



(L to R) Steering committee for performing arts tutors hui: Napi Waaka, Piri Sciascia, Mike Hollings, Eric Tamepo, Vicky Ward, Karen Waterreus, Ngoi Pewhairangi, Bill Kerekere, Puti Mackie.

weavers hui over Labour Weekend at Tokomaru Bay. 150 Maori and Pacific Island weavers have been invited to discuss establishment of a national organisation, exhibitions of weaving, marketing, standards and regional programmes and workshops. Budget \$13,000.

In January 1984, 200 tutors, including trainees, will meet in the Waikato to discuss haka, poi, waiata kori (action song) waiata and other related forms. The budget for this is \$13,000.

Sefulu Ioane — Maspac council



Waitangi weekend in February has been set for the carvers hui to bring together carvers from all over the country to discuss issues including training, employment and marketing. The budget for this is \$13,000.

### Traditional Pacific Island art programmes

Dance and language programmes, particularly for New Zealand born youngsters are top priorities for traditional Pacific art programmes, says

Council member, Sefulu Ioane, Director of the Pacific Islanders Educational Resource Centre.

"While it's important for our old people to maintain their culture, the real need is younger New Zealanders — those who were born here — and there are lots of them."

He says it is this group which is in danger of losing its language and with it, its cultural roots. "You cannot isolate the culture from the language."

He says Pacific Islanders are fighting to prevent their languages suffering the sort of decline which afflicted the Maori language.

These priorities are reflected in the Council's proposed programmes for five Pacific Island groups, which are the result of consultations with Pacific Island community leaders last year. They are:

**Tokelaun** — a get together to share knowledge of principal artforms of chanting and dancing, with all Tokelau communities (\$6,000);

**Tongan** — language a priority because Tongan leaders feel it is declining and will take with it dances, handcrafts and traditions (\$6,000);

**Samoa** — language programmes (\$6,000);

**Cook Islands** — language and dance programmes (\$6,000);

**Niuean** — a cultural hui to discuss art and cultural needs (\$6,000).

Mr Ioane says he would also like to see the Council extending its contact outside the New Zealand shores to other Pacific groups and Australia's large Maori communities.