DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

1977/78

SOUTH PACIFIC BUREAU FOR
ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION
The Chairman
SPEC Committee

DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT - 1977/78

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1977/78 to the SPEC Committee for approval and transmission to the South Pacific Forum as required under the terms of Article V of the Agreement establishing the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation.

2. In accordance with normal practice I am concurrently circulating the report to member governments.

SUVA
4 August 1978

M U Tupouniua
Director
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INTRODUCTION

In the concluding paragraph of my first Annual Report covering the period 1973/74 I made this observation; SPEC's Work Programme covered a wide range of activities and although SPEC had not actively sought to widen its sphere of activities we recognised that there were certain tasks that must naturally find their way into our work programme. The situation, in turn, highlighted the fact that in advancing the cause of regional economic co-operation there was no easy or precise formula for success. There were many issues to be resolved and many important steps that had to be taken to achieve an overall strengthening of Pacific island economies and, ultimately, a closer integration of the South Pacific region. It was SPEC's role to encourage the co-operative effort of the region in that direction. SPEC had been in operation 15 months then.

2. In my Annual Report for 1976/77 I made this observation in the introductory paragraph; SPEC had established a place for itself in the region, that its personnel and its work were well known to the governments of its members and that it was housed in permanent head­quarters which should be a source of pride to its members as much as it was an asset to the host country. SPEC had perhaps tackled most of the hard problems of regional co-operation which had frustrated the region for more than a decade. I then went on to pose a few key questions on emphasis and then wondered whether these were still the correct points of focus for the Bureau. I suggested it was time to take stock. That was 4½ years following SPEC's establishment.

3. This is my fifth and final Annual Report. Many things have happened in the five years. As with previous Annual Reports this one
fulfills my obligation to report annually to the Forum through the SEEC Committee on the work of the organisation over the past 12 months.

4. As this is the last time I shall have the honour of laying before the SPEC Committee and the Forum an account of my stewardship, a new section, Part IV, has been added to give a perspective of the first five years of SPEC and the Forum. I hope I may be permitted to comment briefly where appropriate on SPEC's role as a regional organisation against the background of experience in the intervening period.

5. Highlights of the period under review were:

- Signing of Memorandum of Understanding of Pacific Forum Line and establishment of PFL office in Apia, Western Samoa.


- Accession by 7 member countries to Memorandum of Understanding of PFL by July 1978 bringing Agreement into effect 20 August 1978.

- Provisional agreement by potential member governments of Draft Convention establishing South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation for tabling at Niue Forum in September 1978.
Approval by the EEC of first regional aid fund allocations for the Telecommunications Training Centre in Suva of 1.5 million units of account (u.a.)* and regional Telecommunications network project of 4.3 million u.a.

Formal opening in July 1978 of negotiations between the ACP and EEC countries for successor arrangements to the Lome Convention.

First contributions made to Solomon Islands and Tonga of F$10,000 each from Regional Natural Disaster Relief Fund following severe earthquake damage in both countries.

Regional Sugar Agreement extended for further three years and use of PFL for carriage of sugar.

Agreement in principle to establishment of Regional Airlines Association.

Completion and distribution of Commonwealth Secretariat/SPEC study into Industrial Development and Trade Relations in the Pacific.

SPEC Fellowship Scheme became fully operational.

Preliminary contact established between Forum and ASEAN countries.

Completion of Jeppesen Report on Tourism.

* 1 u.a. = F$1.082 (as of February 1978)
6. Economic trends over recent years have continued during the period under review. The western industrialised countries continue to face trade deficits, falling value in international currencies and high unemployment levels. There has been generally a temporary check in oil price increases which has helped to ease inflation in some industrialised countries.

7. Good rates of economic growth have continued in some Asian countries. In Australia inflation continued to subside but economic growth appears to have been negative with consequently high unemployment levels. Her trade surplus continued to decline causing concern over the balance of payments situation. New Zealand continues to be faced with economic problems of negative growth, high inflation, balance of payments deficits and high unemployment. Not all the causes of these problems appear to be of a short-term or cyclical nature.

8. Most island member countries continued to experience serious balance of trade deficits although currency stability in the region continued. An increasing part of development investment in island countries is financed from aid sources. Major aid increases were made by Australia. The pattern of aid inputs to the region change significantly with several new donors entering the field. Inflation both of imported and domestic origin, and the low level of economic activity continued to persist. Employment creation has become a priority for most member countries.

9. Continued implementation of the ACP/EEC Convention of Lome resulted in benefits to Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa through the STAI provisions of the Convention, plus further potential grant
aid through new membership in the case of Papua New Guinea and by association for the Gilbert Islands, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. With the attainment of independence by some member countries and their likely accession to the Lome Convention, further additional assistance is expected to flow into the region.

10. On the political front, the Solomon Islands attained Independence on 7 July 1978. Tuvalu has set 1 October 1978 as the date for Independence. Several member countries held general elections. Fiji, Niue and Papua New Guinea saw their ruling parties returned to Government. Gilbert Islands saw the election of a new Chief Minister and the Cook Islands and Nauru underwent changes in Government.

11. Some Forum Leaders participated in the first Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting (CHOGRM) in Sydney. SPEC, at the request of the Commonwealth Secretariat, produced a paper on the Special Problems of Small States for CHOGRM. The summit gave further recognition that island states have special problems apart from the more general problems of under-development experienced by most developing countries. Programmes were initiated in the areas of trade, energy, drugs and terrorism.

12. Overall the level of international activity in the region through conferences, meetings, visits, missions (both into and out of the region) and correspondence mounted. Island governments showed a clear interest in becoming more involved in world affairs and the international community responded with an upsurge of interest and activity.
PART I : WORK PROGRAMME

(a) REGIONAL TRADE, TRADE PROMOTION AND MARKETING

- General

13. In the year under review SPEC has endeavoured to maintain its previous level of practical marketing assistance while increasing its involvement in trade policy matters such as trade negotiation access and international trade negotiations.

- Trade Promotion

14. The SPEC Trade and Marketing Officer has given marketing assistance to individual businessmen through assessing and locating potential markets, suggesting pricing, recommending promotional methods, packaging, and distribution for a variety of products and produce. As many countries are not in a position to maintain overseas trade representation this service appears to provide assistance. Nevertheless there are distinct limits to what one officer based in Suva can achieve when the major thrust for trade expansion continues to be in the direction of Australia and New Zealand and other countries around the Pacific Basin.

15. Australia and New Zealand continue to give assistance to SPEC in developing markets in their countries on a case by case basis and both CFTC and ESCAP have responded to requests in this area. SPEC continues to believe that island manufacturers and potential exporters remain at a substantial disadvantage in their efforts at developing export markets. New and imaginative efforts need to be made in giving practical assistance to island entrepreneurs.
16. Early consideration needs to be given to a more effective system of representation in the markets themselves. Visiting businessmen need a base for operations and access to marketing expertise to feel confident there will be follow-up after they have left. The Australian and New Zealand Trade Commission services have shown the value of this kind of presence. The New Zealand Export-Import Corporation provides a particular service to New Zealand businessmen in Sydney. SPEC has made contact with the New Zealand Export-Import Corporation to explore the possibility of the company providing similar assistance to businessmen from the Pacific. While they would be willing to set up a Pacific Trade Centre in Auckland SPEC has so far been unsuccessful in raising the necessary finance for mounting such a service.

- Export Incentives

17. Another aspect of export marketing which could receive attention from governments is the question of export incentives. The export incentive schemes of Australia and New Zealand have facilitated export efforts of these countries in the region but no island country has been able to mount a counterpart scheme. While incentives such as taxation relief and suspensory loans are actions which national governments would have to take, consideration might be given to setting up a regional fund, financed from aid sources, for subsidising market development visits, trade missions and promotional activities of Island businessmen in their export activities.

- Generalised System of Preferences (GSP)

18. Problems mentioned in last year's Report relating to GSP Certificate of Origin forms have been clarified. Investigations have been made to ascertain suitable sources of acceptable forms at a
reasonable price. It is hoped that funding assistance can be obtained to enable forms to be printed which exporters in any Island country can use.

- Trade Fairs

19. Consideration is being given to ways and means in which members might participate on a regional basis in the Third Asian and Pacific Trade Fair to be held in Melbourne in June 1979.

- Trade Relations and Policy

20. SPEC's activities in the area of Trade Policy has included follow-up of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) and the establishment of a Common Fund for Commodities. SPEC has endeavoured to give assistance in preparing background material for countries entering into trade negotiations. It has also sought to encourage countries in the region to review the existing pattern of trade relations with the aim of getting a single regional system. A climate of confidence could be encouraged if the governments of the major markets would show a willingness to review existing trade arrangements with a view to working out a mutually beneficial system. SPEC continues to believe that a regional agreement is not out of reach although it will require commitment to regional co-operation of a high order.

21. The CFTC Study on Industrialisation which was recently circulated indicated possible directions for progress on trade relations. SPEC encouraged the team who did the report to develop proposals along these lines in the hope that the time is now right for governments to address themselves seriously to discussions on regional trade policy.
22. Consideration might be given for SPEC's 1979 work programme to include a major effort on regional trade policy, with the CFTC Study as the basic document. The proposed programme would involve multilateral discussions at the official level and, depending on progress, it might be desirable for Ministers responsible for Trade to meet for the first such occasion in the region.

- Air Freight Study

23. Whilst significant changes in air freight capacity have occurred in the region, no progress has been made in relation to the infra-structural facilities recommended in the Report prepared for SPEC by the National Research Bureau (NRB) Consulting Group in 1976. Some use has been made of specific prospects noted in the Report. In this respect, the action of the New Zealand Government in making available import licences to new importers should assist in enabling island exporters to ship and sell on a direct price basis.

- Bulk Purchasing

24. The initial response to the recommendation and agreement reached at the meeting held to discuss collective purchasing of medical supplies has been poor. It is hoped that this will improve as other countries tie in with the Papua New Guinea tenders. Despite this poor response, medical officers from the region continue to express a strong desire to see the establishment of a practical means of reducing the costs of medical supplies. The possibility of establishing a central purchasing and distribution centre still obtains.
25. The Chief of the Drug Policies and Management Division of World Health Organisation (WHO) visited the region and discussed a regional facility, with which SPEC would be associated, to co-ordinate and co-operate in the purchase of medical supplies. This could yield better results in the long term.

- Regional Long Term Sugar Agreement

26. Participating countries met in Fiji on 10-11 April 1978 to review the agreement and to establish prices and quotas for the 1978-79 year. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Governments of Fiji, Gilbert Islands, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Western Samoa. Niue, previously a participant, withdrew from the Agreement due to shipping difficulties. The meeting agreed to extend the Agreement until 1982, the terms to be reviewed in March 1981. Annual price and quota negotiations will continue to be convened by SPEC during the currency of the Agreement.

27. Most of the supporting countries asked SPEC to seek through tender a sole exporting agent to act on their behalf. In this context a wholly Fiji owned company, Yatulau Sundartex Ltd, was appointed to act as exporting agent for Gilbert Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Western Samoa. The appointment of a single agent is expected to save the importing countries about $30,000.

28. SPEC also brought to the attention of the importing countries details of services and a quotation for the sea carriage of the sugar by the Pacific Forum Line. All governments on the PFL route expressed a desire to use PFL for the shipment of sugar. This could represent a worthwhile contribution to PFL's revenue.
29. No progress has been made towards re-negotiating this Agreement, although the maintenance of a regular service through PFL should assist. Prices have been good, but the auction system in New Zealand continues to place exporting countries at risk where supplies are not controlled. Failure to adhere to the provisions of the Agreement does not cause difficulties when prices are generally good but if an over-supply situation develops there will be strains.

30. An effort to set up trade in taro between Western Samoa and Fiji failed when it appeared that viruses affecting the plant might be transmitted. Problems also arose over a shipment of taro, a gift from the Government and people of Western Samoa to the Government and people of Niue, during an unusually severe drought in 1977. Continuing efforts are being made to overcome the problem.

- Kava

31. Trade continues at a good level and prices have risen since the agreement with the sole Fiji importer expired. However, the crop insurance proposal has now lapsed.

- Ginger

32. Offers of assistance by the Governments of India and the Peoples Republic of China for planting material and information have been passed on to Island members. Correspondence is continuing with Queensland producers for more planting material. Planting material from Fiji has been sent to Tonga.
33. Further assistance has been given in maintaining the Fiji off-season market for Tongan tomatoes. Attention to quality control needs to be stringently maintained to meet competition and consumer needs.

34. The Trade and Marketing Officer attended a two-day marketing seminar in Fiji on 29-30 March on timber products. Consideration is being given to proposals to look at markets and market prospects for tropical hardwoods. The other timber producing countries in the region, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Western Samoa have been approached and have, in the case of the latter two, expressed interest in a joint market study. Discussions have been held with CFTC and the Commission of the European Communities to consider how best to carry out the market studies and to look at ways in which timber marketing can be improved on a regional basis.

35. The Trade and Marketing Officer participated in the SPC Regiona Heads of Customs Meeting in Noumea from 28 November to 2 December 1977. SPEC's role in customs matters was brought to the attention of the meeting. While consultations between the two Secretariats will minimise actual overlap, the potential exists for duplication between SPEC and SPC because of the very close connection between customs and trade questions. Contact was established with the Customs Co-operatio Council (CCC) to take advantage of that organisation's expertise in the field, and to consider ways and means in which CCC can contribute to SPEC's future programme.
- Trade Promotion Training

36. The Trade and Marketing Officer took part in a series of trade promotion and marketing training seminars held at SPEC Headquarters; in Rarotonga, Cook Islands and in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Participants from Fiji and Tonga attended in Suva; from Cook Islands and Western Samoa in Rarotonga; and Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands at Port Moresby. The seminars were organised by ESCAP in co-operation with the International Trade Centre (ITC) of UNCTAD/GATT, and SPEC, and were funded by the Governments of Australia and New Zealand. Participants judged the seminars to have been useful. The seminar series highlighted areas where future training might be carried out and the need to include more practical exercises.

- Pacific Islands Industrial Development Scheme (PIIDS)

37. The Trade and Marketing Officer attended a Seminar on this Scheme, held in Auckland on 26 October 1977 and also attended discussions between New Zealand Government officials and officials of the beneficiary governments. A number of industrial prospects are now being developed to an operational stage with assistance from the scheme.

- Fruit Distributors Limited (FDL)

38. Although we have been less successful in our efforts to obtain a more remunerative return on bananas for island producers, greater understanding of mutual problems, prospects and policies between FDL Limited and the island producers is developing.

39. The visits by Directors of the Company to the three banana producing countries - Cook Islands, Tonga and Western Samoa - for consultations on all aspects of the industry is now an established
annual feature of the trading relations and policy on bananas. I joined my colleagues for the annual consultations in Western Samoa and Tonga in April but was unable to make it to the Cook Islands later in June.

40. The pricing arrangements for Tonga and Western Samoa continue to be that of a basic price plus a bonus if quality reaches certain specified standards. Because of consistently high quality standards bananas from the Cook Islands command a single price with the bonus factor built into it. Following consideration of the trading result of the Company for 1978, it has been accepted in principle that SPEC will prepare a submission for an upward adjustment in price of Island bananas. This submission is being prepared.

41. A profitable trade in pineapples airfreighted from Fiji is being established. Small but regular consignments are being airfreighted to New Zealand at remunerative returns despite the high freight rates. FDL Limited during the year ending 31 March 1978, paid over $8,000,000 in ocean freight. The case for airfreighting high value fruit and produce from the islands identified in the SPEC Airfreight Study carried out in 1976 becomes increasingly attractive as air services improve.

- Market Surveys

42. A limited survey has been carried out on the prospects for Fiji tropical hardwoods in the New Zealand market. Consideration is being given to undertaking a wider-ranging survey for regional use by Fiji, Solomon Islands and Western Samoa in particular. Plans are being developed to undertake a market survey for a variety of citrus products covering Australia, New Zealand and selected Pacific Islands initially, possibly followed by other Pacific Basin countries.
43. The Pacific Forum Line established its office in Apia towards the end of 1977 and commenced trade on 5 May 1978. It is currently operating three vessels in the region - "TAULOTO II", "TOA MOANA" and "WOOLGAR".

44. On 20 July 1978 the Gilbert Islands deposited with SPEC its Instrument of Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Pacific Forum Line making it the seventh country along with the Cook Islands, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Tonga and Western Samoa to do so. The Memorandum will enter into effect for the Contracting Parties on 20 August 1978.

45. The Sixth Meeting of the Regional Shipping Council was held in Apia on 21 June 1978. During the meeting Tuvalu and the Solomon Islands both announced their firm intention to become members of the Pacific Forum Line. The Solomon Islands' representative presented a cheque for WS$10,000 as his country's contribution towards the capital of the Pacific Forum Line. The Council noted a report that the Government of French Polynesia was interested in joining PFL.

46. On 4/5 April 1978 an Ad Hoc Committee meeting on Uniform Maritime Standards comprising delegates from Fiji, New Zealand and the Solomon Islands was convened by SPEC in Suva. The Committee's report, which made a number of recommendations in favour of adopting more Uniform Standards in the training and licensing of Pacific Island seamen, was considered at the Apia meeting of the Regional Shipping Council. The Council decided to replace the Ad Hoc Committee with a more permanent Advisory Committee on Uniform Maritime Standards.
Standards which will examine the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee in detail, The Advisory Committee is expected to have its first meeting in November 1978 in Honiara.

47. The Regional Shipping Council also requested SPEC to look into the question of improving inter-island feeder services in the region, and to examine the problems of shipping copra and coconut oil to distant markets. These projects will be undertaken when suitable terms of reference are finalised and finance arranged.

- Civil Aviation Council

48. Following a decision made at the Second Meeting of the Regional Civil Aviation Council (RCAC) in May 1977, SPEC was asked to co-ordinate investigations into improving frequency and routing of regional air services and regional tourism market research.

49. After consulting with the Pacific Area Travel Association (PATA), Pacific Islands Tourist Development Council (PITDC) and regional governments, SPEC prepared the terms of reference and was able to obtain the temporary services of a senior QANTAS executive to conduct the Study. The Jeppesen Report on Tourism was circulated in March 1978. SPEC would like to record its appreciation to QANTAS for its assistance in meeting most of the costs of this project, and also to the other airlines serving the region who co-operated fully.

50. On 10/11 April 1978 a Working Group of Airlines and Tourism Authorities met at SPEC to consider the Jeppesen Study and to make recommendations on priority areas for action in the development of regional tourism and civil aviation. A representative of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) attended the meeting as an expert adviser.
51. The recommendations of the Working Group were considered by the Regional Civil Aviation Advisory Committee which met at SPEC Headquarters on 13/14 April 1978. The Committee also considered papers by Fiji, Nauru and the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations (IFALPA).

52. The Report of the Advisory Committee Meeting was considered by the Regional Civil Aviation Council at its meeting in Apia on 22/23 June 1978. The Council endorsed a number of proposals including the preparation of a lexicon of travel terminology and research aimed at arriving at a suitable regional definition of the term "tourist" but the major decision was to agree to the establishment of a Regional Association of Airlines.

53. The broad terms of reference for the Airlines Association are as follows:

- **standardisation of equipment in the region**;
- **rationalisation of schedules**;
- **pooling of resources**;
- **tariff recommendations**.

54. SPEC, however, was requested to prepare more detailed terms of reference for the proposed association and to recommend lines of communication and the division of responsibility between the proposed Association, the Council and SPEC.

- **Tourism**

55. Our efforts on tourism were stepped up considerably during the year. SPEC sent an observer to the Annual Conference of the Pacific Islands Tourism Development Council (PITDC). A brief report was given to the PITDC Board on SPEC's activities in tourism and civil
aviation. As in past years SPEC also took part in the Fiji Tourism Convention on 5-8 June at Nadi.

56. SPEC has commissioned the production of a regional tourism map/brochure entitled "People and Places of the South Pacific" containing names and addresses of national Tourism Authorities or other appropriate governmental organisations. Such information is not readily available to potential travellers to the region.

57. At the Working Group meeting on Tourism and Civil Aviation called by SPEC 10-11 April 1978, industry representatives made several recommendations for encouraging tourism in the region. One recommendation was to urge governments to designate a single organisation as having primary responsibility for promoting tourism in the South Pacific region. Several organisations currently have an interest in this work but no single organisation has the competence to act on behalf of the region as a whole.

- Telecommunications

58. The 4th Regional Telecommunications Meeting was held in Port Moresby from 11-15 July 1977. The 5th Meeting was held in Rarotonga 4-10 July 1978. The meetings reviewed progress on the South Pacific Regional Telecommunications Network and the Regional Telecommunications Training Project. Both projects are being co-ordinated by SPEC and implemented by expert staff of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) with financial and other assistance provided by Australia, New Zealand, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC), and the European Economic Community (EEC). Considerable progress was made in both projects during the year under review.
59. The 8th South Pacific Forum confirmed that Fiji would operate and maintain the Telecommunications Training Centre (TTC) in Suva as a national institution to meet the regional need. The Government of Fiji undertook to make sufficient places available to trainees from other participating countries. Following these decisions it was possible to make firm plans for the future regarding the courses to be offered and the facilities required. After clearance with participating countries I signed the project document with ITU and UNDP which sets out the project in detail.

60. The Government of Fiji made available to the project an excellent site of 11.6 acres of land for the new headquarters of the Telecommunications Training Centre. Final approval was received from the EEC covering the allocation of 1.5 million units of account (u.a.) for the construction of the new headquarters of the Centre in Suva and project documents were signed.

61. An architectural firm (Firth, Rounds and Partners) was appointed by SPEC, in the capacity of Regional Authorising Officer for EEC regional projects, to be the consultants for the building project. According to the estimates of costs provided by the consultants, an additional amount of up to F$800,000 over and above the EEC allocation will be necessary to cover total costs of the new buildings. SPEC is seeking additional funding for the building project from other donors.

62. Eight training sections are now operating at ITC in Suva. These are: general telecommunication technology, outdoor plant, radio and transmission, subscribers equipment, switching, telegraph, traffic operations and telepower. Development in these sections is at various stages and progress is satisfactory. The Centre has an approved staff establishment of 23 which includes the Principal and 15 instructors. Eight instructors are from Fiji and one from Western Samoa.
63. Up until June 1978 all requests for places in training courses at TTC had been met. These included 19 trainee technical officers in their third year, 16 trainee technical officers in their second year, 24 trainee technical officers in their first year, 31 trainee technicians in their second year, 24 trainee technicians in their first year, 12 trainee assistants (commenced in May 1978) and eight wireless/teleprinter operators. Other short specialist courses are provided at the Centre.

64. The first group of trainee technicians (13 students) completed a two-year training course on 3 November 1977. The second group of trainee technicians (20 students) completed training in early December 1977. The national composition of these groups were as follows:

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<thead>
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<th>Country</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Hebrides</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Niue</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Samoa</td>
<td>5</td>
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Trainee technical officers will graduate at the end of 1978. Students currently attending the Centre are:

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hebrides</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niue</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Samoa</td>
<td>17</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
65. As part of the regional training project, three basic training centres were established in the Cook Islands, Tonga and Western Samoa in August 1977 with instructors provided by ITU. These centres are providing basic training of existing and newly appointed technical staff, preparation of students for courses at TTC and also operator training in the Cook Islands and Tonga.

66. Continued financial and technical support for TTC was received during the period from UNDP, ITU, Australia, New Zealand, CFTC and the participating countries themselves.

67. The current project expires in September 1979. An extension of the project is being considered to cover the period up to and including the occupation of the new headquarters which is expected to be completed in February 1980.

68. Requests for trainees to be included in courses at TTC were received from Gilbert Islands, Nauru, Tokelau and Tuvalu. Although these requests are beyond the present capacity of TTC to meet, every attempt will be made to include as many trainees as possible. The situation will improve following the completion of the new buildings.

69. During the past year the feasibility study project was staffed by three ITU experts in the form of the Project Manager, the Senior Expert (Accounts and Tariffs) and an Associate Expert. The feasibility study will be completed on schedule by the end of the year with the printing of the final documents.

70. Approval has been obtained from the EEC for funds totalling 4.3 million u.a. for the supply and installation of a satellite earth station and ancillary equipment for Western Samoa; equipment for the extension of the existing satellite earth station, together with a
telex gateway exchange for Fiji and a gateway telephone exchange facilities for Tonga. SPEC and the project team are providing assistance to other countries associated with the project in seeking finance for upgrading their international telecommunications facilities.

71. A draft project document for the implementation phase of the project was submitted to UNDP and ITU for their initial consideration following which the draft project document will be submitted to participating countries for formal approval. It is envisaged that the extension will be for a period of two years (1979 - 1980).

(c) AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY

- Banana Industry Revitalisation Programme

72. The Banana Production Expert completed his term with SPEC in August 1977 after editing the Proceedings of the Technical Conference on Banana Production and Marketing held in Rarotonga in May 1977. This publication has been widely distributed and replies have been received that this publication is a useful reference, not only for workers in the industry in this region, but also elsewhere in the world.

73. Follow-up of the recommendations of the Review Committee Meeting has been less satisfactory, but participating countries are taking steps to create a climate where progress can be made. In the Cook Islands a programme of new planting and disease control is in operation. Tonga has established a committee to develop and co-ordinate approach to the revitalisation of the industry. Western
Samoa is setting up a comprehensive programme to bring the industry back to its former position.

74. After considerable investigation and debate the change in the type of packaging for Island bananas is now occurring. In Rarotonga, Cook Islands, fruit is now packed in 42-lb cartons instead of the traditional 56-lb crates. It is expected that a gradual switchover to the new method will occur over the next few years.

- Regional Survey of Agricultural Pests and Diseases

75. A Project Co-ordinating Committee Meeting and UNDP Tripartite Review were held at SPEC Headquarters from 28 February to 2 March 1978. The meeting reviewed progress made and noted that the virus survey programme will have commenced in each country before 30 June 1978. Each participating government has received comments on its quarantine legislation and the project has provided draft model legislation. Draft copies of the quarantine manual, covering all aspects of quarantine services, including treatment methods have been circulated. Final printed copies of these manuals will be printed in a loose-leaf form for ease of usage and amendment.

76. The Project Entomologist commenced duties with the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) and insect identification is proceeding well. The Plant Diseases Division of the New Zealand DSIR have kindly offered to collate the virus survey reports, which will not be available until after the termination of the project. The New Zealand Government has also offered to prepare reference collections of insects and pests for those countries requiring them and to provide an on-going identification service to which new pests and diseases may be referred for identification, comment and advice.
77. It is expected that the final reports which will be available by the end of 1978, will cross-reference crops and pests and diseases and provide quarantine recommendations. They will incorporate plant quarantine manuals and technical reports, which will include published data as well as information obtained as a result of the survey.

- Coconut Products

78. There has been some follow-up on prospects arising from the Coconut Stem Utilisation seminar held in Nuku'alofa in 1976 and contact has been maintained with several organisations represented at this seminar. A paper by SPEC on market potential for coconut charcoal was presented at a Seminar on Wood as an Alternative Energy Source held at the University of the South Pacific on 3-4 July 1978.

79. A Workshop on Shipping and Marketing of Coconut Products, conducted by ESCAP for the Asian Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) was held at SPEC Headquarters from 29 May to 3 June 1978 and attended by representatives of the Cook Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Western Samoa and SPEC. The Workshop recommended that SPEC co-ordinate comprehensive analyses of transport and operational planning alternatives which might lead to rationalisation and improvement of freight rates - either by modification of the present system, or by the introduction of new transport schemes. The study was supported by the Regional Shipping Council. Discussions are in train with ESCAP on the terms of reference and funding of the Study.

- Industrial Development

80. SPEC participated with the Commonwealth Secretariat in a CFTC financed study which examined the economic impact of industrial
development in the region as well as the implications that improved access to Australia, New Zealand and third country markets would have for Pacific Islands Development. Discussions involving the Commonwealth Secretariat, the study team and SPEC, were held which considered the question of what future course of action to take in implementing the findings of the study. Member countries have now received the report of this study. SPEC hopes that the study will provide a major stimulus to trade relations and industrial development.

31. Discussions are being held with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on a proposal for a survey in the region of industrialisation. The ADB has agreed to contribute US$80,000 towards the cost of the survey. ESCAP and the ADB have been asked to take full account of the CFTC study.

82. SPEC has been asked to act in a liaison capacity with the EEC's Centre for Industrial Development (CID). The Centre had indicated its interest in giving greater attention to the region than it has done in the past and is sending a mission for familiarisation purposes to the region. SPEC is seeking clarification from member governments as to whether SPEC should become a permanent liaison point with CID.

(d) AID AND AID CO-ORDINATION

- EEC-Pacific Regional Projects

83. Since the signature on 10 March 1977 by the Prime Ministers of Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa of a Memorandum of Understanding listing regional project proposals for which funds of up to 10 million u.a. had been allocated to the Pacific member states of the Lome
Convention by the European Communities (EC), measures have been taken to complete the documentation required by the EC in order that funding approval for such projects could be obtained from the Commission.

84. To date financing proposals for two regional projects have been accepted by the Commission. The two projects are the Telecommunications Training Centre Complex at Suva, Fiji and the Regional Telecommunications Network project for which funds of 1.5 million u.a. and 4.3 million u.a. respectively have been approved by the Commission. Project proposals for the remaining balance of the regional aid allocation under the Lome Convention are being finalised.

- Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP)/EEC

85. SPEC's involvement with other activities of the EEC has increased over the past year. In December 1977, I attended the 14th Session of the ACP Council of Ministers in Lusaka, Zambia and in March 1978 the ACP/EEC Joint Council of Ministers Meeting in Brussels. The Trade and Marketing Officer also attended an ACP/EEC meeting on Trade Promotion in Brussels in February 1978. In addition SPEC is presently involved in the activities of the CID established under the provisions of the Lome Convention to promote industrial development in ACP countries through co-operative action with potential investors from EEC member states.

86. Negotiations for a successor Convention to the Lome Convention which is due to expire in 1980 formally commenced in Brussels, July 1978. Ministers from Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Tonga attended the formal opening. Tonga Minister, Dr Tapa, assumed the Presidency of the ACP Group on behalf of the Pacific countries for the next six months. In addition to Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Tonga and Western
Samoa as signatories to the present Convention, Gilbert Islands and Tuvalu are expected to join these negotiations on attaining independence. The Solomon Islands, which became independent on 7 July 1978, is also expected to participate in these negotiations.

87. The Pacific Ministers took the opportunity in Brussels to consult on successor arrangements to the Lome Convention and agreed to ask SPEC to organise a meeting of Pacific members as early as possible to work out the Group's collective views to the new Convention. Arrangements are being made to this effect as a matter of urgency.

- SPEC Fellowship Scheme

88. The Fellowship Scheme gathered strength slowly during the year. Guidelines for the administration of the Scheme were drawn up during the year. An annual ceiling of two fellows per country was set to ensure a fair distribution of awards in relation to available resources. However, before the guidelines limiting the number of awards per country came into effect, approval was given for four journalists from the Papua New Guinea Broadcasting Corporation to train in Australia.

89. While some requests from countries had to be turned down because they had already utilised their share of awards, adequate funds remain to finance fellows from countries that have not yet applied. If this pattern continues it may be desirable to do away with the allocation system and offer awards simply on a first-come-first-serve basis.

90. The donors to the Fellowship Trust Fund - Australia, New Zealand and CFTC - are willing to increase their contributions if the demand increases. At 30 June 1978 the Trust Fund stood at $26,782.
91. Fellowships during the year were:

- A senior Post Office technician from Nauru completed an eight months training attachment in computer programming with the Electronic Data Processing Centre in Suva early 1978.

- During October and November of 1977, two Solomon Islanders were sent under the auspices of the Scheme to Papua New Guinea for training in copra board management with the Papua New Guinea Copra and Marketing Board.

- A Gilbert Islands Librarian completed on-the-job training at the Western Regional Library (Lautoka) and the University of the South Pacific Library.

- A journalist from Niue is receiving training in editorial/news programming work with the Fiji Times.

- An official from the Cook Islands is receiving training in housing authority management.

- Aid Review Task Force

92. SPEC continues to receive occasional requests for copies of the Report of the Aid Review Task Force but it is apparent that interest in the exercise has waned. While the preparation of the report and its subsequent circulation no doubt served a useful purpose the response to the recommendations has been disappointing. SPEC will draw the attention of aid organisations to recommendations of the Task Force.
- Natural Disaster Relief Fund

93. Two payments of F$10,000 each were made from the Fund during the year: to the Solomon Islands and Tonga both of which suffered severe earthquakes. At 30 June 1978 the Fund stood at $391,060.

- Aid Advisory Service

94. The second edition of the "Directory of Aid Agencies" was completed in early 1978. It contains a brief description of 83 agencies and institutions that are willing to provide aid within the South Pacific region. The Directory has been distributed to member countries, contributing organisations, institutions and university libraries. It has proved to be one of SPEC's more popular publications; almost all copies printed having now been distributed. It is hoped that the third edition will be published in early 1979.

(e) LAW OF THE SEA, FISHERIES, THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

- Law of the Sea

95. During the period under review SPEC accorded high priority to its work relating to the Law of the Sea and Fisheries.

96. The 8th South Pacific Forum recognised that in the continued absence of a Convention on the Law of the Sea and in view of the number of distant water fishing nations exploiting the valuable highly migratory species in the region, the countries in the region would need to move quickly to establish fishing or exclusive economic zones and to co-ordinate their policies and activities, if they were to secure more than a very small part of the benefits from their
resources for their peoples. Accordingly Forum countries undertook to complete as early as practicable and if possible, by 31 March 1978, the legislative and administrative actions necessary to establish extended fisheries jurisdiction to the fullest extent permissible under international law.

97. Almost all Forum countries have to date taken steps to declare sovereignty over the resources of the 200 mile zones. Some, as a first step, have limited themselves to extended fisheries jurisdiction whilst others have opted for legislation based on the concept of an exclusive economic zone as it is emerging from the Law of the Sea Conference. SPEC has collected copies of this legislation which are available to member countries on request. In addition, various fisheries agreements between the Canadian Government and other countries have been generously made available to SPEC by the Canadian Government and are also available for circulation. The Canadian Government has also provided some technical assistance to SPEC in considering ways of adopting a uniform approach by South Pacific countries in negotiations with distant water fishing nations.

98. The 7th Session of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference was held in Geneva from March to May 1978. The Conference met with the stated objective of producing a formal Draft Convention on the Law of the Sea. However, difficulties encountered in agreeing on procedural matters meant that the Session failed to meet its stated aim. Progress was made in accommodating the interests of landlocked and geographically disadvantaged states which had been seeking a degree of access to the living resources of the 200 mile zones of coastal states. It was observed that if the atmosphere of constructive progress could be maintained by the resumed session to be held in New York from 21 August to 15 September 1978, the chances of obtaining a widely accepted comprehensive Convention will improve considerably.
In accordance with the Forum decision to establish a Regional Fisheries Organisation, SPEC convened a meeting of all interested coastal states within the region from 18-25 November 1977 to prepare a Draft Convention. Substantial progress was made at that meeting and provisional agreement was reached on almost all of the Draft text of Articles. It was the meeting's view that outstanding issues could be resolved at a resumed meeting which SPEC was requested to convene at an early date.

The major item of contention related to the membership of the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation. As a result, in the intervening period between the November 1977 meeting and the resumed meeting held from 5 to 10 June 1978, two special meetings of Forum countries were held from 9-11 May in Suva and 2 June in Apia to consider the membership issue.

At the resumed meeting in June, provisional agreement was given to a Draft Convention for the establishment of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation. Governments represented at the meeting were Australia, Chile, Cook Islands, Fiji, France, Gilbert Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, United States of America and Western Samoa. The Draft Convention has been distributed to all participating countries in the two meetings and is due to be considered by the forthcoming annual meeting of the South Pacific Forum in Niue in September.
102. SPEC was also requested by the Port Moresby Forum to make arrangements for the setting up of an interim Agency office and for the appointment of a core staff for a period of one year. The Forum welcomed the offer of the Government of the Solomon Islands for the permanent headquarters of the Agency to be located in Honiara and it invited the Government of Australia to agree to the Agency office being located on an interim basis in Cronulla, New South Wales, pending its establishment on a permanent basis in Honiara. The Government of Australia subsequently offered to host the interim office at Cronulla.

103. In order for SPEC to carry out this function, the Forum requested me to seek funds from governments and international agencies for the operation of the Agency until such time as it was self-supporting. Assistance was sought from potentially interested governments and organisations in setting up the interim office of the Agency.

104. Financial contributions for the interim office have so far been received from the Governments of Australia (A$100,000), New Zealand (NZ$50,000) and the Solomon Islands (SI$50,000). Further assistance has been pledged by the Governments of the Cook Islands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, in addition to UNDP/FAO and CFTC. Assistance is also being sought from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and other governments. As at 31 July 1978 total funds to the credit of the Fisheries Agency stood at approximately F$190,000.
105. Proposals submitted by SPEC for the establishment and operations of the interim office of the Agency in Cronulla has been agreed to by member governments. Under these arrangements, the Agency will operate under the umbrella of SPEC until such time as the Convention establishing the SPRFO is formally adopted. For all practical purposes however, the Agency will operate under the direction of its own Director. The Director of the interim office of the Agency is expected to be appointed shortly. The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Division of Fisheries and Oceanography at Cronulla has offered to make available to the interim office its facilities for research purposes. It is expected that the interim office will have a core staff of four professional officers at post by the end of the year.

- Environmental Management

106. At its meeting in Port Moresby the Forum reaffirmed its support for a regional approach to environmental management. It did not however accept a proposal for a Comprehensive Environment Management Programme submitted jointly by SPEC and the South Pacific Commission. It requested SPEC, in consultation with the SPC, to convene a meeting of officials from all countries in the South Pacific Commission region to review the programme in detail and to make recommendations on how the programme could be modified and financed to meet the needs of the countries of the region.

107. I visited Noumea after the Forum and discussed the decision with the Secretary-General and SPC staff. In October 1977 SPEC convened a small working group at which the SPC, USP and the Papua New Guinea Government were represented to discuss a work programme prior to the meeting of officials. It was agreed that SPEC should seek the assistance of a consultant to prepare a fairly short
paper which would make the case for a regional programme, assess the financial implications and examine the institutional options for management of the programme.

108. SPEC was given assistance in this exercise by an expert attached to the Fiji Government on a CFTC grant. The expert prepared a number of discussion papers on the basis of which SPEC produced a single document for the officials' meeting.

109. SPEC and the SPC jointly convened the meeting of officials in Noumea 27-29 June 1978 to consider the proposed programme. The meeting was well attended by representatives from Island governments and as a result the meeting produced a report which proposes a specific programme of action including a regional conference aimed at launching a South Pacific Regional Environment Programme. SPEC and the SPC are currently discussing with each other and with UNEP and ESCAP, a joint project document under which UNEP will finance preparatory work for the Programme.

110. SPEC's involvement in environmental matters led during the year to a considerable amount of correspondence with international organisations and institutions wishing to become involved in the conservation and protection of the region's environment.

- Energy

111. SPEC continued to collect information on energy developments of possible interest to the region. SPEC officers also attended meetings in Suva on aspects of energy development. In the absence of a clear directive from governments on how a regional project might assist their development efforts, SPEC's activities in this area have remained non-specific.
PART II : REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

(a) REGIONAL

- SPEC/SPC Relations

112. The annual consultations between SPC and SPEC were held at the SPC Headquarters, Noumea 24-26 April 1978. The agreed record of the consultations was circulated to member governments. The SPC Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting in May decided to maintain as a permanent item on its Agenda relations with SPEC and other organisations at which the report of the annual consultations will be tabled.

113. Both organisations jointly convened a second technical meeting on a South Pacific Regional Environmental Management Programme in Noumea, 27-29 June 1978, following the decisions of the South Pacific Forum at Port Moresby and the South Pacific Conference at Pago Pago. The meeting agreed on a set of recommendations which were circulated to member governments and territorial administrations, and which are also to be submitted to the 1978 South Pacific Forum and South Pacific Conference.

114. I attended the 17th South Pacific Conference which was held in Pago Pago in October 1977. The Deputy Director represented SPEC at the SPC Planning and Evaluation Committee Meeting in Noumea on 22-26 May 1978.

115. Assistance was provided by the SPC Plant Protection Officer to the SPEC co-ordinated UNDP/FAO Regional Agricultural Pests and Diseases Survey. The Trade and Marketing Officer represented SPEC at the Regional Heads of Customs Meeting convened by the SPC in Noumea from 28 November to 2 December 1977.
116. Interpreters and translation equipment were supplied by the SPC at the meeting of officials to complete a Draft Convention establishing a South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation at SPEC Headquarters, Suva, on 18-25 November, 1977 and 5-10 June 1978. The Commission was also officially represented at both meetings.

117. The SPC Economist participated as a member of the team of consultants commissioned by the Commonwealth Secretariat which conducted the CFTC/SPEC Study into Industrialisation and Trade Relations in the South Pacific. SPEC was represented at a meeting to discuss the feasibility of a Regional Development Fund convened by the Commission in Nauru on 20-23 March 1978.

118. While the mandates of both organisations clearly overlap and the work programmes approved by their respective governing bodies occasionally give rise to duplication of effort, good working relations between the two Secretariats continue. The Secretariats can work to avoid competitive programmes but problems are inevitable so long as two organisations exist in the region with overlapping terms of reference.

- University of the South Pacific (USP)

119. The close working relationship with the University of the South Pacific remains. SPEC staff have participated in activities initiated by the Institute of Pacific Studies and the Institute of Social and Administrative Studies and SPEC has drawn on USP for technical advice for some of its work. As in previous years, the Vice-Chancellor Report will be tabled at the Niue Forum for the consideration of Leaders.
120. SPEC has continued to help the USP on the development of the three proposed regional projects to be financed by the EEC and assigned to the University for implementation. These are in the areas of rural development, applied agricultural research and marine resources. In its capacity as Regional Authorising Officer SPEC will continue to assist the University by ensuring that funds are committed before the financing period expires.

(b) UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

121. The UNDP regional office in Suva maintains extensive programmes mainly at country level. In addition it operates an inter-country or regional programme. SPEC plays a co-ordinating role in some of these projects. Close contact was maintained with the UNDP Regional Representative for the South Pacific. Funding difficulties experienced during the previous year have eased and the outlook for continuing assistance to regional projects appears considerably more favourable. Assistance continues to be provided by UNDP towards the Agricultural Pests and Diseases Survey Project and the Telecommunications Projects. Further assistance is to be extended towards the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation (SPRFO).

- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

122. During the year SPEC made a special effort to improve its working relations with ESCAP, and to assist the Commission in responding to requests made to it to expand its activities in the Pacific. I visited Bangkok twice in the period under review — in
October 1977, in lieu of attending the Annual Session of ESCAP earlier in the year, and in March 1978 on the occasion of the Thirty-fourth Annual Session of ESCAP. The Deputy Director participated in the Expert Group to draw up a blueprint for trade co-operation for Asia and the Pacific.

123. On my earlier visit I had special talks with the Executive Secretary as well as the Chiefs of Divisions on measures for more effective assistance to the Pacific from ESCAP resources, as well as having preliminary talks with the then Chairman of ASEAN on Forum/Asean dialogue. On the second visit I was able to participate in a special meeting of Pacific Island representatives to discuss ESCAP/Pacific relations.

124. On the project level SPEC assisted ESCAP in arranging a series of Trade Promotion and Marketing seminars in Port Moresby, Suva and Rarotonga and a seminar on coconut products at SPEC Headquarters. Consultations have been held on a proposed Industrial Development Survey of the region in co-operation with the Asian Development Bank.

125. There is no doubt about the capacity of ESCAP to assist the countries of the region in carrying forward their development programmes. There are now, however, a large number of organisations with programmes of assistance in the South Pacific. Governments may wish to consider how the efforts of the regional organisations may be co-ordinated to give maximum benefit without overlap and without overloading the administrations of some of the smaller governments.

- United Nations Development Advisory Team (UNDAT)

126. SPEC has maintained links with UNDAT although in the year under review there was not much requirement for co-ordination of
activities at the project level. The efforts to mobilise financial support for UNDAT in which SPEC played an important part were remarkably successful. It was agreed in the United Nations family that ESCAP should oversee the UNDAT operation.

127. During the year under review ESCAP was given pledges towards the operations of UNDAT of a similar order of magnitude as the budget of SPEC. If financial support at this level materialises UNDAT could develop a substantial programme of development advisory activities. The closest co-operation will be required with SPEC and other regional organisations to avoid duplication.

- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

128. The development of the proposed South Pacific Regional Environment Programme by SPEC in consultation with the SPC has resulted in greater contact with UNEP through correspondence and visits to the region by UNEP missions. UNEP is willing to help governments in the region and the regional organisations. At the joint SPEC/SPC meeting in Noumea in June the UNEP representative offered to SPEC, SPC and ESCAP, funds up to US$312,000 to prepare a regional environment programme and to support a regional conference on the Environment.

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)

129. The Deputy Director visited the Asian Development Bank for consultations. The Bank has committed funds for an industrial survey for the South Pacific region in co-operation with ESCAP and SPEC.
- Other Agencies

130. SPEC maintains good working relations with the United Nations Specialised Agencies and continues to receive valuable support from them. Over the year SPEC has received assistance in its work programme, notably from FAO, ITU, WHO, ICAO, UNCTAD and ILO as well as from UNDP and ESCAP.

(c) OTHER ORGANISATIONS

- Commonwealth Secretariat and Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC)

131. Close co-operation between the Commonwealth Secretariat and SPEC continued throughout the period. More Forum countries have joined the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Forum itself has traditionally been Commonwealth orientated. Several high level Commonwealth Secretariat officials called at SPEC whilst in the region. Special discussions were held at SPEC Headquarters between the Team of Experts, the Secretariat and SPEC to round off the work on the Report on Industrial Development and Trade Relations in the South Pacific. This report is now available.

132. Funding assistance from CFTC continued towards student fellowships from outside Fiji for training at the Telecommunication Training Centre, and for training awards under the SPEC Fellowship Scheme. One CFTC-funded expert under the Banana Revitalisation Scheme returned home at the end of his contract; the other was transferred to the Cook Islands to continue the programme at the national level. CFTC provided technical assistance, and has also announced a contribution of £Stg.10,000 towards the initial cost of establishing the Regional Fisheries Agency. It also financed
a consultant who assisted SPEC with the documentation for the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation.

133. In February 1978, the first Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting (CHOGRM) for Asia and the Pacific was held in Sydney. Following the meeting the Secretary-General wrote to say that the meeting had decided to establish a Consultant at SPEC to co-ordinate the follow-up work on four key areas - Trade, Terrorism, Energy and illicit Drugs. Following consultations with those Heads of Forum Government who were not at the Sydney meeting, official confirmation of their approval was conveyed to the Secretary-General. Arrangements are in progress for setting up the Consultant's office at SPEC Headquarters.

134. At the request of the Secretary-General SPEC prepared a paper on The Special Problems of Small States: The Developing Island Countries of the South Pacific. Following its submission to CHOGRM the paper has received wide circulation.

135. The first follow-up meeting pursuant to the CHOGRM decision was held in Canberra in July. It was largely consultative in nature and aimed at preparing the ground for the first substantive meeting of the Consultative Group on Trade. SPEC was represented at the meeting in an observer status.

Office of the Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities

136. Close co-operation has been developed with the Office of the Delegate of the European Communities for the Pacific. This co-operation is expected to develop progressively, with further SPEC involvement in the management of the EEC funded projects
which require significant policy input as well as administrative effort by SPEC. The financing proposal for the Telecommunication Training Centre Complex was approved by the European Development Fund Committee in Brussels on 29 May 1978 and the financing Agreement signed on 13 July. The Consultancy Contract was signed in Suva by the Commission Delegate, the Architect and the Regional Authorising Officer in June 1978. The Commission approved a financing proposal in July 1978 for the Telecommunications Network Project.

- Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

137. Following the decision of the Forum at Port Moresby to develop closer ties with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) soundings were taken on an appropriate point of contact between SPEC and ASEAN. SPEC was informed that the ASEAN Secretariat does not act as the executive arm of ASEAN in the same way that SPEC is the executive arm of the Forum. It was accordingly suggested that initial contact should be between the Director of SPEC and the Chairman of the Standing Committee of ASEAN who at that time was the Foreign Minister of Thailand.

138. I visited Bangkok in October 1977 and conveyed to the Chairman of the Standing Committee the wish of the Forum to enter into dialogue. The opportunity was also taken to consult ASEAN officials in Singapore. The Deputy Director when passing through Manila briefed officials of the Philippines Government responsible for ASEAN affairs on the Forum and SPEC. The Australian and New Zealand diplomatic missions in ASEAN countries also provided background information to ASEAN officials on the Forum and SPEC.
139. The suggestion that a dialogue be opened between the Forum and ASEAN was considered at a meeting of the Standing Committee of ASEAN early in 1978. From reports received there was no firm decision as to how and when the dialogue might be developed. It might be necessary to build up a better understanding between the members of the respective organisations and the advantages to be gained from the dialogue before the matter can be pursued further with profit.

140. The Papua New Guinea Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade attended the opening sessions of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting in Thailand in June 1978 as an observer. The meeting agreed to give appropriate consideration to the approaches that had been made by developing countries and regional groupings to establish dialogues with ASEAN. No formal response has been received however from the Standing Committee to our approach to the Chairman.

- East-West Centre

141. SPEC continued to assist the Centre in disseminating information on training opportunities available at the Centre to interested island member governments and SPEC was represented at a Centre meeting during the year.

(d) RELATIONS WITH NON-SPEC MEMBERS

142. Increasing international interest in the Pacific was reflected in the growing number of visitors to SPEC by official and sometimes commercial representatives from overseas. Most visitors indicated interest in improving their relations with South Pacific countries and some offered to explore ways of participating in regional programmes. The Peoples Republic of
China offered practical assistance in supplying information on ginger production in China.

143. Work on the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation brought SPEC into closer contact with Chile, France, the United Kingdom and the United States. The United States has provided up-to-date information on constitutional developments in Micronesia.

144. I was invited to the inaugural ceremony of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas along with representatives from Forum countries. Various officials in the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands (TTPI) have expressed interest in becoming involved in SPEC activities and the Forum at the appropriate time.

145. The New Hebrides Council of Ministers has also indicated its interest in a closer involvement in SPEC and the Forum. As evidence of their wish to become more involved in regional programmes, the Council of Ministers decided to send a Minister to the Telecommunications Meeting in Rarotonga. Another Minister attended the June meeting at SPEC Headquarters to prepare a Draft Convention establishing a South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation.

146. The Regional Shipping Council noted a request from the Government of French Polynesia to participate in the Pacific Forum Line (PFL).

PART III: SECRETARIAT AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Forum and Other Secretariat Activities

147. The 8th South Pacific Forum was held in Port Moresby in August 1977. All member countries were represented. The Gilbert
Islands was accepted as a full member. The session was chaired by the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, the Right Honourable Michael T Somare, P.C. It was preceded by an informal consultation of the Leaders at Madang.

148. The Forum continues to provide the initiative and impetus in the South Pacific for long range regional development projects. This was evident through the Declaration on Law of the Sea and the decision to establish a South Pacific Regional Fisheries Agency and the Resolution on Environmental Management.

149. The Bureau's capability to function as a Secretariat for regional meetings is increasing and there were several requests for joint sponsorship of meetings and seminars during the year from international agencies. The Bureau itself serviced 19 meetings during the 12 months under review. A list of meetings is shown in Appendix I. Servicing of meetings has become a substantial area of work in itself. The appointment of a Conference Officer has relieved professional staff of some of the administrative load of meetings but the meeting schedule shows no sign of getting smaller.

- Public Relations Activities

150. The monthly publication "SPEC Activities" remains the Bureau's main means of keeping the public regularly informed of its activities and recent developments in its work programme. Suggestions have been made that SPEC could do more for its public relations. It is not SPEC policy actively to seek publicity, nor has it the resources; however, the monthly distribution of SPEC Activities has been expanded to meet increasing interest in the Organisation. The revised version
of the SPEC background brochure titled "Introducing SPEC" was printed and distributed during the year. The printing section of the Bureau produced 27 SPEC bound publications during the period under review.

151. Press coverage was based on SPEC Communiques which were issued following major SPEC meetings during the year. SPEC received an uncomplimentary mention in a Pacific Islands Monthly (PIM) article. On several occasions I was requested to participate in radio programmes.

- SPEC Committee

152. The pre-Forum meeting of the SPEC Committee was held at Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on 24-26 August 1977. The Bureau's work programme for 1978 was discussed and endorsed at that meeting. The Budget session was convened at SPEC Headquarters, Suva, on 14-15 December 1977. A special meeting was called 18-19 April 1978 to discuss membership of SPEC and the Forum.

153. The Government of New Zealand was elected to provide the Chairman of the SPEC Committee for 1977/78.

- Membership

154. The Government of the Solomon Islands has become a member of the Bureau.

155. Indications have been received from the Government of Tuvalu that it is that country's firm intention to join SPEC as soon as possible after Independence in October 1978.
156. Both New Hebrides and Micronesia have given indications of their interest in becoming more involved in SPEC and, in due course, in joining the Forum. At the request of the Government of the Cook Islands we circulated to member governments a proposal that the New Hebrides and the Congress of Micronesia attend the Niue Forum in an observer capacity.

- Permanent Headquarters

157. The Government of Papua New Guinea arranged for two artists from Port Moresby to paint a mural above the main entrance to the SPEC Conference Centre. The mural depicts traditional motifs of Papua New Guinea art forms. Represented are an ancestor figure from Kambot village in the East Sepik Province, the Malagan motif of an Eagle from New Ireland Province, the modified Gulf Mask and motif from Balimo in the Western Province and the Lizard and Bird motifs from East Sepik Province. We take this opportunity to express our appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Papua New Guinea for this valuable addition to the aesthetics of the Conference Centre.

158. A small Fijian bure has been erected in the marae in front of the Conference Centre to house the outrigger canoe given by the Government of Niue.

159. Office accommodation at SPEC Headquarters is now occupied at near capacity. Temporary space is being made available for the Commonwealth Secretariat consultant and his support staff. If, however, it is decided that the Commonwealth Secretariat should have a permanent and more substantial presence in the region to be based at SPEC, consideration may need to be given to the next stage of the building programme.
Budget and Finance

Total expenditure agreed for 1978 Budget amounts to F$497,600, consisting of F$477,960 for ordinary expenditure and F$19,640 for Capital Expenditure. This represents a 14.4 per cent increase in nominal terms over the approved 1977 Budget of F$435,027. The audited statements of account signed by the Auditor-General of Fiji, and the SPEC 1977 Budget out-turn report will be tabled at the pre-Forum SPEC Committee Meeting in Niue in September 1978.

Staffing

The SPEC Committee meeting in Port Moresby approved the addition of a Legal Officer, a Conference Officer and a Typist.

Mr Francis Hong Tiy, the first SPEC Assistant Research Officer, completed his term of appointment in December 1977 and has joined the Pacific Forum Line in Apia as its Commercial Manager.

Mr Robert Igara took up duty as an Assistant Research Officer in September 1977. Mr Igara, a graduate in economics from the University of Papua New Guinea, was seconded to SPEC by the Government of Papua New Guinea.

Mr Bruce Davidson completed his term of appointment with SPEC at the end of May 1978 and has returned to Perth. Mr Davidson was the Bureau's first Research Officer.

A new Assistant Research Officer, Mr Anote Tong, a science graduate from the University of Canterbury, has been released for attachment to SPEC by the Government of the Gilbert Islands. Mr Tong took up his position with the Bureau on 1 July 1978.
An Australian National University Law graduate, Mr Paul Hohnen, has been released by the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs for attachment to SPEC as its first appointed Legal Officer. Mr Hohnen assumed duty on 24 July 1978.

Mr Saleimoa Va'ai, formerly a lawyer in private practice in Western Samoa, joined SPEC as an Assistant Research Officer and took up his appointment from 1 August 1978.

The current staff establishment is shown in Appendix II.

During November 1977, an Assistant Commissioner with the New Zealand Government State Services Commission spent a week in Suva reviewing SPEC's staff salary structure. His report was considered briefly at the Budget session of the SPEC Committee in December 1977 and is being referred again for consideration to the pre-Forum SPEC Committee meeting to be held in Niue in September 1978.

Library

Reference material in SPEC's small library has been steadily growing over the last two years. Apart from housing SPEC's own publications, the library houses publications of international organisations, institutions and governments in the region and general and specific material on various aspects of development pertinent to SPEC's work programme.

SPEC published three bibliographies between 1973 and 1974 but further editions were temporarily shelved because of an inadequate classification system. In the belief that member countries have found these useful, it is hoped that new editions will be published
on a regular basis in the future. SPEC has produced a "Bibliography of Numbered SPEC Publications 1973-1977". A select list of publications produced between 1977 and 1978 (June) is at Appendix III.

SPEC Filing System

166. With the growth and diversification of its work programme after five years of operation, it became necessary to review and reorganise the Bureau's filing system. To this end, an experienced Registry Officer was temporarily engaged in June 1978. SPEC also recruited a Filing Clerk to assist in the Registry to ensure that despatch and circulation of documents continues to be as efficient as possible. Authority to make this a permanent position will be sought from the SPEC Committee.

PART IV: FIVE-YEAR PERSPECTIVE AND CONCLUSION

167. This section attempts a brief personal, but I hope objective, review of SPEC's achievements and failures, progress and lack of progress over its first five years.

168. SPEC began operations from temporary offices in the new wing of Government Buildings, Suva on 15 November 1972 and for the next 3½ years operated from premises rented from the University of the South Pacific.

169. At the 3rd South Pacific Forum in Suva in September 1972 the Fiji Government offered six acres of crown land in Suva for the permanent Headquarters of SPEC. The Governments of New Zealand and Australia offered to provide the necessary buildings and furniture and fittings respectively at the 4th South Pacific Forum in Apia in April 1973. The Headquarters complex
was officially opened by the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Hon R D Muldoon, on 11 October 1976 with appropriate traditional Fijian ceremonies, speeches, mekes and feasting. Thereafter SPEC became a permanent fixture on the regional and international scene.

170. The priority tasks set by the Forum for SPEC at its Suva meeting in September 1972 were -

(a) to carry out a Study of the financial and operational structure of a regional shipping line;

(b) to provide a study of factors to be taken into account, of whether and on what conditions Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa should seek associate status with the EEC;

(c) to carry out a survey of regional trade on a commodity by commodity and industry by industry basis with recommendations for future government action.

171. The Pacific Forum Line (PFL) is of course a reality. In shipping, the objective of a regional shipping line was fairly clearly identified from the outset but it required considerable research and patient negotiation to bring it to fruition. The PFL will continue to need the full support and backing of governments in the early critical years. Given that support it should, in a few years, be able to play an important role in regional shipping and in turn protect national carriers from undue competition from outsiders. Its establishment has already done much to improve shipping services and I expect that it will contribute generally to the economic development of the region.
172. Following the creation of PFL, the Regional Shipping Council and its Advisory Board turned their attention to setting uniform maritime standards for vessels as well as qualifications for officers and seamen. Further work is also planned on feeder services and the transport of coconut products particularly oil, since national developments are changing the pattern of exports of coconut products.

173. The study regarding associate status with the EEC for Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa was satisfactorily concluded with the three countries acceding to the Lome Convention in 1975. A further development was the agreement of the three governments concerned that the Director of SPEC be designated regional authorising officer for regional projects to be funded under aid provisions of the Lome Convention. A number of other SPEC member countries are in the process of developing closer relations with the EEC.

174. On trade questions it has been possible to make limited progress in areas such as the Regional Sugar Agreement and the Taro Agreement. SPEC's marketing activities have brought together many potential producers and buyers. We cannot calculate the value of the outcome but we hope it has been worth the effort.

175. The scope for Bulk Purchasing has been explored. Many areas where bulk purchasing might not be profitable have been identified. Of the commodities which might be purchased cheaper through collective buying, only pharmaceuticals show promise. The experience to date has not been particularly encouraging. However, Governments have not found it easy to convince their purchasing departments and related bodies that a collective regional approach might be worth the initial inconvenience of
introducing a new purchasing system. We are persevering. By collaboration with WHO in a major joint project which is in the process of being put together it should be possible to make more progress on collective purchasing.

176. Marketing and Trade Promotion are not easily susceptible to cost benefit analysis. In the present situation where Island governments have very limited overseas trade representation, I believe SPEC can continue to provide a service. Nevertheless it must be recognised that one Trade and Marketing Officer based in Suva will face considerable constraints in trying to develop markets in SPEC member countries, let alone outside the region. Consideration has been given to ways in which this service could be improved. It may be that SPEC should not try to build up a capability on trade promotion but rather to establish links with organisations in the major markets of island countries with a view to giving businessmen direct access to marketing services in countries of interest.

177. Trade relations is, perhaps, a more important area for inter-governmental action. It is an area of SPEC's work in which little progress has been possible. The SPEC Agreement called for an investigation of a free trade area in the South Pacific. Accordingly SPEC instigated and has been associated with a number of studies on trade-related questions including a free trade area. Up to this point, however, the political will among all who need to be involved to make real and substantial progress on this question has not been evident.

178. The lack of experienced trade negotiators in island countries has been an inhibiting factor, as has been the absence in many countries of statistical data on trade flows. There is nevertheless
a growing interest in the region in developing trade links across the region and with new friends in Europe, Asia and North America. Intra-regionally, Australia and New Zealand have demonstrated their willingness to discuss trade problems on a selective basis. However, the system of trade relations within which these countries have traditionally operated are sophisticated and complex from the point of view of Island members of SPEC. The absence of any coherent system of inter-governmental trade agreements in the region has bedevilled consideration of the question.

179. The desire remains nevertheless to create a new system of trade relations in the South Pacific which will provide a basis for stimulating economic activity in the Island countries without damaging, to an intolerable level, domestic industries in Australia and New Zealand. Another study, co-ordinated by my first Deputy, has been prepared which suggests an approach to restructuring the system. I am hopeful that the time is now right for governments to commit themselves to making progress in trade relations and that this report will provide a focus for future dialogue.

180. Other priority areas for regional economic co-operation identified in SPEC's mandate were civil aviation, telecommunications, tourism and industrial development. To this list member countries have added Law of the Sea and Fisheries questions and co-ordination of Energy, the Environment and a number of other related matters.

181. The force and validity of the case for a regional airline has not been seriously challenged, but the formula for bringing countries together on this question remains elusive. The trend has been towards the creation of more national airlines. Nevertheless, there are hopeful developments. The Regional
Aviation Council and its Advisory Board meets regularly and a dialogue on such matters as rationalisation of routes, standardisation of equipment and the like is developing. The Council has taken a decision to bring airlines in the region together in a Regional Airlines Association and to ask the Association to give priority to many matters where regional cooperation could improve air services in the region.

182. Progress in improving regional Telecommunications has been good. The plan and specifications for linking all the countries in the region to high grade telephone, telex and telegraph have been completed. Finance for upgrading the systems in Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa has been approved by the Commission of the European Communities.

183. Some countries have entered into contracts with a telecommunication company to set up and manage satellite receivers for their international communications. Representatives of this company have participated in meetings of the Telecommunications Co-ordinating Committee. Finance is being sought to upgrade the systems in the Cook Islands, Gilbert Islands, Niue and Tuvalu. Finance has also been made available by the European Communities to establish a Telecommunication Training Centre in Fiji to meet the training needs of the region both for international and domestic services. Other contributors to the Centre include UNDP, CFTC, Australia and New Zealand.

184. On Tourism the picture is less clear. While there are some aspects of tourism promotion and marketing that can be developed through regional co-operation at the government level, most areas of this work require active participation by the industry itself. One point has emerged very clearly from SPEC's
involvement in this area: there is an urgent need for countries in the Pacific to identify a single body to concentrate solely on the promotion and marketing of tourism in the region.

185. SPEC's involvement in Industrialisation matters has been limited. The prospect of industrial co-operation arrangements with the European Communities and other international organisations and examination of a recent CFTC/SPEC Study on the impact of industrial development may result in some increased activity for SPEC in the future in this area.

186. The sea and its resources has always played a central role in the life of the peoples of the South Pacific region. Its importance was recognised in the Port Moresby Declaration by the Forum in 1977 when Leaders decided to extend the maritime jurisdiction of member countries out to 200 miles, to enable coastal states in the region to better control and co-ordinate their exploitation of marine resources for the benefit of their peoples. The economic impact of this major decision cannot be overstated. In the issues of the Law of the Sea and Fisheries, we are collectively dealing with the greatest single economic resource of the region. Progress in the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation (SPRFO) is of growing interest to governments both within and outside the region.

187. The South Pacific region is not traditionally considered an area with pollution problems. However, significant forms of pollution and environmental danger are beginning to emerge. Acceptance of their relevance to development, and the need for measures to be taken to overcome them, have been slow. The programmes that are being drawn up jointly by SPEC and the SPC with inputs from UNEP and ESCAP should provide a useful basis for further development.
188. Increases in the cost of imported energy sources with their implications on balance of payments, inflation and economic planning continue to have adverse effects on the development efforts of the region, and highlights the urgent need to develop alternative approaches to this growing problem. Governments alone are in a position to bring to bear the kind of pressure and guidance required to achieve solutions to the energy problems. Regional organisations could assist them in this task.

189. There is a great deal of wisdom in the saying "Rome was not built in a day". History has shown that important and far reaching objectives are seldom won quickly or without difficulty. This dictum applies equally to regional co-operation.

190. Nevertheless, the building up of an international identity for the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation and the Forum is gathering pace. Law of the Sea developments have opened up the possibility of Island countries exercising sovereignty over the living resources of the sea and the economic resources of the seabed, in millions of square miles of the Pacific Ocean. The focus of international interest on the Pacific in recent years has intensified and its effects are already being felt.

191. Forum membership has grown from 7 to 10 full members and 2 other countries have observer status. One of these, the Solomon Islands, has formally applied to join the Forum in September 1978 while the other, Tuvalu, has indicated its intention to join SPEC and the Forum after Independence. Increasing interest in SPEC and Forum membership by other Pacific countries has led to a review of the criteria for membership. There has been significant constitutional progress in the New Hebrides and Micronesia, and it is evident that SPEC's members now want to find ways to extend SPEC
activities to benefit all the countries in the region irrespective of their constitutional status.

192. A review of regional institutions seems to be needed. Set up to meet needs of the past, they are not now necessarily well adapted to meet current and future needs of the region in a changing Pacific. I believe that the performance of SPEC in meeting these changing challenges will show what its role should be in the regional structure. Experience also shows the areas in which SPEC has been less effective, and where other organisations might be better placed to take effective action.

193. The distinction between the membership of SPEC and the South Pacific Commission is becoming progressively less obvious although certain anomalies seem unlikely to be resolved for many years. Nevertheless the time is not far off when the majority of countries and peoples of the region can meet as equals in the regional bodies to discuss at all levels - political, economic and social - developments affecting the peoples of the South Pacific region.

194. When governments in the region are satisfied that the end of the colonial period in the Pacific is in sight they will presumably want to bring together the regional organisations in a way which lends maximum strength to each of them, which allows for full political control by the Leaders of governments in the region, and which is capable of delivering to the peoples of the Pacific the kind of assistance that is relevant to and needed by them. Such an organisation will help give a community of interest and unity of purpose to the region which marks the Pacific as a region of the world, important in its own right.
195. One of the features of SPEC is its small staff. With a staff of this size it is possible to maintain a modest but effective programme of research, to organise inter-governmental consultations and to co-ordinate activities by other organisations. The mounting of field programmes or the undertaking of large scale operational activities would require a different and much larger kind of organisation, activities to which I do not think SPEC should aspire.

196. SPEC's strength and authority comes from its relationship with the Forum. Experience shows that regional projects do not move quickly. Important national interests are usually involved, and national decision-making processes have to be followed through. SPEC has been able to assist by organising preliminary studies, finding facts for feasibility studies, co-ordinating and guiding these studies, organising international meetings at technical level, and, when the groundwork has been properly carried out, presenting ministerial meetings and the Forum with recommendations for decision.

197. In these respects I believe that SPEC has played a useful role at a critical time in the development of the region. It served and continues to serve, a need. However, as the region changes, so does the need and, consequently, ability of the machinery to adapt to serve it.

198. In the beginning, when I was asked to set up this Organisation I had as a guide the general provisions in the SPEC Agreement. I was conscious of the high hopes that the founding members had for the new organisation and have tried to build an institution which would meet those hopes. Sometimes the direction was clear, other times I had to feel my way; however helpful guidance was always given by the Forum and the SPEC Committee. I would like to take
this opportunity of expressing my appreciation and gratitude to them both.

199. I attempted to encourage the organisation to aim to do a few things only, but do them well. Often we have ended by attempting too many things, not always of our own choice. In some we were more successful than in others. SPEC now exists as a reality, perhaps a more prosaic reality than its founders had hoped but nevertheless a permanent fixture in the region. As an organisation it will have a place as the Pacific makes its presence felt internationally as an important co-ordinated region of the world.

200. The stature and authority of the Forum as the paramount body in the region for inter-governmental discussion is acknowledged. It is evident that its authority will grow as its membership increases and as its Leaders gain in international stature. As the executive arm of the Forum SPEC will need to further develop its capability as a political secretariat, able to exercise a coordinating role at a policy level over the full range of economic and social regional activities. In this situation it may be desirable for it to shed some of its operational activities to agencies with an organisation and structure better suited for carrying out programmes in the field.

201. Upon leaving SPEC and the Forum I hope I may be allowed to conclude on a personal note. I believe I was given a rare privilege when I was appointed Director of SPEC. Forum Leaders entrusted me with something of great value. I have tried to honour this trust to the best of my ability, and to give the region an organisation which will give assistance that is both practical and purposeful. I have learnt much from SPEC and the Forum which will help me in whatever the future has in store for me.
It has been a great privilege to work with so many officials, and an honour to serve the Leaders of the region. I thank all the Leaders for their forbearance, and officials for their assistance. I can but apologise to them all for my own inadequacies and ask for pardon for my mistakes. To my staff, my thanks and appreciation for their tireless efforts and patience. To my successor, good luck. Into his hands I deliver this priceless regional trust.

SUVA

4 August 1978
### MEETINGS SERVICED BY SPEC

1 August 1977 - 31 July 1978

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SPEC STAFF LIST
JULY 1978

DIRECTOR
Hon Mahe U Tupouniua

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Mr R J Gates

EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Mr R Osborne

RESEARCH OFFICER
Mr E Haywood (To commence 1 October)

TRADE AND MARKETING OFFICER
Mr R N Morgan

LEGAL OFFICER
Mr P E Hohnen

ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICER I
Mr T Pierre

ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICER II
Mr J M Tallen

ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICER III
Mr W A Paia

ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICER IV
Mr R Igara

ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICER V
Mr A Tong

ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICER VI
Mr A S Va'ai

JUNIOR ECONOMIST I
Mr E T Blakelock

JUNIOR ECONOMIST II
No appointment made

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

CONFERENCE OFFICER
Mrs T Tupou

SECRETARY
Mrs A Sellars

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
Mrs M B Vatubua

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE OFFICER
Mr S Chongkit (To commence 8 August)

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Mr A Akbar

CLERK
Mr M Kia'yanuyanu

STENOGRAPHER
Mrs A B Naivalu

TYPIST
Mrs M T Tupou

CLERK/TYPIST/TELEX OPERATOR
Miss M M Kauyaca

FILING CLERK
Mr U Prasad

RECEPTIONIST
Mrs N Nand

DRIVER
Mr J Tuwai
SELECT LIST OF SPEC PUBLICATIONS 1977-1978 (JUNE)

The Fourth South Pacific Regional Shipping Council Meeting - Agreed Record and the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Pacific Forum Line, Nauru, 28 Feb-3 Mar 1977

Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Pacific Forum Line - The Fourth South Pacific Regional Shipping Council Meeting, Nauru, 28 Feb - 3 Mar 1977

Opening Address by the Director of SPEC to the University of the South Pacific "Pacific Week". March 1977

Agreed Record - Regional Meeting to discuss the possibility of Collective Purchasing of Medical Supplies, held at the Fijian Hotel, Yanuca Island, Fiji. 12-14 April, 1977


"Regional Economic Co-operation in the South Pacific - the contribution of SPEC" (A paper presented by Mr R G Irwin, Deputy Director to the Fiji Economic Society, May 1977)

Agreed Record of the Inaugural Meeting of the Interim Board of Directors of the Pacific Forum Line Limited, 27-28 April 1977, Apia, Western Samoa
Budget Out-Turn Report for year ending 31 December, 1976

Proceedings - Technical Conference on Banana Production and Marketing, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, May, 1977

Agreed Report - Regional Banana Revitalisation Scheme Review Meeting, 31 May-2 June 1977, Rarotonga, Cook Is.

Director's Annual Report - 1976/1977

Agreed Record of the Fifth Meeting of the South Pacific Regional Shipping Council, 16-17 June 1977, Suva

Pacific Forum Line Limited - Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association

"South Pacific Regional Natural Disaster Relief Fund" (A paper presented by Mr R Osborne, Executive/Administrative Officer, to the 1977 International Disaster Preparedness Seminar)

UNDP/FAO Survey of Agricultural Pests and Diseases - Interim Report, August, 1977

Report of the SPEC Committee Meeting, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 24-26 August 1977

"Regional Economic Co-operation in the South Pacific - The contribution of SPEC" (A paper presented by F B Hong Tiy, Assistant Research Officer to the Workshop on Development Planning with special reference to evaluation: Pacific Sub-region. Apia, Western Samoa, 15-31 August 1977)
Proposed Work Programme Budget for year ending 31 December, 1978  

Work Programme Budget for year ending 31 December 1978  

Budget for year ending 31 December 1978  

Report of the Fourth South Pacific Regional Telecommunications Meeting  
11-15 July 1977, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea  

Report of the SPEC Committee Meeting, SPEC Headquarters, Suva 14-15 December, 1977  

"The Role of SPEC in Regional Co-operation"  
(A paper presented by M U Tupouniua, Director of SPEC to the Fourth South Pacific Ports Conference, 30 Nov-1 Dec 1977, Suva)  

Report of the Second Meeting of the South Pacific Regional Civil Aviation Council, Niue, 13-18 May 1977  

"The Developing Island Countries of the South Pacific". (A paper presented to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting, Sydney, February 1978)  

Directory of Aid Agencies  

Statement by the Director of SPEC to the ESCAP 34th Session, Bangkok, March 1978  

South Pacific Regional Tourism Report
Volume I - Regional Overview, Conclusions and Observations. Prepared for SPEC by R Jeppesen, Jan-Mar 1978

South Pacific Regional Tourism Report

Bibliography of Numbered SPEC Publications 1973-1977

List of Numbered SPEC Publications (covered) 1973-1977

Ad Hoc Committee on Uniform Maritime Standards - Report on First Meeting

Regional Long Term Sugar Agreement Meeting
Suva, Fiji, 10/11 April 1978

Second Meeting of the South Pacific Regional Civil Aviation Advisory Committee Suva, 13/14 April 1978 - Agreed Record

Special SPEC Committee Meeting on Membership of the South Pacific Forum and SPEC - SPEC Headquarters, Suva, 18-19 April 1978

South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation Meeting (Resumed Session) SPEC Headquarters, Suva 5-10 June 1978 - Report

South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation - Meeting of Officials of South Pacific Forum countries. SPEC Headquarters, Suva, 9-11 May 1978

South Pacific Regional Shipping Council - Sixth Meeting, Apia, Western Samoa, 21 June 1978 - Agreed Record
South Pacific Regional Civil Aviation
Council - Third Meeting, Apia,
Western Samoa, 22-23 June 1978 -
Agreed Record

SPEC ACTIVITIES (Monthly Newsletters)

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