CONSULTATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL POLICIES

ITALY

Commodity Information

Addendum

Attached for the information of the Committee is the additional information on fish furnished by the Government of Italy.
1. Provisions relating to the Economic Development of the Southern Areas

Article 5 of Law No. 634 (published in "Gazzetta Ufficiale" No. 193 of 3 April 1957) relating to the economic development of the Southern Areas provides for special measures in respect of the fishing industry.

The above-mentioned Article provides for contribution on a non-reimbursable basis, not exceeding 40 per cent of the costs incurred in building or improving fishing vessels, tackle and gear, installations for the conservation of fisheries products, means of transportation, etc., in favour of individual fishermen or associations of fishermen in the territory to which the provisions concerning the "Special Fund for Southern Areas" are applicable, to the extent that such fishermen use vessels which are their own property.

As of 31 December 1959, 2,000 million lire had been allocated for such conditions.

The "Special Fund for Southern Areas" does not grant loans for the purpose of purchasing or equipping fishing vessels.

The above-mentioned contributions do not exclude State assistance in respect of payment of imports for loans granted to the fishing industry under Law No. 16 of 10 January 1952. To date, the Special Fund has been used up.

2. Working Capital Fund

A Working Capital Fund has been established under Law No. 1457 of 27 December 1956 to grant advances to specialized banks in order to enable such banks to extend credit to the fishing industry, priority being accorded to inshore fishermen and to industries contributions to the development of fishing activities.

This Law provides that credits amounting to 80 per cent of the costs incurred and not exceeding a total figure of 10 million lire may be granted for the building, in domestic shipyards, of fishing vessels or of vessels for the transportation of fish; for the replacement of vessels to be scrapped; for the purpose of fishing gear and tackle or of marine engines; for refrigerating or echo-sounding equipment to be installed on board fishing vessels etc.; for the installation and modernization of services and equipment for fish conservation and distribution, and for supplying fishing vessels; for the purchase of means of transportation for fish; for repairs to fishing vessels, etc.

Periods of redemption vary from five to ten years. Loans are granted at a rate of interest of 2 per cent.

The present amount of the Working Capital Fund is 2,6 thousand million lire, of which 1,6 thousand million have already been used.
3. **Provisions in favour of Fishing Activities in the Northern Adriatic**

Law No. 590 of 21 July 1959 (published in the "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 10 August 1959) provides an appropriation of 900 million lire during the financial year 1959-60 for contributions not exceeding 40 per cent of the costs incurred for the conversion or improvement of hulls or engines and for the supply of fishing gear and tackle in favour of undertakings operated by persons using fishing vessels which are their own property and had been duly registered with the Maritime Authorities of the Northern Adriatic Area, North of Cesenatico, as of 27 July 1959.