

Pacem in Maribus

The International Ocean Institute
Operational Centre
at the
University of the South Pacific
(IOI- South Pacific)



THE UNIVERSITY
OF THE
SOUTH PACIFIC

Marine Studies

INDEPENDENT WORLD COMMISSION ON THE OCEANS
Secretariat for the South Pacific

Professor Elisabeth Mann Borgese
International Ocean Institute
Dalhousie University
1226 LeMarchant Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada.

RECEIVED AUG 21 1995 August 8, 1995.

Dear Professor Borgese,

The Independent Commission on the Oceans has begun its work in Oceania.

I am providing for your information copies of the brochure and examples of letters that will be sent to regional organisations and national ministries and to individuals.

I will brief you on the list of people and organisations that we get in touch with from time to time.

Yours sincerely,

Joeli Veitayaki
Coordinator, IWCO
IOI-SP/USP.

JV/fvl.



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WCO
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Marine Studies

INDEPENDENT WORLD COMMISSION ON THE OCEANS
Secretariat for the South Pacific

The Secretary General,
South Pacific Forum,
Suva.

August 8, 1995.

Dear Sir,

I write to introduce a new initiative on the proper management of the oceans that we are undertaking and to seek your contribution and assistance in the activities that we have planned as part of this exercise.

The Independent World Commission on the Oceans was recently launched by Portugal's President Soares who is its chairman. In accordance with the global plan for the Commission, a regional secretariat has been set up at the International Oceans Institute South Pacific Operational Centre at the University of the South Pacific. I am the Coordinator of that secretariat and will be responsible for organising the activities of the Commission within Oceania.

The aim of the Commission is to re-focus global attention on the oceans of the world and to make the changes that are necessary for us to realize the full potential of the provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS III). The Commission is charged to solicit public opinion and response on the various issues affecting the proper use of ocean resources and ocean space. In addition, the Commission will allow people to re-assess and re-evaluate the issues relating to the oceans such as some of those listed in the brochure. The Commission activities will include inviting written and oral submissions and written position papers on the issues related to UNCLOS III, and organising a number of public hearings within Oceania where all will be invited to participate.

The South Pacific Region has benefitted greatly from the 1982 Law of the Sea (UNCLOS III), and stands to gain even more in the future. In addition, there is a great deal of expectation of the countries of the region to assert their control over the vast areas over which they have jurisdiction. In spite of the widespread declaration of the regional governments showing overwhelming endorsement of UNCLOS III, only three nations have ratified the agreement (see Table in the brochure). The other nations are at various stages of acceptance, although all are presently enjoying some of its provisions.

The UNCLOS III has allowed South Pacific member nations significant areas, totalling about 32,483,790 km². It is therefore crucial that they address appropriately the issues that are explained in the accompanying brochure. Only by voicing our concern will we be assured of being heard and our position considered. That is the reason why as many people as possible need to participate in this independent Commission. The Forum as the leading regional organisation, has a great deal to say on the issues listed, and any other issues relevant to the region and itself. It is because of this reason that we are seeking your participation.

On behalf of the secretariat, I invite your organisation to submit a position paper summarising how it relates to the issues affecting the implementation of UNCLOS III. The nature of the Forum Secretariat's activities makes it critical for us to have your input on this.

The report which will result from your input and the public response to the Commission will be tabled at various meetings within the Asia-Pacific region, and eventually at the UN General Assembly in 1998 - the YEAR OF THE OCEANS. The report that we will prepare will reflect all the submissions that we receive, and all submissions will be acknowledged.

Please feel free to contact the Secretariat if you have any further queries or concerns. We look forward to receiving your support.

Yours Sincerely,

Joeli Veitayaki
Coordinator,
Independent World Commissions on the Oceans,
Secretariat for the South Pacific,
Suva.



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INDEPENDENT WORLD COMMISSION ON THE OCEANS
Secretariat for the South Pacific

Florian Gubon,
Cambridge University,
England.

August 8, 1995.

Dear Sir,

I write to introduce a new initiative on the proper management of the oceans that we are undertaking and to seek your contribution and assistance in the activities that we have planned as part of this exercise.

The Independent World Commission on the Oceans was recently launched by Portugal's President Soares who is its Chairman. In accordance with the global plan for the Commission, a regional secretariat has been set up at the International Oceans Institute South Pacific Operational Centre at the University of the South Pacific. I am the Coordinator of that secretariat and will be responsible for organising the activities of the Commission within Oceania.

The aim of the Commission is to re-focus global attention on the oceans of the world and to make the changes that are necessary for us to realise the full potential of the provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS III). The Commission is charged to solicit public opinion and response on the various issues affecting the proper use of ocean resources and ocean space. In addition, the Commission will allow people to re-assess and re-evaluate the issues relating to the oceans such as some of those listed in the brochure. The Commission's activities will include inviting written and oral submissions and written position papers on the issues related to UNCLOS III, and organising a number of public hearings within Oceania where all will be invited to participate. The hearings will be arranged between September and October and are tentatively planned for the FSM, Vanuatu and Nadi.

The South Pacific Region has benefitted greatly from UNCLOS III, and stands to gain even more in the future. In addition, there is a great deal of expectation of the countries of the region to assert their control over the vast areas over which they have jurisdiction. In spite of the widespread declaration of the regional governments showing overwhelming endorsement of UNCLOS III, only three nations have ratified the agreement (see Table in the brochure). The other nations are at various stages of acceptance, although all are presently enjoying some of its provisions.

The UNCLOS III has allowed South Pacific member nations significant areas, totalling about 32,483,790 km². It is therefore crucial that they address appropriately the issues that are explained in the accompanying brochure. Only by voicing our concern will we be assured of

being heard and our position considered. That is the reason why as many people as possible need to participate in this independent Commission. As a leading authority in the region, you have a great deal to say on the issues listed, and any other issues relevant to the region. It is because of this that we are seeking your participation and involvement.

On behalf of the secretariat, I invite you to submit either a written or oral submission summarising your opinion on the issues affecting the implementation of UNCLOS III. The nature of your work and interest makes it critical for us to have your input on this.

The report which will result from your input and the public response to the Commission will be tabled at various meetings within the Asia-Pacific region, and eventually at the UN General Assembly in 1998 - the YEAR OF THE OCEANS. The report that we will prepare will reflect all the submissions that we receive, and all submissions will be acknowledged.

Please feel free to contact the Secretariat if you have any further queries or concerns. We look forward to having your support.

Yours sincerely,

Joeli Veitayaki
Coordinator,
Independent World Commissions on the Oceans,
Secretariat for the South Pacific,
Suva.



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INDEPENDENT WORLD COMMISSION ON THE OCEANS
Secretariat for the South Pacific

Ms Margaret J. Wood
Director, IOI-Canada
International Ocean Institute
Dalhousie University
1226 LeMarchant Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada.

August 9, 1995.

Dear Ms Wood,

The Independent Commission on the Oceans has begun its work in Oceania.

I am providing for your information copies of the brochure and examples of letters that will be sent to regional organisations and national ministries and to individuals.

I will brief you on the list of people and organisations that we get in touch with from time to time.

Yours sincerely,

Joeli Veitayaki
Coordinator, IWCO
IOI-SP/USP.

JV/fvl.



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INDEPENDENT WORLD COMMISSION ON THE OCEANS
Secretariat for the South Pacific

Prof. Elisabeth Mann Borgese,
International Ocean Institute,
Dalhousie University,
1226 Le Merchant Street,
Halifax, Nova Scotia,
Canada.

RECEIVED SEP 12 1995

06 September, 1995.

Dear Elisabeth,

Work is progressing well. I have written to governments and non government organisation throughout the region and now await the response. I have proposed a schedule for the hearings but I have not heard from Prof. Suzuki and so can not finalise the arrangement.

I am currently sending out letters asking prominent people in the region to prepare research papers. It is in this area that we need your assistance.

On behalf of the Secretariat, I invite you to submit a research paper commenting on the issues mentioned under Issues 15 on page 7 of the brochure. We prefer you to focus on these specific issues but would also welcome comments on other issues affecting the implementation of UNCLOS III. The paper should be with us by the 31st of January, 1995. However, we would be very pleased if you can submit your paper before that date.

In case you are unable to prepare the paper please let me know as soon as possible or assist us look for a replacement. We will be contacting you later but please feel free to contact the Secretariat if you have any further queries or concerns. We look forward to having your support on this useful regional initiative.

Yours Sincerely,

Joeli Veitayaki

Coordinator,

Independent World Commissions on the Oceans.

INTERNATIONAL OCEAN INSTITUTE - SOUTH PACIFIC
INDEPENDENT WORLD COMMISSION ON THE OCEANS
SECRETARIAT FOR THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Research Paper Requirements

1. Papers should be approximately 10-20 pages long. If necessary, supporting material should be attached in the form of one or more appendices. Both a hard copy and a copy on disk (WP5.1 or WORD) should be provided.
2. Papers should be written in a style that makes them accessible to persons who are neither academics nor lawyers.
3. They should be based on meticulous scholarly research.
4. References should be included in a bibliography.
5. The paper is, in the first instance, for the use of the Commission in making its findings and deciding on its recommendations. All papers received will be acknowledged by the Commission. In writing the report, the Commission may refer, directly or indirectly to the contents of the paper, or may include a direct quotation from it, with an acknowledgement.
6. It follows that the Commission will be the owner of the copyright in the paper. The author is not free to publish the paper before the Commission's report has been tabled but, after that, the author may publish the paper itself with an acknowledgement that it was prepared at the request of the Commission or may publish another paper or papers based on the research done in preparing the paper for the Commission.
7. The papers will be published as part of the final report of the Commission.

World ✓
Commission



Dalhousie University

International Ocean
Institute



FAXED

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To: Joeli Veitayaki
FAX No: 679 301 490

From: Elisabeth Mann Borgese
FAX No.: 1 902 868 2455

Date: 20 September, 1995

Subject: Your fax of 6 September

Dear Joeli,

First of all, my heart-felt congratulations on the excellent work you are doing. These hearings are a big job. I know it from my own experience, because we just started the process here in Canada!

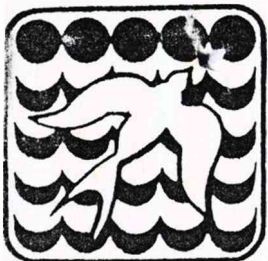
Secondly, I shall be glad to prepare the little paper you want, 10-20 pages on "How should the U.N. be restructured to adequately deal with oceanic matters at both the international and regional levels? and get it to you by January 31.

With all good wishes,

Yours as ever,

E. Mann Borgese

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Secretariat for the South Pacific

2 October 1995

Prof. Yoshio Suzuki
Chief Counsellor
Nomura Research Institute, Ltd
Edobashi Building 2nd
1-10-1, Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku
Tokyo 103
Japan

Dear Prof Suzuki

Re : Progress to Date

Greetings, hope all is well.

Work on the Independent Commission is progressing well.

Last week we had our first hearing in Oceania. It was organised jointly with the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC). The half day workshop was attended by over 100 geologists, scientists and representatives from the South Pacific countries. A short summary report is **attached** for your information.

Early next week I am taking the hearings to the island countries. I will be attending the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Annual Session in Apia and will be conducting a hearing there before the SPREP meeting.

I will then go to Wellington for a hearing there on the 16th of October. The Australian section of the IWCO has not got off the ground so I will try to meet with prospective collaborators there. Prof. Borgese has mentioned Mr Keith Suter and I will try to finalise some arrangement with him.

I go on to Solomon for a hearing there on the 20th. On the 24th I conduct a hearing in Tuvalu and move on to Marshall Islands on the 27th and Kiribati on the 30th. We are of

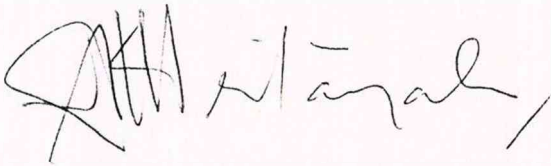
the view that it would be better if we go to the countries and make the hearings a public education exercise that is opened to all interested to participate.

The invitations have been sent to people interested in Law of the Sea issues. We expect a good turn over of materials.

The only problem we seem to have right now is the non-function of the Australia sub centre. We are confident that things will be up and running once a contact point is established.

Otherwise, things are under control.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joeli Veitayaki', with a large, stylized initial 'J' and 'V'.

Joeli Veitayaki
COORDINATOR, IWCO

Attch:

cc:-

✓ Prof. Elisabeth Mann Borgese
Dr Krishan Saigal
Prof. Robin South

JV/nab

2 October 1995



Dalhousie University

JIM WCO
International Ocean
Institute



IFAXED

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To: **Joeli Veitayaki**
FAX No: 679 301 490

From: Elisabeth Mann Borgese
FAX No.: 1 902 868 2455

Date: 6 October, 1995

Subject: Australia

COPY

Dear Joeli,

Thanks for your recent communications and for your excellent work on the hearings.

As far as Australia is concerned, the situation needs to be clarified.

First of all, Dr. Ken Brown never was a Vice Chairman of the WCO; he was not even a member; he never was approached at all by the Commission. It is just that Robin thought he would be a good contact man. The same goes for Keith Suter. He is not at all a Vice Chairman! As a matter of fact, we do not yet have an Australian member of the Commission. All this is in the hands of President Soares, and I am really not well informed as to his decisions with regard to membership. I just thought, since Ken Brown disappeared, Keith Suter might be a useful and interested contact person.

Secondly, unfortunately we do not have any funding for Australia. If Australia found it useful to have hearings, the money would have to be found in Australia, just as I found the money for the Canadian hearings in Canada. Perhaps Keith Suter could advise on that or suggest to you some one with whom you might get in touch.

I guess that covers it for today,

All the very best for you and for this very demanding work!

Yours as ever,

Elisabeth