Introduction
Spurred by the feminist movement and the inclusion of women in development programs, there has been a proliferation of studies focusing on the role of women in rural and fishing communities (Chant and McIlwaine, 1995). Most of these studies dealt with the varied but secondary role of women in fishing communities. Recent studies on women in small-scale fisheries highlight their increasing economic role (Yater, 1982; Illo and Polo, 1990;). Pomeroy (1987) notes that fishermen today are more aggressive and mobile in their pursuit of fish because of declining fish stocks, and predicts that gender roles are likely to change in the direction of greater female involvement both in production and domestic chores. Similarly, Israel-Sobritchea (1994) believes that women’s lives have changed because of social and economic changes, resource depletion, and decline in household incomes. Drawing from her

Abstract
The changing nature of the fisheries in Bugtong Bato, a small fishing community in Central Philippines has also changed the role of women, particularly of older women, in the community. Until the 1980s, fishing used mainly traditional gears and methods and was highly seasonal. The livelihood activities of men were highly diversified, and fishermen undertook seasonal outmigration to the sugarcane plantations in Negros. Younger women and women of child-bearing age attended to domestic chores, helped their husbands prepare for the day’s fishing activities, sought employment as domestic helpers in the capital town or Manila, or engaged in seasonal jobs such as rice harvesting or sinamay fiber knotting. Older women mainly attended to domestic chores. With the introduction of new fishing gears and methods, seasonal outmigration has virtually stopped. The men who participated in group fishing financed by local financiers earn better incomes from these new fishing techniques. However, as fishing now requires longer periods at sea, older fishermen are unable to join their younger counterparts, and rely only on traditional fishing methods for their livelihood. Due to physical limitations and poor health, older fishermen are unable to earn enough to support their families, and their wives seek supplementary means of livelihood. The introduction of new fishing gears and methods has increased considerably the volume of fish landed and spurred the development of a new economic activity in this community - that of fish trading. Most fish traders are older women whose husbands are unable to fish or whose income from fishing cannot meet their daily needs. As such, older women in this community have assumed the role of primary providers for their families.
field research in Bohol, Central Philippines, she relates that as men's income from fishing becomes insufficient to meet family needs, women's participation in gainful employment to augment family incomes becomes significant. This paper examines the nature and role of older women as primary family providers in a fishing community. Based on interviews and observations, this paper presents an overview of the socioeconomic conditions in Bugtong Bato, Ibajay, Aklan Province, the changing nature of the fisheries and fishing in this community, and how this has changed women's functions from a domestic and supportive role during their early married lives to becoming major providers of family income as they age. Two narratives of representative women fish vendors are included to highlight the plight of these older women as they assume their new roles.

The Bugtong Bato fisheries
Bugtong Bato is one of the 35 barangays of the municipality of Ibajay. It is located 35 km from Kalibo, the capital of Aklan Province. As of 1998, it had 185 households and a population of 995. Like other coastal villages, income for the majority of households comes from fishing (Table 1). Eighty per cent of the men engage in fishing, and 70% of women who are gainfully employed are fish vendors. Bugtong Bato has a young population (Table 2); more than 40% are less than 17-years-old. Boys 13-16 start to engage in fishing, either to assist their fathers or to finance their schooling. Since most parents cannot afford to send their children to college, most males in the 17-25 age group engage in full-time fishing, while females work mostly as factory workers or household helpers in Kalibo and Manila.

Table 1. Occupational distribution in Bugtong Bato, Ibajay, Aklan, Philippines as of July 1998.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fisher</td>
<td>171</td>
<td></td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenter</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tricycle driver</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish vendor</td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storeowner</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dressmaker</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blacksmith</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborer (Manila)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired fisher</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Socioeconomics Section, SEAFDEC AQD, November 1998.

Table 2. Age structure of Bugtong Bato population.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 – 12</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 – 16</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 – 25</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 – 64</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 – above</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fishing in Bugtong Bato is seasonal. The first half of the year is considered the best season for fishing because of the calm seas during the southwest monsoon. The northeasterly monsoon from September to the beginning of January brings strong winds and rough seas, making fishing almost impossible. During this time, men and women try to find work outside the village. Some men find employment as contract workers in Kalibo; others try their luck in Manila; while a few women including married ones work as domestic helpers in Manila or Kalibo where they stay for six months or more.

The community considers the land and near shore waters as private property. The municipal government leased the near shore waters to two cooperatives, the Kilusang Kabuhayan at Kaunlaran (KKK) and the Pagtilibyung sang M angintok nga M angingisda sang I bajay (PAM M I), giving them the use-rights of the area. Each cooperative operates one or two otoshi-amis set less than one kilometer from the shore. Members of these cooperatives participate in the daily operations and are given their share of the catch. The cooperatives allow gleaners and fishers free access to the near shore area. Although the ten-hectare mangrove area is not legally titled, residents believe in de-facto use-rights, and 21 families claim ownership to portions of this land.

Fishing in Bugtong Bato is not as developed as in other fishing communities in the Visayas in terms of technology, the complexity of the composition of the crew, and level of capital investment. Income diversity is a common characteristic of peasant subsistence economies and is a basic feature of Bugtong Bato up to the present. The level of economic diversity however was much higher in the past. An 87-year-old male informant recounted how he used to peddle steamed fish cooked with vinegar in nearby farming villages to complement several sources of income, such as collecting tuba (coconut rum) and cast net fishing. Aside from peddling an average of 14 kg of fish, he also bought sinamay fiber from the town of Banga, Aklan, which he distributed to several women in Bugtong Bato who would knot these into one-meter strands. He then sold these strands to businessmen in another town.

The men of Bugtong Bato used to be part of the labor force for sugar plantations in Negros until the early 1980s. They were contracted to work as cane cutters, drivers, timekeepers, and haulers during the sugarcane harvest season from August until March of the following year. Those who stayed in the village derived a good part of their income from harvesting rice in nearby villages. Most, however, preferred to work in Negros, despite the miserable conditions, since they were able to earn and save more from working seven months in Negros compared to the income they would earn doing various jobs in Bugtong Bato.

Although new fishing techniques were introduced in the 1980s, the fishers of Bugtong Bato engage mainly in "low intensity" fishing. Traditional fishing gears such as beach seine, hook and line, fish corral and cast net are still the main gears used by most fishers. There is often a close economic tie between fishers and farmers in nearby farming villages. For instance, a fisher informant recounted that a regular buyer from a nearby farming village buys his daily catch every morning. In return, this buyer employs him to work in his farm every harvest season and pays him with rice.
The Bugtong Bato fishery however is slowly evolving into a more efficient medium-scale fishery with the introduction of these new fishing techniques and gears. Gears such as the balsa, a type of fish aggregating device installed in near-shore or off-shore waters and used with hook and line, sapyaw or encircling gill net, and modified purse seine were introduced in 1986, while the pangasulig, a type of gill net fishing used with the aid of a compressor to catch fusiliers and surgeonfish, and the net for tambilawan or flying fish were introduced in 1998. However, only a few fishers were able to invest in these new fishing gears. Those who can't afford to invest in these new gears join the crew of the larger fishing vessels, while others derive most of their income from their share in the otoshi-ami catch.

Recent developments in the local fisheries of Bugtong Bato have changed the distribution and marketing channels of the fish catch. Men travelling on foot to vend their catch traditionally did fish trading. There was a direct relation between fishers and buyers. However, with the newer fishing methods introduced by fishers from other parts of the Visayas, Bugtong Bato fishers spend longer hours waiting for fish caught from the otoshi-ami, or stay for longer periods while fishing off-shore. The running cost of fishing using these gears is also beyond the capacity of the average fisher to finance, thus creating a niche for financiers and traders. With the bigger volume of fish caught, and the necessity for others to finance the fishing operation, a complex network of fish distribution and trading is now established. Significantly, the women of Bugtong Bato have become more actively involved in fish trading.

There are three women financiers who are also the primary or "big" fish traders in Bugtong Bato. They finance the boat crew with supplies such as gasoline, crude oil, and expenses for boat repair and provide the daily food for the crew member's families. Other than the crew's individual share of a kilo or less of fish after each trip, the entire catch of the boat belongs to the financier. The catch is recorded and shared every market day. It is common for the primary buyers to sell part of the catch to secondary traders, mostly women. Women call this ginatagaan kami sang palangabuhian or "to provide us with livelihood" acknowledging the generosity of the primary buyers.

Women fish traders

In many fishing communities in the Visayas, women are engaged in fishing-related work. Women help their husbands to prepare and carry the motorboats and canoes before and after each fishing trip. Cleaning and fish drying, gleaning for mollusks and crustaceans are common activities for women, as well as mending torn nets and preparing lunch baskets (Isreal-Sobritchea, 1994), seaweed gathering and drying (Hurtado, personal communication), cleaning, shucking, packing and marketing of oysters and mussels (Siar et al., 1995), and drying sea cucumber (Zayas, 1994). These activities however are not common for the women of Bugtong Bato. A few older women do mend nets for other fishers and they usually get a 10% share of the harvest. Most of the Bugtong Bato fishers are now engaged in group fishing and all their needs are attended to by a financier so that their wives do not need to take charge of the usual pre-departure tasks. With developments in the local fisheries, an economically significant role has emerged for the older women of this village - that of fish trading.

The women fish traders of Bugtong Bato are either married (23) or widowed (5). About 68% are over 50-years-old (Table 3). Their households are large, with many supporting an extended
household. The women fish traders are either peddlers or market vendors. Of the 63 regular fish vendors in the Ibajay town market, 47 (75%) are women, 20 of whom come from Bugtong Bato. A male member of the household, usually a bachelor son, occasionally helps in fish trading. Partnerships between women peddlers are common. Although there has been no report of harassment or robbery, partners offer companionship and security especially if they sell fish in remote places. Peddlers go as far as the mountain villages, nearly 30 km north of Bugtong Bato. Those who sell fish far from the village hire a motor cab to transport their fish while those who peddle their shares in the nearby communities within a radius of 7 km walk. In the morning, the women fish traders wait for the motorboats to arrive from a night of fishing or after the otoshi-ami nets are lifted. With their bamboo or plastic baskets, they wait until all fish are weighed and all primary traders have taken their shares. All secondary buyers, however, are assured of fish to sell. Once given fish, market vendors immediately board motored cabs to town, and the peddlers walk their regular route. The women traders have to secure and sell at least 5 kg of fish daily to support their daily household needs. They also buy the crew's share of fish, although this is intended for the crew members' families.

Table 3. Age structure of women fish traders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31 - 40</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 - 50</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 - 60</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 - 70</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Socioeconomics Section, SEAFDEC AQD, November 1998

Few of the women traders are under 40-years-old, indicating that younger women have husbands who are able to support them. The high rate of pregnancy and time needed to care for young children are likely reasons why the younger women do not engage in fish trading or other economic activities. Reasons for trading given by the women include:

- An aging or dead husband;
- An ailing husband;
- The large number of members in their household; and
- The husband's low income from fishing.

Some of the women fish traders think that their husbands are just too lazy to work and depend on their wives' income from fish trading. Others believe that their husbands should not be working as hard or are unable to work as hard as they used to. Many older women fish traders believe that it is time for them to help their ailing husbands. They have accepted that fishing entails hard work and sacrifice, and that years of going out to sea have taken a toll on their husbands' health.

Interviews with two representative women traders highlight the significant economic role of these older women as primary family providers in this small fishing community.
Luning, a fish peddler

Luning is a 66-year-old frail woman who peddles fish in the village and nearby communities. By walking at a fast pace, she can beat four other peddlers with whom she shares the same route. She walks an average of 16 km a day, walking the same route two to three times a day depending on the supply of fish.

Luning supports a household of seven and has been peddling fish since 1975. Her husband was then engaged in hook-and-line fishing but the fish catch was not enough to support their growing family. She only stopped peddling during the last three months of pregnancies and while nursing her newborn.

Luning's 64-year-old husband, is constantly troubled by rheumatism, although he tries to earn income by crewing in one of the otoshi-amis. He crews for 15 days every month and earns P.25 daily ($1 = P.41). Otoshi-amis fishing involves hauling fish trapped in the otoshi-ami net, which takes thirty minutes to one hour per trip, and is done twice a day. Most of the time, Luning's husband stays at home and takes charge of the domestic chores when Luning is out peddling. The little income her husband gets on the rare occasions when he goes out to fish is considered a bonus.

Luning earns at least P.100 daily if there is fish to sell. She can carry and sell at most 7 kg of fish when the catch is good and at least 5 kg during slack times. Occasionally, her teenage son helps her to carry 10 kg of fish. Peddling is done usually three times each day at 6:00 to 7:00 am, 11:00 to 1:00 pm and 3:00 to 4:00 pm. This schedule allows her to attend to her other domestic chores. Despite her frailness she prefers to walk her 16 km route to save the additional cost of transportation. Although she sometimes thinks of going back to Manila to work as a household help, a job she used to do for six years during her younger days, she accepts that income from peddling is good especially as it means she can be with her family.

Luning prefers to peddle rather than sell fish in the market because peddling provides enough income and leaves her time to attend to domestic chores. Luning nets P.20 for every kilogram of yellow fin tuna she sells. She can also exchange fish for items such as rice and earn an additional P.5 by exchanging one-half kilo of fish, which she usually sells at P.40 for one ganta of rice costing P.45. She also brings with her other items like candies, bread, pork, and beef which the farmers request from her. In return, she buys from them bananas, vegetables and root crops that she sells to her neighbors.

Nita, a market vendor

A native of Negros Province, Nita, a 54-year-old market vendor moved to Bugtong Buto with her husband and four children 15 years ago. She was a sacada or field worker when she met her husband, a native of Bugtong Bato when he was a contract worker in one of the sugar plantations in Negros. Although a daughter now works as a midwife in a local clinic, Nita is supporting a family of seven, a married son and his family, and two younger children who are in high school. Nita's husband operates a small fish corral but the catch from the corral is not consistent, and often not enough to provide for their daily needs. Nita entered fish trading ten years ago to augment her husband's income. Unlike most peddlers, Nita had a little capital to start her business since her husband inherited a hectare of rice land. Nita gets
her supply of fish from the otoshi-amis and five other fishing boats as well as whatever fish her
husband harvests from his corral. When the catch is not good in Bugtong Bato, she buys
from other traders from other towns.

Nita can be found in the town market from six in the morning until five in the afternoon
while her husband takes care of the domestic chores. As a market vendor, her operational
costs are higher than other fish peddlers like Luning. She pays an annual license fee of P.800,
a daily entrance fee of P.10, and P.5 for table space. Added to these costs are P.20 for
transportation and P.20 for ice. At most, Nita can earn about P.250 on a good day and P.50
if her sales are sluggish. During the peak fishing season, she can sell as much as 50 kg of fish
but as little as 5 kg during the slack season when there is not enough fish to divide among
the traders. Her husband's income from his catch is saved for emergencies such as hospitalization
or for their children's miscellaneous expenses. Nita hints that because of her husband's
inability to provide for the family, she has to continue her work and does not envision retiring
in the near future.

Fishing in Bugtong Bato has gradually evolved from "low-intensity" fishing utilizing traditional
fishing gears to "medium-scale" fishing with the introduction of motorboats, new methods
of fishing like the use of balsa, sapyaw, fishing with the use of compressor, and the operation
of otoshi-amis in near-shore waters. Introduction of these new gears and techniques has opened
new fishing grounds in the Sibuyan Sea and facilitated the intensification of fishing in the
area. This has resulted in better incomes for the fishers and has practically stopped seasonal
outmigration to nearby Negros Island. New economic opportunities have opened up for the
women in this community. More women are engaged in fish trading due to the increased
catches from the new gear, better roads, and transportation facilities. Women were further
encouraged by the availability of financial assistance through the Self-employment Assistance-
Kaunlaran (SEA-K) from the Department of Social Welfare and Development's national
program on Comprehensive Integrated Delivery of Social Services (CIDDS). Women fish
traders like Luning have availed of loans ranging from P.1,000 to P.3,000 from this project.
This program started in Aklan province in 1996 and is similar to the grameen bank programs
in East Asian countries. The loans are intended for investments in fish trading and sari-sari
or convenience stores. Women are the target beneficiaries; all except one of the 38 creditors
of the program are women.

Fish marketing and processing are part-time income generating activities of women in fishing
communities in the Philippines (Israel, 1991) and other Southeast Asian countries (BOBP/FAO,
1980). Women engage in these and other activities mainly to supplement the incomes of their
fisher husbands (Israel, 1991). In Bugtong Bato, however, fish trading has become a major
income generating activity particularly for the middle-aged and older women. This may also
be the case in other fishing communities although there is no documentation of the age
structure of women fish traders in the available literature. Fish trading offers a relatively stable
income for families whose previous dependence on fishing as a livelihood has been curtailed
due to the inability of the primary provider, the fisher husband, to engage in this physically
demanding work. Family support now falls on the shoulders of these older women even
beyond the age when their counterparts in urban communities have retired from economically
productive work. Development programs usually focus on younger age groups and potentially
productive household members. The significant contribution of older women beyond their prime is rarely considered. Since women in the older age groups may not be burdened by the reproductive and other domestic responsibilities that can limit women's capability to carry out livelihood activities including fish vending on a larger scale (Israel, 1991), development programs should be designed to offer livelihood opportunities to these women and to improve their skills at whatever jobs they are engaged in.

References
A woman enters uncertainly into conjugal life with a man. She brings with her the hope of happiness. In her married life, she toils for long hours with dedication and patience in the hope of gaining his love. Everyone in her husband's family is all too willing to accept her services, but all are too miserly to return her any when she needs it. It is as if she were a slave who has been bought by her husband's family - her entire life is meant to serve others. She tolerates all the tortures including beatings, in the interest of family peace and happiness. Her only protest is her weeping. When she is wrongly accused of idleness, and beaten to death by her husband, he gets away with the lightest of sentences.

Things go this way for almost all women in the rural areas of Bangladesh. They are unaware of their rights, neither do they protest against the inhuman treatment meted out to them. In order to raise a protest against this inhuman treatment, it is necessary to make women realize they have rights and position in society. They must remain united and fight against the injustices meted out to them. In the family, the woman has endless duties in the household, and yet the male members rarely recognize her contribution.

The society must pay due regard to the work of a woman, recognize its importance and honour her as a human being. Improving the skills of women, their efficiency, consciousness, and awareness will empower them and ensure their rights. The age-old superstitions, social systems and norms that enchain women, should be discarded. In this respect, our society fails to keep pace with other civilized societies of the world. Women must come forward, breaking all these barriers and establish their equal rights in society. No development in the proper sense is possible if women are ignored and deprived of their legal and human rights. In view of this, Banchte Shekha is trying its best to develop the awareness, skill, and empowerment of women through proper technology transfer such as involving women in fish cultivation.

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(1) Angela Gomes is the Founder of Banchte Shekha, a Bangladesh nongovernment women's organization. In 1999, she was awarded the Ramon Magsaysay Award for community leadership. These awards are considered the Asian equivalent of the Nobel prizes. The famous poster, 'My Wife Does Not Work', by Ms. Gomes was featured among graphic displays at the Asian Fisheries Society 1998 International Symposium on Women in Fisheries.
Cover design for *My Wife Does Not Work.*
Ernest Hamley, Fisheries and Co-operatives Development Adviser and former Senior Fisheries Management Consultant, Colombo Plan UNDP-ILO Projects in Southeast Asia, congratulated the Forum on the variety and quality of presentations in the 'Women in Fisheries' special session and the debate arising therefrom. He stressed that contributors and their organisations could derive considerable benefits in most sectors of their respective fisheries if the important underlying themes of many of the papers were fully appreciated and implemented positively. Responding to the summariser's observations and requests for inputs, the following comments were offered for practical consideration and, where possible, early adoption:

1.0 Where difficulties arise in definitive terminology, which included words such as "fishermen", it should be noted that it was often intended merely as a collective term, rather than intentionally of gender origin. However, it is essential to change perceptions in order to get the right 'ethos'. Fortunately in the English language many suitable non-sexist words and phrases are available as alternatives to adequately describe most of the functional roles. Such a list may include fishers, catchers, producers, operators, etc. Similarly, incidentally, "vessels" may be applied to a wide variety of craft or boats in fishing - their "skipper" and/or crew could equally be of either sex. All these words are general and generic to describe men and women in the industry at these levels.

2.0 Proportionality: It has been noted from several presentations that in many places in Southeast Asia women, on average, spent around 45% of their time in various "fishery activities". Similarly, in most capture fisheries, for reasons of weather, conditions, seasonal or quota limits etc., only up to about 180 days annually are available to the men for actual netting or otherwise producing fish of all species.

2.1 It was therefore suggested that in proportional broad terms men and women might both be perceived as devoting almost one-half of their overall working time in the industry in one capacity or another. In other words, it may be considered that women in reality can claim to be equal to men as contributors already, in that sense. However, if "effective production" (whether catching, rearing or processing) has to solely raise a family's total sustenance income for virtually a year in only half a calendar year (183 days), management, planning and price yields for produce in the market should take account of that factor.

3.0 The speaker gave examples from project experience in Indonesia (Java specifically) which found that each catcher had about 4.1 persons in family dependency on their production. More generally it was not widely enough appreciated that between 5 and 7 persons derive job dependency from the person who produces fish or fish products. They come from many ancillary industries and include suppliers, processors, distributors, port workers and market workers at several stages, and all need to be taken into account in assessing dependency importance.
4.0 Unexploited potential. There is scope for improved research to make use of considerable under-exploited resources still available to provide better incomes, for women in the fisheries localities in particular. In one Central Java village (Kecamatan) a complete sub-industry was found far from port operations, providing income for local people in the supply of basket containers for processed fish, storage and transport. Much female labour of all ages was used in craft skills. It was felt that many opportunities of this nature could be opened up elsewhere.

5.0 Tourism. With growing tourism in the region, attention was drawn to this often totally unrecognised source of potential income in which women could play an important part, not only in acting as guides and providing accommodation and facilities, food, etc., but also making and selling artefacts and souvenirs from local by-products, e.g. shells, etc. Tourist visitors of all nationalities are drawn to fishing villages, indeed they enjoy being allowed to view all aspects of production and processing of by-products – e.g. handicrafts. Some elderly folk in the community can contribute by participation and feel "wanted" too. Some fishing places have already started doing this effectively; in the speaker’s view considerable scope exists for government and local authorities to assist and promote local fishing enterprises, especially co-operatives, in exploiting some enormous potential in this field.

In concluding remarks the speaker conveyed thanks to all the forum organizers and participants and brought them special greetings from sister fisheries bodies in the United Kingdom, particularly the Institute of Fisheries Management, with which he was currently associated.