need to work across sectors to arrive at a co-ordinated response to common problems. It is also positive that many of the issues that ICSF has been working to highlight, such as the role of women in the fisheries sector and the problems of transborder arrests of fishermen, are now on the agenda of several other organizations in the Asian region.

Yemaya

The idea for a newsletter on women in fisheries was first proposed at ICSF's GB meeting in Trivandrum in February 1998. It was suggested that the newsletter carry news and views of organizations and individuals working on gender issues in fisheries in different parts of the world. Besides keeping people aware of what is happening, it should help sustain the links between those working on similar issues, and help them network.

Yemaya was the name chosen for the newsletter. Afro-Brazilian in origin, Yemaya, the shortened name for Yey Omo Eja, meaning 'Mother Whose Children are the Fish', is worshipped in parts of Africa and Latin America.

Yemaya has been following organizational processes relating to women in fisheries in different parts of the world. During the period under review, eight issues (Nos. 1-8) were published in English, French and Spanish. In addition, a special issue on Atlantic Canada was brought out, to supplement Yemaya No. 4.

In response to feedback, the layout has been changed to introduce illustrations and 'lighten' the look. All *Yemaya* issues are available on the ICSF website.

Yemaya English goes to 134 individuals and organizations in 78 countries, Yemaya French to 57 individuals and organizations in 20 countries and Yemaya Spanish to 74 individuals and organizations in 20 countries. Most copies go to fishworker organizations, NGOs and women of fishing communities. The countries where the most number of copies are sent are India, Brazil, Philippines, Senegal, Chile, Spain, France and Canada.

Some Reflections

The general feedback on Yemaya has been positive. It continues to be the only newsletter of its kind focusing on women in fisheries issues, tracking grassroot processes in different parts of the world, and inviting write-ups mainly from women fishworkers and their supporters. As one of the readers wrote in a letter (in Yemaya No. 4), "I personally feel that Yemaya is a true reflection of what is going on at the grassroots from a fisherwoman's perspective". Write-ups from Yemaya have been used by other newsletters, including the Women in Fisheries Information Bulletin produced by the Secretariat of the South Pacific Commission (SPC) and the newsletter from Pêche et Développement, France.

The challenge for *Yemaya* is to continue to attract writeups, especially from grassroots groups in the South. As literacy and language are certainly issues, the effort will have to remain on working with supporters and other NGOs, to make sure the newsletter reaches out to a larger number of women and men in fishing communities. Linking up with other local-language newsletters being circulated among fishing communities, is another option that could be explored to expand readership.

Gender Strategy for Mozambique The Instituto de Desenvolvimento da Pesca de Pequeria Escale (IDPPE), the Institute for Development of Small-scale Fisheries, in Mozambique, requested the support of ICSF to develop an appropriate gender strategy for the IFAD-supported Bank of Sofala Artisanal Fisheries Project, drawing from the experiences and results of the ongoing Nampula Artisanal Fisheries Project (NAFP). IDPPE has participated in several of ICSF's programmes in the past, and ICSF responded to this

request in the light of this association. Nalini Nayak and Chandrika Sharma visited Mozambique in February 2001 and prepared a report of suggestions and recommendations. These were made taking into account the local situation where, in many communities, men were responsible for fishing and related activities, and women were primarily responsible for agricultural activities. Supporting the work of women of coastal communities, keeping in mind the need to sustain the diversified livelihood base of the local economy, was emphasized. Concrete suggestions for activities that could be taken up with women's groups were made, and the imperative to develop appropriate credit and training facilities, as well as marketing strategies, were underlined, IDPPE has subsequently worked on finalizing its gender strategy, which is soon to be implemented.

Some Reflections

The visit to Mozambique came at a time when the country is still trying to develop its artisanal fisheries in the post-war period. As a late starter, it has much to learn from the experiences of other developing countries, and is in a position to avoid some of the pitfalls in the fisheries development model that has been pursued elsewhere. It is also in a position to ensure that support to women's work in fisheries and in related activities is built into project design and implementation.

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The Problematic of the Artisanal Fishing Zone

This issue was taken up in response to the request of CONAPACH, the fishworker organization of Chile. The idea has also been of interest to fishers of Peru, Brazil, Senegal and Canada. The concept of the 'artisanal fishing zone' has been a significant management tool recognized by fishworker organizations right from the 1984 Rome Conference. The idea was also formally proposed to the FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries by ICSF and was eventually incorporated into the Code, with some amendments proposed by member countries. It was recognized that this concept has to be seen in the light of traditional migration patterns of fishermen as well as the changing nature of the artisanal sector, marked by technological changes that increased mobility. While artisanal fishers of some countries may find the artisanal zone a highly

effective management tool, artisanal fishers of other countries, who have developed the capacity to fish in more distant waters, may find this concept unduly restrictive.

To better understand these issues, ICSF decided to develop a programme in this area called the 'problematic of the artisanal zone', with the following objectives:

- to discuss the practical implications for artisanal fishing communities, of Article 6 Para 18 of the FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, on preferential access to artisanal and small-scale fishworkers;
- to examine the history and status of exclusive artisanal fishing zones; and
- to discuss the implications of adopting the artisanal fishing zone and other related management measures for conservation and better allocation of fisheries resources.

It was hoped that this would enable a better understanding of the pros and cons of adopting artisanal fishing zones as a management tool, taking into account the changing nature of the sector.

The scope of this conference has been broadened and it will now be organized, on an expanded and more comprehensive scale, during the next triennium. It has also been proposed that the conference be organized in a region outside Latin America.

The following progress has been achieved on the country case studies, which will form the basis for the main inputs to the conference:

In Chile, CONAPACH was commissioned to compile information and make an analysis of the importance of the five-mile area reserved for artisanal fishing. The study is yet to be completed.

In Brazil, Instituto Terramar, which has been working for many years to promote decentralized decisionmaking processes, co-ordinated the country study and a partial draft report has been received. In Madagascar, where the shrimp trawling industry is trying to validate their rights of access to the two-mile zone by denying the existence of traditional fishing rights, the study is being prepared by the NGO, COMM. The work undertaken has gone beyond the mere documentation of a case study. Rather, it has been part of a process of linking disparate traditional fishing communities around the island and also developing an understanding of the traditional sector and promoting its official recognition by the Malagasy authorities. In March 2001, ICSF supported and participated in a firstever national round-table meeting between traditional fishworkers and government officials in Madagascar, with the aim of setting development priorities for the sector. The case study work provided the basis for the Malagasy presentation at the Indian Ocean Conference.

In West Africa, the possibilities of case studies in Mauritania and Guinea are being explored.

Some Reflections

Zoning regulations to protect the rights of small-scale and artisanal fishing communities have been applied in several countries, but are often perceived quite differently in different localities. In Chile, the artisanal fishermen view the five-mile reserved area as a nonnegotiable right, which should be closed to large-scale fishing activities, and protected against the expansion of industrial aquaculture. The campaign to safeguard the five-mile zone has, therefore, been closely linked to the campaign against the introduction of private property rights (through ITQs) and to the campaign against the further expansion of salmon aquaculture concessions. In Brazil, the implementation of 'extractivist reserves' to fisheries is seen more as a means to promote co-management rights in fisheries. In Senegal, it has been reported that an artisanal fishing zone would be seen as a constraint to the migratory patterns of fishermen, while in Madagascar the debate around the existence of the traditional fishing zone has been important in increasing the visibility of the traditional fishing sector.

In the European Union (EU), the issue of whether to extend coastal States' jurisdiction to six and 12 miles has been the subject of much debate in the review of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), where the inshore zones have been linked to programmes of habitat protection and marine conservation. In all the third-country fishery access agreements concluded between the EU and Southern countries, recognition is now given to the territorial waters that are important for artisanal fisheries.

It has also been noted that in order to safeguard the livelihood rights of coastal fishing communities, the recognition of access rights to fishing zones at sea must be linked to the recognition of community rights ashore (living space, processing space, etc). It has, therefore, been proposed that ICSF organize a workshop on the wider issues of fishing rights and livelihood rights, linking rights of access to fishing grounds to secure tenure ashore, as its first major activity in the new triennium.

EXCHANGE AND TRAINING

Exchange and Training programmes have been undertaken to build up and strengthen fishworker organizations, and to transfer fishing and fish processing technologies. ICSF has facilitated, for instance, the transfer of the trammel net fishing technique from India to Senegal. It has also facilitated the transfer of fish processing technology from Ghana to Senegal.

Exchange programmes have contributed to building up South-South and South-North solidarity between fishworker organizations in countries like India, Chile, the Philippines, Taiwan, Senegal, Canada and France. These have also helped fishers of Southern countries to draw support from the North in their campaigns against inequitable aspects of international agreements in fisheries and joint ventures.

ICSF has trained artisanal and small-scale fishworker organizations in the use of electronic means for effective communication and networking. Training programmes on leadership and social analysis have also been conducted for animators in fishing communities of the South.

Training Programme on Fisheries, Social Analysis and Organizational Strategies Fishworkers in the artisanal sector in most West African countries, with the exception of Senegal, do not seem to be politically or economically well organized. Some sporadic efforts at political organization have begun in recent years as artisanal fishworkers try to defend their interests, as in Ghana, South Africa, Guinea, Madagascar and Benin. These initiatives are often supported by local and international NGOs.

It is in this context that ICSF responded to a request from TESCOD, an NGO working with artisanal fishing communities in Ghana, to organize a training programme for people working with fishing communities. The proposal was supported by CNPS and CREDETIP.

The objectives of the programme were to:

- enable participants to develop an understanding of fisheries development and management, especially in the African context;
- develop skills related to organizational work and social analysis; and
- facilitate exchange of experiences and networking among organizations working with artisanal fishing communities in the African region.

The workshop had 21 participants from fishworker organizations, NGOs and other organizations supporting fishworkers from nine African countries, namely, Benin, Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal and South Africa. It provided the space for participants to reflect on the kind of fishery they would like to work towards, and to discuss the strategies they needed to collectively adopt. Participants highlighted the need to work towards a fishery that sustains life and livelihood; in other words, a fishery that is sustainably managed and the returns of which come back to the community by way of income earned by women fish processors and traders. In this context, they stressed the need to support the work of women fish processors and traders.

Specific follow-up action was decided, and the activities planned in West Africa included: (a) a market study to explore barriers to regional trade, and, more specifically, to the participation of women in regional trade; (b) a fish fair to bring together women fish processors and traders from countries in the West African region; and (c) a meeting of fishworker representatives from countries in the West African region to discuss resource management issues, ways to strengthen the artisanal sector and to maintain the livelihood base of fishing communities. A committee, comprising representatives from TESCOD (Ghana), ADEPEG (Guinea), CREDETIP and CNPS (Senegal) was formed to take forward the proposals of the workshop.

Some Reflections

The workshop provided a unique opportunity for organizations to develop a shared analysis of issues facing the sector, identify common problems and work on them together. The quality of participation and the level of discussion at the workshop were very good. Unfortunately, however, the committee formed for follow-up could not function as well as expected, for lack of initiative.

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Exchange of Indigenous Fish Processing Technologies in Africa This programme was an outcome of discussions at the abovementioned Ghana workshop. Fish processing and trade have a long tradition in the West African region. These activities have significant livelihood, social and cultural implications. They provide diversified marketing and employment opportunities within the fisheries sector, especially to women of fishing communities. They contribute to food security, especially of the poorer sections of society. Trade in these products is mainly through informal networks. These dynamic and diversified networks, although able to respond to demands for fish products through the region, are constrained by, among other things, poor transport infrastructure, problems at borders, tariff barriers, poor market facilities and lack of access to market information.

To better understand and address these issues, a study on *Problems and Prospects of Artisanal Fish Trade in West Africa* was undertaken. The report of this study, which also includes case studies of important processing areas, markets and trading circuits for processed fish, and of women fish processors and traders, is available on the ICSF website.

The study began in September 1999 with a methodology meeting in Dakar, Senegal. Participants at this meeting included members of the committee nominated by participants of the Ghana workshop. The study primarily covered Senegal, Guinea, Benin, Togo and Ghana. As part of the process of data collection, meetings with women fish processors and traders were held in several countries of the region. These also brought to the fore the main issues of concern to women fish processors and traders in the region.

It is against this background that the Workshop on Problems and Prospects for Developing Artisanal Fish Trade in West Africa was organized from 30 May to 1 June 2001, followed by the West African Fair for Artisanally Processed Fish on 2 and 3 June 2001 at Dakar, Senegal. These events were organized by ICSF in collaboration with CNPS and CREDETIP. They were supported by the FAO-DFID Sustainable Fisheries Livelihoods Programme (SFLP) and Development and Peace, Canada.

The aims of the workshop and fair were to enable artisanal fish processors and traders to:

- identify common problems in fish processing and trade at the regional level;
- influence policymakers and the general public, and make visible to them the problems of artisanal fish processors and traders;
- exchange fish processing technologies and establish better trade networks; and
- learn about support services (information, credit and technology resources) available within the region.

A total of 64 participants from 13 countries came for the workshop and fair. Participants—primarily women fish processors and support organizations from West Africa—discussed problems in fish processing and trade and, based on these discussions, prepared a Statement, which was later presented to policymakers from the region. At the fair, delegations from the participant countries put up stalls displaying the important processed fish products in their countries, and the methods used to prepare them. The fair

provided an opportunity for establishing marketing contacts and for exchanging information on processing techniques.

Three sets of publicity posters were printed to publicize the fair. A website on the fair was also launched. The events received wide coverage in the local media and many of the press reports that appeared have been put up on the ICSF website.

The report of the fair and the workshop was published in French and English in October 2001. A short video film, *Smoke in the Water*, was also produced to provide an overview of the issues involved, and to highlight the concerns of actors in the sector. The film also reports briefly on the workshop and the fair.

An interactive CD, Fisheries in Sub-Saharan Africa, was produced in English and distributed to NGOs as well as other organizations working in the region. The French version of the CD is under production. The CD provides exhaustive information on, among other things, fish processing and trade. The CD also contains ICSF reports about workshops in the region, as well as the report of the Study on Problems and Prospects of Artisanal Fish Trade in West Africa.

A questionnaire has been circulated to NGOs working with fishworkers in the West African region to seek their feedback on the workshop, fair, report, video and CD, and to seek their views on the nature of follow-up activities. Feedback received so far indicates that participants benefited in various ways through participation at the workshop and fair. More specifically, they were able to make contacts, and learn about new markets and fish processing technologies. They would like to see a repeat of the fair in the near future.

Some Reflections

There was a clear political dimension to the activities taken up under this programme. The aim was to valorize the work of small-scale women processors and traders in the region, establish their social and economic relevance in the modern context, and highlight the fact that supporting their work could lead to better economic and regional integration in West Africa.

The market study aimed to develop a deeper understanding of artisanal fish processing and trade in the region. It represents an initial, and perhaps the first-ever, attempt to look at the problems of those engaged in this sector in a comprehensive manner. However, as information on artisanal fish processing and trade is limited, in the first place, the study will have to be followed up with more detailed investigations on several aspects, including volume and value of artisanal fish trade; products traded, circuits used and constraints faced; supply and demand factors within the region; identification of main suppliers and markets for various products; links between imports and locally caught fish; the extent to which imported fish impacts on prices of fish caught, processed and marketed locally, etc.

In many ways, the workshop was a unique event that brought together fishworkers, policymakers, NGOs and researchers. Most of the participants were fish processors and traders themselves, and the discussions at the workshop revolved around extremely practical problems faced by them on a daily basis.

The fair was also unique in providing small-scale women processors and traders the opportunity to find markets for their products and to link with processors and traders in neighbouring countries. It was the first time that a fair of this kind was being organized.

Both the workshop and fair generated a good amount of publicity about the issues raised by the processors and traders, and focused public attention on the sector. The momentum generated by ICSF's involvement in these programmes will need to be sustained by organizations in the region.

In October 1998, ICSF organized an exchange programme in which fishermen from the South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS) went to Mozambique at the request of IDPPE, to facilitate the transfer of anchovy gill-net and trammel net technologies to Mozambican fishermen.

The idea for such an exchange programme was first mooted at ICSF's GB meeting in Trivandrum in February 1998, when an invitee to the meeting, Simeao

India-Mozambique Exchange Lopes of IDPPE, was struck by the diversity of fishing technologies available in south India. He was particularly surprised to find out, during an exposure trip to a fishing village, that artisanal fishermen in India have trammel nets and anchovy gill-nets to catch prawns as well as anchovies.

Some Reflections

At one level, the exchange programme can be viewed as a mere example of the possibility of transferring technology from one developing country to another. Important as that may be, the more lasting benefit, perhaps, will be the realization of the potential of artisanal fishermen.

The exchange programme was a very useful starting point for the Mozambican fishermen and their organizations to formulate a strategy for the development of the sector. SIFFS found the experience very valuable and is especially satisfied that the skills from one Southern fishworker organization could prove so important in formulating the strategy for the development of the fisheries of an entire nation.

CAMPAIGNS AND ACTION

he Campaigns and Action programmes are essentially meant to draw attention to processes that have an adverse impact on the access of fishworkers to resources, and to suggest alternatives that help defend their right to life and livelihood. Towards this end, ICSF organizes seminars, workshops and conferences, on the one hand, and lobbies international processes, on the other.

The significant international conferences organized by ICSF include the International Symposium on Marine Environment and the Future of Fishworkers in Lisbon in 1989; Global Fisheries Trends and the Future of Fishworkers in Bangkok in 1990; the Struggles of Fishworkers: New Concerns for Support, in Cebu in 1994; the Workshop on Gender Perspectives in Fisheries in Senegal in 1996, South Asian Workshop on Fisheries and Coastal Area Management in Chennai in 1996; and Forging Unity: Coastal Communities and the Indian Ocean's Future (the Indian Ocean Conference) in 2001. These conferences were important forums for the artisanal and small-scale

fishworkers to highlight their concerns and to influence the broader agenda of ICSF.

Several workshops and seminars are being held to influence decision-making processes to better integrate fisheries interests into coastal area management, to emphasize the importance of addressing the gender dimension and to disseminate the content of important international instruments relevant to the fisheries sector, like FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. These processes facilitate an interface between fishworker organizations, policymakers and NGOs.

At the international level, ICSF has influenced decision-making at important conferences like the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and FAO's Technical Consultation on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. It has also facilitated the participation of fishworker organizations in these processes.

Through the Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements (CFFA), ICSF actively makes an effort to influence the fisheries access agreements between the EU and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. Focusing on the Pacific and the Indian Ocean, ICSF campaigns for better conditions of work on board distant-water fishing vessels. Along with other European NGOs, ICSF has influenced the recruitment policy of immigrant workers into the Taiwanese distant-water fisheries.

ICSF also lobbies the ILO and the Workers' Group that represents the interests of the industrial fishermen for the recognition of artisanal and small-scale fishworkers—hitherto considered as belonging to the informal sector and hence not recognized as workers eligible for social security benefits.

ICSF also associates with the review of the Ocean's Chapter of Agenda 21, the Committee on Food Security and the Committee on Fisheries of FAO. It is further studying the impact on fisheries of trade regimes under the Uruguay Round. Also being monitored are the implications of private ecolabelling initiatives for fishworkers in the South.

The Indian Ocean Conference

The Indian Ocean Conference was jointly organized by ICSF and the International Ocean Institute (IOI) at the Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, India from 9 to 13 October 2001. There were 68 participants from 13 countries of the Indian Ocean Region region. The participants included fishworker organizations, senior government officials from several countries and NGOs working on fisheries and environmental issues. The conference was inaugurated by Nita Chowdhury, Joint Secretary, Government of India, and Chairperson, Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC).

The Indian Ocean Conference had a strong political dimension, to promote redistribution of fisheries resources in favour of coastal States. The following were the main objectives of the conference:

- to create an awareness among the participants about the bio-geographical and cultural unity of the riparian communities of the Indian Ocean Region;
- to highlight the importance of sustaining the livelihoods of the artisanal and small-scale fishing communities dependent on marine fisheries in the emerging context of new developments in fisheries in the Indian Ocean Region;
- · to forge greater unity between communities to:
 - advocate for participatory regional and bilateral arrangements among the riparian nations of the Indian Ocean for access to, and responsible management of, fisheries resources, consistent with UNCLOS:
 - discuss mechanisms for conflict resolution and conflict reduction in the Indian Ocean Region and for humane treatment of fishworkers; and
 - develop a shared vision statement for responsible utilization of fishery and coastal resources in the Indian Ocean Region.

As part of the preparation for the conference, visits to several countries in the region were made, including a visit to Mauritius and Seychelles in May 2000, to Kenya in June 2000, and to Madagascar in August-September 2000. The aim was to identify issues in management that are of concern to fishworkers and to look into various aspects of the labour market and industrial fisheries.

In preparation for the conference, the ICSF Documentation Centre (DC) produced an interactive CD, *Indian Ocean 2001*. A considerable amount of work, co-ordinated by Ramya Rajagopalan of the DC, went into the multimedia production, which was very well received. The CD also contains all the papers prepared for the conference. The ICSF website carries all the papers of the conference, the list of participants, the programme, news clippings, photographs and posters as well as the *Vision Statement*, in nine Indian Ocean languages.

An exhibition was also put up during the conference, to highlight issues facing fishworkers in the Indian Ocean Region. A major focus area was the arrest and detention of fishermen by neighbouring countries in the South Asian region. This issue received good media coverage as a result of the conference. The conference also became a forum for Indian shark fishermen in the artisanal sector to highlight their plight in the light of a recent Government of India ban on all forms of shark fishing.

The complete proceedings of the Indian Ocean Conference should be ready by March 2003.

One of the recommendations of the conference was to strengthen ICSF's links with East African countries. The 2002 GB meeting of ICSF in Mozambique was an outcome of that recommendation. Participants also proposed that ICSF organize a regional consultation in East Africa to discuss the issues raised at the Indian Ocean Conference. They also proposed that ICSF facilitate a greater sharing of experiences between Asia and Africa, especially on issues such as coastal degradation and pollution, and the impact of trawling and shrimp culture, all issues to which Asian fishworkers have been exposed at an earlier point in time.

Following the conference, CFFA is trying to influence public opinion in Europe for greater recognition of riparian rights of countries in the Indian Ocean Region. *Pêche et Developpement* is also lobbying for greater recognition of riparian rights of coastal States in the Indian Ocean Region to counter the campaign of the tuna purse-seine owners' association of France for greater participation of their fleet in the Indian Ocean fisheries.

Some Reflections

The political objective of the Indian Ocean Conference was to bring together coastal peoples, particularly those working in coastal fisheries on either side of the Indian Ocean as well as from the islands of the Indian Ocean. It was expected to raise the profile of coastal fisheries in the light of the recent formation of the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Co-operation (IOR-ARC), a tripartite structure of governments, business and academia, also mandated to look at fisheries issues. Arguably, the most significant contribution of the conference was the highlighting of the plight of thousands of fishers who are arrested and detained in prison in the South Asian region for transgressing, while fishing, into the adjacent national waters—a phenomenon rather unprecedented elsewhere in the world, as far as scale is concerned. Based on proposals of fishworker organizations as well as practices in other parts of the world, the conference suggested measures to resolve this problem. It was also realized at the conference that some of the issues that have been plaguing the Asian fisheries since the 1970s, especially conflicts over fishing grounds between trawl and non-trawl gear, have now become part and parcel also of the Fast African fisheries.

The conference can be seen only as a first step in a long process for regional co-operation, to protect human rights of fishworkers as well as to address the regional dimensions of fisheries management, focusing on both fish and fishers. The conference was a sequel to the 1992-1996 ICSF campaign against poor conditions of work on board distant-water fishing vessels in the Indian Ocean (which has since been taken up far more vigorously at the international level by the International Transport Workers' Federation). If the earlier initiative looked into human rights abuse in industrial fisheries. the present initiative looked into the human rights abuse of small-scale fishermen. Although FAO formally participated in the conference, in spite of ICSF's best efforts, the participation of ILO, and the IOR-ARC could not be ensured. (The IOR-ARC secretariat, however, did send a paper for the conference.) Countries like Madagascar and Mauritius also could not send any participants.

Participation in FAO, ILO, CSD and WTO meetings

ICSF's participation in these meetings has been aimed at:

- influencing these forums to take into consideration
 the interests of artisanal and small-scale
 fishworkers; and
- taking significant information from these forums to artisanal fishworkers and their communities.

The overall aim has been to work towards a better recognition of artisanal and small-scale fisheries in policy planning processes at the national and international levels. ICSF participated in the following UN meetings:

1998-1999

FAO Technical Consultation on the Feasibility of Developing Non-Discriminatory Technical Guidelines for Ecolabelling of Products from Marine Capture Fisheries, 21-23 October 1998

ICSF, represented by Brian O'Riordan and Sebastian Mathew, participated in this consultation. While recognizing the significance of ecolabelling, ICSF highlighted the importance of developing national standards. ICSF supported FAO's initiative to develop technical guidelines for products from marine capture fisheries. This was in recognition of the fact that the FAO was a forum where developing countries have a majority, and are, therefore, more likely to formulate guidelines that would reflect the concerns and preferences of Southern countries. This would also help to counter the narrowly defined standards of private ecolobelling programmes from the North. However, due to opposition from one developing country, this initiative by FAO was stalled.

FAO Consultation on the Management of Fishing Capacity, Shark Fisheries and Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries, 26 to 30 October 1998.

ICSF, represented by Brian O'Riordan and Sebastian Mathew, participated in this consultation. While denouncing subsidies to the large-scale industrial subsector, it supported subsidies regimes for the small-scale, labour-intensive fisheries of developing countries, especially those subsidies that are often introduced to offset the negative impact of large-scale industrial

fishing on artisanal fishers. ICSF supported the position of the WFF to target subsidies in the artisanal sector only after solving the problems created by subsidies in the large-scale, industrial sector.

1999-2000

Norway/UN Conference on the Ecosystem Approach for Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity

ICSF, represented by Chandrika Sharma, participated in this conference, in Trondheim, Norway, in the second week of September 1999. A paper, titled *Community Participation in Coastal Fisheries Management*, was presented at the workshop. The paper highlighted the importance of democratic and representative institutions at the community level, and stressed the need for developing appropriate frameworks for the governance of coastal fisheries resources. Since community participation in coastal fisheries management was also in the best interests of the States, the paper emphasized the need for States to support such initiatives.

Fishrights99

ICSF participated in the FAO-organized Fishrights99, hosted by the Fisheries Department of Australia, at Fremantle, in November 1999. In his presentation, titled Managing Artisanal Small-scale Fisheries in Developing Countries: the Need for a Complementary Approach, Sebastian Mathew highlighted the human dimension of fisheries management in developing countries and argued for horizontal and vertical approach to fisheries management—the former, a combination of input and output control measures in conjunction with an institution-building process, and the latter, an approach focusing on alternative employment opportunities in fisheries to alleviate fishing pressure arising from population growth and lack of productive employment.

FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries: Management of Small-Scale Fisheries

ICSF participated in a consultation on the above theme, held back-to-back with the FishRights Conference, in November 1999. Under the chairmanship of Francis Christy Jr., FAO's attempt was to develop technical guidelines for the small-scale sector. However, the workshop could not arrive at a common set of guidelines due to too many conflicting ideas and perspectives.

ILO Tripartite Meeting on Safety and Health in the Fishing Industry

ICSF participated at this meeting, held at the ILO in December 1999 as an observer affiliated to the ILO. ICSF persuaded the meeting to pay homage to the Indian fishermen who were killed in a cyclone just before the meeting, and highlighted an aspect neglected in the ILO report, namely, loss of life at sea in the small-scale sector from collisions at sea between large and small-scale vessels. ICSF also brought to the attention of the delegates the lack of representation of the small-scale sector at the meeting. All the contributions of ICSF were incorporated into the final report of the meeting.

Tenth Session of UNCTAD

ICSF was invited to participate at the Tenth Session of the UNCTAD meeting in Bangkok and at other NGO-organized related events in February 2000.

The meetings focused on globalization and its impact on developing countries. As a result of ICSF's intervention, the NGO statement to the UNCTAD Session made reference to the fisheries sector, especially with regard to documenting the impact of globalization on fishworkers and also with regard to the need to promote South-South trade in fish and fish products.

Regional Workshop on the Reduction of the Impact of the Shrimp Fisheries in Asia

ICSF, represented by V. Vivekanandan, participated in this workshop organized by FAO in Denpasar, Indonesia, in March 2000. At the workshop, there were clear indications that countries in the region foresaw bycatch issues increasingly threatening their access to Northern markets, and, therefore, felt the need to take pre-emptive action.

2000-2001

Management and Allocation of Fishery Resources to Artisanal Fishworkers in Latin America

ICSF, represented by Brian O' Riordan, participated in this meeting, organized by the FAO Latin American Regional Office in Santiago, Chile in May 2000. The objectives of the meet were to review the systems used in the Latin American region (both Central and South America) for managing and allocating fishery resources to artisanal fisheries. The main focus was on demersal and benthic species, and on co-management issues.

United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Ocean Affairs

At the invitation of the British government, ICSF participated in this UN consultative process in New York from 30 May to 2 June 2000. The meeting focused on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. The intervention of ICSF stressed the impact of distant-water fishing activities on artisanal fisheries of West Africa. It also highlighted the importance of broadening the scope of IUU fishing to look at the impact of industrial fishing on small-scale fishing operations.

National Workshopon the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

ICSF, represented by Sebastian Mathew, participated in this workshop, organized by the Bay of Bengal Programme of the FAO in Chennai in September 2000. He presented a paper, titled Applying the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries to the Management and Development of Small-scale Fisheries in India. The paper argued that implementing or adopting the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries was a process where the legislative framework and the legitimization process had to work in tandem at the national and provincial levels. In the Indian context, the former required reforms in basic legislation to move from the current emphasis on exploration and exploitation towards conservation and management, and the latter required engendering a spirit of 'ownership' amongst principal stakeholders, including the State governments, fishing industry and fishing communities, through a consultative process.

UNEP Fisheries Workshop

ICSF was invited to participate at the UNEP Fisheries Workshop on 12 February 2001 and to make a presentation on Subsidies and Small-scale Fisheries in Developing Countries. In the presentation, it was held that subsidies for fisheries in developing countries are less than those granted to agriculture, and that, in spite of low levels of subsidies, fisheries resources are overfished due to the 'open access' nature of the resources and indiscriminate market forces. It was argued that, while rolling back 'bad' subsidies to the large-scale industrial fisheries was necessary, granting 'good' subsidies-transparent, well-targeted and suitably designed ones for achieving equity and sustainability—to the small-scale fisheries was essential. These subsidies would, interalia, include those to bring about better input-output controls, effective Monitoring, Control and Surveillance systems, and participatory management regimes.

24th Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI)

Brian O'Riordan and Sebastian Mathew represented ICSF at FAO's COFI meeting in Rome, from 26 February to 2 March 2001. ICSF spoke about its programmes to disseminate FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries to fishing communities and fishworker organization, and pointed out that the FAO report on the implementation of the Code did not include the activities of NGOs. ICSF proposed that FAO, in its future reporting on the status of implementation of the Code, should also include NGO activities in this area. This, it said, will provide information on grassroots penetration of the Code, an area of great interest to many governments.

2001-2002

Reykjavik Conference on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem

ICSF participated in this conference, held from 1 to 4 October 2001 in Iceland, jointly organized by the government of Iceland and FAO, with the cosponsorship of the government of Norway. A paper, titled Small-Scale Fisheries Perspectives on an Ecosystem-based

Approach to Fisheries Management, was presented. The paper stated that an ecosystem approach was of greatest significance to small-scale fisheries because it could broaden the scope of fisheries management and could help bring about a greater control over destructive fishing operations that employed nonselective fishing gear like bottom trawling. An ecosystem approach was also believed to help minimize the cascade effect of such fishing operations on fish stocks, fish habitats and on the livelihood of fishing communities. The paper argued that a potential strategy for governments in adopting an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management in the South, could be to first phase out destructive forms of large-scale, industrial fishing operations, in exchange for a commitment from small-scale fishers to stop destructive fishing operations such as dynamite and cyanide fishing, and the use of fine-meshed nets.

It was further argued that developing the building blocks of an ecosystem-based approach with social sensitivity was complex, difficult and expensive and required a "global partnership for sustainable development", based on a "crossword approach", which implied a realistic time frame to implement various components of an ecosystem-based fisheries management programme in a progressive manner, that is, using available knowledge to solve bits of the puzzle, while simultaneously expanding the knowledge base to fully address the locus of problems at the macro-level.

ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millermium

ICSF participated in this conference, which was jointly organized by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC), in collaboration with FAO. It was hosted by the Department of Fisheries, Thailand, between 19 and 24 November 2001. The conference focused on the unique context and nature of the region's fisheries in interpreting global fisheries issues and identifying regional responses. The conference was an important forum to learn about fisheries policies in the ASEAN region. What was most noticeable was the recognition at the government level of the destructive

impact of bottom trawling, of problems of overcapacity and overfishing, and the need to introduce effective fisheries management, including a consideration of ecolabelling. The level of discussions, however, did not reveal any sound understanding of international instruments for fisheries management nor about national commitments to such instruments.

Regional Consultation on Interactive Mechanisms for Small-Scale Fisheries Management

ICSF participated in this consultation organized by FAO and the Coastal Development Centre in Bangkok, Thailand, from 26 to 29 November 2001. A paper, titled Managing Small-scale Fisheries in India: Need for a Paradigm Shift, was presented. It highlighted the lack of co-ordination among States, the absence of enabling legislation, and effective fisheries management policies and programmes, on the one hand, and chronic poverty and unemployment in many coastal areas, on the other. It observed how the State governments are not in an easy position to see the problems of the fisheries sector in isolation from other social and economic problems. The consultation was attended by government experts, development agencies, bilateral donor agencies and selected NGOs. It was organized to discuss the constraints in decentralized small-scale fisheries management and to consider possible ways to solve resulting problems. It was held back-to-back with the SEAFDEC conference.

Global Conference on Oceans and Coasts at Rio+ 10: Assessing Progress, Addressing Continuing and New Challenges

Chandrika Sharma attended this conference, hosted by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at UNESCO, Paris between 3 and 7 December 2001. A paper, titled Strengthening Coastal Management Initiatives in South Asia: A Small-scale Fisheries Perspective, was presented at the conference. It put forth a small-scale fisheries perspective on coastal area management issues in the South Asian region, discussed recent efforts by governments at addressing the problems, analyzed the reasons for their lack of effectiveness, and suggested steps to address them. Among other things, it stressed the need to adopt an integrated approach that

recognizes the interactions between the land and sea components of the coastal ecosystem, to ensure that the rights of fishing communities to both land and sea resources on which their livelihoods depend, are also understood in an integrated manner and protected. It further stressed the need for stakeholder participation in coastal management, pointing out that stakeholders are not equal, and that special efforts to prioritize the livelihood interests of coastal fishing communities need to be made if the twin objectives of environmental protection and poverty alleviation have to be met.

22nd FAO Regional Conference for Africa

Chandrika Sharma participated in this conference, held in Cairo, Egypt, between 4 and 8 February 2002. She made an intervention about the concerns of artisanal women fish processors and traders who participated in the Workshopon Problems and Prospects for Developing Artisanal Fish Trade in West Africa and the West African Fair for Artisanally Processed Fish, in Senegal, in June 2001. Her participation was aimed at bringing to the attention of all African governments the Statement that came out of the above fair and workshop.

Workshop on the Impacts of Trade-related Policies on Fisheries

ICSF was invited to a workshop organized by UNEP, in consultation with the WTO Secretariat, FAO and OECD, on the Impacts of Trade-Related Policies on Fisheries on 15 March 2002 at Palais Des Nations, Geneva. The meeting was organized to analyze the impact of traderelated policies, including subsidies, on fisheries, to explore approaches to reform current policies and to develop policy response packages that contribute to sustainable management of fisheries worldwide. In the light of the November 2001 Ministerial Declaration of WTO at Doha, where fisheries issues were, for the first time, considered under the purview of WTO agreements, the meeting provided a forum to understand the positions of various countries in relation to subsidies issues. The report of the workshop appeared in SAMUDRA Report No. 31.

Support to the Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements (CFFA) and other work in Europe ICSF is an active member of CFFA, a coalition founded in 1992 by a group of European NGOs and ICSF. Based in Brussels, CFFA is concerned about the developmental and environmental impacts of fisheries access agreements negotiated between the EU and ACP (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) States (signatories to the Cotonou Convention on trade and aid) and other States in the South.

As a member of CFFA, ICSF participates in CFFA meetings and many of its European-level activities. CFFA, on its part, also makes some important contributions to ICSF programmes. For example, CFFA played a positive role in the Indian Ocean Conference, worked with ICSF in Madagascar to understand traditional fishing there, and has assisted in developing linkages in West Africa.

In addition to direct support to CFFA, Brian O'Riordan has represented ICSF in the group of development NGOs participating in the European Commission's Advisory Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ACFA). The main issues of concern to ICSF under discussion in ACFA relate to the review of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the implications of this for fisheries relationships with developing countries.

Meeting on Women in European Fisheries The idea for the meeting was conceived in October 2000 during discussions preliminary to the 15th AT Meeting of ICSF. It was proposed that a European-level meeting on women in fisheries would be a useful way to re-kindle the networks that ICSF had engaged in during the early- and mid-1990s. The idea for such a meeting was also discussed at ICSF's 16th AT meeting.

The ICSF Brussels Office and the CFFA felt that such a meeting was relevant in the context of the review of the EU's CFP. In particular, it was felt that it should coincide with the finalization of the 'Green Paper' process, and provide an opportunity for women from different countries to learn about the decision-making processes in fisheries in Europe. The meeting was organized using extra-budgetary resources personally contributed by Brian O'Riordan, and extensive voluntary inputs from European members and contacts of ICSF.

It was originally proposed that the meeting provide an opportunity for European women to discuss and reflect on the issue of globalization and its impact on fisheries, in preparation for a larger meeting to be organized by ICSF. This preliminary objective was modified to include:

- exchange of experiences;
- discussing the review process of the CFP, and the CFP's implications for women;
- meeting with representatives of EU institutions to gain a better understanding of the policy decisionmaking processes in EU fisheries;
- reflection on local problems in the context of globalization; and
- identification of common issues for action.

Women from coastal fishing communities in Holland, Spain, France and Norway met and interacted over three days in Brussels. Apart from group discussions on local and global issues, meetings were also arranged with two key EU institutions: the European Parliament, and the Fisheries Directorate of the European Commission.

The sessions fell into three main areas: discussions to share experiences and concerns, meetings with EU institutions, and a debate on globalization and fisheries. The meeting raised 10 issues of concern to be taken up at the EU level.

Some Reflections

Organizing activities at the European (or Northern) level raises a number of difficult issues for ICSF, as its donors clearly intend that their monies be used for activities in the South. ICSF's presence in Europe does provide a unique opportunity to follow European issues, and to highlight the lacunae and contradictions between Northern fishing activities and Northern policy objectives for developing countries (referred to as 'coherence' in the EU). Addressing such coherence issues is seen as highly relevant to ICSF's work, and its continued involvement in the activities of CFFA is seen as justified in this context.

The issue of engaging in the debate on Women in Fisheries at the EU level must also be seen in this light. However, a number of questions arise. Does, for example, ICSF have a role to play in building up solidarity between women's groups in Europe and women's groups in the South? Should it play a facilitating role in sharing issues between the North and the South, and in developing a common understanding of the impact of globalization on coastal communities.

4

Fish Stakes

A dossier on the pros and cons of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) initiative of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Unilever was published and distributed during the FAO Technical Consultation on the Feasibility of Developing Non-Discriminatory Technical Guidelines for Ecolabelling of Products from Marine Capture Fisheries, in Rome, Italy from 21 to 23 October 1998. The dossier, which put together articles from *SAMUDRA Report*, was well received.

Some Reflections

Considering the very positive response to Fish Stakes—some observers acknowledged its unique significance as the only critique of the MSC initiative—it is perhaps necessary for ICSF to continue with similar compilations on different themes, either by drawing on the SAMUDRA archives or by commissioning original work. Such compilations could become useful tools in ICSF's advocacy work on influencing national, regional and international processes that impinge on artisanal fishers' lives and livelihood.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications programmes of ICSF are of several kinds. Findings of research studies, monitoring activities, and reports of conferences and workshops are published as Monographs, Dossiers and Conference Proceedings.

Dissemination of information on the activities of ICSF, as well as on major developments in fisheries, is achieved through the publication, thrice a year, of SAMUDRA Report, in English, French and Spanish. SAMUDRA Report has been a vehicle for debates on various conflicting issues like ecolabelling, co-operation

with green NGOs, coastal shrimp aquaculture, etc. It has also been carrying articles on traditional fisheries management practices in different parts of the world, and on the role of women in fisheries.

1

Publication of SAMUDRA Report in English, French and Spanish Eleven issues of *SAMUDRA Report* (Nos. 20 to 31) were published and distributed between April 1998 and March 2002, while 13 issues in French (Nos. 17 to 29) and 10 in Spanish (Nos. 20 to 29) were distributed.

The process of translation has been considerably hastened. The time lag between the English and the French and Spanish editions has been reduced, thanks to the support of Gildas le Bihan of CRISLA in France and Anna Rosa Martinez Prat and Aida Martinez Prat in Spain.

All recent issues of SAMUDRA Report (in French, Spanish and English) are available on the ICSF website. The English edition is now searchable by keywords, while this facility will soon be available for the French and Spanish editions. The English edition of SAMUDRA Report has a mailing list of 1,118, while the corresponding figures for the French and Spanish editions are 610 and 166, respectively.

Reader Survey of SAMUDRA Report

In order to assess the strengths and weakness of *SAMUDRA Report*, a detailed questionnaire was prepared by the editorial team and sent out to around 1,000 readers in August 1999. Though merely indicative and perhaps slightly dated by now, the survey did reveal some interesting facts about the journal's readership, reach and usefulness.

The survey sought to assess SAMUDRA Report in terms of readability, topicality, scope and subject coverage, balance, gender bias, reliability, practical worth and usefulness in networking, and editorial style and design. On all these parameters, the readers' assessment was 'Good' or a 2 on a descending scale of five (ranging from 'Excellent' to 'Very Poor'). Of the 101 responses received, only six felt the journal was too academic, while 89 felt it was informative and 81 regarded it as unique.

The survey also sought to assess whether readers felt *SAMUDRA Report* to be valuable enough to be priced. 81 said they would be willing to take out a paid subscription to *SAMUDRA Report*, while 10 were not prepared to do so, and the remaining 10 chose not to respond either way.

These readers also rated SAMUDRA Report higher than other fisheries journals like Fishing News International, BOBP News of the Bay of Bengal Programme of FAO, GLOBEFISH of FAO, NAGA (the quarterly of the International Centre for Living Aquatic Resource Management, ICLARM), and Aquaculture Asia (of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific, NACA).

The survey also revealed how most people came to know of the existence of *SAMUDRA Report*. While ICSF's direct mailing efforts and contacts accounted for nearly 31 per cent of the initial outreach, 24 per cent of readers said they got to see *SAMUDRA Report* for the first time at conferences, including UN events, 19 per cent saw it first in a library and 13 per cent heard of it through word of mouth. A small number (7) came across *SAMUDRA Report* in references in other journals.

Some Reflections

SAMUDRA Report has come to occupy a unique position in the world of fisheries, reflected in The Ecologist's assessment of it as being "probably the only international voice for small-scale fishing communities worldwide." Over the years, as the principal mouthpiece of ICSF, the journal has evolved editorially in the scope and depth of its coverage of fisheries issues that affect the lives and working conditions of fishing communities in the small-scale artisanal sector. However, it has not confined itself to issues in this sector, aware of the interdependence and complementarity of the various factors at play in the larger arena of socioeconomics, natural resource management and livelihoods issues.

To better understand the essence of SAMUDRA Report and to establish a foundation for any future makeover or redesign, the SAMUDRA editorial team did an internal audit of the current status of the journal.

That exercise revealed that SAMUDRA Report reaches 116 countries. In terms of North-South distribution, of the 1,900 copies that are now sent out, 1,049, or just above 55 per cent, go to Northern countries, while 851 go to Southern countries. However, in terms of countrywise coverage, SAMUDRA Report has a wider spread in the South, reaching 90 countries, or 78 per cent of the total distribution, as against 26 countries in the North. France gets the most number of copies (308), followed by India (203), UK (111), US (106), Belgium (96), Canada (72), Brazil (49) and Norway (46).

The English edition has a mailing list of 1,118, of whom 459 are individuals, while the remaining 659 are organizations. Among the organizations, 129 are fishworker organizations, 159 are NGOs and 161 are governmental.

The French edition reaches 190 individuals and 421 organizations, while the Spanish one goes to 113 organizations and 53 individuals.

SAMUDRA Report has also become a source of reference for several fisheries and environmental organizations. In a recent independent review of literature on poverty and sustainable livelihood done for FAO, the ICSF website was listed among the most useful fisheries sites. A search on Google, the Internet's most popular and reliable search engine, returns around 1,500 results that feature the words "SAMUDRA Report", including many not related to ICSF at all! A more careful scrutiny reveals around 50 unique hits for SAMUDRA Report.

The ICSF website has recently been linked from www.developmentgateway.org, an initiative of the World Bank that will soon be spun off into an independent portal.

Evidently, SAMUDRA Report fulfils a need for focused and in-depth information on issues in artisanal fisheries. However, there is a view that the journal tends to prefer longish, analytical articles at the expense of shorter, newsier stories. Whether it should now opt for a format and style that mixes analysis with news in a more conventional pattern, and whether news coverage itself

should be beefed up, is something that ICSF and the SAMUDRA editorial team will have to ponder over.

2

Publication of Conversations

Conversations is among the most significant of ICSF's publications. It is the collaborative outcome of an ICSF programme that brought together Aliou Sall, the late Michael Belliveau and Nalini Nayak, who have worked for years to build organizations of fishermen and fishworkers. (For further details, see under Monitoring and Research.)

3

Documentation Centre

Over the past two years, the Communications component of ICSF's programmes has been substantially aided and influenced by the DC, set up in mid-1999.

The primary objective of the DC is to make information of relevance accessible to members of ICSF, fishworker organizations and NGOs, as well as academia, media and the general public. Apart from providing information per se, the DC also provides links to other information resources relevant to fisheries.

Some of the major documentation themes at the DC are: artisanal fisheries; fisheries management; fishworkers and fishing communities; women in fisheries; fishworker unions and movements; conditions of work; social security; fisheries legislation, agreements and policies; trade in fisheries; and fishing technology.

A letter formally announcing the existence of the DC was sent to fishworker organizations and concerned groups in February 2000. The letter sought their responses and opinions on their information needs and their expectations from the DC. The DC received good feedback, including an expressed desire for a newsletter.

Existing Information Base

The DC receives documents from a variety of sources such as conferences and meetings, fishworker organizations, and international organizations. A considerable part of the information is in the form of conference proceedings, reports, studies, journal reprints and books. Newsletters and newspaper clippings on

fisheries form the other important chunk of the DC resources. CDs, photographs and videos, though a smaller collection, are also a significant part of the DC's repository.

The DC has identified nearly 200 websites related to fisheries, and has linked these to ICSF's website. Apart from this, a large quantity of information downloaded from the Internet through email discussion groups, mailing lists and e-newsletters like Fishfolk, MAP, Finning News and WorldCatch has also been digitally stored.

The DC's WinISIS database has nearly 5,000 records, of which 830 are books, 2,041 documents (conference papers), 621 journal articles (indexed from over 90 journals) and 785 clippings from various newspapers. The collection of over 3,250 photographs is stored in country albums. The DC also has 50 videos and over 20 CD-ROMs related to fisheries.

The cataloguing of the articles of the English edition of *SAMUDRA Report*, using keywords, has been completed and is available for online query using any-word/keyword/author search. The abstracts of the articles are now being done and will soon be available online.

Dissemination and Usage of Information

The DC has brought out information packages in the form of *Postings*. Nine issues of *Postings* have dealt with the following themes:

- bottom trawling
- individual transferable quotas (ITQs) in fisheries
- globalization (lectures by Anthony Giddens)
- food safety standards, specifically Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
- · US opinion poll on ocean issues
- historical development of fisheries science and management
- commercial shrimping in Florida
- transgenic fish/genetically modified organisms (GMOs)
- Codex Alimentarius Commission

These *Postings* were sent out to various groups and ICSF members. *Postings* has been temporarily discontinued,

pending a reorganization of content, frequency and delivery.

Multimedia Productions

During the last year, the DC produced two multimedia CDs and two videos. The first, *Indian Ocean 2001*, is an interactive CD that provides information on different aspects of the fisheries and resources of 16 countries in the Indian Ocean Region. It was produced for the Indian Ocean Conference.

The CD has an overview, in the form of an 8-minute video, of the major issues relating to the region. It also provides demographic data, socioeconomic indicators, fisheries statistics, information on fish resources, and agreements and organizations, in the form of PDF (Portable Document Format) files, photographs and dynamic graphs and maps. Also included is a section on the Indian Ocean Conference, which carries the papers presented there, a list of participants, news clippings and photographs of the conference.

Fisheries in Sub-Saharan Africa, the DC's second interactive CD, provides information on general socioeconomic factors, fishery resources, fishing communities and fishworkers, fish processing and trade, regional trade arrangements, regional fishery bodies, legislation pertaining to fisheries, and fishery access agreements for 25 countries in the West African region.

The CD contains over 400 PDF documents, over 250 still images and approximately 10 minutes of video clips, all classified under different heads. The statistical information is provided in the form of interactive maps, graphs and a database that can be printed and saved.

Smoke in the Water is a 14-minute video exposition (in English and French) on problems and prospects for developing artisanal fish trade in West Africa. It provides an overview of the issues involved, and highlights many of the concerns of the actors in the sector, while also reporting briefly on the workshop on Problems and Prospects for Developing Artisanal Fish Trade in West Africa and the West African Fair for Artisanally Processed Fish, held at Dakar, Senegal from 30 May to 3 June 2001.

As part of an exercise to document on videotape, women's contribution/roles in the fisheries in various maritime States of India, DC staff visited West Bengal, Maharashtra and Kerala. Extensive interviews with women were recorded on themes like fish drying and net weaving in West Bengal, *kolim* fisheries in Maharashtra and fish vending in Kerala. Based on that documentation, the DC produced an 18-minute video. Titled *A Step Forward*, it will be released here at the GB meeting in Maputo.

The workshop on *Gender and Coastal Fishing Communities* in Latin America held in June 2000 at Ceara, Brazil was documented on video too. Apart from the workshop, women leaders from Chile, Brazil, Peru and Mexico were interviewed on their experiences in their respective regions.

Web Interface of the Documentation Centre

The DC's database was converted to a web-based programme, so that it could be linked to the ICSF website. The complete database, updated monthly, can now be accessed at www.icsf.net. The documents in the database can be searched using multiple keywords, in English and Portuguese.

Database of Resource Persons

In order to build up its resources, the DC embarked on an exercise to compile a database of resource persons and organizations working in the field of fisheries. The exercise began in November 2001, when letters, attached with questionnaire forms, were sent out to 3,316 persons/organizations. These were culled from the list of participants of the Indian Ocean Conference, the mailing lists of SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya, members of ICSF, website links from FAO's resource page, the list of participants of the FishRights 99 Conference, a directory of NGOs and diplomatic missions in India, journals subscribed to and electronic mailing lists like Fishfolk, fishsci, MAP, etc. The 294 responses received are being analyzed.

DC Workshop

The DC organized an interactive workshop on the process of documentation, at its Chennai office, from 5 to 9 March 2001. Prof. Neelameghan, an expert in documentation using WinISIS and other utilities,

conducted the workshop. Satish Babu, IT consultant to ICSF, explained the web interface of the DC. The participants of the workshop were Cedric Pincent from the DC's French Link Centre, *Pêche et Developpement*, and Daniela Andrade, from the Portuguese Link Centre, *Nucleo de Apoio a Pesquisa sobre Populacoes Humana e Areas Umidas Brasileira (NUPAUB)*, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. The workshop analyzed the existing methods of documentation at these centres, so as to develop a common system, which would facilitate the web interface of the documentation centres. The Link Centres would follow a common system of keywording and cataloguing in WinISIS.

Following the workshop, the Portuguese Link Centre of the DC in NUPAUB has been set up, and the documents available there have been catalogued and indexed in WinISIS. This database is now available on the ICSF website. The French Link Centre could not be commissioned, because the person trained for the job quit. Efforts are on to establish the Link Centre.

Some Reflections

The past two years have been particularly busy and productive ones for the DC. In a sense, the run-up to the Indian Ocean Conference stretched the capacities of the DC part of the way to its true potential, as a result of which it enhanced its own internal resources and grew in self-assurance. It is today poised at a substantially matured position, but is far from having achieved its latent promise of becoming the centre of excellence for all knowledge and advocacy resources related to artisanal fisheries and fishworkers. That ought to be the goal of the DC for the next triennium. Already, in its methodology and ethos, the DC is evolving into a proactive, dynamic unit of information/knowledge management, generation and dissemination.

In the next triennium, it will seek to consolidate the active, dialectical and multilayered process by which input received is assimilated and transformed into a usable format, even as the very same input returns to the original source, often in an enhanced or value-added form.

CO-ORDINATION

In order to co-ordinate the above programmes, ICSF maintains two offices. The Secretariat is located in Chennai, India at what is called the Programme Co-ordination Centre and the Liaison Office is in Brussels, Belgium.

The Secretariat, which is mainly responsible for administering the various programmes as well as the day-to-day management of ICSF, comprises an Executive Secretary, a Programme Associate and support staff. The Liaison Office, which looks after the financial management and co-ordinates the Europebased activities of ICSF, has a Secretary. Members often provide voluntary inputs to programmes.

The Animation Team—the governing body of ICSF—meets every year to review the activities of the previous year, and to draw up new programmes for the following year, based on the priorities spelt out by the General Body, which meets once in a triennium. There are also programmes that are implemented through fishworker organizations and NGOs working with fishing communities. The current members of the AT are: Nalini Nayak (Co-ordinator), the late Michael Belliveau, Aliou Sall, Antonio Diegues, Alain Le Sann and the Executive Secretary, ICSF.

1 ICSF News

2

The Programme Co-ordination Centre of ICSF at Chennal continues to publish *ICSF News*, an internal newsletter begun in November 1996, to maintain communication and dialogue amongst members and friends of the ICSF network.

Evaluation of ICSF Programmes Following the decision of the 13th session of the AT, Mihir Shah of the Samaj Pragati Sahyog undertook an external evaluation of ICSF in 1999, which was done in a participatory manner. This resulted in a document titled *A Shared Vision Exercise*.

Mid-term Review of ICSF

In response to the requirements of NORAD and HIVOS, among the important funders of ICSF, for an external review, a mid-term review of ICSF was done by two persons in 2001-2002: an 'external' reviewer, Ian Bryceson of Noragric, Agricultural University of Norway, who is from Tanzania and has worked on

fisheries issues, aquaculture and marine and coastal ecology; and an 'insider' reviewer nominated by ICSF, John Kurien of the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, India, an independent social scientist who has worked on fisheries issues since 1973 and is a founder-member of ICSF. In addition to examining NORAD's and HIVOS' support to ICSF, the reviewers were requested to assess the wider question of the relevance and scope of ICSF in world fisheries today.

While strongly recommending that support be continued to ICSF, the reviewers noted that "ICSF is a unique organization that is playing a most important role of highlighting the human element in the sector in the face of increasingly imperative ecological, technoeconomic and socio-political complexities in fisheries and fisheries-related issues."

"ICSF is an indispensable voice in the context of exacerbated global trends of overfishing, encroachments on distant fish resources and interventions by industrial-scale vessels in areas important to the livelihoods and food security of poor, small-scale fishing communities. ICSF is doing an excellent job despite its small size and modest budget," the review concluded.

CONCLUSION

Trivandrum GB meeting in 1998, contributed to supporting fishing communities and fishworker organizations to resist the adverse impact of globalization, from a perspective of equitable, genderjust, self-reliant and sustainable fisheries?

This concluding overview attempts to answer that question, not in a clear-cut, unambiguous manner, but in the probing spirit of open-mindedness.

The activities of ICSF since the last GB meeting were mainly around the theme of 'valorizing'—to use an expression close to the heart of the late Michael Belliveau—the artisanal and small-scale fisheries and fishworkers, including the women in fishing communities, to make this subsector more visible, and to propose ways and means to defend their interests at the national, regional and international levels.

There were broader partnerships, perhaps for the first time, to collaborate in programmes with groups who come essentially from a non-fishery background—a sign that groups interested in agrarian, fishery and gender issues are pooling their resources to reflect on larger phenomena such as 'globalization', which have a possible impact on the life and livelihood options of rural communities in general.

Issues on trade gained some prominence in the programmes of ICSF, perhaps a reflection of the trend that an ever-increasing share of world fish production is entering the international market—certainly much more than agriculture. This was evident in:

- the West African programme that lobbied to remove barriers to regional market access to locally processed fish of small-scale women fish processors and traders;
- initiatives for ecolabelling of fish and fish products;
- the shrimp-turtle dispute in India, especially the attempts to raise awareness on the loss of access rights of poor fishers to their traditional fishing ground, denied as a result of prohibitions to protect 'charismatic' species like the olive ridley turtles; and
- advocating 'good' subsidies, while denouncing 'bad' ones, in fisheries.

In the latter three cases, a convergence of positions of ICSF and several developing countries is visible.

We can thus see new alliances, of the non-traditional type, emerging: an alliance with NGOs in other sectors to protect rural livelihoods from the adverse impacts of globalization, and an alliance with governments in developing countries to protect the sustainable fisheries interests of the South from unilateral application of Northern standards.

The relationship of the artisanal small-scale subsector with marine living resources also seems to be changing quite significantly in the recent past due to technological changes, government policy reformulations and market

forces. From the ICSF status reports on the fisheries of Ghana, Sri Lanka and India, it is quite clear that the harvest capacity of the artisanal subsector has reached unsustainable proportions. Moreover, the subsector has expanded the scope of its fishing activities to move between EEZs, adding a new dimension to its problems, and thus contributing to conflicts also at an international level.

More than ever, there is an urgent need now to consider management options, especially to see if fishworker organizations can take the cue in formulating and implementing management measures. The time has come for fishworker organizations as well as ICSF to not only talk about defending the rights of fishworkers but also to raise the most intractable issue of duties of fishworkers towards resources. Within the framework of rights and duties, it should not be difficult to lobby the international community to, once and for all, hand over the reins of fisheries resources, exclusively, to the artisanal, small-scale subsector.

FINANCIAL REVIEW: 1998-99 to 2001-02

This review by ICSF's management seeks to provide a commentary on the organization's finances for the four financial years 1998-99 to 2001-02. This corresponds to the financial years between successive full General Body Meetings (GBMs) of ICSF (more usually triennial), held at Trivandrum in February 1998 and at Maputo in June 2002. Beginning with an outline of the status of ICSF's financial systems we shall then make an analysis of its financial resources and its flows of income and of expenditure.

1

Financial Systems

Arising from the needs expressed at ICSF's GBM held at Cebu in May 1994 a study of ICSF's financial systems was carried out by an independent professional and a financial restructuring process was accordingly initiated. Some aspects of this restructuring were in place by the next triennial meeting (February 1998) while others needed to be discussed by the members.

As a result of these decisions, international accounting standards were applied to ICSF's financial accounting and reporting from the following financial year, while keeping in view the UK Charities regulations in their spirit (being not applicable directly). The upgradation of independent audit in consonance with international auditing standards was implemented after two financial years. As part of this process, internal financial procedures were clarified and a written document in this regard was finalized in February 2001, for internal use. Certain brought-forward balances needing clarification were identified and most of these were addressed by the end of the four years. This included a detailed listing of fixed assets at both Offices.

An International Finances Facility (IFF) was initiated at Brussels in order to separate the international financial flows from those of the local Office and to facilitate consolidation of ICSF's financial statements. From a long-term perspective this had the added advantage of enabling portability of the separated unit. This advantage has now been invoked by the shifting of the IFF's bookkeeping from Brussels to Chennai, as an adjunct to the Programme Co-ordination Centre there. The international banking would, however, continue to be operated from Brussels. This move is expected to address the need for timely accounting and financial reporting.

This is expected to moreover, mutually support the intention to revive a system of financial planning that was sought to be initiated around the time of the Trivandrum meeting. This should lead to a more efficient management of financial resources and be followed by greater attention to relevant issues.

2

Funds/Resources

The three key financial resources of ICSF are its Unrestricted Fund, i.e. its own resources, the Capital Fund and the Grant Balances on hand. These are depicted in the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA). Some attention may be drawn to the latter, since it is a relatively recent innovation, having been introduced in the regulations applicable to not-for-profit organizations (NPOs) in the UK and a few other countries in the last decade. This seeks to clarify the different kinds of funds of an NPO, distinguishing between them by their restrictedness, internal and external. In bringing together the balances and movements of those funds it encompasses both stocks and flows (from the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Accounts respectively).

The Unrestricted Fund has increased from €59k to €148k (Euros 59,000 to Euros 148,000) over the three years between the four time points presented in the Balance Sheet. The chief source of this accretion was some minor donations and income (as elaborated in the next section). Over the first year, however, there was a substantial decrease in this fund: the brought-forward opening balance wa:€155k in April 1998, as seen in the SoFA, and the deficit in the first year was€102k. Much of this was a result of the need to support programme and co-ordination expenditure from internal resources due to the time-lag for arranging grants for putting into effect the plans outlined in February 1998 at the Trivandrum meeting. Most of the grants from the previous triennium had been exhausted around the time of that meeting. The situation after the Maputo meeting is somewhat stronger in this regard, with extension having been arranged for some remaining portions of previous grant sanctions.

Operational capital has tended to be provided by internal resources rather than by grant advances. Though

grant instalments are intended to be disbursed in advance of their use in the concerned project, some are usually received in arrears, sometimes after a substantial time lag, as is evident from the grant receivables of around € 60-70k. These have tended to more than offset those which are received in advance: grant balances on hand may be seen to be at the same level or lower than the grant receivables. This makes it necessary to continuously invoke internal resources for smoothening the operational cash flow. The Unrestricted Fund is primarily represented by the liquid assets, around € 110k at the last two year-ends. Much of the bank balance has needed to remain in current account.

The Capital Fund is represented by net Fixed Assets, around €15-18k. Capital expenditure has been met primarily from grants, and portions of grants utilized for this purpose are transferred to the capital fund rather than being treated as income for that year. They are written-in to income over the life of the asset, parallel with depreciation. As such, depreciation does not really provide for replacement of fixed assets. This has resulted from the following of an accounting regulation that may not be always appropriate to not-for-profit organizations, particularly those of a similar grant-based character.

Income/ Contributions

In addition to grants, which constitute the major source of ICSF's income, we shall also consider here the minor donations and income and the significance of contributed services.

Some details of the grantors are brought out in the chart of grant income together with Schedule C to the financial statements, from which it is derived. Four major grantors provided 'core' support through the triennium, for programmes and co-ordination. Two of these provided about €200-300k each, together accounting for a little over 50 per cent of grant income over the four years. The other two provided around €.00 k each, together over 20 per cent (Grant income needs to be distinguished from grants received—the former refers to that portion of grant instalments received that are utilized during the year.)

Of the former, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), an agency of the Norwegian government, provided broad-based support to the several programmes in ICSF's triennial plan. The support from Humanistic Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries (HIVOS) the development funding agency based in The Netherlands, had its emphasis on ICSF's Documentation Centre and the SAMUDRA Report. The other two core grantors provided broad-based support according to the triennial plan. They are key development funding agencies based in Germany: Bread for the World and Misereor.

Two other major grantors provided support for specific programmes or events, about €100k and €50k respectively, accounting for around 15 per cent of the total grants. These were the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the development funding agency, Catholic Committee for Development (CCFD).

Smaller grants were provided by eight other grantors (including a private donation), for specific programmes/ events and totaled about €100k over the four years.

The minor donations and incomes are significant in that they accumulate into ICSF's own resources. The small financial income in the form of bank interest has tended to be supplemented by some currency exchange gains and minor donations. In the third year about €16k was written-in to income in regard to certain old brought-forward balances. In the fourth year the Unrestricted Fund was credited with semi-restricted grants of about €.7k as also a small private donation.

A vital part of ICSF's resources is constituted by contributions in kind in the form of voluntary services of its members and associates. Even though they have not been reflected in monetary terms in the financial statements, as mentioned in the notes to the latter, their significance may be gauged by the quantitative estimates of 529 and 665 person-days in respect of the first two of the four years. If converted to monetary terms, they may constitute anywhere in the region of 25-75 per cent of monetary flows, depending upon the monetary valuation attributed to a person-day.

4

Expenditure

We first look briefly at ICSF's classification of expenditure, followed by programme and coordination expenditure and briefly at capital expenditure thereafter.

ICSF follows a dual classification of its expenditure, in line with the UK Charities regulations. The natural and functional classifications analyze expenditure by 'nature' of expense and by activity (i.e. programme/ coordination) respectively. As seen in Schedule B to the financial statements, remuneration and travel are the main constituents of ICSF's activity expenditure, around 45 per cent and 25 per cent respectively during the four years. As between programmes and co-ordination, the proportion of remuneration has become approximately equal during the latter two years, i.e., after the apportionment of executives' remuneration, as compared to the first two years. As may be expected, travel costs are proportionately higher for programmes than co-ordination. As compared to remuneration costs, travel costs are higher for the former due to members and associates providing voluntary services. Costs of facilities are proportionately similar as between programmes and co-ordination. For the latter they are used primarily for the rent of the two Offices, while for the former they are concerned only with the hire of premises for occasional events, i.e. workshops/meetings. Communication and documentation costs, which have tended to become indistinguishable due to the technology, were proportionately similar as between programmes and co-ordination.

Since a detailed narrative account of programmes is carried in the first part of this Report, it need not be elaborated here. Programme-wise financial costs are provided in Schedule B to the financial statements under the same major programme heads as in the narrative account. The year-wise proportions between these may be seen in the charts. The unevenness of the trend in this regard is in large part due to the costs of the occasional events. Among the major events, mention may be made of the costs of the Indian Ocean Conference, around 60k, and the West Africa workshop and fish fair, around 97k, and the Ghana workshop, around 630k. The costs of the GBMs and associated meetings, though

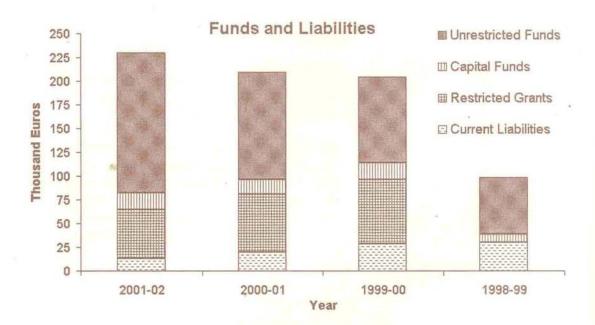
not falling strictly within the four financial years, were about €50k for the Trivandrum meetings and around € 70k (unaudited) for the Maputo meetings.

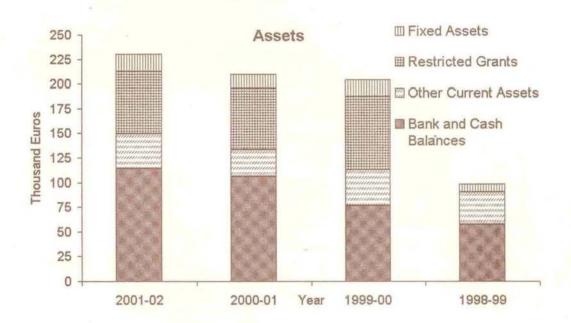
ICSF's co-ordination expenditure includes the costs of its two Offices, at Chennai and Brussels, and the costs of international co-ordination, i.e. meetings of the Animation Team and remuneration of international personnel. The total co-ordination costs tend to be reflected on the higher side. They were about 20-25 per cent of the total activity expenditure in the latter two vears after a substantial part of executives' remuneration has been apportioned to programmes in those years. However, the overheads carried by those executives continue to be fully reflected under co-ordination. On the other hand, programme costs are reflected on the lower side because a substantial part of the services forming part of programme cost are not monetarily reflected therein, being contributed voluntarily by members and associates.

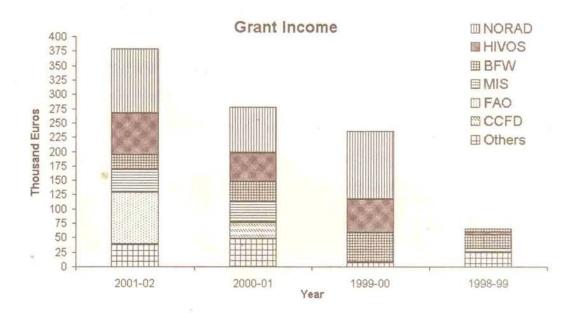
Capital expenditure is traditionally distinguished from activity (or 'revenue') expenditure, and the dual classification mentioned earlier concerns the latter only. Capital expenditure is relatively small at ICSF (see SoFA for some details), the two Offices being housed in rented premises, and its capital assets consisting primarily of computers and office equipment, with a small proportion of furniture and fixtures. The costs of website development and software are sought to be also capitalized as part of computer assets. On the other hand, vital resources of the documentation centre are presently accounted in quantitative terms only, not yet reflected in monetary terms. As mentioned in the brief discussion of Capital Fund above, capital expenditure is met primarily from grants.

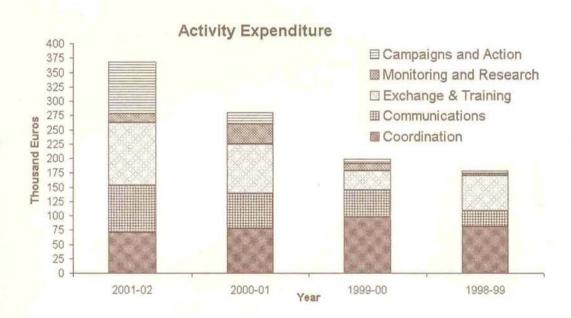
Accountability Practice

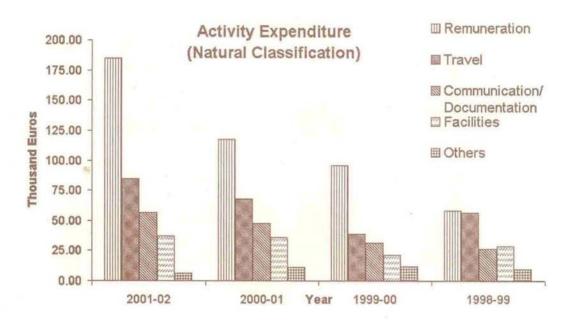
Arising from the needs of its internal democratic processes ICSF has sought the most appropriate norms of accountability practice. Some of its key systems in this regard have been voluntarily adopted and have preceded the requirements of grantors and statutory/governmental regulations. Most of its intended financial systems are now well in place or expected to be in smooth operation at an early stage in the current triennium.











SUMMARY OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ICSF

re: Summarised Accounts for four years to 31.3.02

We have examined the accompanying summarised financial statements, on pages 1 to 7, of the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) for the four years ended 31st March, 2002. The underlying financial statements from which these have been derived were prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards while keeping in view the spirit of the regulations applicable to Charities in the United Kingdom. (It may be clarified that financial statements are the responsibility of the organisation's management while the auditors' responsibility is to express an opinion thereon based on their audit/ examination.)

Our audit for the last two of the four years under report was conducted in accordance with the statements and standards on auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India while keeping in view the spirit of the International Standards on Auditing. Those standards entail the obtaining of a reasonable level of assurance by, inter alia, examinations on a test basis of supporting evidence and disclosures and by the assessment of significant estimates and judgements made by management in the preparation of the financial statements. In forming our opinion for the last two years we have relied on the work of the independent auditors of ICSF's Chennai and Brussels Offices. For the first two years we did not seek the expression of such an opinion and the financial statements were endorsed "Examined and found as per accounting records".

In our opinion the information in these summarised financial statements, read with the Notes thereon, is consistent with the underlying financial statements from which it was derived. Our Reports for each of the last two years expressed our unqualified opinion as to the true and fair view of the financial statements for those years. While so doing, they drew attention to certain notes to those financial statements (Notes 1, 2 & 4(a) hereof), whose impact was not, however, substantial enough to significantly vitiate their depiction of a true and fair view.

These concerned, firstly, the verbal understanding underlying the distinctive accounting treatment of two Semi-Restricted Grants. Written confirmation has since then been sought but no response has been received thereto. The need for a greater degree of objectivity in the system of estimation underlying the new accounting policy of apportioning executives' remuneration was the second concern. The third was the lack of clarity on the accounts of certain associates and members.

New Delhi

Dated: 20th February, 2003

Sanjay Kumar Chartered Accountant

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS p1 of 7

for the four years ended 31st March 2002

(Thousand Euros)

Total Amounts for Four Years to 31.3.02

| | Unrestricted Fund | Capital Fund | Restricted Grants | Total |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------|
| FUND MOVEMENTS | | | | |
| INCOMING RESOURCES: | | | | |
| Restricted Grants | 40 | | 972 | 972 |
| Restricted Grants for prior period | 46 | | | 46 |
| Semi-Restricted Grants | 69 | | | 6 |
| Minor Income & Donations | 69 | | | 69 |
| EXPENDITURE: | | | | |
| Programme Exp | (69) | | (638) | (707) |
| Coordination Exp | (66) | | (271) | (337) |
| Capital Exp | (4) | 37 | (39) | (5) |
| Capital write in | | (31) | | (31) |
| Expenditure for prior period | (15) | | | (15) |
| NET INCOMING RESOURCES | (34) | 7 | 25 | 2 |
| INTER-FUND TRANSFERS | 26 | 10 | (36) | 0 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | (3) | 17 | (11) | 2 |
| FUND BALANCES | | | | |
| BROUGHT FORWARD FUNDS | 140 | 1 | | 141 |
| Brought forward balances recognised | 15 | | | |
| protegnition and belanced recognition | | | | |
| CARRIED FORWARD FUNDS | 148 | 18 | (11) | 154 |
| Grant Balances on hand | | | 52 | |
| | | | | |
| Grants Receivable | | | (63) | |

Schedules A to D form an integral part of these summarised statements.

The complete versions of the annual statements are available on request.

These statements have been signed for ICSF by its present & previous Executive Secretary and by its Auditors as per their attached Report dt 20.2.03

The annual statements were signed for ICSF by its Treasurer as well as Executive Secretary/s

| BALANCE SHEET | SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS p2 of 7 | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------|--|--|
| as at four year-ends to 31st March 2002 | | (Thousa | and Euros) | | | |
| | 2002 | As at 3 2001 | 31st March 2000 | 1999 | | |
| FUNDS & LIABILITIES | | | | | | |
| UNRESTRICTED FUNDS Income & Expenditure Account balance after adjustments | 148 | 114 | 90 | 59 | | |
| CAPITAL FUNDS Contributions for capital expenditure net of depreciation | 17 | 15 | 18 | 9 | | |
| RESTRICTED GRANTS Portions of Grants received but not utilised till the year-end | 52 | 61 | 68 | - | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES Balances on short-term accounts | 13 | 20 | 29 | 30 | | |
| | 230 | 210 | 204 | 98 | | |
| ASSETS | | | | | | |
| FIXED ASSETS Net Value after deducting Accumulated Depreciation of Eu 46,150 (prev. yrs: 44,981; 35,325; 25,674) | 18 | 14 | 17 | 8 | | |
| RESTRICTED GRANTS Portions of Grants approved & utilised but not received till the year-end | 63 | 62 | 75 | _ | | |
| OTHER CURRENT ASSETS Balances on short-term accounts | 35 | 27 | 36 | 32 | | |
| BANK & CASH BALANCES | 114 | 106 | 77 | 58 | | |
| | 230 | 210 | 204 | 98 | | |

Schedules A to D form an integral part of these summarised statements.

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INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

SUMMARISED ACCTS p3 of 7

| INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT | SUMINIARISED ACC 13 ps of 7 | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------|---------|--------|-------|--|--|
| for the four years ended 31st March 2002 | 2 | (Thousand Euros) | | | | | |
| | Four Years | Yea | r ended | 31st M | arch | | |
| | Total | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 | | |
| INCOME | | | | | | | |
| SPECIFIC GRANTS UTILISED Grants for specific purposes utilised for Activity expenditure | 904 | 365 | 271 | 199 | 68 | | |
| MINOR DONATIONS & INCOME | | | | | | | |
| Financial Income | 23 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 9 | | |
| Minor Donations & Income | 45 | 13 | 30 | 1 | 0 | | |
| CAPITAL WRITE-IN | 35 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 5 | | |
| | 1,007 | 390 | 313 | 222 | 82 | | |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | | | | |
| PROGRAMMES | 700 | 298 | 203 | 101 | 98 | | |
| Campaigns & Action, Monitoring & Research, Exchange & Training, Communications | | | | | | | |
| COORDINATION Expenses of Brussels & Chennai Offices; Animation Team & other International Coordination | 326 | 70 | 77 | 98 | 81 | | |
| DEPRECIATION | 35 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 5 | | |
| | 1,062 | 379 | 290 | 209 | 184 | | |
| SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT) | (55) | 11 | 23 | 13 | (102) | | |

Schedules A to D form an integral part of these summarised statements.

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The annual statements were signed for ICSF by its Treasurer as well as Executive Secretary/s

for the four years ended 31st March 2002

(Thousand Euros)

| Sch A. ACTIVITY EXPENDITURE | | (FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION) | | | | | |
|---|------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------|------|--|--|
| | Four Years | Year | ended | 31st M | arch | | |
| Activity | Total | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 | | |
| CAMPAIGNS & ACTION | 123 | 90 | 20 | 9 | 5 | | |
| Lobbying & Responses | 24 | 8 | 12 | 2 | 2 | | |
| Rio+10 | 8 | 2 | | 5 | 1 | | |
| SDFMeeting | 15 | 15 | | 0 | (| | |
| Coalition for Fair Fisheries Agreements | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0 | (| | |
| Indian Ocean Seminar | 63 | 58 | 4 | 2 | (| | |
| UNCED Follow-up | 0 | | | | (| | |
| FAO Follow-up | 1 | | | | 9 | | |
| Gear Selectivity | 1 | | | | | | |
| MONITORING & RESEARCH | 68 | 16 | 36 | 12 | 4 | | |
| State of World Fisheries | 29 | 7 | 15 | 7 | | | |
| Crisis in World Fisheries | 3 | | | 3 | | | |
| Artisanal Fisheries Zone | 21 | 1 | 20 | 1 | | | |
| F'Wkrs' Soc Security & Subsidies | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | |
| Evaluation | 12 | 8 | | 1 | 4 | | |
| EXCHANGE & TRAINING | 290 | 109 | 8,6 | 33 | 62 | | |
| Women in Fisheries | 89 | 10 | 49 | 13 | 16 | | |
| West Africa Trade | 138 | 97 | 22 | 19 | | | |
| Contacts in Europe | 17 | 2 | 15 | 0 | | | |
| Contacts in ICSF | 1 | | | 1 | | | |
| Contacts in Africa | 13 | | | | 13 | | |
| Ghana Workshop | 32 | | | | 3 | | |
| COMMUNICATIONS | 218 | 83 | 61 | 47 | 2 | | |
| Samudra Reports/ Dossiers | 121 | 38 | 39 | 28 | 11 | | |
| Documentation Centre | 97 | 45 | 22 | 19 | 1 | | |
| PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE | 700 | 298 | 203 | 101 | 98 | | |
| COORDINATION | 326 | 70 | 77 | 98 | 8 | | |
| International Coordination | 151 | 33 | 32 | 48 | 3 | | |
| Brussels Office | 84 | 15 | 21 | 25 | 2 | | |
| Chennai Office | 91 | 21 | 24 | 25 | 2 | | |
| DEPRECIATION | 35 | 11 | 10 | 10 | | | |
| ACTIVITY EXPENDITURE | 1,062 | 379 | 290 | 209 | 18 | | |

SCHEDULES

SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS p5 of 7

for the four years ended 31st March 2002

(Thousand Euros)

| Sch B. ACTIVITY EXPENDITURE | (NATURAL CLASSIFICATION) | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| Activity | Four Years Total | Yea 2002 | ended 2001 | 31st M 2000 | arch 1999 | | | |
| PROGRAMMES | 472 | 70 | 203 | 101 | 98 | | | |
| Remuneration | 177 | 35 | 87 | 36 | 19 | | | |
| Travel | 135 | 11 | 58 | 26 | 40 | | | |
| Communication/ Documentation | 81 | 11 | 34 | 22 | 15 | | | |
| Facilities | 55 | 9 | 20 | 9 | 17 | | | |
| Other | 25 | 4 | 4 | 9 | 7 | | | |
| COORDINATION | 554 | 298 | 77 | 98 | 81 | | | |
| Remuneration | 280 | 150 | 30 | 60 | 39 | | | |
| Travel | 113 | 73 | 10 | 13 | 17 | | | |
| Communication/ Documentation | 80 | 45 | 13 | 10 | 12 | | | |
| Facilities | 68 | 28 | 16 | 12 | 11 | | | |
| Other | 14 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 3 | | | |
| TOTAL | 1026 | 368 | 280 | 199 | 179 | | | |

SCHEDULES

SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS p6 of 7

for the four years ended 31st March 2002

(Thousand Euros)

Total for Four Years

| Sch | 0 | CI | D A | NIT | AC | 00 | LIN | TC |
|-----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|
| OUL | U. | GI | M | 1/1 | MU | CU | On | 110 |

| | | Balance | Received | Utilised | Balance |
|--|--|---------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| Grantor | Purpose | 1.4.98 | Total for F | our Years | 31.3.02 |
| MAJOR GRANTS | | | | | |
| Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Norway | Triennium programmes | | 301 | 316 | -14 |
| Humanistic Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries (HIVOS), The Netherlands | Triennium programmes | -35 | 249 | 188 | 27 |
| Bread for the World (BFW) Germany | Lobby work for small fishworkers | | 99 | 136 | -37 |
| Bischofliche Hilfswerk MISEREOR, Germany | Triennium programmes | -11 | 83 | 84 | -12 |
| Food & Agricultural Organisation, Italy | W. Africa: workshop & fishfair | | 100 | 92 | 9 |
| Comite Catholique contre la Faim et pour le Developpement (CCFD), France | Women in fisheries Indian Ocean conference & prepn | | 52 | 52 | |
| (OOI D), Hailed | conterence a prepri | -46 | 885 | 866 | -28 |
| OTHER GRANTS | | | | | |
| Development & Peace, Canada | W. Africa: fish trade | | 42 | 31 | 10 |
| | Indian Ocean conference | | 23 | 22 | 10 |
| Commonwealth Foundation, UK | indian Ocean conference | | 5000 | 22 | |
| Christian Aid, UK Fondation Charles Leopold Mayer pour le Progres de l'Homme (FPH), France | Semi-Restricted | | 22 18 | 22 | |
| Private Donation | Semi-Restricted; EU work | < | 11 | 6 | |
| UK Food Group, UK | | | 8 | 8 | |
| Comite Nationale de Cooperation au Developpment, Belgium | | | 6 | 6 | |
| Entraide et Fratemite, Belgium | Yemaya | | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| World-Wide Fund for Nature, UK | | | 2 | 2 | |
| UK Government | | | 2 | 2 | |
| | | -46 | 1,024 | 965 | -11 |
| GRANTBALANCES: | | | | | 127-171 |
| Balances on hand | | | | | 52 |
| Balances receivable | | | | | -63 |

for the four years ended 31st March, 2002

Sch D. NOTES

(These Notes form part of the financial statements & concern the quality of information therein)

1. Semi-Restricted Grants

In the last of the four years two grants (totalling 18,276) were treated as contributions to ICSF's Unrestricted Fund and the related expenditure met therefrom. This was based on the understanding that the grant restrictions were concerned only with the specified output and not with the financial expenditure to be incurred for the same. The Note to the annual financial statements drew attention to the then verbal understanding between ICSF and the grantor. Written confirmation has since been sought but no response has been received to the same. The formal Agreement does not carry any mention concerning restrictions on expenditure.

2. Executives' Remuneration & Programme/ Coordination Expenditure

A greater degree of objectivity is needed in the system of estimation that forms the basis of the apportionment of executives' remuneration to programmes and coordination. This apportionment enables a fairer depiction of the true costs of programmes and coordination. The change in accounting policy has been put into effect since the third of the four years: earlier such remuneration had been fully included under coordination. To this extent the comparability of the relevant expenditure figures is also reduced.

3. Contributed Services

The Income & Expenditure Account does not reflect a monetary value attributed to contributions in kind received by the organisation in terms of voluntary services from members, executives and others. Had it been so reflected it would have added to both income and expenditure sides, changing the proportions within each side but not affecting the resultant net deficit/ surplus. For the first two of the four years estimates were provided in quantitative terms (529 and 665 person-days respectively) in the Notes to the financial statements, in keeping with the spirit of the Charities regulations in the United Kingdom.

4. Clarification of certain brought-forward balances

The needs for clarification of certain brought-forward balances were mentioned in the Notes to the four annual financial statements. Most of these have been addressed over the four years. (a) Certain balances on the accounts of members and other associates were mentioned as doubtful or pending the availability of supporting documents. At the end of the fourth year there were two such debit balances, of about \$\, 5,000\$ each and one such credit balance, of about \$\, 2,000\$. (b) A detailed physical verification of fixed assets was incorporated in the accounts in the fourth year. The resulting write-off, concerning discarded or un-usable assets, was a small one in terms of net value but significant in gross terms (around \$\, 10,000\$), ie at original cost and accumulated depreciation. (c) During the third year, old Suppliers' balances of \$\, 15,970\$ were written-in to income. These had been ascertained to be not due and had not been claimed or otherwise moved since being brought forward in April 1998.

5. Translation into Euros from US Dollars

The figures for the first of the four years, which was originally accounted in US Dollars, have been translated into Euros at the year-end rate ($_1.00 = 1.0742$). This rate has been uniformly applied to both balances and flows to avoid the depiction of gains/ losses not present in the original.

6. Registration of the Organisation

ICSF is a not-for-profit organisation registered in Geneva, Switzerland in 1987 under Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code. Its Programme Coordination Centre is situated in Chennai, India and a Liaison Office at Brussels, Belgium. Its international financial operations are also based at Brussels, in the form of an International Finances Facility.

7. The complete versions of ICSF's financial statements are available on request.

APPENDIX 1

ICSF Participation in other Meetings between 1998-1999 and 2001-2002

WTO Symposium of NGOs on Trade, Environment and Sustainable Development

Sebastian Mathew represented ICSF at this Symposium. The ICSF submission focused on the need for looking at the social aspects of fisheries subsidies and cautioned against ecolabelling initiatives like the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) that are non-consultative and North-driven in character.

Second London Oceans Workshop

Representing ICSF, Sebastian Mathew participated in the Second London Ocean Workshop and presented a paper, Pressure Points Arising from Maritime Activities in the Wider Seas-an NGO Perspective. It addressed issues such as offshore fishing pressures, shipping, oil and gas exploration, and exploitation and exploration of seabed minerals. It argued that unless effective and integrated policy regimes are developed and implemented in consultation with all stakeholders, it may not be possible to meaningfully address the issues arising from the use and exploitation of the oceans' resources. It concluded that while national governments are often very efficient at promoting revenue-earning activities, they are woefully inadequate when it comes to revenue-expending activities like natural resources management.

Conference on Creating a Sea Change. Resolving the Global Fisheries Crisis.

Sebastian Mathew attended this conference, organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), at Lisbon, Portugal, from 14 to 15 September 1998. He was a panelist in Panel IV: Overcapacity and Fisheries Subsidies.

Workshop on Fisheries and Globalization

ICSF, represented by Chandrika Sharma, participated in this workshop organized as part of the Forum on Land, Food Security and Agriculture during the Asia-Pacific People's Assembly (APPA) held between 10 and 15 November 1998 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The need to strengthen women's spaces in the artisanal fisheries sector as a conscious strategy to resist globalization processes that undermine the livelihood base of fishing communities, was stressed.

Forum for Sustainable Fisheries

Sebastian Mathew represented ICSF at the Fifth Development Donor Consultation from 22 to 24 February, 1999, during which there was a session on the Forum for Sustainable Fisheries. ICSF was critical of the role of the World Bank, given that the main investments have been in infrastructure development and building up capacity. It also commented on the limited support given by the World Bank to the fisheries sector, in comparison with the forestry sector. ICSF also highlighted the importance of building the capacity of governments, fishworkers and other civil society organizations in ways that would enable them to bring about the necessary institutional changes so that the problems of fisheries management can be more meaningfully addressed.

Conflicts in Asian Fisheries: Visible Consequences and Latent Causes

Sebastian Mathew made a presentation on the above theme to the World Humanities Action Trust (WHAT) Fisheries Resources Commission at Trivandrum on 28 March 1999.

1999-2000

DPHMeeting

Chandrika Sharma participated in an eight-day meeting organized by the Dialogues pour le progrés de l'humanité (DPH) in Ivory Coast. The meeting was to discuss the computer-based methodology developed by the DPH for putting information into a 'standardized' computer database.

International Seminaron Food Safety and Agricultural Protection Towards the 21st Century

Sebastian Mathew participated in this seminar. He made a presentation on WTO and Fisheries.

Conference on Indian Ocean

Sebastian Mathew, representing ICSF, participated in the conference on the Indian Ocean organized by the Maritime Museum of Freemantle, Australia in November 1999. This conference was held back-to-back to the FishRights Conference of FAO. The participation in this conference was in preparation for the Indian Ocean Conference of ICSF.

Task Force Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)

ICSF, represented by Chandrika Sharma, participated in the meeting of the APWLD Task Force on Rural and Indigenous Women (TF-RIW) in January 2000. At this meeting, a proposal to organize a workshop on Globalization and Fisheries in Southeast Asia in early 2001 was mooted. A small working group was formed to further discuss the organization of the workshop. ICSF was also a member of that working group.

2000-2001

Workshopon Gender, Globalization and Fisheries

ICSF members, Nalini Nayak, Cristina Maneschy and Chantal Abord-Hugon, as well as Chandrika Sharma from the ICSF Secretariat, participated in the Workshop on *Gender*; *Globalization and Fisheries*, organized in May 2000 by Barbara Neis of the Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada, with the active support of ICSF. The workshop in Canada was seen as a continuation of the processes set in motion by the ICSF-organized workshop in Senegal in 1996, and of the Women in Fisheries programme of ICSF. Women fishworkers from Atlantic Canada, as well as academics and NGOs working on gender and fisheries issues from countries of the North and South, participated at this meeting. A special issue of *Yemaya* on Atlantic Canada was one of the outcomes of that meeting.

EU-Workshop: Policy Options for the Sustainable Use of Coral Reefs and Associated Coastal Ecosystems

Sebastian Mathew participated in this workshop from 19 to 22 June 2000 and made a presentation, titled Sustainable Fishing in the Coral Reefs: Social Dimensions, discussing social factors that contribute to the destruction and conservation of coral reefs. A key point raised was that dynamite fishing, especially in the Pacific, is often resorted to by landless peasants who use such irresponsible fishing methods due to poverty and unemployment. For the protection of coral reefs, in addition to Northern countries reducing emission of sulphur oxides that contribute to the greenhouse effect and coral bleaching, land reforms in countries like the Philippines and Indonesia are important prerequisites, it was argued. Granting of ownership rights to communities was also suggested as a means to protect coral reefs, citing the example of healthy reefs under the control of Seventh Day Adventist Church in the Solomon Islands, South Pacific.

Asialink-Interdoc-INFID Workshop on Information and Communication Technologies

Omkar G. Krishnan attended the Asialink-Interdoc-INFID Workshop on Information and Communication Technologies, NGOs and Developing Countries at Jakarta, from 19 to 23 July 2000. The workshop dealt with secure networking and communication, wireless networking, developing Internet information services like discussion groups and web-based networking strategies. It also stressed the need to popularise free software like GNU/Linux.

Fisheries Management in Maharashtra

ICSF, represented by Chandrika Sharma, participated in a meeting organized by the Maharashtra unit of the NFF on fisheries management, in July 2000. This brought together fishworkers, scientists and bureaucrats from Central and State government agencies familiar with the situation in Maharashtra. The meeting was significant, since it was one of the first initiatives to discuss management organized by fishworkers in India.

Constituent Assembly of the WFF

Several members and staff of ICSF participated in the WFF meeting in Loctudy from 2 to 6 October 2000, including Michael Belliveau, Aliou Sall, Cornelie Quist, Brian O'Riordan, Sebastian Mathew and Chandrika Sharma. Alain le Sann was part of the committee that organized the meeting.

Training Workshop on Website Creation, Development and Maintenance

Ramya Rajagopalan of the DC attended the Training Workshop on Website Creation, Development and Maintenance, organized by Environment Support Group, Bangalore and OneWorld South Asia, in Bangalore, from 18 to 21 January 2001. The workshop focused on the basics of HTML, content writing, and uploading and general maintenance of websites.

Bangkok International Round Table for Trade Unions, Social Movements and Non-governmental Organizations

Sebastian Mathew participated in the Round Table for Trade Unions, Social Movements and Non-Governmental Organizations, organized by Focus on Global South and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) in Bangkok from 11 to 14 March 2001. The invitation to participate in this Round Table was basically with the objective of understanding the impact of globalization on the working class.

2001-2002

GOI-UNDP Sea Turtle Project: National Workshop

ICSF, represented by Sebastian Mathew, participated in the National Workshop of the GOI-UNDP Sea Turtle Project, organized in Bhubhaneshwar, Orissa, India on 9 and 10 April 2001. The participation in this very useful workshop was to better understand the interface between environment and livelihood concerns in relation to turtle mortality in bottom trawls and gill-nets in a fishing area located in the poorest State of India. Subsequent to this visit, a paper was produced, titled Shell Out: the Shrimp-Turtle Dispute at WTO: Conserving Sea Turtles and Protecting Livelihoods. The paper, while highlighting the usefulness of transparent conservation and management measures, cautioned against a singlespecies agenda for protection and conservation, and argued how counterproductive it could be if adopted in isolation in a multispecies, multicultural context with numerous fishing gear and fishing methods and with varying dependence on the fishery for life and livelihood. It highlighted the importance of adopting an ecosystem-based approach to conservation and management of marine living resources.

Task Force Meeting of the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWID)

ICSF, represented by Chandrika Sharma, participated in the meeting of the APWLD Task Force on Rural and Indigenous Women (TF-RIW) in April 2001 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Project Workshop: Globalization and Seafood Trade Legislation -The Effect of Poverty in India

Sebastian Mathew participated in a meeting organized by the Project: Globalization and Seafood Trade Legislation: The Effect of Poverty in India. The meeting was organized on 21 and 22 June in Vishakapatnam, India by the South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS), Natural Resources Institute, UK and the Catalyst Management Services, Bangalore. He gave a presentation on WTO and fisheries.

Round-table Meeting on Fisheries and Development

Brian O'Riordan represented ICSF at this meeting, organized by the European Commission, on 7 July 2001, intended to assist the review of the fisheries relationships between the EU and developing countries.

FISHGOVFOOD

Chandrika Sharma represented ICSF at the first seminar of the FISHGOVFOOD network in Amsterdam, on 3 and 4 September 2001. The network is co-ordinated by Dr. Maarten Baavinck of MARE, Netherlands Institute for the Social Sciences. The network aims to produce a new interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach to the governance of natural and human resources systems in the field of fisheries and food security, with special reference to the circumstance of coastal developing countries.

Andbra Pradesh Coastal Artisanal Fishuvorkers' Meet

Sebastian Mathew participated in this meet, which was conducted by United Fishermen's Association, Boddu Chinna Venkataya Palem village, Andhra Pradesh, in association with the Forum for Integrated Rural Management (FIRM) on 10 and 11 November 2001. This meet was conducted to discuss issues facing the artisanal fishing communities all along the coast of

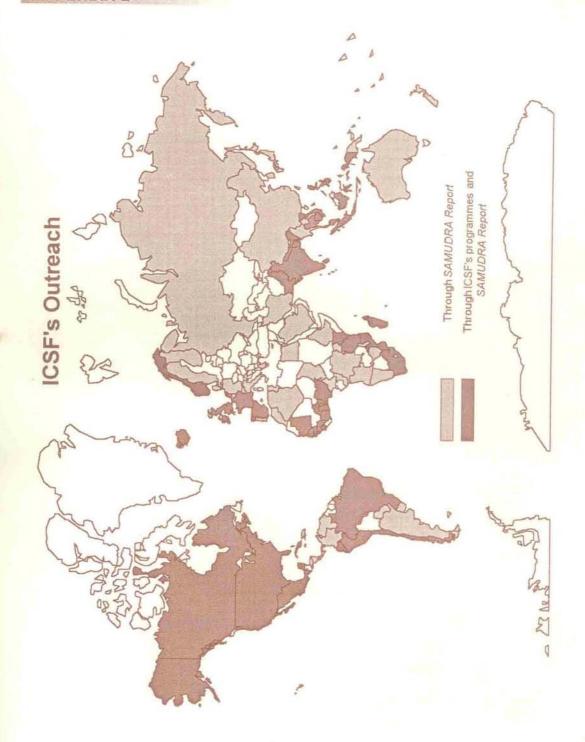
Andhra Pradesh, India in order to raise awareness of those issues amongst development agencies.

World Trade Organization (WTO) and Fisheries

Sebastian Mathew participated as a resource person in the one-day brainstorming session on *WTO and Fisheries* on 7 February 2002, organized by the Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai, India, and gave a presentation on issues of concern to India in relation to WTO rules.

Consultation on Food Security

This consultation was organized by the Tamil Nadu Women's Forum, India on 27 and 28 March 2002, in preparation for the World Food Summit in Rome in June 2002. Chandrika Sharma participated and made a presentation on various aspects related to women, fisheries and food security.



LIST OF MEMBERS

REGULAR MEMBERS

Abdus M SABUR Thailand

Alain Le SANN France

Aliou SALL Senegal

Amegavie KOBLA Togo

Antonio Carlos DIEGUES Brazil

Cornelie QUIST Netherlands

Hector Luis MORALES Chile

Hernan Peralta BOURONCLE Peru

James SMITH UK

John KURIEN India

Michael BELLIVEAU (the late) Canada

Nalini NAYAK India

Nenita CURA Philippines

Pierre GILLET Belgium

Pisit CHARNSNOH Thailand
Virgilio CRISTOBAL Philippines

V. VIVEKANANDAN India

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Anna-Rosa Martinez I PRAT Spain

Chantal ABORD-HUGON Canada

David ELI Ghana

Gunnar ALBUM Norway

Kaningini MWENYIMAL Burundi

Mama-yawa SANDOUNO Guinea

Maria Cristina MANESCHY Brazil

Nathanael MARANHAO Brazil

Réne Pierre CHEVER France

René SCHARER Brazil

ANIMATION TEAM (1999-2002)

Nalini NAYAK, (Co-ordinator) India

Michael BELLIVEAU (the late) Canada

Aliou SALL Senegal

Alain le SANN France

Antonio Carlos DIEGUES Brazil

ICSF AUDITOR

Sanjay KUMAR India

ICSF STAFF

(as on 31 March 2002)

CHENNAI OFFICE

Sebastian MATHEW Executive Secretary
Chandrika SHARMA Programme Associate

Ramya R Programme Associate (Documentation)

Pamela GORDON Office Secretary

Joice CHRISTIANA Executive Assistant

Karthegheyan K Office Assistant

Kumaran S Office Assistant (Documentation)

Andal K Caretaker

BRUSSELS OFFICE

Brian O' RIORDAN Secretary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All Members of ICSF have expended great amounts of time and energy for the different activities of the organization, often in a purely voluntary fashion and going far beyond the call of duty. To all of them, ICSF owes unending gratitude.

We would also like to thank the following persons for their invaluable help with the various programmes of ICSF:

- Sanjay Kumar (auditor and financial advisor, ICSF) for auditing and financial advisory services including policy contribution.
- Clothilde de Jamblinne for documentation at the Brussels Office;
- Beatrice Gorez for translation and other help;
- Gildas Le Bihan for translating SAMUDRA Report, Yemaya and other reports into French;
- Aida Martinez I Prat and Anna-Rosa Martinez I Prat for helping translate SAMUDRA Report and Yemaya into Spanish;
- K G Kumar for editing SAMUDRA Report and advisory assistance to the Documentation Centre;
- N Venugopalan for his advisory services to the Documentation Centre;
- Luz Pisua and Sebastian Losada for help with translation and logistics;
- Satish Babu and the InApp team for all assistance related to ICSF's website development, multimedia productions and other timely professional technical inputs;
- V Anatharaman for auditing the accounts (1998-99 to 2000-01) of the Chennai office;
- S Sridharan for auditing the accounts (2001-02) of the Chennai office;
- Pierre Tuerlings for voluntary audit of accounts (1998-99 to 2000-01) at Brussels office; and
- Alain De Clercq for auditing the accounts (2001-02) of the Brussels office.

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES 1998-1999 to 2001-2002

ICSF is an international NGO working on issues that concern fishworkers the world over. It is in status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN and is on ILO's Special List of Non-Governmental International Organization. It also has Liaison Status with FAO. Registered in Geneva, ICSF has offices in Chennai, India and Brussels, Belgium. As a global network of community organizers, teachers, technicians, researchers and scientists, ICSF's activities encompass monitoring and research, exchange and training, campaigns and action, as well as communications.

