

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MDF/W/26/Add.2

5 June 1985

Special Distribution

---

Original: English

WORKING PARTY ON TRADE IN CERTAIN  
NATURAL RESOURCE PRODUCTS  
FISH AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS

Information Submitted by Australia

Addendum

Australia

- (a) Quantitative restrictions: none
- (b) Government financial assistance:

Financial support to the Australian fishing industry is provided by several means. The Primary Industry Bank of Australia provides a long term re-finance lending facility to assist primary producers, including fishing operations. The bank supplements existing loans available from banks and other lenders to fishermen. It does not lend directly to fishermen.

The Commonwealth Development Bank lends for developments where finance may not otherwise be available on reasonable terms and conditions. The bank provides financial assistance only where the viability of an operator is clearly demonstrated.

The Australian Industry Development Corporation has assisted with a few integrated catching-processing companies but its activities are generally not oriented towards assisting small owner-operator fishing enterprises.

Taxation concessions are largely similar to those accorded to other primary producers. Concessions include investment allowance and deductions for certain types of capital expenditure such as insurance premiums, repairs to income producing property, running expenses and depreciation of plant and other allowances. Included amongst other allowances are sales tax concessions for the purchase of engines, refrigeration plant, electrical equipment and fuel.

The Rural Adjustment Scheme provides assistance to primary producers in agriculture undergoing difficulties but not to the general fishing industry.