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Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

Serial No. N1421

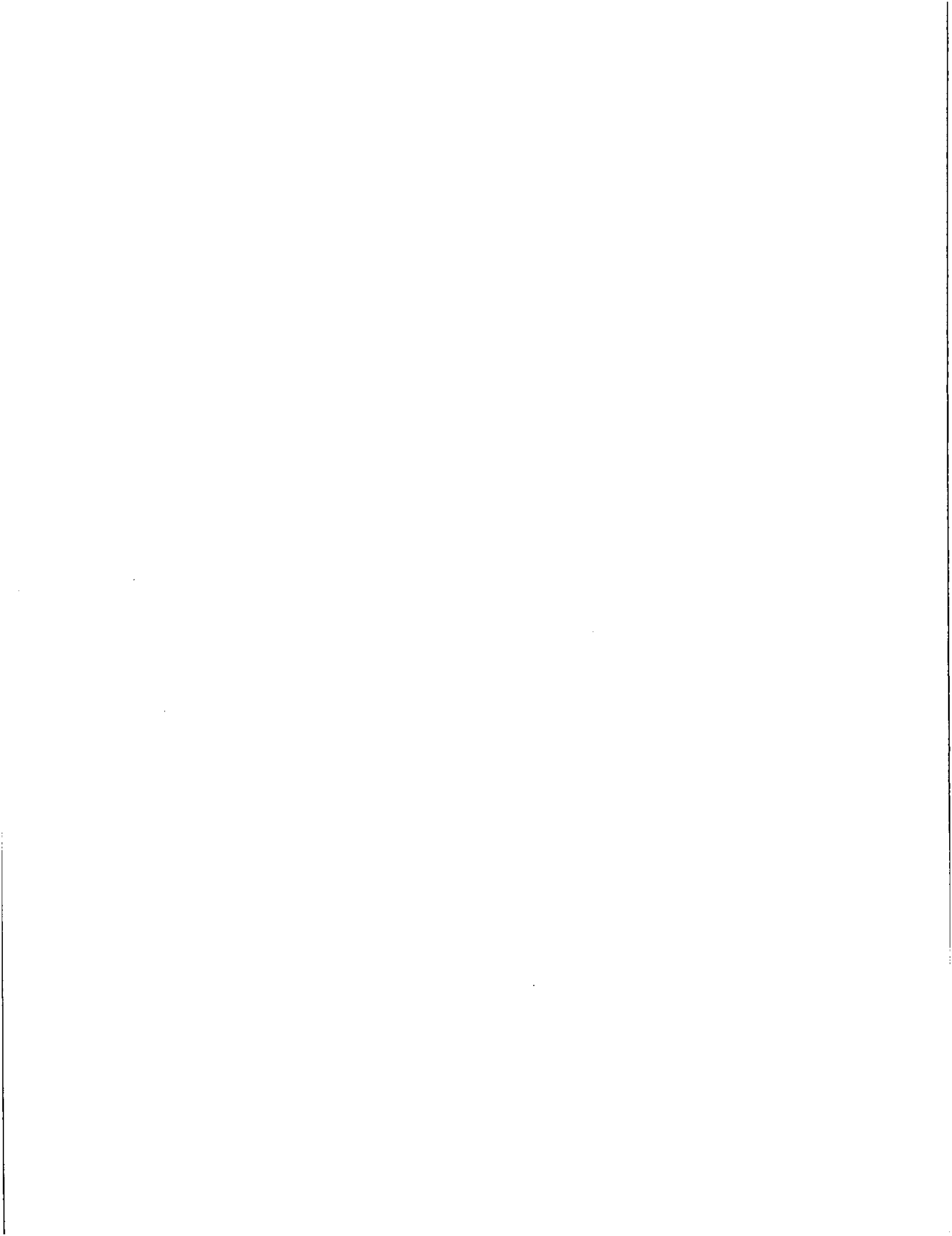
NAFO/FC Doc. 87/14
(Corrigendum)

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1987

Report of the Fisheries Commission

Please replace page 22 of FC Doc 87/14 (revised) with the attached Quota Table for 1988.

The EEC quota for 3M redfish should read 3,100 mt not 1,200 mt. This is because the previous 1,900 mt quota to Portugal must now be added to the normal 1,200 mt quota for EEC.



SCHEDULE I
Quota Table¹ for 1988

Column I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI
Contracting Party	Cod Div. 3M	Cod Div. 3NO	Redfish Div. 3M	Redfish Div. 3LN	American plaice Div. 3M	American plaice Div. 3LNO	Yellowtail Div. 3LNO	Witch Div. 3NO	Capelin Div. 3NO	Squid (Illex) Subareas ^{3,4} 3 + 4
1. Bulgaria	-	-	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	500
2. Canada	-	19,070	500	10,650	150	39,415	14,630	3,000	400	N.S. ⁵
3. Cuba	-	-	1,750	2,450	-	-	-	-	375	2,250
4. European Economic Community	-	14,750	3,100	-	350	510	300	-	375	N.S. ⁵
5. Faroe Islands (Denmark)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. German Democratic Republic	-	-	-	850	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Japan	-	-	400	-	-	-	-	-	1,400	2,250
9. Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,500	-
10. Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	650	1,000
11. Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500
12. USSR	-	4,780	13,850	10,900	1,000	-	-	1,950	7,500	5,000
13. Others	-	1,400	100	150	500	75	70	50	0	5,000
14. Special Reservation ²	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. Total Allowable Catch	0	40,000	20,000	25,000	2,000	40,000	15,000	5,000	15,000	150,000 ⁶

¹ Quotas are in metric tons.

² There are no Special Reservations for 1987.

³ The opening date for the squid (Illex) fishery is 1 July.

⁴ Any quota listed for squid may be increased by a transfer from any "coastal state" as defined in Article 1, para 3 of the NAFO Convention, provided that the TAC for squid is not exceeded. Transfers made to Contracting Parties conducting fisheries for squid in the Regulatory Area shall be reported to the Executive Secretary, and the report shall be made as promptly as possible.

⁵ Not specified because the allocations to these Contracting Parties are as yet undetermined, although their sum shall not exceed the difference between the total of allocations to other Contracting Parties and the TAC.

⁶ The TAC would remain at 150,000 tons subject to adjustment where warranted by scientific advice.



Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

Serial No. N1421

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1987

NAFO/FC Doc. 87/14

(Revised)

Report of the Fisheries Commission

Tuesday, 15 September - 1415-1645 hrs
Wednesday, 16 September - 1030-1710 hrs
Thursday, 17 September - 1045-1910 hrs
Friday, 18 September - 1120-1220 hrs

1. In the absence of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Fisheries Commission was called to order by the Chairman of STACTIC, R. J. Prier (Canada) at 1415 hrs, 15 September 1987, in the Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, with the presence of all Members with the exception of Bulgaria and Romania. (See Appendix I)
2. The first item of business was to elect an interim Chairman for the meeting until either the regular Chairman was able to attend or until the end of the meeting. The delegate of the USSR, seconded by the delegate of Japan, subsequently supported by a number of other delegations, proposed that R. J. Prier (Canada) assume the position of interim Chairman. The proposal was accepted.
3. Under Agenda item 2, Appointment of Rapporteur, C. J. Allen (Canada) was appointed Rapporteur.
4. Under Agenda item 3, Adoption of Agenda, the Agenda was adopted as circulated. (See Appendix II) However, the delegate of Denmark, reiterating a statement he had made earlier to the General Council Meeting, suggested that enough time be left between the tabling of proposals and final votes on the various issues, in order that delegations have enough time to discuss and reflect on the issues. That was agreed.
5. Under Agenda item 4, Admission of Observers, the Chairman was pleased to welcome observers from Mexico and the United States of America.
6. Under Agenda item 5, Publicity, it was agreed that the usual practice be followed whereby the Chairmen of the General Council, Fisheries Commission and Scientific Council and the Executive Secretary agreed upon a Press Release for issuance at the close of the meeting. (See Appendix III)
7. Under Agenda item 6, Approval of the Report of the Eighth Annual Meeting (FC Doc. 86/14, revised), the Chairman advised the delegates that Note 1 appended to the Provisional Agenda as found in NAFO Circular Letter 87/50, explained two suggested changes to the wording of the Report of the last Annual Meeting. The first could be found on page 6, item 24, and should read "the amended Canadian proposal was accepted as no one objected and read ...", and the second one would be on page 10, in the last paragraph of item 29, which should read "... the earlier proposal put forth by Canada, as amended by the EEC and Canada, to maintain ...". The delegate of Canada, seconded by the delegate of Norway, proposed that the Report, with these two amendments, be adopted. The proposal was accepted.
8. Under Agenda item 7, Review of Commission Membership, the Chairman noted that the General Council had deferred the same agenda item to be discussed later on during the week and suggested that the Fisheries Commission follow suit. That was agreed.
9. Under Agenda item 8, Procedural Rules for Decision Taking in Voting by Mail or Telex, the Chairman noted that the General Council had deferred a similar agenda item to a working group for discussion and suggested that the Fisheries Commission follow the same procedure, which was agreed.
10. Under Agenda item 9, Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the Chairman suggested and it was approved that the item be deferred until later in the week.
11. Under Agenda item 10, Status of Proposals, the Chairman, in response to a question by the delegate of Canada, stated that it was his belief that the document was updated every year as he would check with the Executive Secretary. In the meantime, the Agenda item would remain open.
12. Under Agenda item 11, Conservation and Enforcement Measures already opened for study and/or discussion, the Chairman noted that there were eight issues in the item. He also noted that some of the issues were long-standing and had never been fully dealt with.

13. Under Agenda item 11(a), Ropes and reinforcements in trawls, the Chairman noted that the item had been referred earlier to the Scientific Council which had not yet reported back to the Fisheries Commission.
14. Under Agenda item 11(b), Conversion factors for use by NAFO inspectors, the Chairman noted that the Scientific Council was discussing the issue and would be reporting to the Fisheries Commission later in the week.
15. Under Agenda item 11(c), Changes to NAFO measures regarding by-catch limits, the Chairman explained that the item was originally a proposal by Canada and could be found in FC Doc. 86/11. The delegate of Canada requested that the item be referred to STACTIC, which was agreed.
16. Under Agenda item 11(d), Types of chafers and measurement of their meshes, the Chairman noted that the Executive Secretary had circulated FC Working Paper 87/1 dealing with that subject. It was proposed by the delegate of Canada and agreed that the document should be reviewed by STACTIC.
17. Under Agenda item 11(e), Changes in regulations to improve conservation in NAFO Regulatory Area, the delegate of Canada noted that the item had been added to the Agenda by Canada in the past and he moved that the item be then removed from the Agenda. That was agreed.
18. Under Agenda item 11(f), Minimum mesh size for groundfish in the Regulatory Area, the Chairman noted that it had originally been a Canadian proposal aimed at gaining consistency in mesh sizes both within the Canadian zone and within the NAFO Regulatory Area. The delegate of Canada noted that he was not pushing for discussion of the issue then and he requested that it be left on the agenda for one more year.
19. Under Agenda item 11(g), Underfishing of quotas, the Chairman noted that the item had originally been proposed by the USSR. The delegate of the USSR stated that the situation which had prompted it in the first place still existed and suggested that the issue be deferred until the 1988 Annual Meeting.
20. Under Agenda item 11(h), Facilitation of technical advice from the Scientific Council, the Chairman referred to FC Doc. 87/5 which contained a recommendation from the Scientific Council that should working groups be set up to deal with subjects that may include scientific aspects a representative of the Scientific Council should be asked to sit on such groups. A short discussion ensued as to the role of the Scientific Council representative to sit in those groups and to its selection by the Scientific Council. The delegate of the USSR, seconded by the delegate of Canada, proposed that the recommendation be accepted. That was agreed.
21. After a short coffee break, the Chairman, referring back to Agenda item 11(a), noted that the Scientific Council had reported on the issue (SCS Doc. 87/26) and he recommended that it be referred to STACTIC for review. The proposal was accepted.
22. Under Agenda item 12, Final Report of the Working Group on Joint International Control, the Chairman referred to the report as found in NAFO/FC Doc. 87/1 as well as a Canadian proposal concerning the same issue to be found in FC Doc. 87/3. The Chairman suggested that FC Doc. 87/1 be discussed first. The delegate of Denmark noted that there had been a number of issues discussed by the Working Group at its March meeting that could not be resolved. He suggested that other delegates might wish to explain what their principal positions were and then return to the detailed study of the report at a later time. Referring to the Report of the Working Group, item 1(v), he noted that his delegation could not agree to the issue of dedicated resources to a Scheme.

Regarding Section 6(ii), he noted that there were two difficult issues in that section: that of a "voyage/quota period" and a "percentage for tolerance". Regarding the first issue, the delegate of Denmark did not believe that NAFO should be controlling quotas in such a way. Regarding the issue of tolerances, he noted that setting an arbitrary level for tolerances would not make much sense and suggested that the item be taken out.

The delegate of the USSR noted that his delegation was satisfied with the existing Scheme and only agreed to the setting up of a Working Group on the understanding that all Contracting Parties would be remaining in the existing Scheme until November 15. He further noted that whatever Scheme was in place should not be to the advantage of any single Contracting Party and should be easy for inspectors to cope with and for fishing masters to comply with. Furthermore, the text should avoid any possibility of double interpretations. However, he believed that the Working Group had failed to obtain these assurances in a number of provisions. The delegate of the EEC noted that the present Scheme had a number of problems. However, the Working Group meeting had progressed well and the EEC delegation had left that meeting with optimism.

Unfortunately, that optimism was not maintained because of a proposal put forth by Canada to make changes to the results of the Working Group. He specifically referred to the issue of the "equitable distribution of inspections" which the Working Group had resolved. Furthermore, he stated that, if FC Doc. 87/3 expressed the definitive position of Canada, it would be very difficult for the EEC delegation to come to an agreement on that item. The delegate of Canada noted that Canada had been prepared to participate in the Working Group provided that an equivalent Scheme would be in place for EEC vessels. However,

EEC vessels were now refusing boardings by Canadian NAFO inspectors unless they were accompanied by a flag state inspector and no one had advised Canada of any changes in the Scheme. The delegate of Canada therefore requested clarification of the equivalent Scheme that the EEC had now put in place. The delegate of the EEC stated that on 26 June 1986 they had denounced the existing Scheme, noting that their own Scheme would take effect in one year's time. That was a sovereign decision not to be questioned by anyone. As of 26 June 1987 the EEC had not been party to the existing Scheme and had put into place an equivalent Scheme, but not identical, and had their own inspection vessel in the area ready to inspect EEC vessels in the Regulatory Area. The delegate of Canada asked what exactly the equivalent Scheme was that the EEC had in place. The delegate of the EEC stated that their inspectors inspected catches, meshes, fishing activities - in other words, carried out normal inspections.

The delegate of the USSR drew the attention of the Commission to the entirely new conditions which, in his view, had been established as a result of the action of the EEC, and to the fact that that action was in contravention of the provisions of the NAFO Convention. In that connection, the delegate of the USSR reserved his position because of the need to have additional time to study in detail the new situation.

The delegate of the EEC noted his strong opposition to statements that the EEC denouncement of the Scheme was a new situation. All Parties were well informed of its intended course of action. The delegate of the USSR confirmed the adherence of the USSR to full compliance with the obligations taken under the NAFO Convention. He also confirmed his understanding that the Joint Enforcement Scheme was inseparable from the provisions of the Convention and pointed out the need for all Contracting Parties to participate in and fully comply with the Scheme. He proposed to take the text of the new Scheme, as prepared by the Working Group, as a basis for future negotiations hoping to make an arrangement on a new text in the course of the present meeting.

The delegate of the EEC noted his opposition to the interpretation of events by some other Contracting Parties. The delegate of Canada noted that NAFO was a forum for international cooperation and agreed that the Commission had reason to worry about the EEC withdrawal from the Scheme separately and, in the meantime, supported the USSR proposal that the Report of the Working Group be discussed. The delegate of Denmark also supported the same approach.

The delegate of Japan stated his surprise on hearing that the EEC had denounced the Scheme as his understanding was that the Working Group was set up on the premise that all Contracting Parties continued to take part in the current Scheme. In response the delegate of the EEC referred to the Report of last year's Fisheries Commission Meeting (FC Doc. 86/14, revised, page 11, paragraph 34), which he noted spelled out the EEC position. The delegate of the USSR noted that, even if a Contracting Party could withdraw from the Scheme, he believed that the procedure used by the EEC was the wrong one.

The delegate of the EEC proposed that that question be referred to STACTIC. The delegate of Canada considered that the Commission should not make a decision on the questions that day and should return to the discussion the following day. That was agreed.

23. Under Agenda item 13, Annual Return of Infringements, the Chairman noted that the item was being handled by STACTIC.
24. Under Agenda item 14, Fishing Vessel Registration, the Chairman noted that it also was being handled by STACTIC.
25. Under Agenda item 15, Report of STACTIC, the Chairman stated that the item would be deferred until later in the week.
26. The Chairman noted that the Chairman of the Scientific Council would not be in a position to present the scientific advice on stock management until the following morning and therefore suggested that the meeting be adjourned until 1000 hrs Wednesday morning.

The meeting adjourned at 1645 hrs.

The meeting reconvened at 1030 hrs on the 16 September 1987.

27. Under Agenda item 16, Summary of scientific advice proffered by the Scientific Council, the Chairman of the Scientific Council, referring to NAFO SCS Doc. 87/21, provided a summary of the advice on stocks found in agenda items 17 and 18. For Cod in Div. 3M, he noted that nominal catches in the period 1963 to 1980 ranged from 20,000 to 58,000 tons with an average of 32,000 tons. Stock biomass at the end of that period had declined and the TAC for 1980 was reduced substantially in order to allow rebuilding. During the last few years the catch averaged around 13,000 tons. STACFIS had noted that the management strategy of the Fisheries Commission was not to increase the TAC beyond 12,965 m.t. until a target biomass (age 3+) of 85,000 m.t. had been reached. An increase in biomass from the current level to 85,000 m.t. was unlikely to be reached in the near future because the year-classes of cod older than the 1980 year-class were now at a low level of abundance and the fishery exploited incoming year-classes at too early an age. The Scientific Council therefore advised that a cessation of fishing would be the most appropriate management action.

Regarding Redfish in Div. 3M, the Chairman of the Scientific Council informed that the Scientific Council advised that the TAC for 1988 should remain at 20,000 m.t.

Regarding American plaice in Div. 3M, the Scientific Council concluded that there were insufficient data to advise a change in the TAC for the stock and therefore advised that the 1988 TAC remain at the present level of 2,000 m.t.

Regarding Cod in Div. 3NO, the Chairman of the Scientific Council noted that nominal catches declined from a high of 227,000 m.t. in 1967 to a low of 15,000 m.t. in 1978. Catches increased from 27,000 m.t. in 1974 to approximately 51,000 m.t. in 1986, the highest level since 1974, with approximately 85% of the 1986 catch being taken in Division 3N. He further noted that the TAC since 1985 had been at 33,000 m.t. and this TAC had been exceeded each year. The TAC for 1987 was 33,000 m.t. but there was no reason to expect that the 1987 catch would be less than that of 1986, about 50,000 m.t. Although the Scientific Council had reassessed the stock at the annual meeting, the advice from their June 1987 Meeting remained unchanged. The Scientific Council presented two ranges of options for TAC's based on the catch in 1987 of 33,000 m.t. or 50,000 m.t.

Regarding Redfish in Div. 3LN, the Chairman of the Scientific Council noted that the average catch over the 1959-1986 period had been just over 21,000 m.t. Provisional statistics for 1986 indicated a catch of 42,000 m.t., or about 20,000 m.t. over the 1985 catch of 20,500 m.t. Based upon available information, the Scientific Council advised that the TAC should remain at 25,000 m.t. for 1988.

Regarding American plaice in Div. 3LNO, the Chairman of the Scientific Council noted that the 1985 and 1986 catches of 55,000 m.t. and 61,000 m.t. respectively were the highest since 1972 and exceeded the TAC by about 6,000 m.t. in each year. In view of the long term stability of the catches from the stock, as well as some of the apparent anomalies noted in the abundance indices in recent years, STACFIS was concerned that the magnitude of the decline in population size from 1985 to 1986 indicated by that assessment might reflect changes in availability rather than abundance. STACFIS was therefore not confident that the 1988 assessment would confirm the present conclusion, but might in fact support the previous view of the stock. The Scientific Council advised that a catch of 33,000 m.t. in 1988 would correspond to fishing at F0.1 for the stock in Div. 3LNO. Therefore the delay of one year in implementing fully the implications of that new assessment might be appropriate.

For Yellowtail flounder in Div. 3LNO, the Scientific Council expressed concern that the nominal catch in 1986 was almost double the TAC, similar to the situation in 1985. It was noted that high catches, between 23,000 and 37,000 m.t. in 1970 to 1975, were followed by sharp declines in stock abundance and yield. STACFIS had expressed concern that it might be possible to reduce the stock to very low levels, perhaps even to the level of the early 1960's when there was no commercial fishery. STACFIS reiterated that the stock could not sustain catches around 30,000 m.t. and advised that the catch from the stock in 1988 should not exceed the current TAC level of 15,000 m.t.

Regarding Witch flounder in Div. 3NO, the Chairman of the Scientific Council noted that STACFIS had concluded that the stock component in Div. 3O might have been relatively stable in recent years at some level higher than in the previous ten years. However, due to the lack of data, STACFIS could not advise on the status of the stock component in Div. 3N. With the information available, STACFIS was not able to advise a change in the TAC for 1988 from the 5,000 m.t. level presently in effect. The Scientific Council reiterated its concern, however, about the increasing catch levels in recent years, particularly in Div. 3N, and considered that the stock would unlikely sustain such catch levels without a decline in stock abundance.

For Capelin in Div. 3LNO, the Scientific Council continued to consider an exploitation rate of 10% of the mature biomass to be appropriate for Capelin and accordingly advised a TAC of 90,000 m.t. for Div. 3L in 1988. The acoustic surveys in Div. 3NO during 1986 resulted in biomass estimates of approximately 500,000 m.t. If that spawning stock biomass in Div. 3NO declined in the same proportion as that projected for the spawning stock in Div. 3L between 1986-1988, then the spawning stock biomass in 1988 would be in excess of 300,000 m.t. A catch of 10,000 tons in 1988, as advised for 1987, would represent less than 5% of that projected biomass. Based on those considerations the Scientific Council advised that a catch of 10,000 m.t. from Div. 3NO in 1988 would probably not be detrimental to the stock.

Regarding Squid in Subareas 3+4, STACFIS was unable to provide catch projections in that area for 1988. However, there was no reason to change the advice that had been formulated in 1980 and the Scientific Council advised that the TAC for 1988 should remain at 150,000 m.t.

Regarding Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 and Div. 3KL, the Scientific Council advised that a TAC of 100,000 m.t. throughout that area in 1988 was unlikely to exceed the fishing mortality of F0.1.

For Roundnose grenadier in Subarea 2+3, the Scientific Council had no basis to advise a change in the TAC for 1988 from the present level of 11,000 m.t.

28. Under Agenda item 18(h)(i), the Chairman of the Scientific Council responded to two requests made by the Fisheries Commission regarding Cod in Div. 2J3KL. In response to the question regarding whether any further information was available on stock separation, he noted that a review of studies on the discrimination of the various stock components of Cod in Div. 2J3KL was presented at the 1986 Annual Meeting. No new information on that topic was available and the conclusions from previous discussions remained unchanged. In response to whether there was any further information on the proportion of the

biomass of that cod stock in the Regulatory Area, he noted that results from Canadian research vessel surveys in Div. 3L in the spring and Div. 2J3KL in the autumn during 1986 were added to the previously analyzed data sets. Results of the autumn surveys in Div. 2J3KL during 1986 indicated that the proportion of the entire stock biomass occurring in the Regulatory Area in Div. 3L for that time of year is 0.9%. That was the same percentage that was derived from results of previous autumn surveys. The average divisional proportions were now estimated to be 42% in Div. 2J, 31% in Div. 3K and 27% in Div. 3L. Furthermore, the previously reported conclusion remained unchanged, i.e. the maximum proportion of the entire Division 2J3KL cod stock estimated to occur in the Regulatory Area was less than 10% in winter and less than 5% on average throughout the year.

The delegate of Denmark noted that the report was not impressive although he was not blaming the scientists for that, as in almost all stocks there were data lacking to produce more reasonable advice. For most stocks there was no safe case where there was an $F_{0.1}$ or an F_{max} given. However for two stocks the scientists had attempted those options, i.e. 3NO cod and 3LNO American plaice, but in both cases there were problems with yield recruitment analysis. The delegate of the EEC noted that with only a few exceptions management options had not been given for the stocks which were of concern to his delegation. Furthermore he noted it was difficult to have proper management of the fisheries without a range of options. The delegate of the USSR noted that he did not wish to criticize the Scientific Council and shared the points of view that from year to year the scientists had had at their disposal less and less material. Furthermore he noticed that, with respect to each stock, advice for a TAC was given but from year to year those TAC's were not taken. He did note however that his delegation supported the TAC recommendations provided by the Scientific Council. The delegate of the EEC noted that the EEC had invited other Contracting Parties to form a Working Group to improve the scientific knowledge in the Regulatory Area. NAFO should have each year a valid program of research and his delegation intended to put forth a proposal to have the Commission set up a NAFO research program. The delegate of Canada agreed that there were some shortcomings in the scientific report and referred to NAFO/CC Doc. 87/3 noting that the issue would be discussed under item 19 at a later time. He further noted that short of anything better, Canada would accept the scientific advice whenever it was firm advice clearly formulated.

In the absence of any further comments, and without any objection, the Chairman noted the acceptance of the Scientific Council report.

29. Under Agenda item 17(a), Cod in Div. 3M, the delegate of Denmark supported by Norway and Canada proposed that the Commission follow the scientific advice and set the TAC at 0. The delegate of the USSR believed that a certain level of TAC could be maintained so that some reasonable fishery could be continued. The delegate of the EEC noted that the scientific recommendation was probably very good from a biological point of view; however other elements should be considered in the management of that fishery. In particular, he stated his concern with non-members fishing in the area which would not be bound by that decision. Furthermore there were other fisheries in the area in which cod was caught as a by-catch and if those other fisheries were continued then the management measure recommended by the Scientific Council for cod would not make very much sense. He suggested that the 3M Cod should be set as a target for scientific research in years to come in order to improve the knowledge of the stock and expressed doubt that the fishery should be scaled down from its present level. The delegate of Poland noted that he shared the concern expressed by other delegations but on the other hand agreed with the USSR that some moderate amount could be established as a TAC. The delegate of Denmark requested the Chairman of the Scientific Council to provide any information on by-catches of Cod in other fisheries in 3M. The Chairman of the Scientific Council noted that he did not have the information at hand and would respond to the question later. The delegate of the USSR asked if the data on that stock were sufficient to assess the status properly. The Chairman of the Scientific Council noted that if fishing continued at its present level the biomass would not reach 85,000 m.t. for some time. It was agreed to defer decision on the issue.
30. Regarding Agenda item 17(b), Redfish in Div. 3M, the delegate of Canada supported by the USSR, Japan and Cuba, proposed that the scientific advice be accepted, i.e. a TAC of 20,000 m.t. The delegate of the EEC noted his belief that there were other management options that could be taken on that stock. He advised that the stock was not in any danger and could be fished up to an F_{max} level and requested that the Commission consider accepting a TAC higher than the present one. The Chairman of the Scientific Council noted that F_{max} could be up to 27,000 m.t. but that the database on which that value was based was not such that the Scientific Council could have confidence that the stock would sustain those catches. The scientific advice for a TAC of 20,000 m.t. was a conservative one because the data were not good enough to recommend anything higher. The delegate of the EEC expressed his doubt that the Scientific Council had given any convincing reasons why the TAC could not be set higher and suggested that the Fisheries Commission could go as high as MSY, especially if the consequences were not damaging to the stock. The delegate of Canada noted that Canada, Cuba, EEC, Japan and USSR were the principal countries fishing the stock and all had spoken up on the scientific advice, with four agreeing to accept that advice and one having a different point of view. In response to a question posed by the delegate of Denmark, the delegate of the EEC noted that other factors such as socio-economic ones should be taken into account in setting the TAC. Furthermore he noted that the EEC share of the existing 20,000 TAC would not be enough for the traditional EEC fishing fleet and that a higher share would be more realistic in regard to what the fleet was actually catching. He further asked what the F_{max} level would be so that it could be adopted if such were the decision. The Chairman of STACFIS noted that F_{max} was not considered by the Scientific Council but it might be confused with FMSY. In 1988

the latter level would be about 27,000 m.t. but the yield-per-recruit analysis was unavailable and therefore the scientists would be unable to make the calculation for F_{max} . The Commission then agreed to continue the discussion at a later opportunity.

31. Under Agenda item 17(c), American plaice in Div. 3M, the delegate of the USSR supported by Canada, proposed support for the scientific advice of a TAC of 2,000 m.t. The delegate of the EEC expressed his disappointment that STACFIS had concluded that there were insufficient data to advise any change in the TAC. He stressed that even with insufficient data the scientists still advised maintenance of the present level of 2,000 m.t. and perhaps even that was too much or perhaps it should be 20,000 m.t. The fact was that nobody really knew as there was not enough data. He further pointed out that the EEC could not follow that scientific advice. The USSR proposal for a TAC of 2,000 m.t. was accepted with 8 members for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland, USSR; and one against - EEC. The delegate of the EEC explained that its experience showed that the biomass was in better shape than what the scientists believed. The delegate of the USSR noted that, for that stock only, for the past several years the Commission had established the TAC at 2,000 m.t. and that most of the Contracting Parties had limited their catch to their quota which had allowed the stock to begin growth. Hopefully in the future the TAC would increase. He also noted that some Contracting Parties fished on a basis considerably higher than the TAC, basing that action on socio-economic reasons. He further insisted that, once a TAC had been set by the Fisheries Commission, it should be complied with.

The meeting adjourned at 1215 for lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 1425 hrs.

32. Regarding Agenda item 17(b), Redfish in Div. 3M, the delegate of Norway, noting that Norway had no direct interest in that stock, suggested that the Commission should see if there was any room for compromise and that he would be willing to support such a move. The delegate of the EEC believed that there were some elements of a socio-economic nature that should allow the Fisheries Commission a more generous management approach and noting that the stock was not in bad shape proposed that the TAC be set at 27,000 tons. The delegate of Canada pointed out that in 1986 the catch was 9,000 tons over the TAC and that the EEC was suggesting that the stock continue to be overfished. He further noted that the EEC quota for that year was 3100 tons yet they had caught 11,571 tons. He stated that to Canada one of the important principles was the belief in scientific advice. He further suggested that, if each member were to ask for an increase in a TAC to take into account what its vessels could actually catch, such a method would not be a proper way for NAFO to manage the stocks. The delegate of the EEC strongly objected to any accusation of overfishing noting that that only took place when a stock was fished over the MSY level and he did not wish to hear the term repeated unless there was proof that a Contracting Party had actually gone over an MSY level. The delegate of the USSR noted that between 1983 to 1985 the overall level of catch was within the limits of the TAC.

Certainly the fishing effort capability of the USSR fleet would allow USSR vessels to take much more than the TAC but they stopped their fishery once it was realized that their quota had been taken. He further expressed his concern with the statement by the delegate of the EEC that it would only be guided by F_{max} levels regardless of other considerations. He also noted his preference for a TAC at 20,000 m.t. in order to allow the stock to rebuild to a much higher level. The delegate of Denmark agreed with the suggestion of Norway that the Commission seek some sort of compromise solution and questioned whether a larger TAC would allow a greater by-catch of cod.

It was then agreed to allow time for further discussion.

33. Under Agenda item 18(a), Cod in Div. 3NO, the delegate of Canada noted that there had been some improvement in the stock. However the catch as reported for 1986 had been much higher than the TAC and if that pattern were to continue, the improvement of the stock could be wiped out. On the assumption that the 1987 catch would be the same as the TAC, i.e. 33,000 tons, the delegate of Canada proposed that the 1988 TAC be set at 40,000 tons. The delegate of the EEC noted that management options superior to $F_{0.1}$ could be taken without any problem as the stock was growing and he therefore proposed a TAC of 55,000 m.t. which he indicated was consistent with the maintenance of the spawning biomass at 150,000 m.t. The delegate of the USSR asked what the safe biomass would be at F_{max} . The Chairman of STACFIS was unable to answer the question and would return with an answer at a later time. In response to an earlier question on 3M Cod as to what would be the by-catch of cod if the 3M Redfish was fished at F_{max} , the Chairman of STACFIS noted that the by-catch would be approximately 7% in a directed redfish fishery. Referring to page 84 of the Scientific Council Report (SCS Doc. 87/21), the delegate of the EEC expressed his concern that the Scientific Council had not responded to Point 2(d). The Chairman of STACFIS noted that that issue was one of the most difficult questions that the Scientific Council handled in its recent meeting and it was not possible to comply with the request as outlined in the Scientific Council Report as the data were not available to do so. The delegate of the EEC explained that his interpretation of the report indicated that the TAC on that stock could be as high as 75,000 m.t. and therefore suggested that his proposal for a TAC of 55,000 m.t. was very conservative. The delegate of Canada noted that in the late 1970's the stock had decreased considerably and had now begun to rebuild slowly. Furthermore it had taken 10 years to get back to good levels of catches and

it would be dangerous to jump as high as 55,000 m.t. for 1988. In order to give more time to consider the matter, the discussion of Cod in Div. 3NO was then deferred.

34. Under Agenda item 18(b), Redfish in Div. 3LN, the delegate of Canada supported by the USSR, GDR and Cuba proposed the TAC remain at 25,000 m.t. The delegate of the EEC noted that once again there was only one management option available and he believed that the stock was healthy and different options should have been offered to the Fisheries Commission. The Canadian proposal was accepted with 8 members for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR; and one against - EEC.
35. Regarding Agenda item 18(d), Yellowtail flounder in Div. 3LNO, the delegate of Canada noted that the stock was of considerable importance to Canada and he was very worried that the stock had been fished at levels higher than the TAC. The scientific advice on the stock was not good and the stock could be in trouble if the combined catch of all countries continued to exceed the TAC. With the support of the USSR, the delegate of Canada proposed a TAC of 15,000 m.t. The proposal was accepted with 8 votes for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland, USSR; and one abstention - EEC.
36. Under Agenda item 18(e), Witch flounder in Div. 3NO, the delegate of Canada, supported by Poland and the USSR, proposed acceptance of the scientific advice for a TAC of 5,000 tons. The delegate of the EEC noted his disappointment at the lack of management options for that stock as well as for the previous Yellowtail stock. He noted that, while the EEC shared some concerns with other members regarding the state of some stocks, he could not agree to the lack of options available for consideration. The Canadian proposal was accepted with 8 votes for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland, USSR; and one abstention - EEC.
37. Under Agenda item 18(f), Capelin in Div. 3LNO, both the delegates of the USSR and Norway expressed some concern regarding the differences in the percentage for the exploitation strategies for the two stock components, i.e. 3L and 3NO. The discussion of that matter was then postponed.
38. Under Agenda item 18(g), Squid in Subareas 3+4, the delegate of Canada supported by the USSR and Japan, proposed a TAC of 150,000 m.t. subject to adjustment if warranted by scientific advice. The proposal was accepted unanimously.
39. In returning to Agenda item 18(a), Cod in Div. 3NO, the delegate of the USSR noted that the Scientific Council should determine a safe level of spawning biomass for the stock. Although he appreciated that it would be difficult to do it immediately, it should be done not later than the next meeting. Referring to Table 9 on page 31 of the Report of the Scientific Council, he indicated his preference for a TAC of 40,370 m.t. The delegates of Japan, Cuba and Poland noted their support for the Canadian proposal for a TAC of 40,000 m.t. It was agreed then that the discussion would continue at a later occasion.
40. Returning to Capelin in Div. 3LNO and referring to an earlier question from the delegate of Norway, the Chairman of STACFIS noted that no stock projections were made for Capelin in Div. 3NO because estimates of the 1984 and 1985 year-classes for the stock were not available. He further advised that the estimate of a 300,000 m.t. spawning stock biomass in 3L was based on assumptions made concerning the more northern stock. That 300,000 m.t. figure was the total biomass and what was unknown was the percentage of the spawning biomass and therefore the 10,000 ton recommended TAC was a precautionary figure. Further discussion of the item was deferred until the following day.

The meeting adjourned at 1710 hrs.

The meeting reconvened at 1045 hrs, 17 September 1987.

41. Regarding Agenda item 10, Status of Proposals, the Chairman, referring to a previous question from the delegate of Canada, advised that the Executive Secretary updated the Status of Proposals Circular Letter annually.
42. Under Agenda item 14, Fishing Vessel Registration, the Chairman advised that the Executive Secretary was presently preparing a Circular Letter with up-to-date information and the item could be considered when the document was completed.
43. Under Agenda item 17(a), Cod in Div. 3M, the Chairman noted that there was presently a proposal from the delegate of Denmark, supported by Norway and Canada for a TAC of 0 and a second proposal by the delegate of the USSR, supported by Poland, for a TAC higher than 0.

The delegate of USSR further stated that he would be satisfied with maintenance of the current TAC of 12,965 m.t. but if other proposals were put forward he would be interested in discussing them. The delegate of Denmark stated that in previous years his delegation had supported a TAC of 12,965 m.t., however the drastic state of the stock necessitated his support for a 0 TAC. The delegate of the USSR shared the concern regarding the stock but said that a by-catch of cod was unavoidable in other fisheries in 3M and that even with a TAC of 0 the by-catch should be taken into account. The delegate of the EEC noted that its fishery in 3M was substantial and he shared the concerns of the delegate of the USSR and also noted that there were non-members fishing for that stock in the area. The USSR

proposal was defeated with 2 votes for: Poland and USSR; 3 votes against: Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), Norway; and 4 abstentions: Canada, EEC, GDR, Japan. The Danish proposal was carried with 4 votes for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), Norway; 2 votes against: Poland, USSR; and three abstentions: EEC, GDR and Japan. The delegate of the USSR pointed out that the decision to terminate the cod fishery in 3M could not be realized because the by-catch of cod was unavoidable in other fisheries and also because of the continuation of the cod fishery in 3M by other non-member countries. The delegate of Denmark agreed with the USSR concern but noted that he was unable to suggest ways to solve the problem. The delegate of Poland stated that the Fisheries Commission sometimes believed that it should take tough measures to improve the stocks and unfortunately other non-members benefited from those decisions. He therefore proposed that NAFO should inform the governments of those countries of the scientific assessment and the condition of the stock as well as NAFO's decision to stop the directed fishery for 3M cod in order to achieve better stock conditions and furthermore Contracting Parties should make the same bilateral demarches. The delegate of the EEC noted that he shared the concerns expressed about that stock and had abstained from the voting because he was unable to determine whether total cessation of fisheries would be the proper solution. He further expressed his disappointment that the Scientific Council had not offered any other management measures but a complete cessation of the fishery and considered it was most unfortunate that the scientific research had been weak in that area. He further requested that the Fisheries Commission decide to target the 3M cod for more research so that the ban could be lifted as soon as possible. The observer from Mexico made a statement on the stock which was appended to the proceedings. (See Appendix IV)

44. Under Agenda item 18(a), Cod in Div. 3NO, the Chairman noted that there was a proposal put forth by the delegate of Canada, supported by the USSR, Japan, Cuba and Poland for a TAC of 40,000 m.t. and a proposal put forth by the delegate of the EEC for a TAC of 55,000 m.t. The EEC proposal was defeated with 1 vote for EEC, and 8 against: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR. The Canadian proposal was accepted with 8 votes for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR; and 1 against - EEC.
45. Under Agenda item 18(c), American plaice in Div. 3LNO, the delegate of Canada requested clarification from the Scientific Council regarding the statements concerning the differences between "abundance" and "availability" and how these would affect the level of a 33,000 m.t. TAC. The Chairman of the Scientific Council noted that the availability did not affect the size of the stock but referred to the distribution. Furthermore, if abundance was lower, then any advice would have to be more conservative. The Chairman of STACFIS noted that recent abundance indices might be more a reflection of availability than abundance. If the abundance indices were right then the F_{0.1} would be 33,000 m.t. However, if changes were only a result of the availability, then the TAC would be more similar to the existing one. Furthermore, until the 1987 data could be analyzed, the Scientific Council could not reach the proper conclusion. He advised that the caveat attached to the scientific advice should not be taken in isolation from the rest of the report as the other statements in the report were just as important. He further noted that commercial fishing and research vessel surveys from 1987 would hopefully resolve which scenario was correct and those results should be available by the June 1988 Meeting of the Scientific Council.

It was decided the discussion would be continued at a later occasion.

46. Under Agenda item 18(f), Capelin in Div. 3LNO, the delegate of the USSR suggested that the same level of exploitation (10%) be used for the 3NO stock component as for the 3L component. Noting that the Scientific Report stated that the spawning stock biomass in 1988 would be in excess of 300,000 m.t., he proposed that the TAC should therefore be 30,000 m.t. and indicated that he would be prepared to consider other proposals if they were also found reasonable. The delegate of Canada requested that the Scientific Council explain why there were two different percentage exploitation rates used for different portions of the stock. The Chairman of STACFIS noted that 3NO had been closed recently, due to low stock levels. However, recently the stock did not seem to be moving in either direction and seemed to be in equilibrium. Therefore, a precautionary TAC of 10,000 m.t. was advised. He further noted that the 10% exploitation rate for Capelin was developed many years ago and he was unsure of its origin. Also, the 5% was not precalculated and the number of 10,000 m.t. just happened to equate to 5%. The delegate of the USSR noted that even a 10% exploitation rate for that stock was very conservative and, if it was adopted in one stock component, it should be adopted for both. The delegate of Norway also believed that 10,000 m.t. was a very conservative TAC and supported the USSR proposal.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1230 hrs.

The meeting reconvened at 1415 hrs.

47. Under Agenda item 16(b), Redfish in Div. 3M, the Chairman noted a proposal by the delegate of Canada, supported by the USSR, Cuba, and Japan, for a TAC of 20,000 m.t. and a proposal by the delegate of the EEC for a TAC of 27,000 m.t. The EEC proposal was defeated with 2 votes for: Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland) and EEC, 5 votes against: Canada, Cuba, GDR, Japan and Poland; and 2 abstentions: Norway and USSR. The Canadian proposal was accepted with 5 votes for: Canada, Cuba, GDR, Japan and Poland; 1 against - EEC; and 3 abstentions: Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), Norway and

USSR. The delegate of the USSR explained his abstention by noting that it was unfortunate that the Commission could not find a compromise acceptable to all Parties. The delegate of Denmark in explaining his vote noted his understanding that some Contracting Parties held to the basic principle of respecting the optimum level of scientific advice but because the stock was a discrete stock the Commission need not worry about consistency between the Regulatory Area and the coastal state in that particular case. He furthermore believed that a compromise could have been made without violating any principles and noted that, if that decision was objected to by any Party, the Commission would be in trouble as it would not be able to control the cod by-catch. The delegate of Norway noted his support for the position of the delegates of the USSR and Denmark and then further noted that he had wished to attempt a compromise but that some Contracting Parties were not willing to do so. Furthermore, both proposals were in the range of reasonable management options and he was concerned for the implication the stock had on Div. 3M cod.

48. Under Agenda item 18(f), Capelin in Div. 3LNO, the Chairman noted one proposal on the table by the delegate of the USSR and supported by Norway for a TAC of 30,000 m.t. The delegate of Poland then supported that same proposal. The delegate of Japan agreed that the TAC should be increased but believed that the proposal for a 30,000 m.t. quota seemed to be rather high and suggested a more cautious approach and therefore proposed a TAC of 15,000 m.t. noting that the current estimation of spawning biomass of 300,000 m.t. with an exploitation rate of 5 percent would give that TAC. The delegate of the EEC noted that he always maintained that, when a given range of options was available, if a Contracting Party could give evidence of needing some fishing possibility and that need could be met without damaging the stock, then that request should be satisfied by the Commission. He therefore supported the USSR proposal for a 30,000 m.t. TAC. The delegate of Norway, noting that the scientific advice for the stock was not very good, withdrew his support for the USSR proposal and supported the Japanese proposal. The delegate of the USSR noting his desire to obtain a compromise stated that he would be willing to support the Japanese proposal and withdraw his own proposal. The Japanese proposal was carried unanimously.
49. Under Agenda item 18(h) (i), Cod in Div. 3L, the delegate of Canada noted that the stock was discussed intensively at last year's annual meeting and that the scientific advice was the same for the current year. Furthermore, as the stock was fully subscribed within the Canadian zone, he saw no reason to alter last year's approach and therefore proposed continuation of the Div. 3L Cod moratorium in the Regulatory Area. The delegate of the EEC noted that his delegation had the same view as they did last year and that as a matter of principle, when a stock occurred in international waters, the TAC should be set and distributed among traditional countries that fished the stock. Furthermore, he noted that Community vessels had fished the stock for years and maintained their right to fish the stock in international waters and that the EEC would object to any decision not to take a management measure for the stock in the Regulatory Area.

The discussion of the problem was then agreed to be continued later.

50. Under Agenda item 18(h) (ii), Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 and Div. 3KL, the delegate of the EEC noted that the request for scientific advice on that stock was made by Canada and not by the Fisheries Commission. The delegate of Canada agreed and noted that that stock and the Roundnose grenadier stock were within the Canadian zone and had been placed on the agenda, accidentally. The Commission agreed not to discuss Agenda item 18(h)(ii) any further.
51. Returning to Agenda item 18(h) (i), Cod in Div. 3L, the delegate of the USSR asked the Chairman of the Scientific Council if there was any catch of the stock outside the Canadian zone. The Chairman of the Scientific Council was unable to respond to the question as it was not addressed by the Scientific Council Report. That report only addressed research survey information and not the commercial catch data. The delegate of the EEC noted that in 1986 community vessels caught approximately 50,000 m.t. of Div. 3L cod in international waters. The delegate of the USSR then asked the Scientific Council if that fact was taken into account when doing the assessments for 1988 to which the Chairman of the Scientific Council responded that the Scientific Council was not asked to do an assessment on that stock. A brief discussion ensued on that topic. The delegate of the EEC noted that the Fisheries Commission had not asked for a stock assessment and had only asked about stock separation. He further suggested that the Fisheries Commission should be asking the Scientific Council to study that stock along with the other cod stocks. The delegate of Canada noted that he would be prepared to consider that for next year but that was not the issue being discussed at the present time. The delegate of the EEC maintained that there was no scientific basis for a ban of a fishery in Div. 3L. The Canadian proposal for a moratorium on fishing for cod in Div. 3L in the Regulatory Area was carried with 5 votes for: Canada, Cuba, CDR, Poland and USSR; 1 against - EEC; and 3 abstentions: Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), Japan and Norway. The delegate of the EEC requested the record reflect that the decision taken by the Commission was based neither on scientific advice nor reality. The delegate of Denmark noted that a fraction of the stock was in international waters and some solution must be found to deal with that issue and indicated his disappointment that a compromise could not have been found. The delegate of Norway noted that it was a difficult situation for NAFO members which previously had noted on an *ad hoc* basis for the moratorium but that over time it should be possible to find a better solution to the problem to which all Parties could agree. He explained his abstention was based on the fact that the *ad hoc* vote should not continue for ever and noted that Norway had no intention to fish in that area in 1988. The delegate of the USSR noted his surprise regarding a situation in which a large-scale fishery was being conducted without any analysis being made by the scientists.

52. Under Agenda item 18(h)(iii), Roundnose grenadier in Subareas 2 and 3, the delegate of Canada noted that as with Greenland halibut that item was accidentally on the agenda and that Canada had asked the Scientific Council for scientific advice on that stock as a coastal state and not on behalf of the Fisheries Commission. The delegate of the USSR noted that there was not sufficient scientific data to keep the TAC at a continuing low level of 8,000 m.t. and that the stock was not being utilized at its optimum level. Furthermore, the USSR would be continuing its studies in the Regulatory Area in 1988 and, if those studies were successful, the USSR would carry on an experimental fishery. The delegate of the EEC noted that, if there were any evidence that some of that stock occurred in international waters at any time of the year, then the EEC would ask the Fisheries Commission to consider a TAC for that stock. The delegate of Canada, referring to the 1986 Scientific Council Report (page 82), noted that the Fisheries Commission had asked the Scientific Council to investigate and inform what proportion of the biomass of Roundnose grenadier stock in Div. 3L was available on average seasonally and annually in the Regulatory Area. The response was that available data were insufficient to answer that question and that Roundnose grenadier were probably not present in commercial quantities in Div. 3L and hence in the Regulatory Area. It was agreed to close discussions on the matter.
53. Returning to Agenda item 18(c), American plaice in Div. 3LNO, the delegate of Canada, noted that the Scientific Council suggested the TAC should be between 33,000 and 48,000 m.t. and, once the 1987 data were available, the stock would be re-analyzed. Given the statement from the Scientific Council that the catch in 1988 that would represent the F_{0.1} fishing mortality for American plaice in Division 3LNO was likely to be in excess of 33,000 m.t., the delegate of Canada proposed that the TAC be established at 40,000 m.t. Given the uncertainty as to how much higher the actual value should be and that the Scientific Council would be reviewing the stock in June 1988, he further proposed that Canada would hold its catches to 33,000 m.t. prior to confirmation at the September 1988 Annual Meeting on the appropriate TAC for 1988. The delegate of Denmark supported the Canadian proposal. The delegate of the EEC noted that, according to the scientific data, a TAC higher than 48,000 m.t. could be approved that would not affect the spawning biomass and he therefore proposed a TAC of 48,000 m.t. The EEC proposal was defeated with 1 vote for - EEC; and 8 against: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR. The Canadian proposal was accepted with 7 votes for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway and Poland; 1 against - EEC; and 1 abstention - USSR.
54. The delegate of the USSR stated that the USSR would reserve its position on the TAC decision for Div. 3M Cod.
55. Under Agenda item 17(b), Redfish in Div. 3M, the delegate of the USSR supported by Canada and Japan proposed that the quotas be the same as in 1987. The proposal was carried with 8 votes for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR; and 1 against - EEC.
56. Under Agenda item 17(c), American plaice in Div. 3M, the delegate of the USSR with the support of the delegate of Canada proposed the quotas be the same as in 1987. This proposal was carried with 8 votes for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR; and 1 against - EEC.
57. Under Agenda item 18(a), Cod in Div. 3NO, the delegate of Poland, noting the decision to increase the TAC, requested an allocation of 500 m.t. in consideration of the 500 m.t. Poland lost in Div. 3M Cod. The delegate of Denmark noted that with that increase in TAC the Commission had a way to solve the problem of non-members fishing in the Regulatory Area. The Commission could increase the "Others" quota to make it attractive for those non-members to consider joining the Organization. That would also allow Poland to fish that stock out of the "Others" quota. The delegate of the USSR noted that the Commission's primary concern should be for members and not for non-members. The delegate of Denmark noted that it was difficult to bring non-members into the Organization when there were decreases or equilibriums in TACs but increase in TACs could be used to do so. The delegate of Canada noted that the only possibility would be to have a proportional distribution for the increase and proposed the following quotas: Canada 19,340 m.t., EEC 14,965 m.t., USSR 4,850 m.t., "Others" 845 m.t. The delegate of Denmark proposed that 10 percent of the increase in the TAC be put into the "Others" category and the remaining 90 percent be divided proportionally. It was agreed to defer further discussion on the item.
58. Under Agenda item 18(b), Redfish in Div. 3LN, the delegate of Canada supported by the delegate of the USSR proposed the same distribution of the stock as in 1987. This proposal was carried with 8 votes in support: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR; and 1 against - EEC.
59. Under Agenda item 18(c), American plaice in Div. 3LNO, the delegate of Canada, returning to the decision for a decrease in the TAC, proposed a proportional reduction in quotas as follows: Canada 39,415 m.t., EEC 510 m.t., "Others" 75 m.t. The proposal was carried with 8 votes in favour: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR; and 1 against - EEC.
60. Under Agenda item 18(d), Yellowtail flounder in Div. 3LNO, the delegate of Canada proposed maintenance of the quota share as in 1987. The proposal was carried with 8 votes in favour: Canada, Cuba

Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR; and 1 abstention - EEC.

61. Under Agenda item 18(e), Witch flounder in Div. 3NO, the delegate of Canada supported by the delegate of the USSR proposed the same quotas as in 1987. The proposal was carried with 8 votes for: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Japan, Norway, Poland and USSR; and 1 abstention - EEC.
62. Under Agenda item 18(g), Squid (*Illex*) in Subareas 3+4, the delegate of the USSR with the support of the delegate of Japan proposed quotas on the same proportion as in 1987. The delegate of Denmark noted that in the past no quota had been assigned to the "Others" category out of the TAC of 150,000 m.t. and he believed that at least a moderate quota should be possible. He therefore proposed a quota of 5,000 m.t. for "Others". A brief discussion took place, the result of which was then summarized by the Chairman as follows: Bulgaria 500 m.t., Cuba 2,250 m.t., Japan 2,250 m.t., Poland 1,000 m.t., Romania 500 m.t., USSR 5,000 m.t., and "Others" 5,000 m.t. Furthermore, the normal footnotes referring to the allocations for Canada and EEC would be continued as in previous years. That proposal was supported by 8 votes: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), EEC, GDR, Norway, Poland and USSR; and 1 abstention - Japan.
63. Under Agenda item 18(a), Cod in Div. 3NO, the Chairman noted that there were two outstanding proposals on the floor, one put forth by the delegate of Canada and one by the delegate of Denmark. The delegate of Denmark noted that under his proposal the quotas would be Canada 19,070 m.t., EEC 14,750 m.t., USSR 4,780 m.t., "Others" 1,400 m.t. The Danish proposal was carried with 5 votes in support: Denmark (in respect of Faroes and Greenland), GDR, Norway, Poland and USSR; 2 votes against: Canada and EEC; and 2 abstentions: Cuba and Japan. The delegate of the EEC explained that he was not against an increase in the quota to the "Others" category but would only agree if another management approach had been taken. The delegate of Canada explained that he had no authority to agree to the quota breakdown in the Danish proposal.
64. Under Agenda item 18(f), Capelin in Div. 3LNO, the delegate of Canada supported by the delegates of USSR, Japan and Norway proposed the following quotas: Canada 400 m.t., Cuba 375 m.t., Japan 1,400 m.t., Norway 4,500 m.t., Poland 450 m.t., USSR 7,500 m.t. The proposal was carried unanimously.
65. Under Agenda item 19, Improving Scientific Knowledge on the Status of Fisheries in the Regulatory Area, the delegate of the EEC referred to an EEC proposal found in FC Doc. 87/9 and reminded Commission members that at the 1986 meeting the EEC had made a proposal for the setting up of a working group to study ways of improving the scientific knowledge in the Regulatory Area. That suggestion had been made because after years of study on stocks the Scientific Council was still unable to supply options for management when requested to by the Fisheries Commission. In the past, research had been conducted by individual Contracting Parties as determined by their own priorities which had led to uncoordinated results so that on some stocks there was very good information and on some others did not exist even basic scientific information. The delegate of Canada shared the concern regarding the deficiencies in the scientific information and welcomed the EEC initiative. He noted that Canada had put forth a similar proposal (FC Doc. 87/10). After a lengthy discussion on the issue, it was agreed that interested delegates would get together in the hopes of drafting a joint proposal on the issue for presentation to the Commission the following morning.

The meeting adjourned at 1910 hours.

The meeting reconvened at 1120 hrs. on September 18.

66. Under Agenda item 12, Final Report of the Working Group on Joint International Control, the Chairman noted that Heads of Delegations had met earlier in the morning and requested that they report on the outcome of their meeting. The delegate of Canada explained that the Report of the Working Group on Enforcement had been discussed but the delegates could not reach agreement on the outstanding issues. He further explained that in his view there would be no agreement unless there was an agreement on all aspects of the Scheme. He then proposed that the delegates continue their work and hold technical discussions, that the heads of delegations meet once again before the next Annual Meeting, and in the meantime the existing Scheme should remain in force and that all Contracting Parties would ensure that their fleets fully comply with a control regime identical to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement. The delegate of the EEC noted his satisfaction with the constructive discussion held on the issue and indicated that the nature of the problem would not allow the Commission to reach agreement immediately. He expressed support for the Canadian proposal noting that the EEC was ready to keep studying the issue and would agree to the holding of a special meeting of the Fisheries Commission to take place as soon as possible. Furthermore the EEC invited the Fisheries Commission to Brussels for this special meeting that should be held early in the new year. He further noted that he would be in complete agreement with the remainder of the Canadian proposal should the term "corresponding" be used in place of the term "identical". The delegates of Denmark, USSR and Poland expressed their support for the proposed course of action and noted that until that issue was resolved their fleets would abide by the existing Scheme. The delegate of the EEC explained that there were two minor differences between his proposal and that of Canada. Firstly, the EEC proposal called for a meeting of the Fisheries Commission and not a meeting of Heads of Delegation and secondly that the term "corresponding" be used instead of "identical". The delegate of Canada agreed to these changes, and furthermore stated that, in view of the resolution passed at the last Annual Meeting, it would be useful for the Fisheries Commission to know

- just what was the corresponding scheme that the EEC was putting in place, i.e. under what regulations, etc. He also noted that the EEC delegation was asking the other Contracting Parties to take their word for it that they had a corresponding scheme in place and that Canada was not satisfied unless there was some documentary proof that NAFO was dealing with a corresponding scheme. The delegate of the EEC made a strong statement regarding the EEC commitment to putting in place a corresponding scheme and believed that the word of the EEC should be taken on it.
67. Under Agenda item 15, Report of STACTIC, the Chairman presented the Report which was appended to the Fisheries Commission proceedings. The Report was adopted. (See Appendix V)
 68. Under Agenda item 11(b), Conversion Factors for use by NAFO Inspectors, the Chairman of the Scientific Council reported on its study of the Canadian proposal contained in SCR Doc. 87/71 regarding an "Experiment to Determine the Splitfish Equivalent Factor for Salted Codfish in Bulk". He also noted that there would be another paper presented by the EEC on the same subject at the next Scientific Council June Meeting. Both the delegates of Denmark and the EEC noted that there were many elements in determining conversion factors and that each fleet could be considered as having different factors. The Chairman noted that there was a working group on conversion factors which would be meeting in 1988 and asked that all delegations be prepared to designate a representative for the group.
 69. Under Agenda item 19, Improving scientific knowledge on the status of the fisheries in the Regulatory Area, the Chairman referred to FC Working Paper 87/3 which was the result of work carried out the previous evening by scientists from various delegations. He furthermore proposed that the document entitled "Decision of the Fisheries Commission on the Establishment of an Annual Scientific Program" be endorsed, which it was.
 70. Under Agenda item 21, Other Business, the Chairman referred to NAFO/FC Doc. 87/11 which was a draft Fisheries Commission request for scientific advice on management in 1989 of certain stocks in Subareas 3 and 4. The delegate of Canada proposed that the document be adopted to be sent to the Scientific Council as a request for advice for the next year after an additional paragraph 4 be added (see the proposal of the paragraph in FC Doc. 87/12). The delegate of the EEC noted that FC Doc. 87/11 was not requesting scientific advice for cod in Div. 3L in the Regulatory Area as it was only requesting advice similar to last year for stock separation information. He therefore proposed that cod in Div. 2J3KL be added to paragraph 1. The delegate of Canada was opposed to that proposal. The delegate of Denmark pointed out that Canada as the Contracting Party that managed the fishery had the final say on whether the stock was to be studied by the scientists or not. The delegates of the EEC and the USSR noted that any data their scientists would collect on that stock in the Regulatory Area would become available to the Scientific Council. The Chairman noted that FC Doc. 87/11 as amended by 87/12 was accepted. (See Appendix VI)
 71. Under Agenda item 20, Time and Place of Next Meeting, the Chairman noted that the Commission would follow the wishes of the General Council in determining the time and place of the next annual meeting. The delegate of the EEC reminded the Commission that he had requested a special meeting of the Fisheries Commission to be held in Brussels and wished the procedures as laid out in Article XIII.5 of the Convention to be followed.
 72. The Chairman noted that Agenda item 7, Review of Commission Membership, and item 8, Procedural Rules for decision taking in voting by mail or telex, would be handled by the General Council.
 73. Under Agenda item 9, Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the delegate of the USSR proposed that Mr. K. Yonezawa (Japan) be elected Chairman. There was unanimous support for the proposal. The delegate of Japan noted that Mr. Yonezawa would be willing to accept the Chairmanship with great pleasure. The delegate of Canada proposed that Mr. J. Zygmanski (Poland) be elected Vice-Chairman. That proposal also received unanimous support. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1220 hrs.

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1987

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APPENDIX II

Ninth Annual Meeting of NAFO
Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, N. S., Canada, 14-18 Sep 87

Fisheries Commission

Agenda

OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Opening by the Chairman, Dr J. Varea (Cuba)
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Admission of Observers
5. Publicity

ADMINISTRATION

6. Approval of the Report of the Eighth Annual Meeting, September 1986 (See FC Doc. 86/14, Rev.)
7. Review of Commission Membership
8. Procedural Rules for Decision Taking in Voting by Mail or Telex (See FC Doc. 87/2)
9. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

COMMISSION PROPOSALS

- 10.. Status of Proposals (see Circular Letter 87/49)
11. Conservation and Enforcement Measures already opened for study and/or discussion:
 - a) Ropes and reinforcements in trawls
 - b) Conversion factors for use by NAFO inspectors
 - c) Changes to NAFO measures regarding by-catch limits
 - d) Types of chafers and measurements of their meshes
 - e) Changes in regulations to improve conservation in NAFO Regulatory Area
 - f) Minimum mesh size for groundfish in the Regulatory Area
 - g) Underfishing of quotas
 - h) Facilitation of technical advice from the Scientific Council (See FC Doc. 87/5)

INTERNATIONAL CONTROL

12. Final Report of the Working Group on Joint International Control (See FC Doc. 87/1 and 87/3)
13. Annual Return of Infringements
14. Fishing Vessel Registration
15. Report of STACTIC

CONSERVATION

16. Summary of Scientific Advice Proffered by the Scientific Council
17. Management Measures for Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area
 - a) Cod in Div. 3M
 - b) Redfish in Div. 3M
 - c) American plaice in Div. 3M

18. Management Measures for Fish Stocks Overlapping National Fishing Limits

- a) Cod in Div. 3NO
- b) Redfish in Div. 3LN
- c) American plaice in Div. 3LNO
- d) Yellowtail flounder in Div. 3LNO
- e) Witch flounder in Div. 3NO
- f) Capelin in Div. 3LNO
- g) Squid (*Illex*) in Subareas 3 and 4
- h) Management measures for the following stocks, if available in the Regulatory Area in 1983:
 - i) Cod in Div. 3L
 - ii) Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 and Div. 3KL
 - iii) Roundnose grenadier in Subareas 2 and 3

OTHER MATTERS

19. Improving Scientific Knowledge on the Status of Fisheries in the Regulatory Area (see GF/7-026 and Canadian reply and also FC Doc. 87/4) and Review of the International Scientific Observer Program.

ADJOURNMENT

- 20. Time and Place of Next Meeting
- 21. Other Business
- 22. Adjournment

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1987

PRESS RELEASE

1. The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) was held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, during 14-18 September 1987, under the chairmanship of Mr. H. Schmlegelow (European Economic Community), President of NAFO. The Sessions of the Scientific Council, the General Council and the Fisheries Commission and their Committees were all held at the Lord Nelson Hotel in Halifax.

2. Attending the meeting were delegates from the following Contracting Parties: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland), European Economic Community (EEC), German Democratic Republic, Japan, Norway, Poland, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).

Observers from Mexico and the United States of America were present at the meeting.

3. The Scientific Council, under the chairmanship of Dr. J. Messtorff (EEC), gave advice on matters, requested by the Fisheries Commission on resources in the Regulatory Area and on special questions affecting those resources.

4. During 9-11 September 1987, there was a special session of the Scientific Council on Deepwater Resources of the North Atlantic, which involved 27 scientific contributions mostly on Greenland halibut and grenadiers.

5. The Scientific Council adopted several recommendations which were aimed at improving future research activities on resources in the Convention Area and the ongoing policy regarding its publications.

6. The Scientific Council elected the following officers for the term 1988 to 1989:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Chairman | - J. S. Beckett (Canada) |
| Vice-Chairman | - Sv. Aa. Horsted (Denmark in respect of the Faroes and Greenland) |
| Chairman (STACFIS) | - A. Maucorps (EEC) |
| Chairman (STACREC) | - A. Vazquez (EEC) |

7. On the basis of the scientific advice provided by the Scientific Council from its meeting in June 1987 and at the present meeting, agreement was reached by the Fisheries Commission, under the Chairmanship of Mr. R. J. Prier (Canada), on conservation and management measures for 1988, regarding total allowable catches (TACs) and allocations for certain stocks, which are either entirely outside the 200-mile fishing zones or occur both within the zones and in the Regulatory Area. The TACs and national allocations for stocks in Division 3M and those overlapping the 200-mile boundary lines are given in the attached Quota Table.

8. The Fisheries Commission agreed to continue the moratorium for 1988 on cod fishing by Contracting Parties in Division 3L outside the Canadian zone to allow scientific information to be generated prior to any NAFO management decision for cod in that area.

9. The Fisheries Commission with the concurrence of the coastal state requested that the Scientific Council, at its meeting in advance of the 1988 Annual Meeting, provide advice on the scientific basis for management in 1989 of various fish stocks in the Regulatory Area and to consider different management options.

10. The Fisheries Commission agreed to hold a special meeting in Brussels, Belgium, in January 1988 to continue the work of developing a new Scheme of International Enforcement.

11. The Fisheries Commission elected its officers for the term 1988 and 1989, as follows:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Chairman | - K. Yonezawa (Japan) |
| Vice-Chairman | - J. Zygmanski (Poland) |
| The STACTIC Committee reelected as Chairman | - R. J. Prier (Canada) |

12. The General Council decided that modifications to Subareas 4 and 5 reflecting the agreement reached on the maritime boundary between Canada and the United States of America in this area enter into force on 8 October 1987.
13. The General Council review and approved the Organization's budget and accounts.
14. The General Council elected the following officers for the term 1988 and 1989:

Chairman	- F. Hartung (GDR)
Vice-Chairman	- K. Hoydal (Denmark in respect of the Faroes and Greenland)

NAFO Secretariat
18 September 1987

SCHEDULE I
Quota Table 1
for 1988

Column I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI
Contracting Party	Cod Div. 3M	Cod Div. 3MO	Redfish Div. 3M	Redfish Div. 3LN	American plaice Div. 3M	American plaice Div. 3LNO	Yellowtail Div. 3LNO	Witch Div. 3MO	Capelin Div. 3MO	Squid (Illex) Subareas 3 + 4
1. Bulgaria	-	-	300	-	-	-	-	-	-	500
2. Canada	-	19,070	500	10,650	150	39,415	14,630	3,000	400	N.S. ⁵
3. Cuba	-	-	1,750	2,450	-	-	-	-	375	2,250
4. European Economic Community	-	14,750	1,200	-	350	510	300	-	375	N.S. ⁵
5. Faroe Islands (Denmark)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. German Democratic Republic	-	-	-	850	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Japan	-	-	400	-	-	-	-	-	1,400	2,250
9. Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,500	-
10. Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	450	1,000
11. Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500
12. USSR	-	4,780	13,850	10,900	1,000	-	-	1,950	7,500	5,000
13. Others	-	1,400	100	150	500	75	70	50	0	5,000
14. Special Reservation ²	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. Total Allowable Catch	0	40,000	20,000	25,000	2,000	40,000	15,000	5,000	15,000	150,000 ⁶

¹ Quotas are in metric tons.

² There are no Special Reservations for 1987.

³ The opening date for the squid (Illex) fishery is 1 July.

⁴ Any quota listed for squid may be increased by a transfer from any "coastal state" as defined in Article 1, para 3 of the NAFO Convention, provided that the TAC for squid is not exceeded. Transfers made to Contracting Parties conducting fisheries for squid in the Regulatory Area shall be reported to the Executive Secretary, and the report shall be made as promptly as possible.

⁵ Not specified because the allocations to these Contracting Parties are as yet undetermined, although their sum shall not exceed the difference between the total of allocations to other Contracting Parties and the TAC.

⁶ The TAC would remain at 150,000 tons subject to adjustment where warranted by scientific advice.

STATEMENT OF THE MEXICAN OBSERVER DELEGATION

The observer delegation of Mexico would like to make a brief comment about the decision adopted by this Commission on the cod stock in 3M division, establishing a zero TAC.

Firstly, my delegation refer to some elements outlined by the distinguished representatives of NAFO member countries. On one hand we listen to comments about the lack of reliable data which can allow to a decision concerning the status of the stock; and on the other hand the report of the Scientific Council records that during five years of the decade 1977-87 catches exceed the TAC recommended by the Scientific Council.

Second, the Chairman of the Scientific Council admits that the information available was not the best one. Mexico has maintained the position in the sense that any administrative or conservation measures should be based on the best scientific evidence available. In order to cooperate in obtaining such evidence, my country offered in past years and at the present meeting of its statistical catch data, so we are prepared to provide it under request of NAFO.

Nevertheless as Mexico has mentioned in its general statement, we will continue our fisheries operations accordingly to the United Nation Law of the Sea Convention, taking into account that we are fishing resources found in high seas outside of national jurisdictional areas.

APPENDIX V

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1987

Provisional Report of the
Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)

The Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) met on four occasions during the week of 14-18 September 1987.

The initial meeting convened at 1015 on 14 September 1987.

1. Introduction by Chairman

The Chairman of STACTIC, Mr. R. J. Prier (Canada), welcomed all delegations to the Ninth Annual NAFO Meeting. STACTIC delegations included Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland), European Economic Community (EEC), Japan, Norway, Poland, and USSR. A delegation from the U.S.A. was present as an observer.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

Mr. L. Strowbridge (Canada) was appointed Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The provisional STACTIC agenda (NAFO C/L 87/50) was reviewed by all delegations. Item 8 (Other Matters) of the Agenda was amended on a proposal by the Chairman to include discussion on a Canadian delegation paper titled "Methodology for the Calculation of Catch Estimates for NAFO Regulated Stocks". That paper had been presented at the Eighth Annual NAFO Meeting (1986); however, the Canadian delegation suggested that further discussion be deferred to the next STACTIC meeting (refer to FC Doc. 86/14, revised, page 31).

The Chairman stated that the full agenda would remain open for discussion on other matters, if required.

The agenda, as amended, was adopted. (See attachment 1)

4. Review of Annual Return of Infringements (FC Doc. 87/6)

The EEC delegation, through the Chairman, submitted its annual return of infringements.

Further discussion on Agenda item 4 was deferred.

5. Review of Registration of Vessels fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area

The Canadian delegation, through the Chairman, submitted a list of Canadian vessels expected to fish in the NAFO Regulatory Area during 1987.

Further discussion on Agenda item 5 was deferred.

6. Enforcement in the NAFO Regulatory Area

The Chairman referred to the STACTIC agenda attachment that outlined the deployment of inspection ships and/or inspectors by Contracting Parties to the Regulatory Area in 1987. Specifically these Contracting Parties were Canada, Cuba, EEC, German Democratic Republic and USSR.

The Canadian delegation submitted their 1986/87 report on enforcement in the Regulatory Area (see NAFO/FC doc. 87/7). In addition to a general review of enforcement activities (i.e. patrol sea-days, air hours, apparent infringements, etc.) the Canadian report noted the following:

i) Review of Inspected Estimated Catches in the NAFO Regulatory Area

Canadian authorities conducted a review of catches taken from the NAFO Regulatory Area in 1986 as determined from inspections of actual catches and estimates based on criteria outlined in the paper "Methodology for the Calculation of Catch Estimates for NAFO Regulated Stocks". As a result of those calculations it was believed that Contracting Party catches were more than double (excluding Canadian catches) the total TAC's set by NAFO at the 1986 Annual Meeting. In addition, an estimated 19,000 tons was taken by non-member nations.

ii) Inspection Problems

NAFO inspectors from Canada experienced problems in boarding some vessels of Contracting Parties operating in the Regulatory Area. In 1986 three citations were issued to Spanish masters for failing to facilitate an inspection. In 1986, a Portuguese vessel was issued a citation for failing to permit inspection of the cargo hold. In 1987, two Spanish masters were issued citations for failing to remove small mesh gear when requested by an inspector.

Spanish masters would not permit boardings by NAFO inspectors from Canada after July 11, 1987 unless accompanied by one of their own inspectors. That, they claimed, was the result of a directive from the EEC dated June 26, 1987.

iii) Non-Member Activity

Non-NAFO members fishing in the Regulatory Area continued to present problems to conservation. Due to the fact that they were not required to conform with NAFO conservation and enforcement measures, it was difficult to obtain catch and effort data from those countries.

In 1986 fifty-five (55) different vessels from seven non-member nations were identified in the Regulatory Area, an increase of 38% over 1985.

The EEC delegation proposed to defer full discussion on the Canadian report until they had the opportunity to review the written document. However, the EEC delegation provided preliminary comments on the following two points:

- a) Canadian calculation of inspected/estimated catches for Contracting Parties in the Regulatory Area - The EEC delegation questioned the appropriateness of such a calculation and reserved the right to object to those calculations at a later meeting.
- b) Apparent infringements (failure to facilitate an inspection) by EEC masters - The EEC delegation noted that the EEC was no longer a member of the Joint International Enforcement Scheme and, therefore, refusals to allow Canadian inspectors onboard EEC vessels after June 26, 1987 did not constitute apparent infringements.

The USSR delegation presented the following information with respect to their 1986 enforcement activities in the Regulatory Area:

- a) Patrol days - Approximately 200 days.
- b) Inspections - 150 on Soviet vessels (100 at sea, 50 in port)
92 on vessels from other Contracting Parties (EEC, Japan, Canada)
- c) Apparent infringements - 1 Soviet vessel (mesh obstruction)
1 vessel from another Contracting Party

The USSR delegation noted that inspection requests had been refused by vessels of some Contracting Parties.

The Chairman requested a review of proposed enforcement activities for 1987/88 by Contracting Parties.

The USSR delegation declared its intention to continue enforcement activities at a level that would approximate that of 1986.

The Canadian delegation anticipated that the Canadian current level of enforcement activities would be maintained.

The Cuban delegate stated that two Cuban NAFO inspectors conducted inspections in 1987 on domestic vessels; however, inspections were not conducted on vessels from other Contracting Parties. Cuban NAFO inspectors would be deployed to the Regulatory Area in 1988.

The Canadian delegation stated that NAFO inspectors from other Contracting Parties had completed joint NAFO patrols on Canadian patrol vessels in the past, and were invited to continue that practice in future years.

7. Time and Place of Next Meeting

Subsequent STACTIC meetings would be scheduled throughout the week of 14-18 September 1987, at a time designated by the Chairman.

8. Other Matters

At the Eighth Annual Meeting of NAFO (1986) a paper on Methodology for the Calculation of Catch Estimates for NAFO Regulated Stocks was submitted by the Canadian delegation, which proposed that comments on the document be deferred by STACTIC until September, 1987.

The EEC delegation suggested that the document should be redistributed for the benefit of those delegations that had not reviewed the document in detail. The Chairman then deferred discussion on the document.

9. Election of STACTIC Chairman

It was agreed to defer the election of a new STACTIC Chairman.

STACTIC adjourned at 1100 on 14 September 1987.

STACTIC reconvened at 0915 on 16 September 1987.

10. Agenda

The Chairman noted that the Fisheries Commission had referred several Commission proposals (see Fisheries Commission Provisional Agenda Item 11) to STACTIC.

Those proposals were:

- a) Ropes and reinforcements in trawls (NAFO SCS Doc. 87/26)
- b) Changes to NAFO measures regarding by-catch limits (NAFO FC Doc. 86/11)
- c) Types of chafers and measurements of their meshes (NAFO Working Paper 87/1)

The subject, Methodology for the Calculation of Catch Estimates for NAFO Regulated Stocks, would then become letter d) of the agenda and letter e) would be Other Business.

The Chairman proposed that the STACTIC agenda be amended to include those proposals under Item 8 - Other Matters. That was agreed.

11. Review of Annual Return of Infringements/Enforcement in the Regulatory Area

The EEC delegation referred to the Canadian Report on Enforcement in the Regulatory Area (NAFO FC Doc. 87/7) and submitted the following observations:

- a) The Canadian Report made continuous reference to vessels from member states of the EEC (i.e. Portugal and Spain). The EEC delegation noted that reference to vessels from EEC member states should be made collectively.
- b) The Canadian Report listed 1987 apparent infringements by EEC vessels. The EEC delegation stated that NAFO inspection reports had not been received by the office of the Directorate-General for Fisheries. After collecting the necessary information, it was determined that the inspecting authorities had been forwarding NAFO inspection reports directly to EEC member states. The EEC delegation noted that the proper transmittal procedure had not been followed.
- c) With respect to the actual content of the Canadian Report; the EEC delegation stated that EEC vessels were subject to the vast majority of inspections by Canadian NAFO inspectors. In 1986 and 1987, inspections on EEC vessels (including Portugal and Spain in 1986) represented 90.8% and 81.9% respectively of all inspections. The EEC delegation requested clarification from the Canadian delegation on the criteria used to ensure an equitable distribution of inspections.
- d) The EEC delegation wished to clarify, for the benefit of all Contracting Parties, its position with respect to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement. The clarification was contained in a telex dated 04 August 1987 (E. Gallagher to Capt. Cardoso) that responded to a Canadian complaint to the Executive Secretary regarding the refusals (by the EEC vessels "Albero/Alberino") to permit inspections by Canadian inspectors. He read the text of the telex (see attachment 2).

The EEC delegation wished to further clarify its position on the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement by clearly stating that inspectors from other Contracting Parties were not permitted to conduct inspections on EEC vessels after June 26, 1987.

The Chairman noted that the EEC position on the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement was the subject of discussions at the Fisheries Commission and suggested that further discussion at STACTIC would not be productive.

The EEC delegation noted that the above statement was entered at STACTIC in response to the Canadian Report on Enforcement in the Regulatory Area (NAFO FC Doc. 87/7) where specific reference was made to the "Albero/Alberino" incident. The EEC delegation agreed that further discussion of the matter by STACTIC was not necessary.

The Canadian delegation responded to the observations of the EEC delegation as follows:

- a) The Canadian Report on Enforcement in the Regulatory Area included Portugal and Spain as individual Contracting Parties for 1986 and 1987. While that designation was correct for 1986 information, it was noted that the report would be amended in order to refer to all EEC vessels collectively for 1987.
- b) With respect to the equitable distribution of inspections by Canadian NAFO inspectors, the Canadian delegation noted that the criteria for such a calculation were not clearly defined. However, based on estimates of fishing effort in the Regulatory Area, it was determined that EEC vessels accounted for approximately 80% (11,000 fishing days) of all fishing effort.

The Canadian delegation stated that on the basis of total fishing effort, Canadian NAFO inspections were distributed equitably. The Canadian delegation also noted that it was very difficult to ensure an exact distribution of inspections as other factors should be considered. In particular, the Canadian delegation brought attention to the number of apparent infringements recorded against EEC vessels.

The EEC delegation noted that laws of average would suggest that Contracting Parties that were subject to the majority of inspections would proportionately have a greater number of apparent infringements. The EEC delegation further requested clarification of the Canadian Report on Enforcement in the Regulatory Area with respect to the Sections titled Problem Areas detected by Canadian Surveillance. That section stated that "Contracting Parties catches were more than double the TAC's." The EEC delegation requested clarification from the Canadian delegation on whether that statement took into consideration the objections lodged by the EEC. Clarification was also requested on apparent infringements by EEC vessels involving the "Others" quota.

The Danish delegation stated that it was essential that the Canadian Report be accurate in both format and content; however, it was proposed that discussion on the principles of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement remain with the Fisheries Commission.

The EEC delegation agreed with the proposal and requested that the Canadian Report be amended to accurately reflect the objections lodged by the EEC, Spain and Portugal at the Eighth Annual NAFO Meeting (September 1986).

The Canadian delegation requested that the agenda item remain open so that an appropriate reply could be provided at a later meeting.

12. Review of Registration of Vessels fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area

The Chairman stated that the Executive Secretary was in the process of finalizing the 1987 report of vessels fishing in the Regulatory Area. Delegations that had not already submitted reports were requested to do so as soon as possible.

13. Other Matters

Under Agenda item 8 d), Methodology for the Calculation of Catch Estimates for NAFO Regulated Stocks (FC Working Paper 86/2), the EEC delegation began discussion by stating that the methodology represented an attempt by Canadian authorities to use the inspection scheme in such a way that one Contracting Party would check on another Contracting Party's compliance with quotas. That practice was considered unjustified by the EEC delegation; however, it was suggested that the matter be further discussed by the Fisheries Commission.

The Canadian delegation agreed that further discussion on the paper would not be productive and should be deferred until the Fisheries Commission completed discussions on the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement (i.e. collection of catch data).

The Danish delegation stated that the methodology represented a procedure used by Canadian NAFO inspectors to determine total catches in the NAFO Regulatory Area and subsequently to bring any concerns to the attention of the Executive Secretary. The methodology did not appear to preclude flag state enforcement.

The USSR delegation declared that the methodology was based on a number of assumptions that lacked scientific basis and would always be subject to discrepancies. As such, the USSR delegation could not deliberate further at that time on the use of such a methodology.

Further discussion on the matter was deferred.

STACTIC adjourned at 1000 on 16 September 1987.

STACTIC reconvened at 0925 on 17 September 1987.

14. Review of Annual Return of Infringements/Enforcement in the Regulatory Area

The Canadian delegation stated that FC doc. 87/7 (Canadian Report on Enforcement in the Regulatory Area) had been revised to reflect the concerns expressed by the EEC delegation regarding TAC objections and apparent infringements of the "Others" quota provisions. The Canadian Report was also revised to ensure references to individual EEC member states were removed.

As well, the Canadian delegation noted that future NAFO inspection reports would be forwarded to the appropriate EEC representative listed in NAFO Circular Letter 87/43.

The EEC delegation requested clarification from the Canadian delegation on the following:

- a) On 15 August 1987, the EEC vessel "David Melgueiro" requested permission from Canadian authorities to proceed to St. John's, Newfoundland and disembark an injured crew member. Canadian authorities permitted the "David Melgueiro" to enter St. John's on the condition that authorized activities be confined to the disembarking of the injured crew member. Once in St. John's, the "David Melgueiro" was boarded by a Canadian Fishery Officer who wished to conduct an inspection. The master of the "David Melgueiro" stated that he had fished exclusively in the NAFO Regulatory Area and protested the inspection by a Canadian Fishery Officer. Nevertheless, the Canadian Fishery Officer continued with an inspection that lasted six (6) hours.

The EEC delegation asked the Canadian delegation if that inspection was a proper action and if it was intended to be an inspection under the Scheme of Enforcement.

- b) Canadian authorities reported to the Executive Secretary (GF/6-230) that seven (7) EEC vessels (Spanish registry) had fished in the NAFO Regulatory Area during 1986 without providing proper notice to the Secretariat. The EEC conducted an investigation on several of those vessels and had determined that those vessels either had not fished in the NAFO Regulatory Area or had provided proper notification to the Secretariat. A summary of the investigation was presented then:

<u>Vessel</u>	<u>Determination</u>
Monte Agudo	Notification - 15 January 1986
Costa de Normandia	Notification - 1 July 1986
Conbaroya Segundo	
Boucina	Fished in waters of Namibia, S. Africa
Playa de Cadiz	

Based on the above investigation, the EEC requested clarification on the original report to the Secretariat.

The Canadian delegation provided a preliminary response to the "David Melgueiro" incident by stating that permission to enter a Canadian port under the provisions of force majeure was not required. Canadian authorities only required notification that a vessel was proceeding to a Canadian port to seek medical assistance.

The Canadian delegation acknowledged the requests of the EEC delegation and deferred full response to a later STACTIC meeting.

The Danish delegation noted that the "David Melgueiro" incident appeared to represent matters of national concern and might be outside the scope of NAFO.

The USSR delegation expressed its concern with respect to the duration of the inspection.

The Chairman noted that duration of inspections was one of the issues presently being discussed by the Working Group on the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement.

15. Other Matters

The Chairman noted that the following documents had been referred to STACTIC by the Fisheries Commission:

- a) Proposal of New Regulations Relative to Topside Chafers for the Consideration of the Working Group (NAFO/FC Working Paper 87/1)
- b) Information for the Fisheries Commission on Escapement and Selectivity Problems Associated with the Use of Strengthening Ropes, Splitting Straps and Codend Floats (NAFO SCS Doc. 87/26)

After much discussion, it was agreed that the Executive Secretary would be requested to address STACTIC on those matters. It was further agreed that all delegations would review the documents prior to the 1988 STACTIC meetings and be prepared to discuss possible recommendations to the Fisheries Commission.

The USSR delegation stressed that two important factors should be associated with any review/recommendations on trawl attachments. Those factors were:

1. The effects of mesh obstruction.
2. The productivity of the trawl.

The USSR delegation urged other delegations to consider a balance between the two factors during the review/recommendation process.

STACTIC adjourned at 1000 on 17 September 1987.

STACTIC reconvened at 2105 on 17 September 1987.

16. The Executive Secretary addressed STACTIC on NAFO/FC Working Paper 87/1 (Topside Chafers). The primary proposal in NAFO/FC Working Paper 87/1 was the deletion of the multiple-flap type chafer from the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures. As agreed at the previous STACTIC meeting, all delegations would undertake a review of the document and defer further discussion until 1988.
17. Canadian Proposal for Changes to NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures Regarding By-Catch Limits (NAFO/FC Doc. 86/11)

The above document was referred to STACTIC by the Fisheries Commission.

The EEC delegation noted that the proposal might require amendments to deal with objections lodged to TAC's by some Contracting Parties. The EEC delegation wished to discuss the proposal with EEC technical experts prior to addressing the matter at STACTIC.

General discussions continued on the present by-catch provisions within the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures and while the importance of early consideration of the proposal was recognized, it was agreed that some Contracting Parties required more time to consider the subject and therefore the proposal was deferred to the 1988 STACTIC Meeting.

18. Methodology for the Calculation of Catch Estimates for NAFO Regulated Stocks (FC Working Paper 86/2)
19. Review of the Annual Return of Infringements/Enforcement in the Regulatory Area

The Canadian delegation responded to the requests for clarification by the EEC delegation as follows:

1. The EEC vessel "David Melgueiro" entered the port of St. John's on August 15, 1987 to disembark an injured crew member. Canadian Fishery Officers boarded the vessel after the crew member had disembarked and completed an inspection under the authority of Canadian Fisheries Legislation. The inspection lasted two (2) hours fifteen (15) minutes.
2. The seven EEC trawlers listed in GF/6-230 were sighted in the NAFO Regulatory Area by aircraft patrols. Canada had not received circular letters from the NAFO Secretariat indicating that those vessels intended to fish in the Regulatory Area and consequently the Secretariat was advised accordingly.

The EEC delegation requested further clarification from the Canadian delegation on the "David Melgueiro" incident. The EEC delegation asked if it was the standard practice of Canadian authorities to inspect vessels even if those vessels had not conducted any activities in the economic zone of Canada.

The Canadian delegation responded by stating that the matter was an issue involving coastal state jurisdiction and they were not prepared to discuss the incident further within STACTIC.

20. Time and Place of Next Meeting

The time and place of the next meeting would be determined by the General Council.

21. Election of New Chairman

The USSR delegation proposed that the Canadian delegate, Mr. R. J. Prier, complete a second term as STACTIC Chairman. The proposal was unanimously passed by all delegations of STACTIC. Mr. R. Prier accepted a second term as STACTIC Chairman.

STACTIC adjourned its final 1987 meeting at 2150 on 17 September 1987.

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1987

Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)

Agenda

1. Opening by the Chairman, R. J. Prier (Canada).
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Review of Annual Return of Infringements
5. Review of Registration of Vessels fishing in the Regulatory Area
6. Enforcement in the Regulatory Area
7. Time and Place of Next Meeting
8. Other Matters
 - a) Ropes and reinforcements in trawls (NAFO SCS Doc. 87/26)
 - b) Changes to NAFO measures regarding by-catch limits (NAFO FC Doc. 86/11)
 - c) Types of chafers and measurements of their meshes (NAFO Working Paper 87/1)
 - d) Methodology for the Calculation of Catch Estimates for NAFO Regulated Stocks (FC Working Paper 86/2)
 - e) Other Business
9. Adjournment

APPENDIX V
Attachment 2

Text of the EEC telex dated 04 August 1987 on the question
of EEC position regarding the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement

"In reply to your telex of 23 July 1987 concerning the refusal of Community vessels to submit themselves to inspection under the NAFO Scheme of Joint International Enforcement I must remind you that on 26 June 1986 the Community notified you in accordance with Article XII.3 of the NAFO Convention of its intention not to be bound by that Scheme as from twelve months from the date of the notification. In accordance with Article XII.4 of the Convention all the other Parties to the Convention were informed about this notification by your communication (GF6-152) of 9 July 1986.

As a consequence as from 26 June 1987 Community vessels fishing in the Regulatory Area are no longer subject to the provisions of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement and can accordingly not be inspected by officers operating under this Scheme.

The Community has undertaken to set up a corresponding - but not identical - scheme of control. This however does not imply that officers operating under the NAFO Scheme are entitled to board Community vessels.

E. Gallagher,
Director General

FISHERIES COMMISSION REQUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON MANAGEMENT
IN 1989 OF CERTAIN STOCKS IN SUBAREAS 3 AND 4

The following draft request for scientific advice on management in 1989 of certain stocks in SA 3-4 is last year's request updated to refer to 1989, but with no other changes and is offered as a basis for discussion of Agenda Item 21.

1. The Fisheries Commission with the concurrence of the Coastal State requests that the Scientific Council, at the meeting in advance of the 1988 Annual Meeting, provide advice on the scientific basis for the management of the following fish and invertebrate stocks or groups of stocks in 1989:

Cod (Div. 3NO; Div. 3M)
Redfish (Div. 3LN; Div. 3M)
American plaice (Div. 3LNO; Div. 3M)
Witch flounder (Div. 3NO)
Yellowtail flounder (Div. 3LNO)
Capelin (Div. 3NO)
Squid (Subareas 3 and 4)

2. The Commission and the Coastal State request the Scientific Council to consider the following options in assessing and projecting future stock levels for those stocks listed above:
 - a) For those stocks subject to analytical dynamic-pool type assessments, the status of the stock should be reviewed and management options evaluated in terms of their implications for fishable stock size in both the short and long term. In those cases where present spawning stock size is a matter of scientific concern in relation to the continuing productive potential of the stock management options should be evaluated in relation to spawning stock size. As general reference points the implications of fishing at $F_{0.1}$, F_{1987} , and F_{max} in 1989 subsequent years should be evaluated. The present stock size and spawning stock size should be described in relation to those observed historically and those expected in the longer term under this range of options. Opinions of the Scientific Council should be expressed in regard to stock size, spawning stock sizes, recruitment prospects, catch rates, and TACs implied by these management strategies for 1989 and the long term. Values of F corresponding to the reference points should be given and their accuracy assessed.
 - b) for those stocks subject to general production-type assessments, the time series of data should be updated, the status of the stock should be reviewed and management options evaluated in the way described above to the extent possible. In this case, the general reference points should be the level of fishing effort or fishing mortality (F) which is calculated to be required to take the MSY catch in the long term and two-thirds of that effort level.
 - c) For those resources of which only general biological and/or catch data are available, no standard criteria on which to base advice can be established. The evidence of stock status should, however, be weighed against a strategy of optimum yield management and maintenance of stock biomass at levels of about two-thirds that of the virgin stock.
 - d) Spawning stock biomass levels that might be considered necessary for maintenance of sustained recruitment should be recommended for each stock.
 - e) Presentation of the result should include the following:
 - i) for stocks for which analytical dynamic-pool type assessments are possible:
 - a graph of yield and fishing mortality for at least the past 10 years.
 - a graph of spawning stock biomass and recruitment levels for at least the past 10 years.
 - a graph of catch options for the year 1989 over a range of fishing mortality rates (F) at least from $F_{0.1}$ to F_{max} .
 - a graph showing spawning stock biomasses at 1.1.1990 corresponding to each catch option.
 - graphs showing the yield-per-recruit and spawning stock per-recruit values for a range of fishing mortality.

ii) for stocks for which advice is based on general production models, the relevant graph of production on fishing mortality rate or fishing effort.

In all cases the three reference points, actual F , F_{\max} and $F_{0.1}$ should be shown.

3. The Fisheries Commission with the concurrence of the coastal state requests that the Scientific Council continue to provide information, if available, on the stock separation in Div. 2J+3KL and the proportion of the biomass of the cod stock in Div. 3L in the Regulatory Area.
4. With respect to American plaice in Divisions 3LNO, the Council should provide a review of its 1987 advice on the management of this stock in 1988. In particular comment should be provided as to whether the calculations of 1988 catches at given fishing mortalities are still considered to be valid, and if not the revised projections should be included.