

OUT-OF-SESSION
SEPTEMBER 1986

No 1985...115....

- ☐ NEW PROPOSAL
☐ CONTINUING PROJECT
☒ FINAL REPORT
☐ PROGRESS REPORT

FISHING INDUSTRY RESEARCH TRUST ACCOUNT

TITLE OF PROPOSAL/PROJECT: Funding of the Commonwealth/Industry Consultation Task Force.

ORGANISATION: Commonwealth/Industry Consultation Task Force

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE: D Bryan.

FUNDS SOUGHT/GRANTED

YEAR	SOUGHT	GRANTED
<u>1985/86</u>	<u>\$28,000</u>	<u>\$28,000</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

RELATED APPLICATIONS:

RECEIVED 18/9/1986

DISTRIBUTED/...../19...

Kennedy for
Secretary
Fishing Industry Research Committee

REPORT TO THE FISHING INDUSTRY RESEARCH TRUST ACCOUNT

1 TITLE OF PROJECT

Funding of the Commonwealth/Industry Consultation Task Force.

2 NAME OF GRANTEE

Commonwealth/Industry Consultation Task Force.

3 PROPOSAL

To fund the costs of industry representation on the Task Force set up by the Australian Fisheries Conference to establish a permanent industry/Government consultative arrangement.

As agreed by the Conference, the Task Force Membership was to comprise two representatives from each State (one from the catching sector and one from the secondary sector). The Task Force was required to meet no later than 28 February 1985 and thereafter for such meetings which would be necessary to enable a final report to be presented before 30 June 1985.

4 OBJECTIVES

4.1 To reimburse industry representatives for their travelling and accommodation costs for the first meeting of the Task Force held on 26 February 1985 in Sydney; and

4.2 To pay for the travelling and accommodation costs of industry representatives at two further meetings of the Task Force to be held at Adelaide on 29/30 April and at Canberra (final meeting) on 26 June 1986.

5 BACKGROUND

Probably the most important issue addressed by the Australian Fisheries Conference held in Canberra on 31 January to 2 February 1985 was the matter of Commonwealth/Industry consultation arrangements. It was agreed by the Conference that there was a need for a permanent, independent, national fishing industry organisation, comprised solely of industry representatives and concentrating on national issues.

It was vital that such a body be set up as soon as possible as industry urgently needed a representative body at the national level and the Commonwealth Government needed a fully representative body to which it could refer issues affecting the fishing industry.

To achieve this goal as a matter of urgency the Conference decided to set up a Task Force to report on the following aspects of such a body:-

- (a) Constitution
- (b) Role and objectives
- (c) Structure and membership
- (d) Options for funding
- (e) Interface with the Commonwealth
- (f) The operation of the National Farmers Federation and its relevance to the fishing industry
- (g) Mode of operation
- (h) Other related matters

The Conference resolved that an application should be submitted to FIRTA for underwriting certain elements of the costs of the Task Force in order to ensure that the new consultative arrangements could be set in place as soon as possible.

6 EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

The funds were used to reimburse Task Force delegates from the State and Territory who attended meetings on 26 February in Sydney, 29/30 April in Adelaide and 26 June 1985 in Canberra. Refer to the copy of Ledger Card for detailed breakdown of expenditure. Copies of Reports of the three meetings are also attached.

7 CONCLUSION

The Commonwealth/Industry Consultation Task Force was disbanded on 26 June 1986 after tabling its recommendations to the Reconvened Australian Fisheries Conference in Canberra.

The Conference agreed to the Task Force recommendation on the establishment of a National Fishing Industry Council (NFIC) represented by a federation of a National Fishermen's Association (NFA), National Marketers and Processors' Association (NMPA) and Association of National Industry Associations (NIA).

It also agreed to the Task Force recommendation to establish a Fishing Industry Policy Council for consultation with the Commonwealth Government, to be presided over by the Minister for Primary Industry.

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Q.C.F.O. LEDGER CARD

SHEET No.	ACCOUNT	BUDGET \$	A/c No	
	F.I.R.T.A. GRANT	85/115		
DATE	PARTICULARS	CHEQUE No.	AMOUNT	PROGRESSIVE TOTAL
5-8-85	REGISTRATION FEES FROM C'LM D.P.T.		(1345.00)	(1345.00)
10.8.85	F.I.R.T.A. GRANT		(28000.00)	(29345.00)
10.9.85	P. POWNALL	804496	3427.56	(25917.50)
..	GLD. FISH MANAG. AUTH. - G. DENOVAN	804497	2796.20	(23121.30)
..	L. SCHWINNING	804498	1063.63	(22057.67)
..	P.F.A.T. - W. BAKER	804499	1466.95	(20590.72)
..	AFIC NTH. TERR. - D. THOMAS	804500	1296.62	(19294.10)
..	Vic. F. IND. COUNCIL - R. PRENDERGAST A. WILKIN	804501	2337.61	(16956.49)
..	P. DOYLE	804502	1071.50	(15884.99)
..	U. ROCKLIFFE	804503	619.29	(15265.70)
..	F. CONNELL	804504	1341.35	(13924.35)
..	AFIC WEST AUSTR. J. COLE G. STEWART	804505	2811.40	(11112.95)
..	AFIC S.A. M. PUGLISI, M. PACH, C. HUNT	804506	3304.81	(7808.14)
12.11.85	AFIC N.T. E. KEMP.	904035	1048.25	(6759.89)
4.3.86	QCFO - STATIONERY		35.88	(6724.09)
1.6.86	.. POSTAGE & FREIGHT		72.00	(6652.09)
..	.. TELEXES		55.00	(6597.09)
..	.. PHOTOCOPYING		30.00	(6567.09)
..	.. TELEPHONE		376.00	(6191.09)
..	.. OFFICE ASSISTANCE		571.00	(5620.09)
..	.. DEPOSIT FOR MEETING ROOM		200.00	(5420.09)
..	.. D. BRYAN - AIR FARES		2371.20	(3048.89)
..	.. - ACCOM & TRAVEL COSTS		1086.31	(1962.58)
..	.. - FEE FOR SERVICE		1800.00	(162.58)
..	.. COMPUTER TIME		80.00	(82.58)

NATIONAL FISHING INDUSTRY TASK FORCE first meeting, Sydney
26 FEBRUARY 1985, 9 am.

ATTENDANCE:

Mr D Bryan, Convenor	QLD
Mr G Donovan	QLD
Mr G Skoutarides	NSW
Mr P Doyle	NSW
Mr K Prendergast	VIC
Mr F Willox	VIC
Mrs U Rockliff	TAS
Mr W Baker	TAS
Mr C Hunt	SA
Mr M Pach	SA
Mr F Connell	WA
Mr J Cole	WA
Mr D Thomas	NT

OBSERVERS

Mr G Stewart	AFIC (WA)
Mr D Dunstan	AFIC (NT)
Mr T Kailis	NFCA
Secretary:	K Owen

Mr Hunt's nomination to replace Mr N Craig was accepted.

Corrections to the list of members were noted.

Adoption of agenda.

The proposed agenda at attachment 1 was accepted.



Australian Fisheries Conference

COMMONWEALTH/INDUSTRY CONSULTATION TASK FORCE

All correspondence to:

Mr K. Owen, Secretary
Australian Fisheries Services
Department of Primary Industry
Edmund Barton Building
Broughton Street
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Mr D. Bryan, Convenor

Telephone 07/391 4961

Telex 145547

I N T E R I M R E P O R T

TO: AUSTRALIAN FISHING CONFERENCE DELEGATES

FROM: COMMONWEALTH/INDUSTRY CONSULTATION TASK FORCE

D.F. Bryan (Convenor)
D. Thomas (NT)
F. Connell (WA)
J. Cole (WA)
M. Pach (SA)
C. Hunt (SA)
W. Baker (TAS)
U. Rockliff (TAS)
F. Willox (VIC)
K. Prendergast (VIC)
P. Doyle (NSW)
G. Skoutarides (NSW)
G. Denovan (QLD)

Advisers:

G. Stewart - AFIC (WA)
D. Dunstan - AFIC (NT)
T. Kailas - (WA)

DATE: 27 MARCH 1985

COMMONWEALTH/INDUSTRY CONSULTATION TASK FORCE

TO: Australian Fisheries Conference Delegates
FROM: Commonwealth/Industry Consultation Task Force
DATE: 27 March 1985
RE: Proposed National Fishing Industry Council Structure

At its inaugural meeting, the Task Force resolved to canvass industry attitudes on matters arising as it was considered that this input would assist with preparation of a final report.

The interim report is deliberately brief and sets out a general concept in an endeavour to gauge industry reaction to the principles applied.

You are invited to submit individual and/or collective attitudes from your sector in relation to:

1. The proposed structure of NFIC;
2. The proposed funding arrangements;
3. Other details or mechanics not covered in the report;
4. Indication of your preferred industry grouping (if applicable);
5. Availability to attend formal presentation of the final report in late June.

Your comments should reach the Task Force Secretary no later than 14 April 1985.

The Task Force will re-convene to consider industry comments and to prepare its final submission for circulation by 7 June.



CONVENOR

Att.

SUMMARY

The proposal submitted reflects attitudes which emerged from various sections of the industry and were considered by the Task Force at its inaugural meeting on 26 February 1985. The proposal is based upon the following rationale:

- * That all existing representative structures must be able to maintain an effective liaison on behalf of their industry segments within the NFIC framework.
- * That not all State-based industry organisations would be able, or willing, to equitably finance a totally independent representative structure.
- * That the NFIC structure must offer an equitable, independent and united capacity for representation of all sections of the Australian fishing industry.
- * That NFIC ensures effective communication with Government and establishes clearly defined representative and information channels from future industry/government interaction to all sections of industry.
- * That a permanent and efficient national industry body can emerge given industry's general agreement to a structure and its function.

BACKGROUND

Regardless of all unresolved secondary issues and matters of mechanics, the overwhelming primary recommendation of the Australian Fisheries Conference was that a stand-alone structure to co-ordinate representation of every bona fide facet of the fishing industry on a national level should be established. This structure would be known as the National Fishing Industry Council (NFIC).

The most urgent demand upon the National Industry Task Force was, therefore, to provide a platform of effective representation from which the priorities of industry for representation may be established. Achieving the overall objective was dependent upon successfully establishing middle ground within the Task Force in the first instance.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Constitution

It is intended that a draft constitution of NFIC will be finalised pending the industry's agreement-in-principle to the proposed concept. The draft constitution would establish the role and procedures of NFIC including its interaction with the proposed three affiliated independent and autonomous national bodies. (Refer Attachment A).

Role and Objectives

It is proposed that NFIC will be empowered only to advise Government on the basis of industry's collective attitude and only in relation to matters within the ambit of national authority.

It would not become involved in Commonwealth/State administrative arrangements or fisheries management consultative arrangements either State-based or involving more than one State and the Commonwealth Government.

Structure and Membership

It is proposed that NFIC would have a membership of nine industry representatives being three nominees from each of the affiliated national representative segments.

- 1) NFA (National Fishermen's Association)
- 2) NMA (National Marketer's Association)
- 3) NIA (National Industry Association)

(Refer Attachment B).

Funding

It is recommended that the most feasible method of funding NFIC is by equal contribution of \$35,000 from the three affiliated national segments.

It is suggested that the three affiliated national segments would then divide the cost evenly between the six States and the Northern Territory in the case of producers and marketers and equally between the membership of the existing national interest groups.

Interface with Government

It is recommended that the industry request the Federal Minister for Primary Industry to accept the nine members of NFIC as representatives of the total fishing industry in Australia to advise him and his officers on a regular basis on national issues.

Should this membership proposal be rejected, the alternative recommendation would urge the appointment of two members from every State and adequate representation from each national affiliated grouping.

IN CONCLUSION:

The option submitted has a significant level of support within the Task Force on the basis that the industry is utilising existing funding and direct consultative arrangements. (Refer Attachment C).

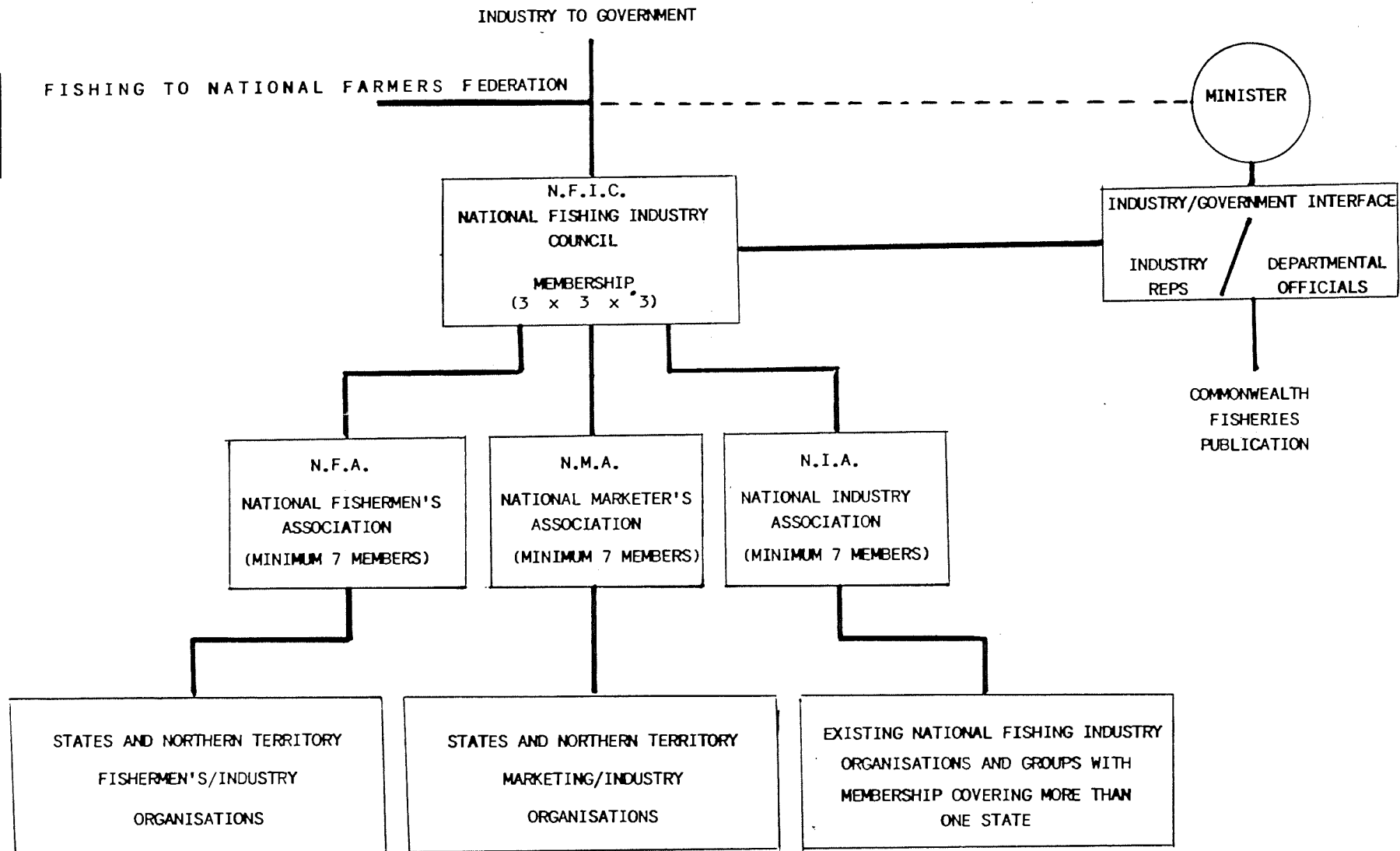
It is considered that the proposal would gain acceptance because it requires limited funding from industry; it introduces industry's independence in selecting representatives; and it establishes clear channels of communication.

The successful finalisation of the Australian Fisheries Conference recommendation will depend ultimately on the industry's ability to reach compromise on one or all of the terms of reference given to the Task Force.

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NATIONAL FISHING INDUSTRY COUNCIL - PROPOSED STRUCTURE

ATTACHMENT A
27.3.85



EXAMPLES OF NATIONAL INDUSTRY BODIES

Australian Fishing Industry Council
National Fishing Industry Training Committee
Australian Seafoods Promotion Council
Australian Abalone Producers' Association
Australian Fish Cannery Association
Australian Oyster Farmers' and Producers' Association
Northern Fishing Companies' Association Ltd
Rock Lobster and Prawning Association of Australia (Inc)



MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRY

Parliament House,

Canberra A.C.T. 2600

Telephone (062) 73 1711

26 March 1985

Mr DF Bryan
Chairman
National Fishing Industry
Task Force
Queensland Commercial Fishermen's
Organisation
1 Wickham Terrace
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Bryan

I indicated during our meeting on 5 March 1985 that I would confirm in writing the points I made concerning the Government's position on the funding of the proposed National Fishing Industry Organisation.

While I recognise the importance of national industry organisations in the various sectors of primary industry in providing leadership and in co-ordinating and presenting cohesive industry views to Government there is a limit to the extent to which Government can become involved in providing direct financial support to such organisations. In my address to the recent Australian Fisheries Conference I stated specifically that the Government would be prepared to fund and service the operation of a fully representative Government/industry consultative body. However the Conference did not accept this approach and decided instead to pursue the option of establishing an independent body divorced from any form of Government involvement. In the circumstances it was left to industry to decide on the structure, membership and funding arrangements for such a body.

I do not disagree with this decision and welcome the industry's initiative. Also I appreciate that the industry would like the Government to provide funding for such an organisation. Over recent years, however, similar proposals have been put forward by a number of other primary industry organisations and the Government's view is that there are problems of principle and of a practical nature which preclude the use of statutory levies or general Government revenue to finance non-statutory bodies similar to that which the fishing industry proposes to establish. It would be tantamount to imposing compulsory membership on individuals and would attach official status to a body which might not necessarily continue to have the support or represent the views of a substantial proportion of the industry. A funding arrangement of this type may also reduce pressure on an organisation to maintain industry support

through efficiency and responsiveness and raise difficult questions of responsibility and accountability. There are also questions of equity, for example, levies on fishing licences would only raise funding from the catching sector and other sectors of the industry might not contribute.

I should add however that I am prepared to consider supporting industry participation in fishery-specific management committees (such as NORMAC and SETMC) via a levy established to fund particular management programs.

I trust I have clarified the Government position on the funding issue and that, despite the formidable challenge, the Task Force will be able to successfully complete its work and present a viable set of options for consideration.

Yours sincerely

John Kerin

NATIONAL FISHING INDUSTRY COUNCIL TASK FORCE
SECOND MEETING
ADELAIDE, 29-30 APRIL 1985

APOLOGIES

J Cole, M Pach, U Rockliff, D Thomas

ATTENDANCE

DF Bryan
G Denovan
P Doyle
G Skoutarides
F Willox
KJ Prendergast
W Baker
C Hunt
M Puglisi (replacing M Pach)
G Stewart (replacing J Cole)
F Connell
L Schwinning (replacing D Thomas)

Advisor: D Dunstan
Observer: D Townsend

The proposed amendments to the record of the first meeting were accepted.

AGENDA

The meeting agreed to the alteration of the draft agenda to address "Constitution" after "Task Force Report".

Mr Bryan advised the meeting of the fishing industry's participation in the Rural Costs Summit with the National Farmers' Federation (NFF). It had been agreed that the fishing industry would handle the issue of fuel as part of that Summit.

Mr Bryan noted that a difficulty the NFF had encountered resulted from its NOT representing all farmers eg cane farmers, grain farmers. Government could argue that NFF was not speaking on behalf of all farmers. It was essential that the NFIC could claim total representation. Immediately on Mr Kerin's issue of a media release on the industries involvement in the Summit Mr Byran would also make an announcement.

The Convenor called for reports from State/Territory delegates on their industries' attitudes to the Task Force's brief.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Mr Hunt) had recommended its delegates be flexible. The State was not hemmed in by past attitudes and considered that at this meeting firm recommendations should be made.



Australian Fisheries Conference

COMMONWEALTH / INDUSTRY CONSULTATION TASK FORCE

Mr K. Owen, Secretary
Australian Fisheries Service
Department of Primary Industry
Edmund Barton Building
Broughton Street
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Mr D. Bryan, Convenor.
PO Box 42
EAST BRISBANE QLD 4169

Telephone 07/391 4961
Telex AA145547

REPORT TO INDUSTRY

CONTENTS:

INTRODUCTION
RECOMMENDATIONS
IMPLEMENTATION
MODE OF OPERATION
RATIONALE
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Attachments:

1. NFIC STRUCTURE
2. NFIC DRAFT CONSTITUTION
3. QUESTIONNAIRE

DATE: 30 APRIL 1985

REPORT OF THE COMMONWEALTH/INDUSTRY CONSULTATIVE TASK FORCE

INTRODUCTION

At the Australian Fisheries Conference, 31 January to 2 February 1985, the need for a re-organised basis for Commonwealth/Industry consultation was identified. The Conference resolved as follows.

Resolutions:

1. The Conference agreed that there is a need for a permanent, independent, national fishing industry organisation, comprised solely of industry representatives and concentrating on national issues. The Conference resolved to establish a Task Force as follows, in respect of achieving this objective.
2. The Conference recommended that IFICP should continue until the report of the Task Force has been considered and NFIC is operational.

Membership of the Task Force:

Two representatives from each State (one from the catching sector and one from the secondary sector). Where a State chose to send only one representative, that representative should have two votes.

Organisation of the Task Force:

The Task Force should elect its own officers except for the Secretariat function which the Australian Fisheries Service (DPI) will provide.

The Task Force should meet not later than 28 February 1985 and after such meetings as are necessary, report back to an appropriate representative industry meeting, either a smaller industry body or a full industry conference, by 30 June 1985. The Task Force should be disbanded after it has submitted its report.

Following consideration and acceptance of the Task Force recommendations, by the meeting of the appropriate representative industry body, the report of the Task Force should be conveyed to the Minister for Primary Industry.

Funding of the Task Force:

State-based industry organisations would fund their representation on the Task Force. At the same time, an application would be submitted to FIRTA for underwriting the costs of the Task Force.

Activities of the Task Force:

The Task Force met in Sydney on 26 February 1985 and in Adelaide on 29 and 30 April 1985.

As directed by the Conference, the Task Force considered the preferred option of an independent, self-funded industry organisation, which was costed by the Conference at approximately \$250,000 per annum.

Whilst some State delegations had no difficulty in accepting and funding their share of such an organisation, or a more basic independent organisation which would cost in excess of \$120,000 per annum (approximately \$17,000 per State), there was one State which could not contribute at that level or at any substantial level and the contributions of three other States were in doubt.

The Task Force considered an industry organisation without total participation was not an option and could not be pursued.

Each delegation faced with these circumstances referred back to their State organisations for advice. There remained substantial support for the fully independent body, but in practice it was still not possible for all States to contribute to the extent necessary to form a national body as directed by the Conference.

Recognising this major limitation, the Task Force sought to achieve some other basis which would satisfy most industry aspirations without disadvantage to independence.

The Task Force circulated for comment an Interim Report to all those who attended the Conference.

A number of other options which did not impose an impossible cost burden on all sectors and which satisfied most aspirations of industry were considered in detail.

The option which became the preferred structure and which after subsequent amendment and refinement became the unanimous recommendation of the Task Force is as follows.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1A. That all segments of the Australian Fishing Industry will be represented by a Federation of:
- i. National Fishermen's Association (NFA)
 - ii. National Marketers and Processors Association (NMPA)
 - iii. Association of National Industry Associations (NIA)
(Refer Attachment 1).
- 1B. That the Federation be known as the National Fishing Industry Council (NFIC). (Refer Attachment 2).
- 1C. The NFIC will be the peak industry body for the discussion of matters of mutual interest.
- 2A. The NFIC shall convene at least once per year and shall endorse the appointment of nine (9) representatives to an Executive Committee, three nominated by each of the three NFIC member groups, provided that each State has at least one representative.
- 2B. The NFIC shall elect an Administrative Chairman, who may or may not be a representative on the Executive Committee and who, in conjunction with the Executive Committee, will be responsible for the day to day operation of the NFIC and arranging consultation with the Australian Fisheries Service on industry issues.
- 2C. Member groups of NFIC shall fund, by way of equal contribution, the administrative and secretarial costs of NFIC and shall be responsible for meeting the travel and associated costs of their representatives attending NFIC meetings.
- 3A. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for providing and maintaining adequate secretarial services within the annual budget established by NFIC.
- 3B. The Executive Committee shall be the nominated representatives of the Australian Fishing Industry to advise the Minister of Primary Industry about major issues affecting the Australian fishing industry and provide a forum for discussion of Government policy through a suggested Commonwealth/Government/Industry consultative body, the Fishing Industry Liaison Panel (FILP) which shall have nine (9) industry members.
- 3C. The Executive Committee will also represent the Australian fishing industry views to other Ministers, Government Departments and instrumentalities.

IMPLEMENTATION

-
- 1A. The Australian Fisheries Conference shall be reconvened by the Task Force in Canberra on 26 June 1985 to receive the Task Force recommendations. On the presentation of its Report, the Task Force shall disband.
 - 1B. The formation of NFIC and progress reports on other Conference recommendations shall be the business of the Conference.
 - 1C. The envisaged association groups shall, prior to 26 June 1985, create the necessary framework to establish respective associations, including the selection of seven (7) delegates to represent them on NFIC and from those delegates submit three (3) nominations for the NFIC Executive Committee.
 2. With the Minister's agreement to the principals submitted, NFIC should be formed and, as a consequence, an effective formal Government/industry consultation forum should be established as a matter of urgency.
 3. To ensure that the establishment of NFIC may take place on 26 June 1985, it is imperative that delegates to the Conference register with the Secretary their intention to participate at the Canberra meeting by 7 June 1985. (Refer Attachment 3).

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MODE OF OPERATION

1. National Fishing Industry council

The National Fishing Industry Council, being supreme and representative, will frame policies on national industry issues for the purpose of advising the Commonwealth Government and arranging consultation with the Minister for Primary Industry.

2. NFIC Executive

- A) The Executive's role will be to act, on a day to day basis, within the policy frame constructed by NFIC. It will also report back to NFIC members on the results of all industry/Government consultation.
- B) Under its Administrative Chairman and using the NFIC secretariat, it will provide a base for industry advice to be presented at FILP meetings. It will also undertake analysis of policy proposals and issue public statements, where necessary and where possible, given the limited nature of its secretariat.
- C) To make the most of expertise within the industry and existing arrangements, the Executive may commission discussion papers from Associations or individuals within NFIC and will also establish and support working groups and other committees. Where outside expertise is required, it may commission limited work by consultants.
- D) Ideally, the Executive will be composed of individuals who possess knowledge in one or more areas of industry vital to policy-making, and who can complement each other.

3. Administrative Chairman

Meetings will be called by the Administrative Chairman when necessary and he shall be the focal point for co-ordinating industry spokespersons as determined by NFIC.

4. The Secretariat

- A) The secretariat will ensure reliable communications with industry.
- B) The secretariat will service both NFIC and NFIC Executive by providing word processing, mailing and secretarial services within a limited budget. However, if, in the future, a more vigorous secretariat, with its own full time Executive Officer, is necessary and can be funded, then it could be developed satisfactorily from the existing structure.

5. Fishing Industry Liaison Panel

- A) The Minister shall be the Chairman of FILP and the Deputy Chairman shall be appointed from industry.
- B) The funding and administrative arrangements for the consultative forum shall be the responsibility of the Commonwealth Government, to be agreed to by the Minister for Primary Industry.
- C) The FILP shall include representation of the Australian Fisheries Service.

6. The National Farmers' Federation

As requested by the Conference, the Task Force considered the operations of the National Farmers' Federation (NFF), but found that its operations were not fully compatible with the operations and financial structure of the fishing industry.

The Task Force could not recommend any close association with the NFF at this time. The Task Force, however, identified a number of areas, such as the fuel pricing issue, where specific liaison would be beneficial to both parties.

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RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

-
- * Establishes an effective, independent representative voice of the Australian fishing industry.
 - * Provides an opportunity for every sector of the Australian fishing industry to participate.
 - * Since it is established solely for the purpose of concentrating on issues of national interest, the structure, membership and functions in no way interfere with existing Commonwealth, State, Territory and industry consultative, administrative and management arrangements.
 - * Does not impose a heavy cost burden on the Australian fishing industry.

- * Provides the fishing industry with the opportunity to elect its own representatives.
- * Allows all industry sectors to decide their preferred level of participation.
- * The structure provides the opportunity to recognise existing national bodies.
- * Enables the best use of expertise available in the industry.
- * Clearly defines responsibility for effective communication to and from all sections of industry.
- * The Executive Committee approach ensures an effective management of industry's interests and allows wider industry participation.
- * Gives the opportunity to best utilise funds available for the consultative process.
- * Having regard to all options, it is the most practical solution to a difficult problem.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Task Force Membership (formed and amended):

D. Bryan (QLD)	G. Denovan (QLD)
P. Doyle (NSW)	G. Skoutarides (NSW)
F. Willox (VIC)	K. Prendergast (VIC)
U. Rockliff (TAS)	W. Baker (TAS)
M. Pach (SA)	C. Hunt (SA)
M. Puglisi (SA)	J. Cole (WA)
F. Connell (WA)	G. Stewart (WA)
D. Thomas (NT)	L. Schwinning (NT)

Advisors: D. Dunstan

Observers: T. Kailis, D. Townsend

Facilities and Hospitality:

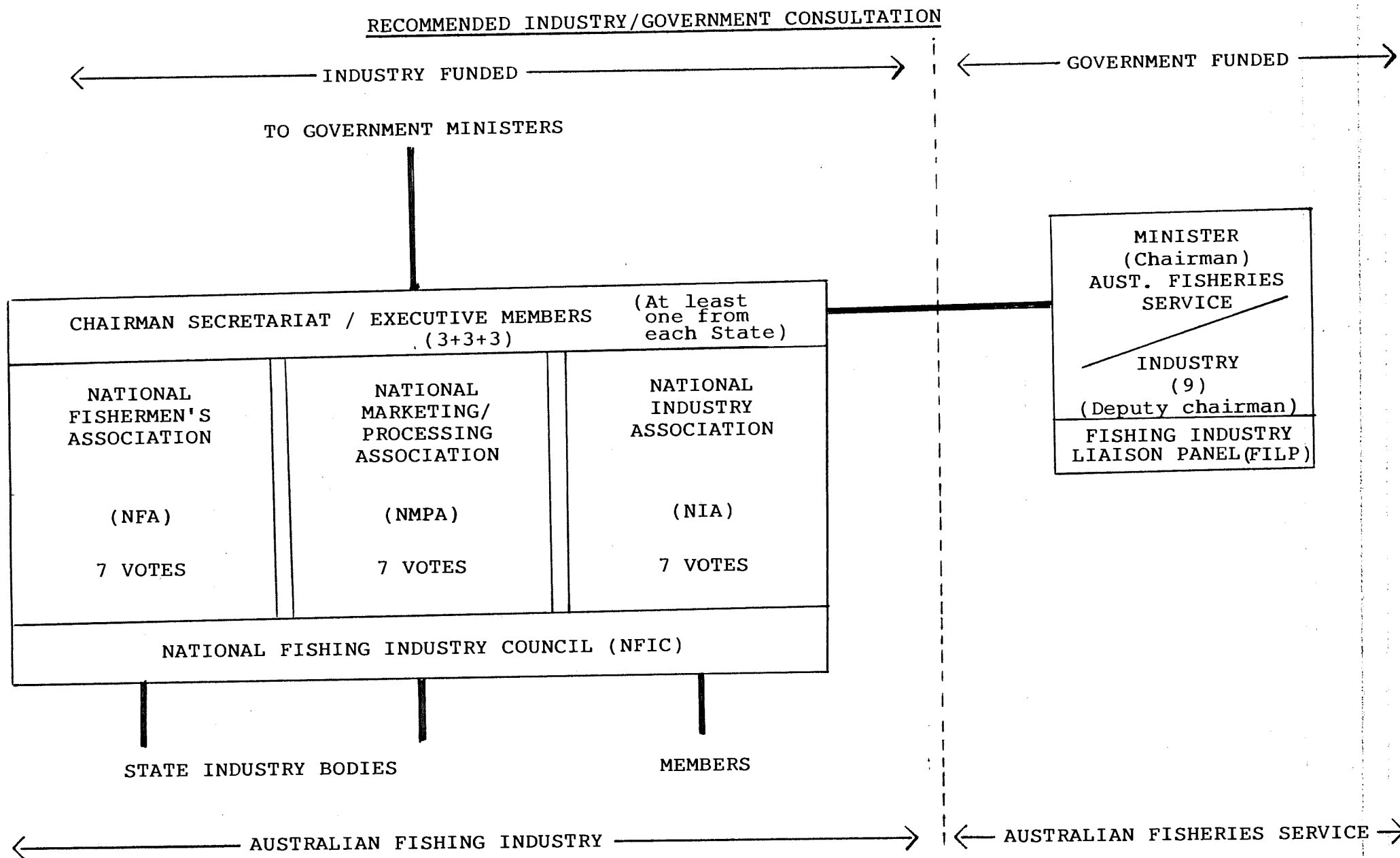
New South Wales Fish Marketing Authority
Australian Fishing Industry Council
(South Australian Branch)

Secretarial Service:

K. Owen (Australian Fisheries Service)
J. Hay (AFIC--SA Branch)
L. Smith (QCFO)

All Industry and Government respondents to draft reports.

The Task Force wishes to record its appreciation to all delegates at the Australian Fisheries Conference, innumerable verbal encouragements and suggestions received from colleagues within the Australian fishing industry at large, Commonwealth and State fisheries officers, and the encouragement of John Kerin, Commonwealth Minister for Primary Industry. With these invaluable contributions and the patience of Task Force members, this report was made possible.



DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF
NATIONAL FISHING INDUSTRY COUNCIL

1. NAME:

The organisation shall be named the National Fishing Industry Council (Inc.) herein referred to as the Council or NFIC.

2. OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the organisation shall be:

- i. To unite all sections of the Fishing Industry at a National level for their common benefit.
- ii. To present the views of a cohesive Australian Fishing industry at a Commonwealth level.
- iii. To promote the implementation of a national fisheries policy.
- iv. To promote efforts within the industry for the solving of common problems.
- v. To act as advisor to, or intermediary between, Government and the industry.
- vi. To appoint or nominate representatives to various bodies.
- vii. To obtain for the industry the best conditions which the economy of Australia will permit.

3. MEMBERSHIP:

The following shall constitute the membership of NFIC.

- i. A national body representing catching sector interests, consisting of one catching sector representative from each Australian State and the Northern Territory.
- ii. A national body representing processing and marketing sector interests, consisting of one representative from each Australian State and the Northern Territory.
- iii. A national body, representing sectoral interests in the fishing industry whose membership consists of national fishing industry representative bodies.

DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF NFIC ... 30 APRIL 1985.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Applications for membership shall be in writing and shall state:

- i. Name and address of applicant.
- ii. The name of at least one representative who is a principal executive.
- iii. That the applicant agrees to abide by the Rules and Constitution of the Council.

5. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- i. The Management of the NFIC shall be vested in a National Executive Committee which shall be nominated by the three members of the Council and which shall consist of an administrative non-voting Chairman, plus nine (9) committee members.
- ii. The structure should include at least one representative from each State/Territory.
- iii. Casual vacancies on the Executive shall be immediately filled by nomination of the member providing the retiring representative, notwithstanding the provisions of 5(ii).

6. SECRETARY AND OTHER OFFICERS:

The National Executive Committee shall have power to employ such secretaries, clerks and managers as required and to suspend or dismiss the same and pay them for services rendered.

The Secretary shall keep a true record of the proceedings of all meetings, which record, after confirmation at a subsequent meeting, shall be prima facie evidence of the truth of the matter stated in such record.

7. SUB-COMMITTEES:

The National Executive Committee may, from time to time, appoint sub-committees to examine and report on any matter. The chairman or his nominee may be an ex-officio member of any sub-committee.

8. FISCAL YEAR:

The Fiscal Year of the Council shall extend from 1 July to June 30.

9. SUBSCRIPTIONS:

NFIC, at its Annual General Meeting, shall prescribe the amount to be paid by way of annual subscription.

The inaugural annual subscription shall be due and payable no later than forty-five (45) days after the first Annual General Meeting and thereafter on 1 July. If the annual subscription is twelve (12) months in arrears, the membership of the organisation concerned shall be automatically terminated.

10. LEVIES:

The Council may from time to time make such levies on members as shall be resolved by a Special General Meeting of the Council.

11. MEETINGS:

- i. The National Executive Committee of the Council shall meet from time to time as determined.
- ii. Special General Meetings of the Council shall be held from time to time as determined by the National Executive Committee.
- iii. Due notice of all meetings shall be given in writing by the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days before the date thereof.
- iv. At all meetings only financial members shall have the right to be represented or vote.
- v. All meetings of the Council other than Annual General Meetings, shall be Special General Meetings.

12. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS:

An Annual General Meeting of the NFIC shall be held not later than 31 October in every year.

13. QUORUM:

- i. The quorum for a National Executive Meeting shall be six (6) representatives.
- ii. The quorum of all Council meetings shall be a minimum of two-thirds of the membership at that time.

14. VOTING:

- i. Maximum effort is to be made to achieve consensus at National Executive Meetings but each representative shall have one vote and all questions except as otherwise provided in this Constitution shall be decided by a simple majority.
- ii. At all meetings of the Council each member shall have seven (7) votes. Questions will be decided by a simple majority.

15. REPRESENTATION:

- i. Each NFIC member may nominate in writing a person or persons to appear and vote and every such nomination shall be delivered to the Secretary before the meeting at which it is to be used and may be stipulated to be in force for a particular meeting or period or until revoked in writing. The person or persons named in the application shall be deemed to be so nominated until his nomination is revoked in writing, to the secretary by the member.
- ii. Each NFIC member nominated as entitled to vote but unable to attend a meeting may, provided the member advises the Chairman or Secretary prior to the meeting, request another NFIC member to exercise his proxy vote.

16. RESPONSIBILITY OF OFFICERS:

The Secretary or members of representatives of the Council, who upon authority of the Council, accept or incur any pecuniary liability on behalf of the Council shall be indemnified by the Council against loss in respect thereof.

17. RESIGNATION:

An NFIC member must give not less than four calendar months notice in writing to the Secretary of intention to retire from membership of the NFIC and shall continue to be liable for any fee, subscription or levy due or unpaid until the expiration of such notice. Upon a member's resignation or termination of membership it shall not be entitled to any refund of any entrance fee, subscription or levy paid, nor to make any claim on the funds of the Council.

18. AUDITED ACCOUNTS:

The audited accounts shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

19. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS:

The NFIC shall appoint an Auditor at the Annual General Meeting or from time to time as necessary.

20. AMENDMENTS:

Any of the provisions of the Constitution may be added to, altered or otherwise amended at a general meeting, of which at least fourteen (14) days notice shall be given of the proposed amendment.

21. BANK:

The Secretary shall open an account in the name of NFIC with a Bank approved from time to time by the Council and shall have paid all moneys received by the Council into such account and shall make all disbursements from such account. Cheques drawn on the Council's account shall be signed by any two of the Chairman, Secretary or a member of the National Executive Committee.

22. DISSOLUTION:

At a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, the Council may be dissolved by the vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at such meeting. Upon dissolution, the Council shall wind up the affairs of the Council and distribute the assets in any manner so determined.

23. COMMON SEAL AND SEAL HOLDERS:

The Common Seal shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary and shall not be used except by authority of a resolution of the National Executive.

24. POWERS:

NFIC shall have power to take any action within the boundaries of State or Commonwealth Law which are considered conducive to the attainment of any or all of the objectives of the Council.

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Australian Fisheries Conference

COMMONWEALTH / INDUSTRY CONSULTATION TASK FORCE

Mr K. Owen, Secretary
Australian Fisheries Service
Department of Primary Industry
Edmund Barton Building
Broughton Street
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Mr D. Bryan, Convenor,
PO Box 42
EAST BRISBANE QLD 4169

Telephone 07/391 4961
Telex AA145547

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. WILL YOU BE ATTENDING THE INDUSTRY MEETING TO BE HELD TO FORM NFIC ON 26 JUNE 1985 IN CANBERRA?

YES

NO

(Tick one box)

2. WHICH ONE OF THE INDUSTRY GROUPS WILL YOU BE REPRESENTED BY?

NFA

NMPA

NIA

(Tick one box)

3. HAVE YOU ENCLOSED REGISTRATION FEE OF \$25.00 FOR PRE-ARRANGED CATERING?

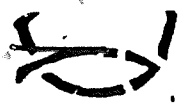
YES

NO

(Tick one box)

4. NAME:
PHONE NO:
ADDRESS:
ORGANISATION:
PHONE NO:

NOTE: Please detach and return to the Task Force Secretary,
Mr Keith Owen at the above address before 7 June 1985.



Australian Fisheries Conference

RESUMED CONFERENCE

HELD AT

CITY GATE MOTEL - CANBERRA

26 JUNE, 1985

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES CONFERENCE

RESUMED SESSION - CANBERRA 26 JUNE 1985

The conference convened at 0900 hrs in the City Gate Motel with the Minister for Primary Industry, John Kerin, presiding.

The 46 representatives of fishing industry organisations from all States and the Northern Territory (see attachment 'A') were welcomed by Mr Dale Bryan, Convenor of the Commonwealth Industry Task Force appointed at the 31 January - 2 February 1985 Conference to investigate and report on the establishment of a national fishing industry organisation.

Presenting the Task Force report (see attachment 'B') Mr Bryan said its main recommendation was the establishment of a National Fishing Industry Council (NFIC) represented by a federation of a:

- National Fishermen's Association (NFA)
- National Marketers and Processors' Association (NMPA)
- Association of National Industry Associations (NIA)

NFIC would be a peak industry body for the discussion of matters of national concern to the fishing industry.

It would meet at least once a year and would appoint nine representatives (three from each affiliated association) to an executive committee, with each State and Northern Territory represented.

The report also recommended that a Fishing Industry Liaison Panel be set up for consultation with the Commonwealth Government, to be presided over by the Minister for Primary Industry.

Mr Bryan sought endorsement of the Task Force report from industry representatives.

Mr D Townsend (on behalf of NIA) said that eight organisations affiliated to the NIA endorsed the report noting the need for the executive to fine tune the operations of NFIC in the future.

Messrs M Puglisi (NFA) and P Doyle (NMPA) also endorsed the report on behalf of those associations.

The Minister for Primary Industry, responding for the Government to the Task Force report, welcomed the establishment of the National Fishing Industry Council. Referring to the proposal for a Fishing Industry Liaison Panel, Mr Kerin said it was Government policy to involve talent from various industry groups into advisory bodies. He considered the proposed Fishing Industry Liaison

Panel should be similiary structured and titled the Fishing Indust Council.

Mr Kerin said the Government would give favourable consideration to allocation necessary funds for the Fishing Industry Council. The NFIC would be self-funding.

He noted that the Government held firm attitudes on such matters as the size and accountability of advisory councils. He accepted the principal of three representatives from each of the three industry groups suggested by the Task Force and agreed that there could be a need for adjustment later.

Mr Kerin assured the conference that if the Government agreed to fund the Fishing Industry Council as an appropriate industry/government consultative body the "user pays" principle would not be invoked. He considered that there could be a need for the council to meet two or three times a year.

The conference formally dissolved at 0930 hrs the Government/Industry consultative Task Force and appointed Mr Rodney Hunt (NMPA) to chairman for the rest of the session.

The Minister then formally addressed the conference (see attachment 'C'). Main points in his speech were:

- The Task Force had done a tremendous job in developing a framework for a national fishing industry organisation that had the potential for being a broadly representative body.
- He noted the concern of industry over proposed management levies and gave an assurance that in the present economic climate he would ensure that levies were kept to a minimum.
- He referred to fuel costs on the profitability of the fishing industry saying the report by the Government/Industry working party prepared at the request of the Prime Minister clearly set out the impact of increases flowing from devaluation and changes to the fuel freight policy.
- Cabinet was keeping a close watch on the import parity pricing arrangements and had decided to take spot price into account when setting prices. This would keep likely price rises down in coming months. The Government was working towards a free market for fuel.
- Aware of the disproportionate effect fuel price changes in 1985 have had on the northern fishermen the Government was prepared to make available up to \$9 million over the next three years for restructuring assistance for the northern prawn fishery from Broome to Bowen. The first \$3 million would go towards the buy back program in the NPF DMZ.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NFIC - APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE AND CHAIRMAN

The conference formally agreed to the establishment of a National Fishing Industry Council along the lines recommended by the Commonwealth/Industry Consultation Task Force.

The conference chairman called for nominations for the nine-member executive by the convenors of the three affiliated associations:

The following were appointed:

NFA: D Bryan, E Kemp, W Baker
NMPA: R Hunt, P Doyle, F Willox
NAI: B Schultz, N Phillips, D Townsend

Mr D Bryan was unanimously elected chairman.

The following were nominated as members of the three affiliated national associations:

National Fishermen's Association:

D Bryan (Chairman)	-	Queensland Commercial Fishermen's Association
W Baker	-	Tasmanian Fishing Industry Council
E Kemp	-	Northern Territory Branch, Australian Fishing Industry Council
J Cole	-	Western Australian Branch, Australian Fishing Industry Council
H Prendergast	-	Victorian Professional Fishermens' Association
R A Lamb	-	New South Wales Professional Fishermen's Association
M Puglisi	-	South Australian Branch, Australian Fishing Industry Council.

National Marketing and Processors Association

R Hunt (Chairman)	-	Western Australian Marketing and Processors Association
E Willox	-	Victorian Fish Wholsalers and Processors Association
P Doyle	-	New South Wales Fishing Industry Council

- C Raptis - South Australian Marketing and Processors Association
- G Denovan - Queensland Marketing and Processors Association
- D King - Tasmanian Fishing Industry Council

Association of National Industry Associations

- D Townsend (Chairman) - Northern Fishing Companies Association Ltd.
- B Schultz - Tuna Boat Owners Association of Australia
- N Phillips - Australian Oyster Farmers and Producers' Association
- M France - Australian Fish Cannery Association
- B MacRoberts - Australian Abalone Producers' Association
- P Kerville - National Fish Marketing Association
- I Backler - National Fishing Industry Training Council

PROFILE OF NATIONAL FISHING INDUSTRY COUNCIL

The Council was established at a meeting in Canberra on 26 June, 1985, of fishing industry organisation representatives from all States and Northern Territory, following recommendations of a Task Force established by an Australian Fisheries Conference in February 1985.

The Council is made up of three national organisations representing all sectors of the industry - National Fishermen's Association (NFA), National Industry Association (NIA), and National Marketing and Processing Association (NMPA). Each affiliated organisation elects three members to the executive.

The Council executive of nine is: Mr D Bryan - Chairman, W Baker, E Kemp (NFA), D Townsend - Secretary/Treasurer, N Phillips, B Schultz (NIA), R Hunt, P Doyle, F Willox (NMPA).

Background notes on executive members:

- D Bryan - President and Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Commercial Fishermen's Association, PO Box 42, East Brisbane, 4169, Phone: (07) 391-4961, Tlx 145547. (Representing QCFO on NFA).
- D Townsend - General Manager, Australian Seafood Producers Pty Ltd., PO Box 336, Mordialloc Vict. 3193 Phone: (03) 5807333. Tlx 37422. (Representing Northern Fishing Companies Association Ltd., on NIA)
- K G Phillips - Oyster farmer, 113 Helmsman Boulevard, St Hubert's Island, Woy Woy NSW 2256. Phone: (02) 455-2166. (Representing Australian Oyster Farmers and Producers Association on the FIA).
- B Schultz - Chairman, Tuna Boat Owners' Association of Australia, PO Box 121, Port Lincoln, SA 5606. Phone: (086) 82 2022. (Representing Tuna Boat Owners' Association on NFA).
- W Baker - Professional Fisherman, 47 Channel Highway, Taroom, Hobart, Tasmania 7000. Phone: (Representing Tasmanian Fishing Industry Council on NFA).
- E Kemp - Prawn Fisherman, 2 Voyager Street, Stuart Park, Darwin NT. Phone: (089) 811717 (Representing NT Branch Australian Fishing Industry Council (NFA))

- R Hunt - Hunts Foods Pty Ltd., 53 Mount Street,
Perth 6000. Phone: (09) 322 5966.
(Representing WA Marketing & Processing
Association on NMPA).
- P Doyle - Doyles Seafood Pty Ltd., PO Box 20,
Watsons' Bay, Sydney NSW 2030.
Phone: (02) 337 1350.
(Representing NSW Fishing Industry
Council on NMPA).
- F Willox - SAFCOL Seafoods Pty Ltd, 107 Whitehall
Street, Footscray, Melbourne.
Phone: (03) 684258, Tlx: 30096.
(Representing Victorian Wholesalers
& Processors' Association on NMPA).

Members of the three national industry groups represented on
NFIC:

National Fishermens' Council

- D Bryan - (Chairman) Queensland Commercial Fishermens'
Organisation.
- W Baker - Tasmanian Fishing Industry Council.
- E Kemp - NT Branch Australian Fishing Industry Council.
- J Cole - WA Branch Australian Fishing Industry Council,
PO Box 7, Dongara WA 6525.
Phone: (09) 336 2366.
- H Prendergast - Victorian Professional Fishermen's Association,
14 Parliament Place, Melbourne
- R A Lamb - NSW Professional Fishermen's Association,
PO Crowdy Heads NSW 2427.
Phone: (065) 561 484.
- M Puglisi - SA Branch Australian Fishing Industry Council,
PO Box 264 Norwood SA 5067.
Phone: (08) 42 7361.

National Industry Association

- D Townsend - (Chairman) Northern Fishing Companies
Association Ltd.
- B Schultz - Tuna Boat Owners' Association of Australia.
- N Phillips - Australian Oyster Farmers & Producers
Association.
- M France - Australian Fish Cannery's Association,
PO Box 280, Mt Hawthorn WA 6016.
Phone: (09) 444 9000. Tlx: 92301.

- B McCallum - Rock Lobster & Prawning Association,
PO Box 745, Fremantle WA 6160.
Phone: (09) 335 6266. Tlx: 93300
- B McRoberts - Australian Abalone Producers' Association,
PO Box 291, Ulladulla NSW.
- P Kerville - National Fish Marketing Association,
PO Box 5454, Gold Coast Mail Centre QLD 4217
Phone: (075) 388 411.
- I Backler - National Fishing Industry Training Council,
PO Box 104, Kingston SA 5275.
Phone: (087) 672 418.

National Marketing & Processing Association

- R Hunt - (Chairman) Hunts Foods Pty Ltd, 53 Mount
Street, Perth WA.
- E Willox - Safcol Seafoods Pty Ltd,
PO Box 68, Footscray Vic 3011
Phone: (03) 68 4258. Tlx: 30096.
- C Raptis - A Raptis & Sons, PO Box 182,
Hindmarsh SA 5007.
Phone: (08) 468 171. Tlx: 82767.
- P Doyle - PO Box 20, Watsons Bay NSW 2030.
Phone: (02) 237 71350.
- G Denovan - C/- Townsville Seafoods, PO Box 5376 MSO,
Townsville QLD 4810.
Phone: (077) 714 151.
- D King - Safcol (Tasmania) Pty Ltd., Gemalla Road,
Margate TAS 7153.
Phone: (002) 67 2241.