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MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SURVEY AND PROPOSALS

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Additional reply to the Secretary-General's note verbale
and questionnaire of 6 July 1967

COLOMBIA

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE: "NATIONAL ACTIVITIES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE"

At the present time, 10 March 1969, the answers to the questionnaire as it concerns Colombia, based on information supplied by the Co-ordinating Committee for Hydrography and Oceanography, are as follows:

1. National activities relating to marine science and technology:

(a) Basic and applied research: basic research is being carried out in the Department of Oceanography and Marine Biology which has been in existence since 1 February of this year at the Naval School of Cartagena. As regards applied research:

- (i) Physical and chemical oceanography: responsibility of the Division of Oceanography of the National Navy, which began its activities at the end of 1968;
- (ii) Marine geology and geophysics: only basic research so far;
- (iii) Marine biology: Instituto Colombo-Alemán de Punta de Betín (Santa Maria), Inderena, the Consorcio Pesquero and the FAO fisheries development programme;
- (iv) Ocean engineering: only in connexion with the handling of oceanographic data, calculations and programmes for combining and correlating information, controlled by the National Oceanographic Data Centre, which comes under the Navy.

(b) Surveying and provision of public services: Nautical charting: responsibility of the Surveying Division of the National Navy. A plan for the preparation of nautical charts of important areas of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts is currently being carried out.

(c) Uses of the sea and its resources:

- (i) Harvesting of biological resources: potentiality studies for which Inderena and the Consorcio Pesquero are responsible are now being carried out; Inderena is also in charge of conservation plans for inland waters;
- (ii) Transport and communication: the construction of a new oil pipeline from the oilfields of the Futurayo to the Port of Turaco on the Pacific;
- (iii) Recreation: responsibility of the National Association of Fish-breeding and Fishing and the National Tourism Corporation.

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2. Magnitude of national activities and marine science and technology:

(a) Annual total expenditure on basic and applied research:

Basic :	\$US 20,000	\$US150,000
Applied:	100,000	700,000
Totals:	<u>\$US120,000</u>	<u>\$US850,000</u>

(These are approximate figures)

Research vessels over fifteen metres in length:

- 4 for fishing
- 3 for surveying
- 1 for oceanography.

(b) Number of professional scientists and engineers engaged:

- (i) in research: 4
- (ii) in surveying and provision of public services: 20.

(c) Annual extraction of minerals from the sea: sea salt and others from the salt-works belonging to the Banco de la República at Galerazamba and Manaure.

3. The development of activities in marine science and technology is limited by the shortage of trained personnel. Colombia has the following educational institutions: (a) the Department of Oceanography, Marine Biology and Fisheries, which operates at the Naval School of Cartagena in accordance with an agreement signed by the National Navy and the Department of Marine Sciences of the Jorge Tadeo Lazano University; (b) the Instituto Colombo-Alemán de Punta de Betín.

4. Colombia co-ordinates its activities in marine science and technology by means of an ad hoc National Hydrographic and Oceanographic Committee, on which are represented all State and private bodies which engage in activities related to the marine sciences, the legal status of which is currently being examined by the National Government. The National Co-ordinator of this body is appointed by the National Navy on the basis of a specific authorization from the Committee and acts as the country's representative to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

5. Participation in international activities related to marine science and technology: Colombia has officially applied for membership of IOC and for permission to take part subsequently in the CICAR programme.

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The foregoing information is a summary of information received from the members of the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Committee in response to circular No. 001 from the National Co-ordinator for Oceanographic Affairs.