CEPAL
Economic Commission for Latin America

Meeting of Government-Nominated Experts
to Review the Draft Action Plan for the
Wider Caribbean Region

Caracas, Venezuela, 28 January-1 February 1980

REPORT
OBSERVATIONS BY THE FRENCH DELEGATION ON THE TEXT OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING OF GOVERNMENT-NOMINATED EXPERTS TO REVIEW THE DRAFT ACTION PLAN FOR THE WIDER CARIBBEAN REGION


"Part One:
- Paragraph 15: The exact text of the French statement should read:
  "The representative of France stated that, in the absence and expectation of an adequate French text, she was formulating a blanket reservation as regards the English text submitted to the participants and requested that this should be placed on record."

"Part Two:
- Paragraph 21: The paragraph is too brief in its summary of the statements of the delegations who considered as a group that the project gave too high a priority to the "assessment" aspect to the detriment of environmental management and the development aspect.
- Paragraph 24: This paragraph will only be acceptable when the requested amendments to the text and structure of the Action Plan are incorporated in it (cf. Part Three).
- Paragraph 25 (f): The Spanish and English versions differ noticeably. Although I cannot judge the wording of the English text, it seems closer to the thread of the discussion. I do think, however, that the last sentence should read: "...no general outlines for institutional arrangements should be finalized until the specific information was available".

"Part Three:
- Preamble - No comments.
- Introduction - No comments.
- Section II:
  The title: It was decided to maintain the title "Environmental management and assessment" (and not the reverse order).

/Footnote: No
Footnote: No comments, but since this was an important decision by the meeting aimed at giving priority to environmental management over assessment, which should not be considered as an end in itself but as a tool and an element for diagnosis, this should appear in paragraph 25 of Part Two between (g) and (h). This would mean removing the distinction between A and B and the general structure of the Action Plan document would be as follows:

Following paragraph 10: insert paragraphs 32, 33 and 34.

Following paragraph 12: insert paragraph 35

These individual paragraphs also give rise to some comments referring to the English text which served as a working basis for the meeting:

- Paragraph 9, line 7: The text maintained was: "...inability of overutilized resources and degraded ecosystems...".

  Line 10: Delete systematic in "includes the systematic descriptions".

- Paragraph 10, line 5: "...marshes, mangroves, coastal lakes, rivers..." (add coastal).

- Paragraph 13, section 3, line 1: The word "monitoring" was deleted, and the text thus read:
  "...identification of existing and potential direct and indirect effects..."

- Paragraph 27: Delete the last phrase and end with "by human activities".

- Paragraph 36 (b) should read: "Promotion and co-ordination of existing national, subregional and regional plans to control pollution caused by the hydrocarbons, bearing in mind the work undertaken by organizations already participating in this effort."

/ Paragraph 38
- Paragraph 38 (b) should read: "Harmonization of policies and practices to ensure rational utilization of coastal and deep sea artisanal fisheries on a sustainable basis."

- Section IV: Supporting measures.
- Paragraph 53, line 3: Replace "...is to be found in" by "is".
- Paragraph 57, line 1: Add "small" so as to read: "A small regional co-ordinating unit..."."