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OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES FOR WOMEN

In an effort to keep Pacific women informed of opportunities and resources available to them, the *Pacific Women's Resource Bureau (PWRB)* has compiled this information circular listing some of the latest developments regarding women in the region.

Tenth meeting of CRGA

The CRGA (Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations) met from 22-26 May at SPC headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia. Among the agenda items was the consideration of the report of the Fourth Regional Women's Conference held in 1988 in Suva, Fiji. The CRGA agreed to recommend to the Twenty-ninth South Pacific Conference that the positions of Women's Programme Development Officer (English and French) and Women's Communications Officer be included in the core budget of the South Pacific Commission with effect from 1991. The Conference also recommended that the post of Administrative Assistant be established within the Pacific Women's Resource Bureau, subject to the availability of extra-budgetary funds, and that a regional conference of Pacific women be held every three years, the fifth conference to be held in Guam in 1991. These recommendations now have to be endorsed by the South Pacific Conference in Guam this coming October.

Women's conference report available

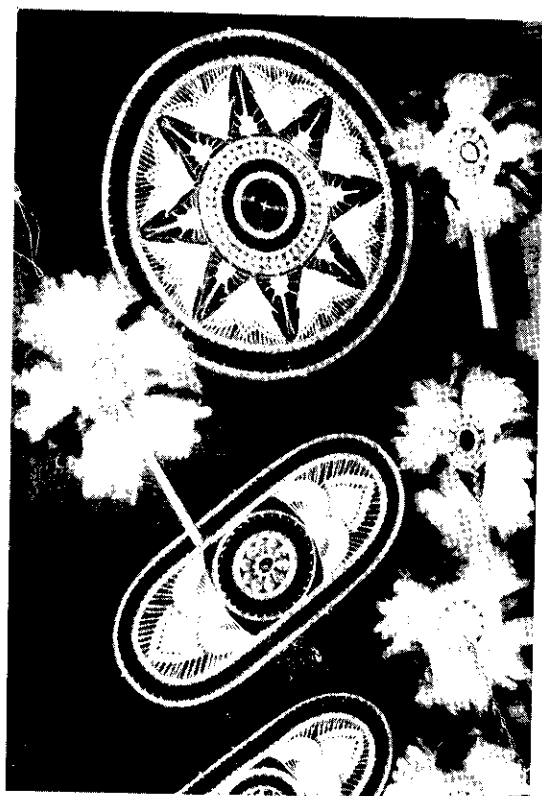
The report of the Fourth Regional Conference of Pacific Women held in September 1988 is now available from the Pacific Women's Resource Bureau. Please address requests to the Communications Officer.

Conference video available

The video of the Fourth Regional Conference of Pacific Women is now available upon request to the Pacific Women's Resource Bureau. The video cassette is presently available in VHS, PAL system. The Bureau is currently soliciting funds to convert the video cassette into VHS - NTSC and SECAM systems. The video includes a variety of interviews with conference participants as well as general documentation of the conference. Please include a cheque for \$US10.00 (or the equivalent amount in other currency) per copy.

Pacific women's handicrafts exhibit planned

The Pacific Women's Resource Bureau is currently planning a Pacific women's handicrafts exhibit to be held in Guam in conjunction with the South Pacific Conference scheduled for this October.

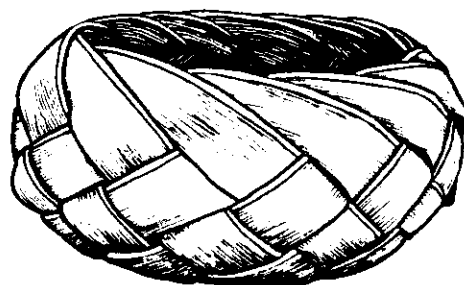


Handicrafts made by women in Ponape

It is hoped that this event will attract potential buyers from the large pool of tourist-related businesses that exist in Guam. The exhibit will also allow buyers to communicate with the women directly, or through their governments, to arrange for orders of additional handicrafts.

Women's groups interested in sending samples of their work to the exhibit are requested to contact the Communications Officer at the Bureau for further information.

The Bureau is seeking funding for this project. Groups or organisation interested in making donations are also requested to contact the Bureau.



CETC Course for 1990

The Community Education Training Centre Course for Community Workers for 1990 has been announced by the Centre.

The major theme of the nine-month course is *Self-reliance for better community living*. The Centre offers courses in women's development, agriculture and related fields, health, nutrition, home economics, and support studies which include the topics of communication management, research, sports and finance.

The course is restricted to women between 20 and 40 years of age. Preference is for those assured of employment in community education programmes upon their return. Proficiency in reading, writing and speaking English is required.

Interested women should contact their government for nomination forms and more information. Applications must be received by the Community Education Training Centre by 30 September 1989.

For further information contact: *The Principal, Community Education Training Centre, South Pacific Commission, Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji.*

Inter-agency meeting scheduled

Representatives from the Bureau, the Community Education Training Centre, and CUSO (a Canadian NGO) together visited nine Pacific countries between September and November 1988 to inquire into 'Management Training for South Pacific Women's Bureaus'. One of their major conclusions related to the inadequacy of co-ordination.

The team found that there was insufficient co-ordination of training initiatives between governments, national NGOs and regional and international institutions. This was believed to be due in part, to the absence of strategic planning to meet women's training needs.

In an effort to address this problem, the mission recommended that the South Pacific Commission convene a meeting of international resource agencies that operate programmes in the Pacific focused on women, to discuss mission findings and encourage inter-agency co-ordination, in mid-1989; and that the Pacific Women's Resource Bureau maintain this collaborative process.

In accordance with these recommendations the South Pacific Commission is co-ordinating an inter-agency meeting to be held in Suva, Fiji, from 31 July to 4 August, 1989. The purpose of this meeting is threefold:

- (a) to discuss areas of co-operation and possible structures for sharing of resources and planning related to women's activities in the region,
- (b) to discuss the overall findings of the Mission Report in general and the proposed project activities in particular, and
- (c) to consider the creation of a Regional Advisory Committee to oversee co-ordination and to assist in identifying gaps in existing resources and planning.

Interested persons wishing to attend this meeting are requested to contact the Bureau. No financial assistance is available from the SPC. Participants are expected to meet their own expenses.

For further information, contact: *Bernadette Papilio, Women's Development Officer, Pacific Women's Resource Bureau.*

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

New Technologies Workshop Amersfoort, Netherlands Sponsored by YWCA

19-29 September 1989

Contact your national YWCA or Rosie Ram at *World YWCA Headquarters, 37 Quai Wilson, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland* for information and a questionnaire for intending participants.

Regional Pacific Women's Seminar Sydney, Australia

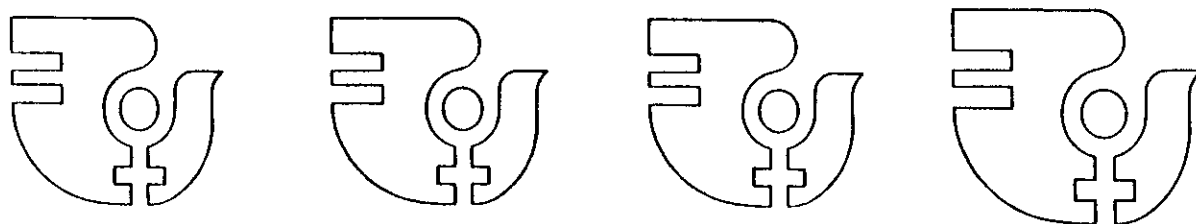
6-10 November 1989

The seminar will focus on the role, status and needs of women in the Pacific, Australian and New Zealand region. It will explore ways in which future strategies can be developed to enhance the social and economic status of women while maximising the value of the contribution indigenous women make to their communities. For further information contact: *Eve B. Finey, 2/198 William Street, Kings Cross, NSW, 2011 Australia. Phone: 283 1974.*

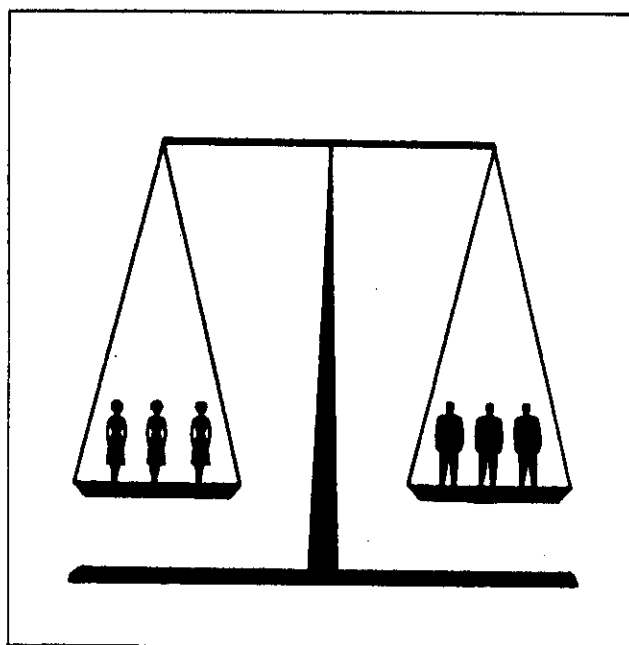
The Fourth International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women
Hunter College
New York, USA

3-7 June 1990

The theme: 'Women's realities, women's choices' will be developed in sessions on violence against women, the impact of war and peace on women, health and reproductive rights, the global economy and women's work and culture, tradition and change. Participation by women in developing countries is especially invited. Abstracts of presentations and papers should be submitted before 1 June 1989. For more information, contact: *Professor Florence Denmark, Department of Psychology, Hunter College - CUNY, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021, United States America.*



For correspondence to the Pacific Women's Resource Bureau the address is: *Pacific Women's Resource Bureau, South Pacific Commission, B.P. D5, Noumea Cedex, New Caledonia.*



Produced by Jillette Leon-Guerrero, Communications Officer

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