

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

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SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1985

Conservation and Enforcement Measures under Study

by

the Executive Secretary

1. In the first place, a revision of Rule A.1 of Part I has been considered by the Canadian delegation, but no proposal has yet been received. (See Item 10 of FC Doc 84/IX/6, Revised). It has been proposed to improve that Rule but no idea has been given of the problems encountered and the solution to be sought and discussed.
2. At the last meeting, it was agreed to refer Item 1 of FC Doc 82/VI/2, Revised to the Scientific Council (see Item 21 of FC Doc 84/IX/6, Revised). This has been done. This item is the study of the problem of the variation of escapement and selectivity of trawl nets with the positioning, number and characteristics of strengthening ropes, splitting straps and codend floats, and the possible determination of limiting conditions if a trawl net and its chafers have to keep within NAFO regulations. The problem is complex and it is to be expected that an answer cannot be provided in a short time.
3. Item 9 of FC Doc 82/VI/2, Revised - a legal question regarding # 28 and 29 of the Report of Inspection was referred to the Executive Secretary (see Item 31 of FC Doc 84/IX/6, Revised).

The Executive Secretary is happy to inform the Commission that, in his opinion, in Portuguese law, the matter in question is not important and it does not constitute a problem.

Furthermore the lack of interest regarding this question by practically every delegation should prove that, in spite of six years of experience in NAFO alone with by now hundreds of inspections carried out, the authorities everywhere find no problem with the arrangement of the numbers mentioned.

It is proposed that this question be considered settled until such time as anyone might possibly have an example of a practical concrete difficulty.

4. For Item 2 of FC Doc 82/VI/2, Revised, it was requested at the last annual meeting that every Contracting Party should give as soon as possible the name of its nominee for a Working Group to whom the Item was referred (see Item 31 of FC Doc 84/IX/6, Revised). With rare exceptions, nobody has complied with this request. However this item involves a few important questions concerning types of chafers and the measuring of their meshes which is still to be studied and should be studied by administrators, inspectors and civil servants, with advice from the fishing industry.

It is respectfully suggested that the Commission could decide that during the meeting each delegation must give to the Executive Secretary the name of a responsible person with which he could get in touch, in order to obtain replies to several questions and eventually organize a final meeting to send up a report to the Commission.