

APPENDIX 6

RECOMMENDATIONS OF STAR WORKING GROUPS & STAR CHAIR REPORT TO COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WATER WORKING GROUP:

Procedures

The group reviewed the recommendations that were put forward to council by the Water Working Group of 1999. The group noted the implementation of various recommendations from the previous session. Further deliberations led to the following 10 new recommendations:

Recommendations of Water Working Group 2000

- The group noted the endorsement of the conclusion of the 1999 workshop on ENSO impacts on water resources in the Pacific by council and further recommends that council endorses the collaborative efforts of WMO and SOPAC in organising a follow-up workshop on ENSO related events for hydrologists.
- The group noted the endorsement of the recommendations of the WMO on hydrological needs of SIDS. The WMO meeting identified two important aspects being the establishment of a Pacific HYCOS and the need for training. Concerning the establishment of the Pacific HYCOS the group recommends to council efforts for collaboration between WMO, SOPAC and other relevant regional and international organisations be made. Concerning training for hydrologists the group recommends that efforts be made to run the training through organisation which have demonstrated capacity in this area such as USP and SOPAC. The group noted other avenues for training such as distance learning material that could be utilised in addition to this program.
- The group noted with great concern the continuing staff shortages in the water unit and resulting discontinuity. Despite the overwhelming priority given to this activity by the 27th and 28th Session of Council, there is no core-funded staff in the Unit. The group strongly recommends the Council consider ways of strengthening the Water Resources Unit, to ensure its continuity and effectiveness.
- The group noted the importance of the Water Resources Unit as a centre for the dissemination of information and knowledge in the field of water. The group recommends the continuation and expansion of existing media such as the Water Resources Unit web page, newsletter, virtual library and the Small Islands Water Information Network (SIWIN).
- The group noted the recommendation of last years Council to develop a Drought Index system for the region. Initiatives in this direction have resulted in project proposals to donor organisations for funding. The group recommends to council that continuing efforts be made by SOPAC and the regional research community to establish a drought index for the Pacific.
- The group recommends the collaborative efforts of regional organisation and institutes to develop a vision for water in the Pacific. The group also recommends investigation into interest for a regional institutional strengthening and coordination meeting for the transfer of ideas, technology and programming between different regional organisations.
- The group recommends that steps be taken to reduce vulnerability to drought by Pacific Communities through the generation of public awareness material.
- The group noted the importance of alternative water supply technologies such as desalination. The group recommends to council that SOPAC develops the capacity to meet the information needs of the member states in this area.
- The Group noted the members of SOPAC receive assistance through bilateral and multilateral arrangements for the development and strengthening of their national hydrology and water resources activities. The Group therefore recommended that the Council requested members of SOPAC to provide the SOPAC Secretariat with information pertaining to such assistance and to keep SOPAC Secretariat informed to avoid duplication.
- The Group noted the potential of expertise in hydrology and water resources within the SOPAC region. The Group therefore recommended that

the Council requested SOPAC Secretariat to do an inventory of experts in this area.

Recommendations of Energy Working Group:

During the 29th SOPAC Annual Session – STAR Meeting the Energy Working Group (EWG) met on the 27th September, 2000, in Tarawa, Kiribati.

Eleven representatives attended the EWG from 9 member countries (PNG, Fiji, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Cook Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, Nauru, including ForSec, SOPAC, SPC, SPREP, USP and a representative from the Shikoku Research Department (Japan).

1. Tonga was elected as the new chair of the STAR EWG.
2. The EWG recommended that STAR note and endorse the Regional Energy Meeting 2000 Report and specifically note the following points:

CSD9

Pacific Regional Submission to the 9th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD9) - Paper endorsed and adopted by the REM2000.

Regional Energy Logical Framework Matrix

The draft matrix was adopted by the REM2000 - SPC to continue to coordinate the completion of the matrix in close collaboration with the Energy Working Group.

EWG – Regional Priorities and Activities

The paper was note and the work agreed to by the REM2000 Delegates. The EWG to continue to develop the paper and to keep members informed of progress.

REM2000 – Summary Record

The meeting adopted the draft REM2000 summary record.

Next Meeting

The REM2000 recommended that future meetings be held on regular basis (2 yearly). The timing being flexible and dependent on the need to address regional and international issues. As appropriate, subsequent REMs should have a specific theme.

The Cook Islands was offered as a venue for the next REM.

3. The EWG noted the urgent need to provide technical information on “New Technologies” those in particular that are currently not technically and commercially proven (Hydrogen fuels, Energy PV solar/satellite, OTEC). The EWG recommended that STAR note the initiative and priority given to the identified new technologies and the proposal to provide technical papers
4. The EWG noted that SOPAC and FORSEC are currently preparing a regional position paper with regard to nuclear energy.
5. The EWG recommended that as “energy efficiency and conservation” was highlighted as a priority area for consideration and attention in the REM2000, attention be given to the development of a regional proposal. Funding for the proposal could be considered under the similar GEF arrangements that were being sought for the SPREP renewable energy project of “removal of barriers”.
6. The EWG encouraged the member countries, CROP organisation and others (researchers) to seriously consider submitting papers to STAR 2001. A prime opportunity existed with the current emphasis on new technologies and the desire to gain additional knowledge.
7. The EWG noted the desire of members to meet on a regular basis (2 yearly) and that the proposal for the next REM in 2002. Venue: Cook Islands, funding: the need to source funding, Theme: possible - outcomes of PREA 2000. The EWG confirmed that as previously agreed between SOPAC / SPC, that SPC will take the lead role in the organisation of the next REM.
8. The EWG noted that the next Pacific Science Congress will be in Guam, 2001 and that the meeting will provide an opportunity for PICs to present papers.
9. In addition it was noted that the Energy Unit’s staffing levels are marginal and require reviewing with the view to seeking the appointment of additional staff in early 2001.

Recommendations of the Coastal and Nearshore Processes Working Group:

The Working Group discussed the recommendations of the 1999 Working Group report in the light of issues that had arisen during the present STAR meeting. The group benefited from the presence of Robert Smith, who was able to report on developments during the year that related to the 1999 report.

There was considerable discussion on the continuing problems involving aggregate mining and mem-

ber of the group raised specific issues from their own experience. The consensus was that this was an issue that would need continued attention by the working group and that most of the recommendations from the previous year should be re-affirmed. In particular, there was concern that sources of aggregate be identified before projects are approved, in order to avoid the haphazard removal of material from inappropriate sites and the rapid depletion of limited resources. In addition, the group commented that it should be realised that in many cases it might not be possible to source aggregate for a development locally. The Working Group also discussed alternative sources of material, such as sediment deposited in deep water in a fore reef setting, that might be utilised without damage to the nearshore environment, and recommended that these be investigated.

The value of beach profile data and of the SOPAC training programs was shown both during the STAR presentations and from experiences related during the Working Group meeting. The continuation and expansion of these as far as resources permit was recommended.

With respect to remote sensing, the Group discussed various technologies introduced during the STAR sessions. The Group noted that there had been much progress on the acquisition of hardware and software for obtaining and processing multibeam and side-scan data, as recommended last year, but that there was still a need for sufficient software and training to take full advantage of the imaging capabilities of the multibeam data.

The Working Group discussed the proposal raised during STAR for an integrated and multidisciplinary study of one or more islands, to obtain a full and quantitative understanding of the sediment budget and dynamics. The Group agreed that such a study would be valuable to areas where problems are occurring. It recognised both the uniqueness of the Pacific region in general and each island in particular, and supported such an holistic approach. It was agreed that funding be sought to scope out the parameters for such a study. Further, as much relevant data must exist at SOPAC, the Group recommended that there be a project to update SOPAC's database of bathymetric and other data.

Finally, the Group discussed the involvement of students in thesis research in the region. Such research is cost-effective and provides valuable training. It was resolved to recommend that SOPAC continue to encourage the provision of "seed-money" for such research, and also that SOPAC be asked to provide information, if possible, to STAR on how much student research was undertaken in the region.

Recommendations:

In nearshore aggregates research the Coastal and Nearshore Working Group

- **recommends** that the ongoing strategic national assessment of nearshore aggregate resources and consumption in member countries, and post-extraction monitoring processes, continue. Prior to new "large" construction projects being approved, aggregate needs should be assessed and sources identified, and approval be assessed within the framework of other needs.
- **recommends** that the identification of alternative and environmentally less-destructive sources be pursued. These might include suction dredging of deeper water deposits in fore reef areas.

In coastal research the Coastal and Nearshore Processes Working Group

- **recommends** that the collection of beach profile data and the SOPAC training programs continue and be expanded to the extent that resources will permit.

In nearshore and general research the Coastal and Nearshore Processes Working Group

- **recommends** that sufficient software and training be provided to take full advantage of the imaging capabilities of the multibeam data being obtained.
- **recommends** that SOPAC continue to encourage the provision of "seed money" for post-graduate research in the region, and that if possible it provide to STAR details of the amount of such research being undertaken in the region.
- **recommends** that funding be sought to scope out an integrated and multidisciplinary study of one or more islands that would quantify details of sediment budgets and dynamics, and allow these data to be applied wherever coastal problems arose.
- **recommends** that, in conjunction with the previous recommendation, SOPAC's database of bathymetric and other information be upgraded.

Recommendations of the Geohazards/Tsunami Working Group :

1. The Working Group considered recommendation 1 from the 1999 Working Group report i.e. "A formal means of independent peer review for projects which have implications for legal liability, including some aspects of projects conducted by the Hazard Assessment Unit, should be established."

SOPAC advised that the completion report on the project, "Earthquake Microzoning in Capital Cities of the South Pacific" had been submitted for peer review with IGNS, NZ; the School of Engineering, University of Auckland; and, the School of Earth Sciences, Victoria University of Wellington and that the reviews are available for perusal. The report has been amended in accordance with the comments received from the reviewers and is now in the process of publication as a SOPAC Technical Report. The Working Group records a sincere vote of thanks to the reviewers for their helpful efforts.

Furthermore the Working Group discussed the issue of legal liability and it was concluded that it was appropriate that, as a general rule and for reports of all types, SOPAC investigate the implications of the inclusion of an appropriate statement that addresses this matter on the front page of each report.

2. The Working Group discussed a number of issues relating to recent tsunamis in the region, namely those in PNG (Sissano) and Vanuatu (Southern Pentecost). The Working Group noted several of the STAR presentations relating to these events.

The presentation by David Tappin suggested a probable mechanism for the Sissano event and also highlighted that evidence gathered during the surveys and from other sources indicated that a number of similar events had occurred in the recent past, and that a number of sites where future events could take place were identified. The Working Group considered that it may now be appropriate to develop a hazard mapping program for the region. A suitable vehicle exists in the SOPAC "Communities at Risk" program (CAR) but lack of funding thus far has limited significant work being undertaken.

Joe Buleka (PNG), advised that an unsuccessful funding proposal for bathymetric mapping for the Sissano region that had been submitted through SOPAC. Dr Kitazawa responded by indicating that he had also presented the proposal to funding agencies in Japan but without success. He suggested that a submission directly by PNG authorities would then receive a more favorable review.

The presentation by Andrew Moore outlined aspects of the effects of the Southern Pentecost tsunami and indicated the importance of a tsunami awareness program that was conducted prior to the event by the tsunami. Had this awareness program not been conducted the death toll would have certainly been much greater than it was. It was requested that the information and conclusions arising from this work be incorporated in the SOPAC DMU-HAU Community Vulnerability project for Pentecost.

Dr Kitazawa requested that consideration be given to the development of evacuation procedures for areas that are prone to such hazards. Alan Mearns indicated that it was the responsibility of the individual countries to prepare these types of procedures, but SOPAC Disaster Management Unit have agreed to investigate the preparation of a set of guidelines for use on a regional level.

3. The Working Group considered recommendation 3 in the 1999 Working Group report i.e. "The establishment of a Regional Centre for Applied Seismology within SOPAC be strongly endorsed." SOPAC advised that the matter of the establishment of the Centre was being investigated further, but at this stage donors were still being sought. Further action on this matter would continue during the next 12 months.
4. The Working Group considered the recommendations relating to Agenda items 8 (Regional Workshop) and 10 (Global Disaster Information Network) coming out of the 9th Pacific Regional Disaster Management Meeting held in Niue early in September 2000. The Working Group endorsed the recommendations put forward and noted that the links with the Asia-Pacific Working Group be strengthened.

Recommendations:

- The Working Group **recommended** that SOPAC investigate the legal implications of all reports, but in the meantime follow the lead of AGSO Cities Project by including an appropriate statement that addresses liability issues at the front of each report.
- The Working Group, in the context of the two major tsunami that have taken place within the region during the past three years (PNG in July 1998 and Vanuatu in December 1999) with the loss of over 2000 lives, **recommends** that:
- SOPAC recognises the importance to the region of the tsunami hazard and sets up a tsunami program in the Hazard Assessment Unit.
- that the overall program objectives are to identify tsunami prone areas and develop mitigation strategies and,
- in accord with this function SOPAC will identify and acquire data necessary to identify tsunami prone areas. This data to include multibeam bathymetry, seismic records, historical tsunami records, seismicity information, onland tsunami deposits, relevant tsunami simulations and tsunami reports and papers.

- while recognising the technological constraints in tsunami prediction, SOPAC develops a tsunami prediction capability based, where possible on existing prediction methodology.
- The Working Group **urged** the continued search for a donor for funding for the establishment of the Regional Centre for Applied Seismology.
- The Working Group **endorsed** the recommendations put forward in agenda items 8 and 10 at the recent 9th Pacific Regional Disaster Management Meeting in Niue and **recommended** that the links with the Asia-Pacific Working Group of GDIN be strengthened by participating and contributing to the working group. The project being based on the experiences and investigations surrounding the Sissano tsunami through a lessons-learned simulation exercise.

Recommendations of the PacificGOOS Working Group:

Steering Group Attendees:

1. PacificGOOS Activities

Background

Alfred Simpson [Chair] provided a background on GOOS and the initiatives that have been taken since the establishment of PacificGOOS.

- PacificGOOS Capacity Building Workshop, Suva 1998
- SOPAC-IOC PacificGOOS Coastal Workshop, August 2000, Apia
- Outlined PacificGOOS rationale for commitment to both GOOS themes- open ocean and coastal
- Identified that the recent resourcing of the Oceans Unit at the Secretariat will ensure progress of PacificGOOS initiatives

Status of GOOS Activities in the Region

USP provided a brief update on its GOOS activities and iterated its commitment and strong interest in PacificGOOS

- Pacific Node of GCRMN
- Partner in the Argo Capacity Building Project [yet to be implemented]

IRD provided a brief update on the initiatives in New Caledonia under the ZoNeCo Program and indicated that these are "GOOS" activities

Noted that PacificGOOS regional participants will be users of information and interested in capacity building

2. Regional Institutional Arrangements

Establishment of IOC-Perth Office

Will serve as a resource in PacificGOOS development

Establishment of GOOS Secretariat at SOPAC

- Agreed that the interim PacificGOOS Secretariat will remain at SOPAC
- Advised that signed GOOS related MOU's exist between IOC-SOPAC and WMO-SOPAC
- Noted the strong links that exist between CROP Agencies and the importance of fostering these partnerships.

External arrangements

- Noted the existing links between SOPAC and various ocean agencies and the importance of maintaining these
- Agreed that linkages with such organisations, who work in the region need to be maintained.

4. Future Initiatives for PacificGOOS

PacificGOOS Strategic Plan

- Agreed that the development and definition of a strategic plan for Pacific GOOS is required, as a matter of urgency
- Recommended the PacificGOOS Strategic Plan be drafted and circulated among all partners, for comment by early 2001.

GOOS Data Node

- Agreed that based on the expertise and capability of the SOPAC Secretariat in data handling, that the GOOS Data Node reside in SOPAC
- Noted that this will have some cost implications and will need to be considered
- Noted IRD's offer to host a SOPAC server, in either Montpellier or Paris. This arrangement will greatly improve connection speeds for data exchange

National GOOS Representatives

- Agreed that SOPAC Secretariat be the focal point between IOC and national governments in the region for GOOS issues, communications and initiatives and that national representatives needed to be identified

Workshops

- Stressed the importance of actively promoting the CoastalGOOS pilot projects proposed at the PacificGOOS Workshop in Samoa, August 2000
- Noted the generous offer from IRD to host a GOOS Workshop in New Caledonia [late 2002 - early 2003]. The workshop may coincide with a workshop on remote sensing

STAR

- Agreed that a STAR Working Group on PacificGOOS be formed at the 30th SOPAC Annual Session and that scientific papers for implementing GOOS be presented in the STAR forum. Also, intersession interactions need to be encouraged.

5. Other Matters

Establish PacificGOOS Steering Group Dialogue

- Agreed that the SOPAC Secretariat update GOOS mailing lists and disseminate information periodically to members of the Steering Group.

6. Next Meeting

Suggested that the Steering Group meet for at least one day in early 2001 to discuss the draft strategic plan and other GOOS issues

- Suggested that tele-conferencing might be used for the preliminary meeting
- Agreed that meetings could be convened without full attendance of the Steering Group.

7. Recommendations to the SOPAC Governing Council

The Working Group recommends the SOPAC Governing Council:

- Support the continued development of Pacific GOOS in the region and specifically the hosting of the Pacific GOOS Secretariat, by the SOPAC Secretariat.
- Assist in the development of GOOS pilot projects in the region such as those developed at the Coastal GOOS workshop held in Apia in August 2000.
- Note the Argo Capacity Building Project (SEREAD) and endorse its initiation, once it has been finalised.
- Note the generous offer from IRD to host a GOOS Workshop in New Caledonia [late 2002 - early 2003].

STAR CHAIR REPORT TO COUNCIL

Mr Chairman

Thank you for this opportunity to report on the activities of STAR during the past year. STAR is SOPAC's Science, Technology and Resources Network and it interfaces between the SOPAC Secretariat and PIC members of SOPAC and the international scientific community. It does this in several ways. Every few years, an international scientific workshop or meeting is either convened by STAR, or held under its auspices, on a broad theme relevant to the SOPAC region. The last such workshop, on ENSO effects, was held in Nadi in 1999.

Each year, a meeting at which scientific papers are presented and discussed, and thematic Working Groups meet, is held in conjunction with the Annual Session of the SOPAC Governing Council. This year, following the new arrangements introduced in 1998, STAR met from September 26th to 28th, prior to the opening of this Council Meeting.

During the STAR meeting, 41 scientific papers were presented orally, by poster or by abstract and these are recorded in SOPAC Miscellaneous Report 387. The eight sessions of oral presentations were chaired by John Collen, Keith Crook, Paul Taylor, Joe Buleka, Faatoia Malele, Bhaskar Rao, Gary McMurtry and Yves Lafoy. Papers were grouped into the themes of energy, hazards, environmental, technology, minerals, coastal and ocean observations.

As is the norm for these meetings, the research presented covered a very wide range. STAR took advantage of the preceding Energy Workshop to begin with a session devoted to this topic. Speakers presented papers dealing with aspects of energy efficiency and local power generation, and the head of SOPAC's

Energy Unit summarised the Energy Workshop that ran here last week.

Geohazards research was very strongly represented and during these sessions several papers summarised recent work on tsunamis. Of particular note were data supporting the origin of the Sissano tsunami as the result of a submarine slump rather than faulting, techniques for dating marine sediments in areas affected by this slumping, and the effects of the November 1999 Vanuatu tsunami. The latter was a remarkable example of a situation where the severe loss of life that could have occurred was mitigated by public awareness of the hazard. Other papers explored aspects of volcanic hazard, including a successful interactive workshop held with the local community on Savo volcano in the Solomon Islands. The session ended with papers on disaster management and damage assessment in general. Discussion during this session suggested that extreme events may in the Pacific region be common.

The application of Information Technology permeated much of the meeting but the session specifically devoted to this covered the increasing availability of high resolution satellite imagery and the potential this brings to Pacific research, the development of GIS capability, and the computerised management of forestry production. Papers on minerals discussed the deep sea mineral potential of the Pacific region,

And also a recent survey of phosphate reserves and groundwater resources on Banaba Island by SOPAC.

The coastal papers were equally wide-ranging and included a discussion of airborne laser systems for the rapid determination of bathymetry. Landslides and slumping in relation to seismicity were described for the Lae area of Papua New Guinea. Coastal erosion problems resulting from beach mining in Tonga was another subject and finally a summary of our current knowledge, and lack thereof, of Pacific nearshore sediment systems was presented.

The formal meeting finished with a session devoted to ocean observing systems. The PacificGOOS Coastal Workshop held in Samoa in August of this year was summarised and a proposal for building capacity for the Argo drifting float programme was discussed. Observations from the TRITON buoy network were outlined, and the relationship of GIS/RS systems to all of this were described.

In addition to the scientific presentations, five working groups also met. These were the Energy, Geohazards, Ocean Observing Systems, Water and the Coastal and Nearshore Processes Working Groups. I will report briefly on highlights of their recommendations here and they will be further dis-

cussed during this meeting. Other Working Groups that have met in the past were not convened here because of the lack of persons with appropriate expertise.

The Energy Working Group recommended endorsement of the Regional Energy Meeting 2000 Report and noted several points, including that the REM2000 endorsed and adopted the Pacific Regional Submission to the 9th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and adopted the draft Regional Energy Logical Framework Matrix. The Group noted the urgent need to provide technical information on "New Technologies", in particular those such as hydrogen fuels that are currently not technically and commercially proven. The Group further recommended that as "energy efficiency and conservation" was highlighted as a priority area for consideration and attention in the REM2000, attention be given to the development of a regional proposal.

The Geohazards Working Group discussed the legal liabilities of SOPAC's activities and recommended that SOPAC investigate the legal implications of all reports. It also recognised the importance to the region of the tsunami hazard and made several suggestions, including setting up a tsunami programme in the Hazard Assessment Unit. It also urged that funding for a Regional Centre for Applied Seismology continue to be pursued.

The Water Working Group reviewed the recommendations put forward in 1999 and further recommended that Council endorse the collaborative efforts of WMO and SOPAC in organising a follow-up workshop on ENSO-related events; make efforts to run hydrological training through SOPAC and USP; consider strengthening the Water Resources Unit of SOAC, which has staff shortages, and continue to maintain this Unit as a centre for the dissemination of information. They further recommended that continuing efforts be made to establish a drought index for the Pacific, and that through increasing public awareness steps be taken to reduce vulnerability to drought; that collaboratively regional organisations and institutions develop a vision for water in the Pacific; and finally that SOPAC develop the capacity to provide information on alternative water supply technologies to member states.

The Coastal and Nearshore Processes Working Group discussed the continuing problems involving aggregate mining, including examples from their own experiences. They reaffirmed most of the recommendations made by this Working Group in 1999. The Group also noted the importance of SOPAC's beach profiling data and training programmes, the value of which was demonstrated several times during the scientific sessions. Finally, the Working Group sup-

ported the suggestion raised during STAR that an integrated and multidisciplinary study of the sediment budget and dynamics of one or more islands be initiated, and recommended that funding to scope out the parameters for such a study be sought.

The Working Group on Global Ocean Observing Systems (or GOOS) recommended that Council support the development of PacificGOOS and that the interim PacificGOOS Secretariat be based at SOPAC, assist in the development of GOOS pilot projects, and endorse the initiation of the Argo Capacity Building Project once it has been finalised. IRD has generously offered to host a GOOS Workshop in New Caledonia in late 2002 or early 2003.

The STAR Business Meeting elected Faatoia Malele of the Meteorology Division of Samoa as Vice-Chair of STAR for the coming year, and I look forward to working with him. He replaces Saimone Helu who served in this role for a number of years.

Finally, Mr Chairman, I would appreciate this opportunity to convey some personal impressions of this STAR meeting because there were three aspects of it that I found particularly notable. The first was the clearly applied direction to much of the research. This has always been a feature of STAR but is becoming more clearly articulated and was apparent

in every presentation. Secondly were the programmes aimed at building, or perhaps more accurately building on, community involvement and awareness. The Savo volcano workshop was an excellent example of this process and the reduction in lives lost during the Vanuatu Tsunamis clearly showed its value. My third comment is prompted by listening to some of the excellent presentations by SOPAC staff. It has become increasingly apparent to me that the work of SOPAC, important though it is to the region, is also potentially of great value to the wider scientific community. Those of us who are aware of this work can access it through SOPAC's publications but much of the scientific world is less informed. I would urge SOPAC staff to consider publishing the results of their work in international scientific journals or as books so that it reaches a wider audience and perhaps corrects some of the imbalances that we know of in the scientific literature. I know that everyone at SOPAC has full schedules but I for one, and I am sure that this goes also for my STAR colleagues, would be happy to assist in any way.

In conclusion and on behalf of the STAR delegates, may I thank the Government and people of Kiribati for the hospitality extended to us during our visit.

Thank you.