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**INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION**  
**FOR THE**  
**NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES**



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
(formerly Annual Proceedings)

**Vol. 26**  
for the year  
**1975/76**

Dartmouth • Canada  
August 1977

## Letter of Transmittal

The Chairman of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries presents his compliments to the Governments signatory of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries signed at Washington under date of 8 February 1949, and to the Commissioners and Observers representing those Governments and has the honour to transmit herewith annual reports of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries for the year 1975/76.

This is the 26th annual report of proceedings of the Commission and is an authoritative record of its activities and achievements from 1 July 1975 to 30 June 1976. The report contains an account of the activities of the Commission's Secretariat; an account of the Seventh Special Commission Meeting, September, 1975; an account of the Eighth Special Commission Meeting, January, 1976; an account of the 26th Annual Meeting, June, 1976; and summaries of research carried out in each of the five Convention subareas and on seals in 1975.

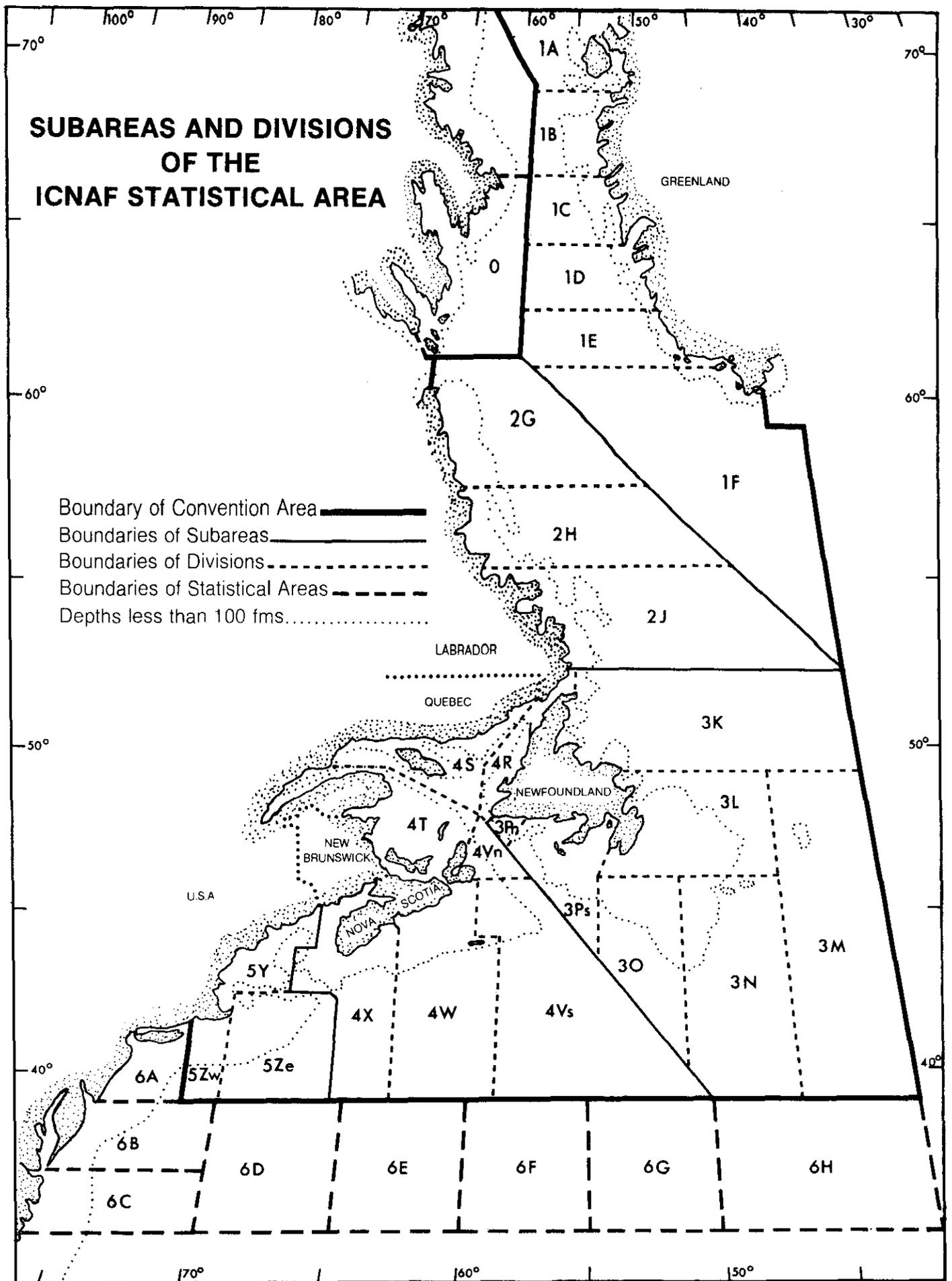
This report is prepared and transmitted in conformity with the requirements of Article VI(1) (f) of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries and Rules 3.2 (g) and 9.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Gillett" followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

E. Gillett,  
Chairman,  
International Commission for the  
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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## Commission's Organization 1975/76

### Participating Governments

Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, France, German Democratic Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States of America.

#### Chairman of Commission

Mr E. Gillett,  
Dept. of Agriculture  
and Fisheries  
St. Andrew's House,  
Edinburgh 1, Scotland.

#### Vice-Chairman of Commission

Mr D. H. Wallace,  
Associate Admin. for Marine Resources,  
NOAA, Bldg. 5, Room 908,  
Rockville, Maryland,  
USA. 20852.

### Panels for the Subareas

#### Subarea Panel

Subarea	Panel	Member Governments
1	1	Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom.
2	2	Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom.
3	3	Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, France, German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States of America.
4	4	Canada, Cuba, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America.
5	5	Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Italy, Japan, Poland, Romania, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America.

#### Chairman

Mr V. M. Kamentsev,  
Deputy Minister,  
Ministry of Fisheries of the USSR,  
12 Rozhdestvensky Boulevard,  
Moscow K-45, USSR.

Mr W. Kalinowski,  
Fisheries Central Board,  
Str Odrowaza 1,  
70-952 Szczecin, Poland.

Mr R. H. Letaconnoux,  
Institut Scientifique et Technique,  
Des Peches Maritimes, B.P. 1049,  
44037 Nantes Cedex, France.

Mr K. Lokkegaard,  
Ministry of Fisheries, Borgergade 16,  
1300 Copenhagen K, Denmark.

Mr W. L. Sullivan, Jr.,  
Director, Office of Marine Science  
and Technology Affairs,  
Department of State,  
Washington, DC, USA.

### Panel for Harp and Hood Seals

A Canada, Denmark, Norway.

Mr K. Vartdal,  
Directorate of Fisheries,  
P.O. Box 185-186,  
5001 Bergen, Norway.

### Standing Committees

#### Committees

On Finance and Administration  
On Research and Statistics  
On Regulatory Measures  
On International Control

#### Members

**One Nominee** from each of five Contracting Governments (Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States of America) who may be assisted by experts and advisers.  
**One Nominee** from each Contracting Government who may be assisted by experts and advisers.  
**One Nominee** from each Contracting Government who may be assisted by experts and advisers.  
**One Nominee** from each Contracting Government who may be assisted by experts and advisers.

#### Chairman

Mr E. B. Young,  
International Fisheries Branch,  
Fisheries and Marine Service,  
Environment Canada,  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
Canada, K1A 0H3.

Dr A. W. May,  
Fisheries and Marine Service,  
Environment Canada,  
Biological Station,  
St. John's, Nfld., Canada

Mr H. Graham,  
Ministry of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Food,  
Great Westminster House,  
Horseferry Road,  
London SW1P 2AE, England.

Mr W. G. Gordon,  
Northeast Region,  
National Marine Fisheries Service,  
Gloucester, Mass. U.S.A. 01930.

### Headquarters

Dartmouth, N.S., Canada

Executive Secretary  
Assistant Executive Secretary  
Administrative Assistant  
Bio-Statistician  
Senior Secretary  
Senior Statistical Clerk  
Finance and Publications Clerk-Steno  
Statistical Clerk (Surveys and Sampling)  
Statistical Clerk (Fishery Statistics)

— Mr L. R. Day  
— Mr V. M. Hodder  
— Mr W. H. Champion  
— Mr S. A. Akenhead  
— Mrs V. C. Kerr  
— Mr G. M. Moulton  
— Mrs E. R. Cornford  
— Mrs P. A. Lomas  
— Mr F. D. Keating

Clerk-Duplicator Operator  
Clerk-Duplicator Operator  
Documents and Mailing Clerk  
Clerk Typist  
Data Processing Clerk

— Mr R. A. Myers  
— Mr B. T. Crawford  
— Mrs F. E. Perry  
— Mrs W. A. Wallingford  
(SOS 19 March 1976)  
Mrs P. M. Wadman  
(TOS 2 April 1976)  
— Miss G. H. Langille



# PART 1

## Administrative Report for the Year Ending 30 June 1976

### 1. Cuba Becomes 18th Member of the Commission

The Government of the Republic of Cuba became the 18th Member of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries on 28 November 1975 upon notifying the Department of State of the United States of America, the Depositary Government for the Commission, of her adherence to the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries. Representatives of the Government of Cuba have been attending the Commission's meetings in an observer capacity since June 1968. Cuban fishing vessels have been fishing in the Convention Area since 1967.

Applications by Cuba for membership in Panels 2, 3, 4, and 5, and by Iceland for transfer of membership from Panel 1 to Panel 3, to be effective 1 January 1976, were approved by telegraphic vote of the Commissioners of the Governments which participate in the Panels in accordance with Panel Rules of Procedure 2.3.

The Chairman of the Commission welcomed the delegation from the Government of Cuba sitting for the first time as Members of the Commission to the Eighth Special Commission Meeting in January 1976 at FAO, Rome, Italy.

### 2. The Commission's Officers

Chairman of the Commission	— Mr E. Gillett (UK)
Vice-Chairman of the Commission	— Mr D. H. Wallace (USA)
Chairman, Panel 1	— Mr V. M. Kamentsev (USSR)
Chairman, Panel 2	— Mr W. Kalinowski (Poland)
Chairman, Panel 3	— Mr R. H. Letaconnoux (France)
Chairman, Panel 4	— Mr K. Løkkegaard (Denmark)
Chairman, Panel 5	— Mr Wm. L. Sullivan Jr (USA)
Chairman, Panel A (Seals)	— Mr K. Vartdal (Norway)

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission have been elected for the 1975/76 and 1976/77 periods. The Chairman of the Panels with one exception will serve for the 1976/77 and 1977/78 periods. The Chairman of Panel A (Seals) completed his term of office at the 1976 Annual Meeting.

Chairman of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES)	— Dr A. W. May (Canada)
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Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD)	— Mr E. B. Young (Canada)
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Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulatory Measures (STACREM)	— Mr J. Graham (UK) (to March 1976)
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Chairman of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)	— Mr W. G. Gordon (USA)
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### 3. Panel Membership for 1975/76

Member Country	Panel						Total
	1	2	3	4	5	A	
Bulgaria	—	—	1974	1975	1973	—	3
Canada	—	1952	1951	1951	1951	1966	5
Cuba	—	1976 <sup>a</sup>	1976 <sup>a</sup>	1976 <sup>a</sup>	1976 <sup>a</sup>	—	4
Denmark	1951	—	1969	1974	—	1966	4
France	1953	1953	1953	1953	1974	—	5
Fed. Rep./ Germany	1957	1960	—	1970	1971	—	4
German/ Dem. Rep.	—	1974	1974	—	1974	—	3
Iceland	—	1974	1976	—	—	—	2
Italy	—	—	—	—	1974	—	1
Japan	—	—	1971	1971	1971	—	3
Norway	1952	1970	1968	—	—	1966	4
Poland	1962	1962	1962	1968	1968	—	5
Portugal	1953	1953	1953	1953	—	—	4
Romania	—	1970	1970	—	1967	—	3
Spain	1952	1954	1952	1952	1972	—	5
USSR	1958	1958	1958	1962	1962	—	5
UK	1951	1960	1951	—	—	—	3
USA	—	—	1952	1951	1951	—	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>66</b>

<sup>a</sup>effective 1 January 1976

### 4. The Commission's Secretariat

Executive Secretary	— L. R. Day
Assistant Executive Secretary	— V. M. Hodder
Bio-Statistician	— S. A. Akenhead (TOS 1 July 1975)
Administrative Assistant	— W. H. Champion
Senior Secretary	— Mrs V. C. Kerr
Finance and Publications Clerk-Steno	— Mrs E. R. Cornford
Senior Statistical Clerk	— G. M. Moulton
Clerk-Duplicator Operator	— R. A. Myers
Clerk-Duplicator Operator	— B. T. Crawford
Statistical Clerk (Surveys and Sampling)	— Mrs P. A. Lomas
Documents and Mailing Clerk	— Mrs F. E. Perry
Clerk-Typist	— Mrs W. A. Wallingford (SOS 19 March 1976) Mrs P. M. Wadman (TOS 2 April 1976)

Statistical Clerk (Fishery Statistics)	— F. D. Keating
Data Processing Clerk	— Miss G. H. Langille (TOS 16 October 1975)

### Activities of the staff

The Executive Secretary discussed proposals from the 1975 Annual Meeting with Depositary Government (Washington, D.C., 11 July 1975); serviced, with Messrs Hodder, Akenhead and Champion, Mrs Kerr and Cornford, the Seventh Special Commission Meeting (Montreal, 17-28 September 1975); discussed proposals from the Seventh Special Commission Meeting with Depositary Government (Washington, D.C., 8-9 October 1975); serviced with Mrs Kerr, a special meeting of seal experts (Ottawa, 17-19 November 1975) and a special meeting of Panel A (Seals) (Bergen, 9-12 December 1975); serviced with Messrs Hodder and Champion, Mrs Kerr and Perry, the Eighth Special Commission Meeting (FAO, Rome, 12-26 January 1976); discussed proposals from the Eighth Special Commission Meeting with Depositary Government (Washington, D.C., 2 February 1976); attended an informal FAO sponsored meeting of the staffs of regional fisheries bodies (Lisbon, 5 and 6 March 1976) and a meeting of the Subcommittee of the FAO Committee on Fisheries on Development of Cooperation with International Organizations Concerned with Fisheries (Fourth Session) (Lisbon, 8-12 March 1976).

The Bio-Statistician, Mr Akenhead, attended ICES meetings (Montreal, 27 September-3 October 1975), held discussion with scientists (St. Andrews, 22-24 October 1975) (Woods Hole, 3-7 November 1975) (St. John's, 4-8 February 1975) and presented a paper to the Canadian Committee on Freshwater Fisheries Resources (Ottawa, 5-7 January 1976).

The Administrative Assistant, Mr Champion, discussed preparations for the 1976 Annual Meeting at the invitation of the Cuban Government (Havana, 18-29 February 1976).

The Finance and Publications Clerk-Steno, Mrs Cornford, serviced the Environmental Working Group Meeting (Szczecin Poland 26-30 April 1976).

### 5. Commission's Publications

The *Proceedings of the Fifth Special Meeting (November 1974)*, *Sixth Special Meeting (January 1975)*, *Joint ICNAF/NEAFC Meeting on Joint International Enforcement (March 1975)*, and the *25th Annual Meeting (June 1975)* (286 p.) was distributed in December 1975.

The *Annual Report (formerly Annual Proceedings) Vol. 25 for 1974/75* (116 p.) containing the Administrative

Report and Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1975, the Reports of the Fifth Special Meeting, November 1974, the Sixth Special Meeting, January 1975, the Joint ICNAF/NEAFC Meeting on Joint International Enforcement, March 1975, the 25th Annual Meeting, June 1975, and the Summaries of Research and Status of Fisheries for Subareas and Seals 1974 was distributed in June 1976.

The *Redbook 1975* (127 p.) was distributed in August 1975. It contained the proceedings of the January 1975 and May-June meetings of the STACRES and its Subcommittees and Working Groups.

The *Statistical Bulletin Vol. 24 for the year 1974* (255 p.) containing statistics on the catch and effort for the finfish and harp and hood seal fisheries in the Convention and Statistical Areas of the Commission in 1974 was distributed in February 1976.

The *Research Bulletin of ICNAF No. 11* (162 p.) containing 13 scientific contributions was distributed in November 1975.

The *Sampling Yearbook Vol. 19 for 1974* (50 p.) containing information on the ICNAF Sampling Program, sampling techniques used by Member Governments and notes on and lists of length and age sampling data contributed by reporting countries in 1974 was distributed in February 1976.

The *Special Publication of ICNAF No. 9* (51 p.) contains four papers presented by ice experts to the ICNAF Environmental Subcommittee in May 1973 on ice conditions and forecasting techniques and was distributed in March 1976.

The *Special Publication of ICNAF No. 10* (136 p.) contains 12 contributions to an ICNAF Symposium on Environmental Conditions in the Newfoundland Grand Banks Area, 1972 and their Effects on Fishery Trends, held in May 1974. It was distributed in November 1975.

The *Selected Papers of ICNAF No. 1* (193 p.) containing 15 scientific contributions was distributed in April 1976. This issue of Selected Papers is the first in a new series to be published annually or more frequently, depending on the number of contributions. Papers for publication in this series are selected from papers presented to scientific meetings of ICNAF and contain information which is considered worthy of wider circulation than is normal for meeting documents.

The *List of Fishing Vessels. 1974* (69 p.) contains Tabular Summaries of Fishing Vessel Statistics, 1974 and Lists of Fishing Vessels 50 GRT and over, 1974, fishing in the ICNAF Convention Area. It was distributed in March 1976.

The *ICNAF International Inspection Scheme — Translations of Inspection Questionnaire and Report of Inspection (Revised 1976)* is in preparation.

The *Proceedings of the Seventh Special Commission Meeting, September 1975* (72 p.) and the *Report of STACRES, September 1975* (14 p.) were distributed in November 1975 (Summ. Docs. 76/VI/2 and 76/VI/1, respectively).

The *Proceedings of the Eighth Special Commission Meeting, January 1976* (78 p.) and the *Report of STACRES, January 1976* (32 p.) were distributed in March 1976 (Summ. Docs. 76/VI/6 and 76/VI/5, respectively).

The *Report of Special Meeting of Panel A (Seals), December 1975* (16 p.) was distributed in January 1976 (Summ. Doc. 76/VI/3).

The *Report of the ICNAF Assessments Subcommittee of STACRES, April 1976* (53 p.) was distributed in April 1976 (Summ. Doc. 76/VI/22).

The *Report of the Ageing Workshop, October-November 1975* (42 p.) plus Addendum (32 p.) was distributed in March 1976 (Summ. Doc. 76/VI/13).

## 6. The Commission's Research and Statistics Program

### a) Reporting of detailed catch and effort statistics

At the 1974 Annual Meeting, the Commission adopted, in principle, the recommendations by STACRES that Member Countries provide within their national research and statistical offices the facilities necessary to collect and report promptly to the Secretariat such detailed data as are required to improve the base for the analytical assessment of all stocks in the ICNAF Area subject to conservation measures, and that the STATLANT system be modified to provide for the reporting of catch and effort data by 30' x 30' unit areas and by twice-monthly time periods. Proposals for a modified STATLANT 21B form were accepted in principle by the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics (CWP) at its Eighth Session in September 1974 and adopted for use by the Commission at the 1975 Annual Meeting. Member Countries were advised by circular letter in December 1974 of the proposed reporting requirements, so that their statistical offices could plan to collect the statistics in the detail recommended. At the 1975 Annual Meeting the Commission adopted Resolution (2) to the effect that the reporting of

detailed catch and effort statistics will commence with the submission of STATLANT 21B data for 1976.

### b) Statistical Bulletin, Vol. 24 for 1974

Pending the publication of Statistical Bulletin Vol. 24, provisional statistics of 1974 nominal catches in the Northwest Atlantic, as derived from STATLANT 21A returns of Member Countries, were compiled in the format of Tables 1, 2, and 3 of Statistical Bulletin and circulated in July 1975. Much of the time lag between the 30 June deadline for receipt of detailed catch and effort statistics and the actual printing of the Statistical Bulletin in late December 1975 and early January 1976 was due to the late submission of STATLANT 21B statistics from several countries, the last not having been received until early December 1975. The arrangement of the tabular material in Parts I to III of Vol. 24 is the same as that used following a major reorganization of the Tables in Vol. 22.

### c) Advance statistics

A program, initiated at the request of STACRES early in 1974 requiring the advance reporting of preliminary catch statistics and sampling data by month and division for selected species in time for scientists to carry out preliminary work on stock assessments prior to the Assessments Subcommittee Meeting, was again pursued late in 1975 with a special request to Member Countries that 1975 data be available by February 1976. As in 1974 and again in 1975, the response to requests for sampling data from research institutes was very encouraging, but the nominal catch statistics, which are usually compiled in national statistical offices were, with a few exceptions, not available until the April 1975 Assessments Meeting was in progress and even then much of the data were not provided in the form required. Consequently, the scientists were hampered in performing their pre-meeting assessment tasks, much of which had to be undertaken during the course of the meeting.

### d) Sampling Yearbook, Vol. 19 for 1974

Continuing the procedure recommended by STACRES at the 1974 Annual Meeting, Sampling Yearbook Vol. 19 contained lists of all available 1974 sampling data together with notes on sampling techniques for those countries which contributed sampling data. A noteworthy addition to this issue of

the Yearbook is a synopsis of the ICNAF Sampling Program outlining the requirements that Member Countries are expected to follow in the collection and preparation of sampling data for submission to the Secretariat.

**e) Computerized Sampling Data Base**

During the year considerable progress was made in the establishment of computerized data base, involving the processing of sampling data for storage on magnetic tape files and the development of auditing and retrieval programs. This computerized system is intended to fill the void created when STACRES agreed in 1974 to discontinuing the publication of detailed length and age data in Sampling Yearbook following the issue of Vol. 17 for 1972. Input to the system is generally based on data submitted by Member Countries on standardized sampling forms, but research institutes in Canada and USA have already initiated the submission of data on magnetic tapes. All available data for 1973 and 1974 have been processed, and computerized printouts are available upon request for the use of scientists and/or institutes engaged in the Commission's work.

**f) List of vessels**

Late in 1974, Member Countries were requested to submit by 31 January 1975 their updated lists of fishing vessels operating in the Northwest Atlantic in 1974, with a view to possible publication of the 1974 List of Vessels prior to the 1975 Annual Meeting. However, the updated list of vessels for USSR did not arrive at the Secretariat until January 1976. Consequently, the ICNAF List of Fishing Vessels for 1974 was issued in March 1976, nearly a year behind schedule.

**g) Special projects**

Further to the need for more refined biostatistical data by the Assessments Subcommittee, STACRES initiated two pilot studies in 1973 and 1974. The Subdivision 5Ze Pilot Study involved the national submission of detailed catch and effort data in order to test the feasibility of establishing a statistical reporting system based on 30' x 30' unit areas and twice-monthly time periods. The Special Sampling Project involved the reporting of individual length and age samples for cod, mackerel, and silver hake for specific areas in order to examine the degree of variability associated with sampling those

species over large management areas. The available data have been computerized and forwarded to the designated scientists for study. With the installation of inhouse computer facilities, the Secretariat is now becoming involved in a pilot study to allow the step by step development of a computer-processing system for handling research survey data at the request of the Biological Surveys Subcommittee.

**h) Other activities**

Other research and statistical activities during the year 1975/76 involved:

- i) editing of the proceedings of STACRES meetings in January 1975 and May-June 1975 and their publication in Redbook 1975;
- ii) compilation of available stock record data for many of the TAC species and their collation in a Summary Document for the April 1976 Assessments Subcommittee Meeting;
- iii) collaboration with the Secretary of the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fisheries Statistics (CWP) on the updating of the ICNAF List of Species and the preparation of a new STATLANT 21B form to accommodate ICNAF's requirement for the reporting of detailed catch and effort statistics;
- iv) collaboration with scientists of several Member Countries regarding the development of the ICNAF data base and the exchange of computer-readable data files;
- v) updating of historical catches (1965-74) by country for all TAC stocks proposed for regulation at the 1976 Annual Meeting;
- vi) updating of historical catches (1965-74) of the individual finfish species and squids in Sub-area 5 and Statistical Area 6;
- vii) documentation of various biostatistical material required for scientific meetings at Montreal, Canada in September 1975, at Rome, Italy in January 1976, and at Dartmouth, Canada in April 1976;
- viii) preparation of several documents for the 1976 Annual Meeting: preliminary compilation of catch statistics for 1976 by division, country and species from STATLANT 21A returns; compilation of seal catches and effort for

1975; summary of data on trawl materials and mesh size sampling in 1975; summary of information on discards for 1974; summary of reported tag releases in the ICNAF Area in 1975; compilation of available information on the breakdown of squid catches by *Illex* and *Loligo* separately; synopsis of ICNAF Sampling Program.

#### i) **New computing facilities**

The installation of a remote job entry (RJE) terminal was completed in January 1976, providing the Secretariat with direct access to an IBM 370/155 computer, operated by Maritime Computers Limited of Halifax, and to a CDC 6400 computer, operated by Dalhousie University also of Halifax. The Secretariat facilities also include a small "Decwriter II" conversational terminal providing direct access to a sophisticated inter-active statistics package, and an IBM 129 Card Data Recorder. Besides the Secretariat's work involving programming for the compilation of sampling data and catch and effort statistics, a variety of fishery assessment routines were prepared for the use of scientists attending the April 1976 Meeting of the Assessments Subcommittee. Work is continuing on the development of a library of fisheries analysis routines.

#### j) **New Staff**

Two new staff positions were filled in 1975 to strengthen the research and statistical activities of the Secretariat. Mr S. Akenhead, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of British Columbia with experience in computing, statistics and aquatic biology, joined the staff as Bio-Statistician, and Miss G. Langille, with training in computer-processing at the Dartmouth Vocational Training School, joined the staff as Data-Processing Clerk.

Mrs P. Wadman replaced Mrs W. Wallingford as clerk-typist 2 April.

### **7. The Commission's Mid-Term Meetings**

The Seventh Special Commission Meeting (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/2) was convened at Montreal, Canada from 22 to 28 September 1975 under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). STACRES met under the chairmanship of Dr A. W. May (Canada) from 17 to 20 September to provide advice to the Commission on the state of certain stocks in Subareas 3 and 4 and the overall finfish and squid resource in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (Summ.Doc. 76/1/1). The Commission, on the advice of

Panels, agreed to total allowable catches and national allocations for 1976 in respect of 9 stocks in Subareas 3 and 4 for which decisions had been deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting and revised the quota allocations for 19 other stocks at the request of Cuba. The decision taken at the 1975 Annual Meeting to exclude squids from the 1976 overall second-tier TAC of 650,000 tons for 1976 was amended to include squids. A scheme to reduce fishing effort in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 by countries other than the coastal states by approximately 40% of the average number of fishing days in 1972-1973 was agreed with details of the scheme to be finalized at the Eighth Special Commission Meeting in January. Improvements, recommended by STACTIC, to international enforcement provided for the registration by each Flag State of all vessels over 50 gross registered tons engaged in fishing or in processing of fish in the Convention Area with the Secretariat prior to 1 January of each year. The Commission agreed to establish an area on Georges Bank in which the use of fishing gear other than pelagic would be prohibited for vessels greater than 155 feet in length. Trawl regulations were simplified to permit by-catch of protected species in fisheries conducted with small-mesh nets. In expectation of Cuba becoming a Member, the Commission accepted the invitation of the Cuban Government to hold its 26th Annual Meeting in Havana, Cuba.

A special meeting of Panel A (Seals) was convened in Bergen, Norway on 12 December 1975, under the chairmanship of Mr K. Vartdal (Norway) (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/3). Reports of meetings of Scientific Advisers to Panel A held in Ottawa, Canada from 17 to 19 November 1975 and in Bergen, Norway on 9 and 10 December 1975 were reviewed. With the Panel members, Canada and Norway, unable to form a common view regarding TACs and national allocations, the Panel agreed to postpone a decision on both harp and hooded seal conservation requirements to a special meeting of the Panel during the time of the Eighth Special Commission Meeting in January.

The Eighth Special Commission Meeting (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/6) was convened at FAO, Rome, from 21 to 26 January 1976 under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). Meetings of STACRES were held from 12 to 16 January (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/5) and of STACTIC on 19 and 20 January (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/6). STACRES provided advice to the Commission on implementation of the effort reduction scheme proposed at the Seventh Special Commission Meeting and on conservation measures for herring and mackerel in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6. STACTIC made recommendations to improve the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement by requiring Member Countries having 15 or more fishing vessels in the ICNAF Area to designate authorities to receive and respond to notices of infringements, by requiring im-

mediate action in case of infringements, by requiring full reporting on infringements and by study of the possibility of withdrawal of ICNAF registrations for vessels infringing the regulations. The Commission agreed to adjustments to be made in national allocations in cases of over-fishing of catch quotas. Recommendations were made by Panel A with regard to TACs and national allocation for harp and hooded seals in the "Front" Area and for harp seals in the "Gulf" Area.

The STACRES Ageing Workshop met in Vigo, Spain from 20 to 25 October 1975 (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/13 plus Addendum) and again in Dartmouth, Canada from 1 to 3 April 1976 (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/21) to ascertain if there were differences between ages estimated by scientists from different countries and if so, if these differences were important to the analytical assessments of fish stocks. Cod and silver hake were the species examined. Many of the problems could not be resolved although preliminary results acknowledge possible biases. Further studies were planned for the autumn of 1976.

The Assessments Subcommittee of STACRES met in Dartmouth, Canada from 31 March to 10 April 1976 under the chairmanship of Mr A. T. Pinhorn (Canada) (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/22) to review the state of the marine resources in the ICNAF Area, to recommend TAC levels for about 65 fish stocks for 1977 and to advise on the scientific aspects of proposals to be considered at the 1976 Annual Meeting in Havana, Cuba. Working groups on groundfish stocks in Subareas 1, 2, and 3 including Statistical Area 0, on groundfish stocks in Subareas 4 and 5 including Statistical Area 6, and on pelagic fish stocks (capelin, herring and mackerel) throughout the ICNAF Area were chaired by Mr Sv.Aa. Horsted (Denmark), Mr R. C. Hennemuth (USA) and Mr Ø. Ulltang (Norway). The Subcommittee, where possible, recommended TACs for 1977 with the aim of controlling the fishing mortality at a level less than  $F_{max}$ , in most cases at  $F_{0.1}$  or at TACs which will control fishing effort at a level less than that associated with  $F_{MSY}$ . In other cases, the aim is to rebuild to spawning biomass at an appropriate rate and is not necessarily associated with  $F_{0.1}$  or any other specified level of fishing mortality.

The Biological Surveys Subcommittee of STACRES also met in Dartmouth, Canada from 31 March to 10 April 1976 under the chairmanship of Dr J. Messtorff (FRG) to review survey (groundfish, hydroacoustic and larval and juvenile herring) activities in 1975 and plans for 1976/77. An *ad hoc* working group was set up to look into the question of submitting survey data to the Secretariat for computer processing. The Subcommittee agreed to meet again at the time of the 1976 Annual Meeting in Havana and complete its agenda and report.

## 8. Status of Commission Proposals (Comm.Doc. 76/VI/16)

### a) For changes in the Convention

The 1973 Protocol Relating to Basic Payment for Contracting Governments were circulated to Contracting Governments on 21 May 1975. In accordance with Article XVII, paragraph 3, as amended by the 1970 Protocol, this Protocol shall take effect for all Contracting Governments 120 days following the date on the notification by the Depositary Government of receipt of written notification of approval by three-fourths (14) of all Contracting Governments. To date (1 May 1976), only FRG, Canada, Cuba and GDR have notified this approval.

### b) For international regulation of the fisheries

**June 1969 proposal** (1) for regulation of Atlantic salmon fishing on the high seas in the Convention Area became effective for Norway on 31 December 1975, leaving only Denmark and the Federal Republic of Germany who have not yet accepted the proposal.

**November 1974 proposals** (1) for fishing gear and area restrictions in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, (3) for 1975 catch quota for yellowtail flounder in Subarea 5 east of 69° west, (4) for 1975 catch quota for herring in Div. 5Y, and (7) for haddock by-catch exemption for "Others" in Div. 4X became effective 27 July 1975 under the normal six-month waiting procedure. Proposals (2) for 1975 catch quota for yellowtail flounder in Subarea 5 west of 69° west, (6) for haddock exemption in Div. 4VW, and (8) paragraph 3 for haddock exemption in Subarea 5 became effective 27 January 1975 under June 1974 commitments. Paragraphs 1, 2, and 5 of proposal (8) dealing with catch limitations for haddock in Subarea 5 became effective on 27 July 1975 under the normal six-month waiting procedure. Proposal (5) for gear, area, and season restrictions for haddock in Div. 4X became operative on 1 February 1975 in accordance with a January 1975 resolution.

**January 1975 proposal** (1) for catch and area limitation for capelin stocks in Subareas 2 and 3, in accordance with a June 1974 commitment, became operative on 14 April 1975. However, following an objection by Iceland on 23 September 1975, this added 60 days from 14 October 1975 under the normal six-month waiting procedure and the proposal became effective for all except Iceland on 14 December 1975.

**June 1975 proposals** (1) to (11) were adopted by the Commission on 20 June, transmitted to Depositary Government 10 July and transmitted by Depositary Government to Contracting Governments 16 July. Proposals (1) re notification of fishing research vessels operating in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6, (2) re cumulative catch reporting in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6, (3) re haddock by-catch in Div. 4VW, (4) re cod and haddock by-catch, season, and area limitations in Div. 4X, (5) re herring catch quota in Div. 4VWX, (6) re herring catch quota in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6, (7) re herring catch quota in Div. 5Y, (8) re haddock by-catch, gear, season, and area limitations in Subarea 5, (9) re harp and hooded seals, fishing season in "Front" in Convention Area, and (10) re mackerel size limit and exemption in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 came into force on 16 January 1976. Proposal (11) for international quota regulation of fisheries (first and second tiers) in the Convention Area and Statistical Area 0 and 6 had paragraph (b) objected to by USA on 18 August 1975 and by Spain on 19 September 1975. These objections were withdrawn on 13 November 1975 and 17 December 1975, respectively, and paragraph (b) came into effect on 16 January 1976 under the normal six-month waiting procedure for all Contracting Governments and paragraph (a) on the same date for all stocks except capelin, due to an objection by Iceland on 13 January 1976 rendering the capelin proposal in paragraph (a) in effect for all except Iceland on 16 March 1976. Paragraph (a) for capelin became effective on 3 May 1976 when Iceland withdrew her objection.

**September 1975 proposals** (1) to (7) were adopted by the Commission on 28 September 1975, transmitted to Depositary Government on 8 October 1975, and transmitted by Depositary Government to Contracting Governments on 14 October 1975. Proposal (1) for limitation of fishing effort for groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 and (7) for international quota regulation of the fisheries in the Convention Area and Statistical Area 6 had resolutions requesting implementation on 1 January 1976. Proposals (2) for fishing gear in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, (3) for national registration of fishing vessels in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6, (4), (5), and (6) for mesh regulation exemptions in Subareas 3, 4, and 5, respectively, became effective on 14 April 1976 under the normal six-month waiting procedure.

**January 1976 proposals** (1) to (9) were adopted by the Commission on 26 January 1976, transmitted to

Depositary Government on 30 January 1976, and transmitted by Depositary Government to Contracting Governments on 26 February 1976. Proposals (1) for amendment to Scheme of Joint Enforcement, (2) for amendment to management of international quota regulations, (7) for herring catch quota in Div. 4VWX, (8) for herring size limit and exemption in Subareas 4 and 5, and (9) for mackerel size limit and exemption in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 should, under the normal six-month waiting procedure, come into effect on 26 August 1976, unless otherwise agreed. Proposal (3) for fishing effort limitation on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, in accordance with Proposal (1) and Resolution (1) from the September 1975 Meeting, became effective 14 April 1976. Proposal (4) for harp and hooded seal conservation on the "Front" and in the "Gulf" in the Convention Area was effected by resolution on 12 March 1976. Proposals (5) for half-year catch quota and commitment for remainder of year, and an exemption clause for herring in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6 and (6) for herring catch quota in Div. 5Y, in accordance with Proposals (6) and (7) from the June 1975 Annual Meeting, became effective 26 February 1976.

## 9. The Commission's Conservation Program

### a) Catch quota reporting

As required, the Secretariat received monthly catch statistics from Contracting Governments for each of the stocks (61) under catch quota regulation as determined for 1975 at the June 1974, November 1974, and January 1975 Commission Meetings (Comm.Doc. 75/6, p. 14-17). The submissions were collated and circulated in the ICNAF Circular Letter series within six weeks of each month in which the catches were made. All Contracting Governments were advised by cable (1) when, where and how much countries intended to fish from the "Others" allocations for various stocks, (2) when catch quotas for "Others" were reached and closure of the fishery required, and (3) when nationals advised their quotas had been reached and they had ceased fishing.

Similarly, the Secretariat prepared and circulated the monthly catches made by each Contracting Government in 1976 against the quotas for each stock (61) set at the June 1975, September 1975 and January 1976 Commission Meetings (Comm.Doc. 76/VI/18, p. 15-20).

### b) Effort limitation reporting

In accordance with the requirements of Proposal (3)

from the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting, the Secretariat has received, collated, and distributed to Contracting Governments monthly reports of days fished against agreed national allocations for 1976 in the groundfish stocks in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K, Div. 3LNO, Div. 3N, Div. 3P, and Div. 4VWX (Comm.Doc. 76/VI/18, p. 32-36).

## 10. The Commission's Enforcement Scheme

All Contracting Governments were ready to be inspected under the ICNAF Scheme of Joint Enforcement. Canada, Cuba, Denmark, France, FRG, Portugal, and UK are applying the Scheme in Statistical Area 6 on a voluntary basis pending domestic legislation.

Circular letters were prepared and distributed to Contracting Governments regularly updating the status of implementation and reporting changes in inspection officers and vessels. All Contracting Governments, except Cuba, Denmark, and Iceland, have designated Flag State authorities to receive immediate notice of and respond to apparent reported infringements under the Scheme.

Reports of Inspections carried out were received from Canada and USA for the year 1975. Commissioners' Document 76/VI/17 contains the reports from Contracting Governments on national and international inspections and infringements and their disposition for 1975.

Data required by the Commission from its September 1975 Meeting for national registration of vessels engaged in fishing or in the treatment of sea fish is being submitted by the Contracting Governments. In future years, reports of registration will be filed with the Secretariat and aboard each registered vessel prior to 1 January of each year.

In accordance with a proposal adopted at the June 1975 Annual Meeting, Contracting Governments are supplying data on fisheries research vessels and their planned activities in the Convention Area and Statistical Area 0 and 6. The information transmitted to the Secretariat is also carried aboard each research vessel.

The revised (June 1975) Inspection Questionnaire and form for Report of Inspection have been included in a new edition of the ICNAF Scheme's Translations Handbook.

## 11. Cooperation with Other International Organizations and with Non-Member Countries

The Secretariat has continued to maintain close working arrangements with other international organizations such as the FAO Department of Fisheries, ICES,

IOC, NEAFC, ICSEAF, and ICCAT which have related objectives. Close collaboration with FAO in fish stock assessment and fishery statistics and with ICES and NEAFC in cod stock assessments and salmon management in the North Atlantic has been fruitful.

Exchange of programs and scientific and management reports with other international organizations were initiated or continued. Invitations to participate in scientific meetings were again extended to non-member countries and other international organizations. Observers were invited to mid-term and annual meetings of ICNAF. The generous offer of meeting facilities at FAO in Rome for the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting provided an opportunity for exchange of views between the Commission and FAO officials from the Department of Fisheries. An informal meeting convened by FAO of the staffs of regional fishery bodies discussed ways of improving the efficiency of regional bodies through better coordination of efforts in Lisbon on 5 and 6 March 1976.

Repeated efforts are being made to obtain the cooperation of non-member countries which are fishing in the Convention Area in providing details of their catch and fishing activities.

## 12. Financial Matters

The Executive Secretary has been informed that the International Fisheries Commissions Pension Society (IFCPS) at its last Annual Meeting has decided to recommend an **early retirement benefit** based on the attainment of age 60 and with 20 years of service. The Society considers introduction of this benefit to be a reasonable first step in reaching full comparability with the Canadian and US Government plans. The Society hopes that approval can be gained from the Commission in time to begin implementation of the benefit in October 1976. Cost to the Commission is minimal.

The Sun Life Insurance Company has provided the IFCPS with the calculations showing the single premium required at 1 October 1976 for **upgrading the annuity credits** for the Commission employees to the 1973 earnings level. The cost at 1 October 1976 to increase credits earned to 1 October 1973 to the 1973 earnings class would be \$7,554.20.

At the 1973 Annual Meeting, consideration was given for the **need for a Termination, Severance or Retirement Benefit** for Commission employees. The matter was tabled. The Canadian Government and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) policies require the payment of one week's salary for each year of service up to a 28-week maximum. The US Government and the Halibut Commission credit unused sick leave to years of service on the retirement plan. The ICNAF Secretariat is

proposing that the Commission adopt the Canadian and FAO policy of termination benefits.

### 13. Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year Ending 30 June 1976

The accounts of the Commission for the year ending 30 June 1976 showed that Can \$324,000 was appropriated by the Commission for ordinary expenditures. The amount includes a deficit appropriation of \$14,000 from

the Working Capital Fund authorized by the 1976 Annual Meeting of the Commission.

Obligations incurred during the fiscal year totalled Can \$324,000, the amount appropriated by the Commission.

In accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Commission, an audit of the Commission's finances were completed in August 1976 by the Office of the Auditor General of Canada. The report of the Auditor General reads, in part, as follows:

## EXHIBIT I

### Statement of Budget Appropriations, Obligations Incurred and Balances of Appropriations for the year ended 30 June 1976

(Expressed in Canadian dollars)

Purposes of Appropriations	Appropriated by Commission	Obligations Incurred	Surplus or Deficit (—) Balance of Appropriations
Personnel services:			
Salaries .....	\$ 179,100	\$ 177,055	\$ 2,045
Salary contingencies .....	10,000	10,104	— 104
Employee benefits .....	8,900	8,368	532
Additional help .....	2,000	373	1,627
Travel .....	5,000	4,102	898
Transportation .....	1,000	826	174
Communication services .....	12,000	19,424	— 7,424
Publications .....	24,000	22,707	1,293
Other contractual services .....	19,000	18,187	813
Materials and supplies .....	9,000	9,713	— 713
Equipment .....	5,000	3,798	1,202
Annual and mid-term meetings .....	15,000	36,851	— 21,851
Computer services .....	12,500	12,492	8
Contingencies .....	7,500	—	7,500
	<u>310,000</u>	<u>324,000</u>	<u>— 14,000</u>
Deficit Appropriation from Working Capital Fund .....	14,000	—	14,000
	<u>\$ 324,000</u>	<u>\$ 324,000</u>	<u>—</u>

## EXHIBIT II — GENERAL FUND

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 30 June 1976

(Expressed in Canadian dollars)

	1976	1975
Income (and Source of Funds):		
Members' contributions assessed:		
Bulgaria .....	\$ 13,592	\$ 10,253
Canada .....	22,307	16,764
Denmark .....	17,950	13,509
France .....	22,307	16,764
Federal Republic of Germany .....	17,950	13,509
German Democratic Republic .....	13,592	10,253
Iceland .....	9,234	6,997
Italy .....	4,876	3,741
Japan .....	13,592	10,253
Norway .....	17,950	13,508
Poland .....	22,307	16,764
Portugal .....	17,950	13,508
Romania .....	13,592	10,253
Spain .....	22,307	16,764
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics .....	22,307	16,764
United Kingdom .....	13,592	10,253
United States of America .....	13,592	10,253
	278,997	210,110
Transferred from Miscellaneous Fund .....	31,003	29,890
Transferred from Working Capital Fund .....	14,000	4,000
	324,000	244,000
Obligations incurred (Exhibit I) .....	324,000	244,000
Amount available for transfer to Working Capital Fund .....	\$ —	\$ —

## EXHIBIT III

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 30 June 1976

(Expressed in Canadian dollars)

	Assets		Liabilities	
	1976	1975	1976	1975
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>				
Cash on hand and in bank (Appendix 1) .....	\$ —	\$ 5,859	\$ 26,136	\$ —
Accounts receivable .....	1,102	1,306	15,704	10,836
Due from Member Governments .....	49,775	10,253	9,037	6,582
	\$ 50,887	\$ 17,418	\$ 50,887	\$ 17,418
<b>WORKING CAPITAL FUND</b>				
Cash on deposit .....	\$ 2,158	\$ 7,397		
Certificates on deposit .....	20,000	20,000		
Accrued interest .....	790	825		
Accounts receivable .....	4,296	384		
	\$ 27,244	\$ 28,606	\$ 27,244	\$ 28,606
<b>MISCELLANEOUS FUND</b>				
Cash on deposit .....	\$ 54,842	\$ 31,003	\$ 54,842	\$ 31,003
	\$ 54,842	\$ 31,003	\$ 54,842	\$ 31,003

## APPENDIX 1

### Statement of Changes in Financial Position for the year ended 30 June 1976

Cash on hand and in bank, 30 June 1975 .....		\$ 5,859
Add: Member Government contributions:		
Assessments 1975/76 .....	278,997	
Transfers:		
Funds from Miscellaneous Fund for 1975/76 appropriations .....	31,003	
Working Capital Fund .....	14,000	
Increase in credit due to Member Governments .....	2,455	
Decrease in accounts receivable .....	204	
	326,659	
		332,518
Deduct: Obligations liquidated:		
Unliquidated 30 June 1975 .....	10,836	
Obligations incurred .....	324,000	
	334,836	
Unliquidated 30 June 1976 .....	15,704	
	319,132	
Increase in amounts due from Member Governments .....	39,522	
		358,654
Net overdraft 30 June 1976 .....		\$ 26,136

## APPENDIX 2

### WORKING CAPITAL FUND

Balance, 30 June 1975 .....		\$ 28,606
Add: Bank interest .....	\$ 4,160	
Interest on certificates of deposit .....	1,845	
Sales of publications .....	5,633	
New Member Government — Cuba .....	1,000	
		12,638
		41,244
Deduct: Deficit appropriation to General Fund .....		14,000
Balance, 30 June 1976 .....		\$ 27,244

### MISCELLANEOUS FUND

Balance, 30 June 1975 .....		\$ 31,003
Appropriated for 1975/76 obligations .....		31,003
Add: <i>Ex gratia</i> grant — 1974 provincial income taxes .....	8,879	
Staff assessments 1975/76 .....	28,013	
New Member Government — Cuba .....	17,950	
Balance, 30 June 1976 .....		\$ 54,842



# PART 2

## Report of the Seventh Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Montreal, Canada, 22-28 September 1975

By the Chairman, Mr E. Gillet

### 1. Introduction

The Commission, at its 25th Annual Meeting, agreed to convene a Seventh Special Meeting in September 1975 to consider (a) fishing effort reduction on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, (b) vessel, gear, and area restrictions in Subarea 5, (c) catch limitation for all finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, cod in Subareas 3 and 4, haddock in Subarea 4, redfish in Subareas 3 and 4, and American plaice in Subarea 3, (d) fishing vessel registration, (e) exemption clauses in trawl regulations in Subareas 3, 4, and 5, and (f) minimum catch needs for Cuba in 1976.

### 2. Time and Place of Meeting

The Seventh Special Meeting was convened at the invitation of the Canadian Government, at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, Canada, from 22 to 28 September 1975 inclusive, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). The First Plenary Session assigned Commission agenda items and heard the report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES). Meetings of Panels 3, 4, and 5, and Joint Meetings of Panels 2, 3, 4, and 5 considered the conservation items. A meeting of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) convened on 24 September 1975 to consider the item on fishing vessel licensing. The Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) met during 17-20 September 1975, under the chairmanship of Dr A. W. May (Canada), to determine advice to the Commission on possible alternative objectives for fisheries management, the status of certain stocks cod and redfish in Subareas 3 and 4, potential yield of the groundfish resources in subareas 2, 3, and 4, and the components of the second-tier overall total allowable catch (TAC) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. The Final Plenary Session received all reports for consideration and approval.

### 3. Participants (Appendix I)

Commissioners and Advisers were present from all Member Countries, except Bulgaria. Observers were present from the Government of Cuba, the Food and

Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

### 4. Opening Session (Agenda Item 1)

The Chairman, Mr E. Gillett (UK), introduced the Honourable Roméo Leblanc, Minister of State for Fisheries, who addressed the session, on behalf of Canada, as follows:

"Ladies and Gentlemen:

"On behalf of the Government of Canada, I would like to welcome you to this Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries. I hope you enjoy your stay in Montreal and that your deliberations will be productive.

"I need not tell you the importance which the Government of Canada places on the outcome of this Meeting. Our concern has been expressed to direct talks with representatives of some Governments and in diplomatic communications to all Members of ICNAF. We — Canada, and all other ICNAF nations, singly and collectively — have reached a crossroad. Which fork of the road we take in the future depends, in large measure, on what happens here in Montreal over the next seven days (and, according to our delegation, the nights as well).

"The stocks are in a tragic state of decline. Canada, through proposals first submitted last June in Edinburgh and being reconsidered here this week, is asking for your cooperation to halt this decline and begin the vital rebuilding process. It will not be long before Canada, in line with the consensus developing within the Law of the Sea Conference, will extend its fisheries jurisdiction, bringing about a fundamental change in the management regime in waters off the Canadian coast. These facts are the background for the choice of our future path.

"We in Canada see two alternatives. First, ICNAF Member Countries can cooperate with Canada now, to

reach agreements which will effectively halt stock declines and begin to meet coastal state needs. Such cooperation by others now can provide the basis for Canada's cooperation in the future, when, with improved conservation, Canada would be prepared to facilitate rather than impede the operations of foreign fleets fishing for stocks surplus to Canadian fishermen's needs. This future has a place for an international organization, along ICNAF lines, to work with Canada in the implementation of the new management system based on Canadian regulation and control.

"The second alternative is less attractive. Failure of this Meeting to develop adequate conservation measures for the 1976 season will further aggravate the crisis of the fisheries. It will force Canada to search for solutions outside ICNAF and will heighten the Canadian peoples deep sense of frustration concerning present international management approaches off the Canadian coast. Such an atmosphere would make it difficult for the Government to be forthcoming with regard to the facilitation of foreign fleet activities when Canada extends its fisheries jurisdiction. Liberalization of port use and other forms of cooperation would be hard to justify to a people who would have seen no cooperation on the part of others now. Nor would the Canadian people then see much reason to perpetuate anything like the present ICNAF consultative system, a system which, in their eyes, had failed them in the time of need. I wish each one of you could have accompanied me on visits I have made to Canada's Atlantic provinces this summer. You could have sensed for yourselves the depth of feeling of all our Atlantic population — not only the fishermen — concerning the state of the stocks and the consequent effects on our coastal communities. If you had come with me, you would realize that what I am saying here is a genuine reflection of the feelings of the Canadian people, on the Atlantic coast and indeed throughout Canada.

"The first path is obviously the one which would provide the firmest base for the future — a future I am convinced can be bright for all of us. In the future regime, fishermen of other nations will have access to the Canadian zone to take fish surplus to Canadian needs. It is the size of that surplus that will be determined by the actions you take here over the next week. Sound conservation now will assure maximum surpluses later; poor conservation now will leave little for others after coastal state needs are met.

"I urge you in all sincerity to follow this path and to take the first steps along it by supporting the proposals Canada is making to you. Delay in taking these steps will serve no country's interests. Ultimately, the necessary conservation and management measures

will be implemented in any event. Now is the best time to adopt such measures and ensure their early effectiveness; here is the best opportunity to do so and ensure consideration for all interests. I know that you are facing difficult decisions, but in meeting the challenge of the present that we can all find the best promise for the future.

"I would like nothing better than to be able to report to the Canadian people that Canada has received the cooperation it requested, and that we have embarked in concert with you on a new era of improved management that will alleviate the plight of our hard-pressed coastal communities, while at the same time assuring fishermen of your countries that they too have a future here on our side of the Atlantic. I would like to be able to say that we have begun at this Meeting new forms of cooperation we all want for the years to come.

"In conclusion, let me welcome you again in Montreal, to the Province of Quebec, and to Canada. I hope to be able to welcome you and your organization to this country on other occasions in future. That, in summary, is really the message I wish to leave with you today."

Following the unanimous approval of the delegates, Mr Carlyle E. Maw, Under Secretary of State for Security Assistance, Special Representative of the President and Chief of the US Delegation to the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, addressed the Meeting as follows:

"Mr Chairman, Minister Leblanc, Distinguished Commissioners and Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"It is a great pleasure for me to be in Montreal again, enjoying as always the very warm Canadian hospitality. I had the privilege of being here just a few weeks ago when Secretary Kissinger spoke at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association. And, now the great city of Montreal is host to this seventeen-nation assembly of one of the largest and oldest international fisheries commissions.

"I am here today, and have asked for this opportunity to speak briefly with you, because of the very great importance of the outcome of this Special Meeting to the people of North America and to the future of the fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean.

"I am especially privileged to bring to you this morning the greetings of the President of the United States of America.

"President Ford has asked me to convey a special message to the Commission as a measure of his great concern for world fisheries and especially for the

fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic. It reads as follows:

““This Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries takes up the most difficult problem in the Commission’s twenty-five year history. I send my warmest greetings and good wishes to the participants.

““It is imperative that the Commission succeed in establishing adequate conservation measures and enforcement procedures to rebuild the important fishery stocks of the Northwest Atlantic. If agreement cannot be reached on reasonable conservation and enforcement measures, the ability of the Commission to fulfill its stated purposes will be called into question. For our part, I pledge the full support of the United States to sound fisheries management and conservation practices, based on scientific evidence and implemented within the framework of internationally-negotiated agreements.

““I am strongly opposed to unilateral claims by nations to jurisdiction on the high seas. However, pressures for unilateral measures do exist, and will continue to mount, if international arrangements do not prove to be effective.

““It is my earnest hope that the Commission will vindicate the trust we place in it and fully justify our mutual efforts to find cooperative approaches to fisheries conservation and management for the benefit of all mankind. In this spirit, I send you best wishes for a productive and rewarding session.””

“Mr Chairman, in the quarter century since the establishment of this Commission, the United States has indeed placed its trust in the ability of the Commission’s Member States to sit down together and mutually resolve the complex and difficult fisheries issues of the Convention Area. Over the years, this Commission has set the standard for others to follow in achieving international solutions to high seas fishery problems.

“But it is clear beyond doubt that the deliberations you begin here today, and the decisions you must reach in the coming week, are the most critical in the Commission’s history.

“Your decisions in this extraordinary meeting will not only heavily influence the proceedings of other international fishery bodies, but your decisions here this week will likely determine whether or not international fishery commissions can remain viable decision-making bodies in the regulation of coastal fisheries around the world.

“If ICNAF cannot do it, with its experience and its demonstrated ability to work together for the mutually satisfactory solution of common problems, then it is unlikely that any Commission can.

“In Washington, this past Friday, I testified before a committee of the US Congress on proposed legislation which could unilaterally extend the fisheries zone of the United States to 200 miles from our shores.

“I conveyed the strong opposition of the Executive Branch to that legislation. As you have noted in President Ford’s message, he strongly opposes unilateral action and supports negotiated solutions.

“On Wednesday of this week, I shall again be testifying before another US Congressional Committee in opposition to the 200-mile fisheries legislation.

“We have in recent months conducted a complete re-evaluation of our policy on fisheries in view of our disappointment at the slowness with which the Law of the Sea Conference has been proceeding.

“As Secretary Kissinger stated last month here in Montreal before the American Bar Association, we plan to begin immediately to negotiate interim agreements as a transition to a 200-mile fisheries zone off the coasts of the United States. We intend to do this through bilateral agreements, and wherever possible, within the existing framework of international commissions.

“We intend, during these negotiations, to establish the philosophical underpinnings of our plan and to accomplish through phased negotiations, rather than by unilateral action, the objectives of a 200-mile fisheries zone, which is the emerging consensus in the Law of the Sea Conference.

“Our plan is to negotiate agreements which will accomplish the following objectives within 200 miles of our coasts:

- establishment of an effective conservation regime based on the best available scientific evidence;
- creation of preferential harvesting rights for US fishermen to the full limits of our harvesting capacity, with the surplus allocated among foreign fishermen;
- implementation of a standardized system for collection of fisheries data with information contributed by both foreign and domestic fishermen;
- introduction of more effective enforcement procedures; and

- implementation of satisfactory arrangements to resolve gear conflicts and ensure adequate foreign compensation to US fishermen in case of negligence by foreign fishermen.

"I should add here that we support these same objectives for coastal fisheries within 200 miles of the coasts of other nations. And, we would hope that these principles will before long be embodied in a comprehensive treaty on the Law of the Sea.

"Mr Chairman, Commissioners, this Special Meeting is the first new test of our strong faith in negotiated solutions. I appreciate fully the magnitude and difficulty of your tasks, and I am confident that you will be able to take the very tough decisions, based on scientific evidence, which you must make. I have every expectation that, by the end of this week, we will be able to conclude that the fisheries stocks will be conserved, that the livelihood of our coastal fishermen will be protected, and that enforcement procedures, including onboard observers, will be strengthened.

"Mr Chairman, I want to thank you very much for the opportunity to appear here today. Also, I wish to express our hope and expectation that we will be able to report back to President Ford that this Special Meeting has been successful. Thank you very much."

The Chairman thanked Under Secretary Maw for his frank statement and that of President Gerald Ford of the USA.

## 5. Agenda (Appendix II)

In accordance with Commission Rules of Procedure 4.2 (b), the provisional Agenda for the Special Commission Meeting was transmitted to all Contracting Governments and Commissioners, not less than 60 days in advance of the meeting. The Agenda was adopted without change at the First Plenary Session.

## 6. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) (Agenda Item 4)

The Report of STACRES, with its Subcommittee Report as an appendix, is published as Part A of the ICNAF Redbook 1976. The Report was adopted by the Commission in Plenary Session on 28 September 1976. STACRES and its Assessments Subcommittee dealt with the important items summarized below:

### a) Alternative management objectives

STACRES reported that, to the present, its scientific advice to the Commission regarding management measures has been directed to achieving a fishing mortality rate (F) on individual or groups of stocks which would provide 'maximum sustained catch' (MSY). Two measures of F ( $F_{max}$  and  $F_{MSY}$ ) have been identified as reference points on which to base regulations for achieving this objective.  $F_{max}$  refers to the fishing mortality rate at which the average catch per recruit is a maximum and is, therefore, independent of changes in recruitment.  $F_{MSY}$  refers to the fishing mortality rate at which the average long-term catch from the fish stock as a whole is highest and, therefore, includes recruitment. Because of the absence of detailed knowledge of the relationship between stock and recruitment for particular exploited stocks, STACRES, in presenting previous scientific advice on management actions, assumed that  $F_{max}$  and  $F_{MSY}$  correspond.

STACRES recognized potential limitations in the use of the  $F_{max}$  reference point. They were greatest with respect to fish stocks for which the relationship between catch per recruit and fishing mortality had no clearly defined maximum or, at present, it occurred at a relatively high value of fishing mortality rate. In these situations, the setting of TACs for catch quota regulation at the  $F_{max}$  level may lead to severe reduction in the stock size, reduction in the number of age-groups in the exploited stock, large short-term changes in catch (and hence in the magnitude of the short-term changes which must be made in the TACs), and possible recruitment failures due to the generation of too low spawning stock sizes.

STACRES considered that, in view of the possible large adverse consequences of setting the fishing mortality rate too high in cases where there is doubt about its adequacy, a more restrictive management system than that based on the  $F_{max}$  level of fishing mortality rate would be justified. In addition to appropriate measures for controlling the size (age) of recruitment to the fishery (e.g. through mesh regulation), the management system might comprise either, or a combination of, the following elements: (i) fixing the fishing mortality rate at a level somewhat lower than  $F_{max}$ , i.e., the  $F_{0.1}$  level, defined as the level at which the change in yield per recruit with respect to change in mortality rate is one-tenth that of the fishery beginning on the virgin stock, a level which is close to the economic optimum and has already been used as a basis for advice to the Commission on the TACs for some stocks having relatively high values of  $F_{max}$ , and (ii) setting a target spawning stock size which would serve to minimize the risks of stock depletion and recruitment failure.

STACRES reported that the risks inherent in a management system based on the exploitation of individual fish stocks at their  $F_{max}$  ( $F_{MSY}$ ) levels were particularly great in multi-species fisheries, and a management regime which maintains an adequate spawning biomass of the desired species was particularly important. The second-tier quota system adopted for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 was designed to provide such a safeguard.

#### b) Status of stocks

The Assessments Subcommittee provided advice on total allowable catches (TACs) for 1976 for stocks of cod in Div. 3NO, Subdiv. 3Ps, Subdiv. 4Vs and Div. 4W, Div. 4T and Subdiv. 4Vn, and of redfish in Div. 3P, and in Div. 4VWX, as requested by the Commission at its June 1975 Annual Meeting. The advice took the form of 1976 catches for various levels of fishing mortality (F), long-term changes in catch and catch rate (stock size) relative to the long-term catch and catch rate for fishing at  $F_{max}$ , and the approximate period of time before the stocks, if fished at the specified levels of F, would essentially reach equilibrium levels associated with those levels of F.

#### c) Groundfish fishing levels in Subareas 2 to 4

The Assessments Subcommittee continued discussions begun in April 1975 on the effects of specific effort reduction on the catch and stock size of various groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 (Redbook 1975, p. 56-62). Analyses carried out in April 1975 were still pertinent (Annu. Rep. Vol. 25, 1974/75, p. 66) and no further advice could usefully be given at this time.

#### d) Including squid in the second-tier overall TAC for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6

The Assessments Subcommittee noted that the Commission was reconsidering the second-tier TAC of 650,000 metric tons for 1976, excluding squids, agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting. The Assessments Subcommittee reported that its original advice to the Commission had included squids in the TAC as it was an integral part of the total community and significant fisheries interactions may exist, and that there was no reason to revise its original advice to the Commission.

## 7. Report of Panels

The Commission, at its First Plenary Session, reviewed the Plenary Agenda and assigned the items

dealing with conservation of the various stocks of species or species groups to the appropriate Panel or Panels.

The Reports of Meetings of Panels 3, 4, and 5 and Joint Meetings of Panels 2, 3, and 4; 3, 4, and 5; 2 and 3; 4 and 5; and 3 and 4 were adopted by the Commission in Final Plenary Session on 28 September 1975.

- a) **Panels 2, 3, and 4.** The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), considered a revision of the Canadian proposal for reduction of fishing effort on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting and examined a request from the Government of Cuba for 1976 catch quota requirements in anticipation of Cuba's becoming a Member of the Commission late in 1975.

The Panels deliberated at length on the details of several revisions to the Canadian proposal which requested each Contracting Government, except the coastal states, to reduce their number of days fishing in 1976 in the five areas, Subarea 2 and Div. 3K, Div. 3LNO, Div. 3M, Div. 3P, and Div. 4VWX, for all finfish except herring, mackerel, capelin, and all other pelagics, billfishes and sharks by 40% based on the number of fishing days reported in 1973, or 45% based on the average number reported in 1972-73, or 50% based on the number reported in 1972 for each of the tonnage, gear, and area categories. Following agreement by Panel Members to send, within 45 days, information on the reference year they wished to use, any corrections to their statistics and where they wished to use their effort in 1976 for review at the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting and for confirmation of national allocation of fishing effort to be effective for 1976, the Panels, in joint session, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (1) for international regulation of fishing effort for groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area in 1976 (Appendix III).

The Panels noted the reservation by Portugal regarding the inclusion of Div. 3M as one of the areas for limiting effort.

The Panels, recognizing the need for early implementation in 1976 of the fishing effort reduction proposal and any modifications to it which would be agreed at the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting, **recommended** that the Commission

adopt the following **Resolution Relating to the Implementation of the Proposal for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area**

**The Commission**

**Recognizing** that proposals designed to achieve the conservation and optimum utilization of groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area throughout 1976 through the limitation of fishing effort for groundfish have been adopted at the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting and subject to review at the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting;

**Taking into Account** that under Article VIII of the Convention, as amended, this proposal would not enter into force until six months after the date on the notification from the Depositary Government transmitting the proposals to the Contracting Governments, which could not occur before April 1976 at the earliest;

**Having Considered** that the purpose of the Convention is to promote the conservation and optimum utilization of fish stocks on the basis of scientific investigation, and economic and technical considerations, and that this purpose cannot be completely achieved unless the proposal referred to above is applied throughout 1976;

**Recognizing** that, in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of the Convention, fishing activity in the area must be conducted in accordance with this proposal throughout 1976;

- 1) **Invites** the attention of Governments to the above matters;
- 2) **Stipulates** that the proposal referred to above should apply throughout 1976;
- 3) **Requests** Governments whose vessels conduct fishing operations in the areas to implement the proposal, subject to any modification that may be unanimously agreed by the Delegations present and voting at the January 1976 Special Meeting of the Commission, beginning on 1 January 1976;
- 4) **Expects** that all Members of the Commission will conduct their fishing operations in accordance with the proposal beginning on 1 January 1976 unless any of the Members of Panels 2, 3, and 4 notifies at

objection to the Depositary Government prior to that date.

The Panels initiated discussion on the Cuban proposal for allocations in 29 stocks of species or groups of species in Subareas 2, 3, 4, 5, and Statistical Area 6 in 1976 and **agreed** to refer these allocations in the various stocks to the appropriate Panel or Panels.

- b) **Panel 5.** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr Wm.L. Sullivan Jr (USA), gave detailed attention to a US proposal, revised since presentation to the 1975 Annual Meeting, for vessel, gear, and area restrictions on Georges Bank in Subarea 5. This proposal would extend the closure in effect off New England and the Middle Atlantic States which was established to control bottom fishing, out over Georges Bank to remove bottom-fishing pressure from the important haddock and yellowtail flounder stocks.

The Panel also gave careful attention to a US proposal to reconsider the overall TAC for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 of 650,000 metric tons of all finfish excluding squid agreed to at the 1975 Annual Meeting with the USA objecting because it was too high to meet US conservation goals. The Panel **noted** that the USA had strongly supported a quota of 550,000 metric tons including squid, a level which STACRES determined would still require at least 5 years for recovery to MSY with only a 90% probability that recovery would begin in 1976.

Following lengthy and difficult discussions and numerous modifications in an attempt to take into account the need for adequate protection for the stocks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 and the need to accommodate directed fisheries for quota-regulated stocks, the Panel **agreed** to an overall TAC of 650,000 metric tons of all finfish, including squid, as an amendment to the TAC of 650,000 metric tons, excluding squid, adopted at the 1975 Annual Meeting.

The Panel, with Spain objecting, **agreed** to a smaller area than that originally proposed for the vessel and gear restrictions on Georges Bank and **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (2) for international regulation of fishing gear employed in the fisheries in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 (Appendix III).

The Panel **noted** and discussed revision of the 1975 Annual Meeting allocations of the quotas for "Others" to take into account the Cuban request for quotas in the cod, mackerel, silver hake, red hake, other finfish, squid (*Loligo*) and all finfish and squid stocks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 for 1976. After some revision of the original Cuban proposal, the Panel **agreed** that the "Others" allocations as determined at the 1975 Annual Meeting for 1976 for certain stocks of finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 should be amended.

The Panel, having negotiated revised TACs and allocations for nine stocks of species or groups of species, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, a proposal for international quota regulation of the fisheries for cod in Div. 5Z, mackerel in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, silver hake in Subdiv. 5Ze and in Subdiv. 5Zw and Statistical Area 6, red hake in Subdiv. 5Ze and in Subdiv. 5Zw and Statistical Area 6, other finfish in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, squid (*Loligo*) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, and for all finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 in 1976 (see proposal (7) of Appendix III).

The Panel **noted** that Italy intended to take 1,800 metric tons of mackerel in the "Others" category in 1976.

- c) **Panels 3, 4, and 5.** The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), considered the revision of a proposal to the 1975 Annual Meeting for simplification of the exemption clauses in the trawl regulations for each of Subareas 3, 4, and 5, and Panels 3, 4, and 5, in joint session, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (4) for mesh regulation of the trawl fishery in Subarea 3, proposal (5) for mesh regulation of the trawl fishery in Subarea 4, and proposal (6) for mesh regulation of the trawl fishery in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (see proposals (4), (5), and (6) of Appendix III).

- d) **Panel 3.** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr R. H. Letaconnoux (France), considered 1976 catch limitation requirements for four stocks of cod, redfish, and American plaice referred from the 1975 Annual Meeting and amendments to TACs and

allocations set at the 1975 Annual Meeting for six stocks of cod, redfish, yellowtail and witch flounders from which Cuba was requesting specific allocations for 1976 from the "Others" category, and **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, a proposal for international quota regulation of the fisheries for cod in Div. 3M, Div. 3N0, Subdiv. 3Ps, for redfish in Div. 3M, Div. 3LN, Div. 30, and Div. 3P and for American plaice in Div. 3LNO in 1976 (see proposal (7) in Appendix (III)).

- e) **Panel 4.** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr K. Løkkegaard (Denmark), considered TACs and national allocations for five stocks of haddock, cod, and redfish for 1976. In addition, consideration was given to amending the 1976 TACs and allocations agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting for four stocks of silver hake, flounders (except yellowtail), argentine, and herring in order to accommodate the request of Cuba for allocations from the "Others" category. Having **noted** the advice of STACRES that lowering the TACs below the level corresponding to  $F_{max}$  would result in quicker recovery of the stocks to their long-term equilibrium levels, the Panel **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposals for international quota regulation of the fisheries for cod in Div. 4T (January-December) and Subdiv. 4Vn (January-April), in Subdiv. 4Vs and Div. 4W, and in Div. 4X (offshore<sup>1</sup>), for haddock (by-catch) in Div. 4X, for redfish in Div. 4VWX, for flounders in Div. 4VWX, for silver hake in Div. 4VWX, and for argentine in Div. 4VWX (see proposal (7) in Appendix III).

The Panel **agreed** that the TAC and allocations for herring in Div. 4XWb should be set at a Special Commission Meeting in January 1976.

- f) **Panels 2 and 3.** The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr R. H. Letaconnoux (France), **agreed** to the transfer of 3,000 tons of redfish from the 1976 Canadian allocation set at the 1975 Annual Meeting for Subarea 2 and Div. 3K to the USSR and to the request of Cuba for an allocation of 1,500 tons from the "Others" category for 1976.

Later the Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), after considerable discussion of the

<sup>1</sup>That part of Div. 4X south and east of lines joining the coordinates: 44°20'N, 63°20'W; 43°00'W, 65°40'W; 43°00'N, 67°40'W.

general issue of quota transfers, **agreed** to the transfer of 4,000 tons of cod allocated to Canada set at the 1975 Annual Meeting in Div. 2J and Div. 3KL from Canada to the USSR, 1,000 tons to Spain and 1,000 tons to the allocation for "Others" to compensate for earlier sacrifices made on Canada's behalf by the countries concerned. The Panels also **agreed** to the request of Cuba for an allocation of 5,000 tons from the "Others" category for 1976.

The Panels, in joint session, therefore **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposals for international quota regulation of the fisheries for redfish in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K, and for cod in Div. 2J and Div. 3KL in 1976 (see proposal (7) of Appendix III).

- g) **Panels 4 and 5.** The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), **agreed** to reallocation of the 1976 quota agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting for "Others" in the pollock stock in Div. 4VWX and Subarea 5 to meet a Cuban request for an allocation of 1,200 tons for 1976 and, in joint session, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, a proposal for international quota regulation of the fishery for pollock in Div. 4VWX of Subarea 4 and in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area in 1976 (see proposal (7) of Appendix III). The Panels, in joint session, also **recommended** that STACRES be requested to provide separate assessments for the pollock stocks in Subareas 4 and 5 for the 1976 Annual Meeting.

- h) **Panels 3 and 4.** The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), **agreed** to reallocation of the 1976 quota agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting for "Others" in the mackerel stock in Subareas 3 and 4 to meet a Cuban request for an allocation of 2,000 tons for 1976 and, in joint session, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, a proposal for international quota regulation of the fishery for mackerel in Subareas 3 and 4 of the Convention Area in 1976 (see proposal (7) of Appendix III).

## 8. Report of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)

The Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) met, under the chairmanship of Mr W. G. Gordon (USA), on 24 September to consider further modifications to a US proposal discussed at the Special Meeting of STACTIC, Leningrad, USSR, March 1975 (Annu. Rep. Vol. 25, 1974/75, p. 52-53), and at the 1975 Annual Meeting (Annu. Rep. Vol. 25, 1974/75, p. 67) for a national system of registration of fishing and support vessels operating in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6, as a means of improving compliance with the Commission's complex system of quota regulations. STACTIC, having discussed substantive and editorial changes, **recommended** that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (3) for national registration of vessels engaged in fishing or in the treatment of sea fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 (Appendix III).

## 9. International Effort Regulation

The Commission considered a proposal requiring the reporting of monthly effort statistics beginning 1 January 1976 to the Secretariat for collation and circulation to Member Governments. The Commission, **noting** that such reporting would develop mutual confidence in the ICNAF effort regulation scheme in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 and would facilitate the planning of enforcement activities, **adopted** the following **Resolution Relating to the Provision of Monthly Effort Statistics:**

### The Commission

**Noting** Article VI, paragraphs 1 and 3 of the 1949 International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries:

**Recognizing** the need to develop mutual confidence in the ICNAF effort regulation scheme and to facilitate the planning of enforcement activities by Member Governments;

### Resolves

- 1) That Member Governments shall from 1 January 1976 report to the Secretariat provisional monthly listings of days fished by vessel tonnage and gear category and ICNAF Division of Subdivision, whether or not the Governments concerned have effort allocations for the tonnage and gear category in that area;

- 2) That the aforementioned effort statistics shall be reported to the Secretariat within 30 days following the calendar month in which the effort was expended; and
- 3) That the Secretariat shall, within 10 days following the monthly deadlines for receipt of the provisional effort statistics, collate the information received and circulate it to Member Governments.

### 10. International Quota Regulation

The Commission **noted** that catch allocations for various species or groups of species for 1976 had been recommended by Panels 2, 3, 4, and 5 and **adopted** the following **Resolution Relating to the Commission's Decisions Regarding 1976 Catch Allocations to the Republic of Cuba**:

#### The Commission

**Having Been Informed** of the desire of the Republic of Cuba to become a Member of the Commission as soon as possible;

**Desiring** to clarify any matters which would expedite such membership;

**Recalling** that the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission had received a request from the Republic of Cuba for specified catch allocations from certain stocks in Subareas 2, 3, 4, and 5 and Statistical Area 6 for 1976;

**Recognizing** that the Republic of Cuba would be without a specific quota applicable to it in 1976 with respect of allocations for 1976 made during the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting in June 1975, which allocations are pending entry into force;

**Agrees** that, if the Republic of Cuba becomes a Member of the Commission before the end of 1975, she will not be bound by the quota regulations for 1975;

**Affirms** that allocations for the Republic of Cuba and "Others" in the proposals of the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting should be considered to read as in the attached Table;

**Requests** all Member Governments to so consider the above-mentioned allocations for 1976;

**Requests Further** that the Depositary Government circulate this Resolution to all Member Governments.

Integral part of Resolution (3) Relating to the Commission's Decisions Regarding 1976 Catch Allocations to the Republic of Cuba, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 28 September 1975.

Species or species group	Stock area	1976 Allocations (metric tons)	
		Cuba	Others
Cod	2J+3KL	5,000	2,000
	3M	1,900	100
	3NO	2,000	1,300
	4VsW	600	200
	5Z	400	665
Redfish	2+3K	1,500	3,250
	3M	2,200	200
	3LN	2,700	200
	3O	1,000	200
Silver hake	4VWX	15,000	500
	5ZE	4,250	250
	5Zw+6	3,750	250
Red hake	5Ze	1,400	4,600
	5Zw+6	900	100
Pollock	4VWX+5	1,200	400
Flounders <sup>a</sup>	4VWX	1,300	200
Argentine	4VWX	2,500	500
Mackerel	3+4	2,000	500
	5+6	7,000	2,000
Other finfish <sup>b</sup>	5+6	3,000	12,000
Squid ( <i>Loligo</i> )	5+6	1,000	2,000
All finfish <sup>c</sup> and squids	5+6	21,000	1,600

<sup>a</sup>American plaice, witch, and yellowtail combined.

<sup>b</sup>Excluding all TAC species and also menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

<sup>c</sup>Excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

The Commission **noted** that the Government of Cuba was prepared to abide by the Commission regulations for the remainder of 1975 as a period of learning about the Commission's requirements.

The Commission **noted** that the Panel and Joint Panel reports showing TACs and allocations recommended for 1976 in respect of nine fish stocks deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting, revised 1976 allocations for 19 fish stocks agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting, and the revised TACs and allocations for 1976 of the whole group of stocks or species collectively in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, and further **noted** that these TACs and allocations combined in a single table comprised a proposal for international quota regulation of the fisheries in the Convention Area and Statistical Area 6. The

Commission therefore **agreed**

to transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (7) for international quota regulation of the fisheries in the Convention Area and Statistical Area 6 in 1976 (Appendix III).

The Commission, **noting** that proposal (7) could not enter into force, under the Commission procedures, before April 1976, **adopted** the following **Resolution Relating to the Implementation of the Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in the Convention Area and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6 in 1976:**

#### **The Commission**

**Recognizing** that a proposal designed to achieve the conservation and optimum utilization of stocks of fish in the Convention Area and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 through catch quota regulation has been adopted at the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting;

**Taking into Account** that under Article VIII of the Convention, as amended, this proposal would not enter into force until 6 months after the date on the notification from the Depositary Government transmitting the proposals to the Contracting Governments, which could not occur before April 1976 at the earliest;

**Having Considered** that the purpose of the Convention is to promote the conservation and optimum utilization of fish stocks on the basis of scientific investigation, and economic and technical considerations, and that this purpose cannot be completely achieved unless the proposal referred to above is applied throughout 1976;

**Recognizing** that, in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of the Convention, fishing activity in the area must be conducted in accordance with this proposal throughout 1976;

- 1) **Invites** the attention of Governments to the above matters;
- 2) **Stipulates** that the proposal referred to above should apply throughout 1976;
- 3) **Requests** Governments whose vessels conduct fishing operations in the area to implement the proposal beginning on 1 January 1976;

- 4) **Expects** that all Members of the Commission will conduct their fishing operations in accordance with the proposal beginning on 1 January 1976 unless any of the Members of the Panels to which the proposal refers notifies an objection to the Depositary Government prior to that date.

## **11. Other Business**

The Commission **noted** the US intention to place **amendments to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement** on the agenda for the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting. These items would provide authority to temporarily detain vessels in violation, to temporarily withdraw a vessel's registration to fish upon violation, and to penalize Member Countries when a national or "Others" quota had been exceeded. The Commission **agreed** that these items would be considered in a meeting of STATIC to be held in conjunction with the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting.

**Observers from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)** thanked the Commission for its continued cooperation and for the opportunity to attend the meeting which had great importance elsewhere.

The **Observer from Cuba** thanked the delegates and participants for their warm welcome and consideration of the Cuban request for catch quotas in 1976. The Commission **noted** that the Government of Cuba would take immediate steps to become a Member of the Commission and was pleased to accept the kind invitation of the Government of Cuba to hold its 1976 Annual Meeting from 8 to 23 June 1976 in Cuba.

The Commission was pleased to **note** that the Government of USA and Spain would be giving full consideration to withdrawal of objection to proposal (11) for the conservation of finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 adopted at the 1975 Annual Meeting.

## **12. Adjournment**

The Chairman of the Commission thanked the Commissioners, their advisers and the Secretariat for their contributions to a most successful and historic meeting.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the Seventh Special Commission Meeting adjourned at 1715 hrs, 28 September 1976.

# PART 2

## Appendix I

### List of Participants

(Head of Delegation in **bold**)

**Chairman:** Mr E. Gillett, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, St. Andrews House, Edinburgh 1, Scotland.

#### CANADA

**Commissioners:**

Mr A.A. Etchegary, Fishery Products Ltd., P.O. Box 550, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5L1.  
 Mr K. Henriksen, H. B. Nickerson & Sons Ltd., P.O. Box 130, North Sydney, Nova Scotia B2A 3M2.  
**Dr A. W. H. Needler**, Huntsman Marine Laboratory, St. Andrews, New Brunswick E0G 2X0.

**Advisers:**

Mr S. W. Bartlett, Conservation and Protection Newfoundland Branch, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, P.O. Box 5667, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5X1.  
 Mr J. S. Beckett, International Fisheries Policy, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, 580 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3.  
 Mr J. Bergeron, Quebec Marine Fisheries Directorate, Biological Service — MIC, 2700 Einstein Street, Quebec, P.Q. G1P 3W8.  
 Mr D. R. Bollivar, International Activities Branch, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, P.O. Box 550, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2S7.  
 Mr L. Chenard, Department of Fisheries, Province of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick.  
 Mr L. J. Cowley, Fisheries Management Newfoundland Branch, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, P.O. Box 5667, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5X1.  
 Capt E. H. Demone, National Sea Products, P.O. Box 867, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia B0J 2C0.  
 Dr W. G. Doubleday, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, Biological Station, St. Andrews, New Brunswick E0G 2X0.  
 Dr R. G. Halliday, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, Biological Station, St. Andrews, New Brunswick, E0G 2X0.  
 Cdr R. Hitesman, Maritime Command Headquarters, FMO Halifax, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Attention SSO Sea Ops.  
 Mr L. D. Johnston, Department of Fisheries, Province of Prince Edward Island, P.O. Box 2000, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.  
 Mr A. LaChance, Quebec Marine Fisheries Directorate, Department of Industry and Commerce, 2700 Einstein Street, Quebec, P.Q. G1P 3W8.  
 Mr L. H. LeGault, International Fisheries Directorate, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, 580 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3.  
 Mr P. F. Lett, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, Biological Station, St. Andrews, New Brunswick E0G 2X0.  
 Mr R. W. Link, P.O. Box 201, Clarke's Harbour, Shelburne Co., Nova Scotia.  
 Dr A. W. May, Resource Services, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, 580 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3.  
 Dr B. S. Muir, Resource Branch, Fisheries Management Maritimes, Fisheries and Marine Service, P.O. Box 550, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2S7.  
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## PART 2 Appendix II

### Agenda

1. Opening: Chairman of the Commission, Mr E. Gillett (UK).
2. Adoption of Agenda.
3. Appointment of Rapporteur.
4. Report of STACRES.  
**Note:** Results of the deliberations of STACRES and its Assessments Subcommittee during the period 17-20 September 1975 will be presented by the STACRES Chairman, Dr A. W. May.
5. Further consideration of fishing effort reduction on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3 and 4.  
**Note:** A Canadian proposal (*Comm. Doc. 75/8*) for reduction of fishing effort on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3 and 4 was discussed at the 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 5, 13 and 17*) and deferred for further consideration to the September 1975 Special Meeting. An elaboration of the Canadian proposal is available as *Comm. Doc. 75/IX/40* for study.
6. Further consideration of vessel gear and area restrictions on Georges Bank in Subarea 5.  
**Note:** The US proposal for amendment of the ICNAF haddock regulations for Subarea 5 (*Comm. Doc. 75/30*) dealing with a closed area on Georges Bank has been referred to the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting by action of the June 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 11*). This item will allow further discussion of modifications to the US proposal with a view to adopting it.
7. Further consideration of conservation of all finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.  
**Note:** The USA has advised Depositary Government of their formal objection to the Proposal (11) for the conservation of finfish and squids in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 adopted at the 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 19, Appendix I*). Accordingly the USA has requested that the Commission reconsider the TAC and national allocations and the exclusion of squid (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 11*). The USA has proposed that the TAC for 1976 be set at 550,000 metric tons, including squids.
8. Further consideration of the Scheme of Joint Enforcement: fishing vessel licensing.  
**Note:** The USA has requested further consideration of this matter from the 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 4*) with a view to adopting a proposal on fishing vessel licensing (*Comm. Doc. 75/22, Revised*).
9. Further consideration of exemption clauses in trawl regulations in Subareas 3, 4 and 5.  
**Note:** The USA has requested further consideration of this matter from the 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 13*) with a view to adopting further modifications in exemption clauses in trawl regulations in Subareas 3, 4 and 5 (*Comm. Doc. 75/15*). The USA will present an elaboration on its proposal.
10. Consideration of 1976 catch limitation requirements for the following particular stocks referred from the June 1975 Annual Meeting:
  - a) Div. 3NO cod
  - b) Subdiv. 3Ps cod
  - c) Div. 4T-Subdiv. 4Vn (Jan-Apr) cod
  - d) Subdiv. 4Vs-Div. 4W cod
  - e) Div. 4X (offshore) cod
  - f) Div. 4X haddock
  - g) Div. 3P redfish
  - h) Div. 4VWX redfish
  - i) Div. 3LNO American plaice
11. Consideration of Danish request to have Member Countries transfer "unwanted" portion of 1975 catch quotas for cod in Subarea 1 to Denmark.  
**Note:** This item was introduced in the Meeting of Panel 1 (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 7*) at the 1975 Annual Meeting and referred for further consideration to the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting.
12. Consideration of Statement of Government of Cuba.  
**Note:** *Comm. Doc. 75/IX/39* contains an analysis of the results of the 1975 Annual Meeting in relation to the minimum needs of Cuba in their intended fishing operations in the Convention Area in 1976. The statement has been forwarded for circulation to Member Governments so that due consideration may be given it at the September Special Commission Meeting.
13. Other Business.
14. Adjournment.

## PART 2

### Appendix III

# List of Conservation Proposals (1) to (7) from the Seventh Special Commission Meeting, September 1975

#### (1) Proposal for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area

"1. That Contracting Governments other than the coastal states take appropriate action in 1976 to limit fishing effort for groundfish, i.e., all finfish except herring, mackerel, capelin, and all other pelagics, billfishes, and sharks, by persons under their jurisdiction in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area in accordance with the following:

- (a) Each Contracting Government in 1976 shall reduce the number of days fishing for groundfish by 40% based on the number of fishing days reported in 1973, or 45% based on the average number of fishing days reported in 1972-73, or 50% based on the number of fishing days reported in 1972, for each of the tonnage, gear and area categories listed in the attached regulation and illustrative table. Each Contracting Government shall have the option of choosing the base period to be applied to its fleet, provided that the base period selected shall be the same for all tonnage, gear and area categories;
- (b) For each Contracting Government having vessels under its flag using longline gear, the number of days fished by such vessels shall not be reduced but shall be limited to the number of days fished during the selected base period;
- (c) Contracting Governments with less than 300 days fished in a particular tonnage, gear and area category during the selected base period shall not be required to reduce the number of days fished for that tonnage, gear and area category, but shall be required to limit the number of days fished in that tonnage, gear and area category to the number of days fished during the selected base period;
- (d) Contracting Governments with the number of days fished during the selected base period for a particular tonnage, gear and area category in excess of 300 shall not in any event be required to reduce the number of days fished in 1976 to less than 300;
- (e) Contracting Governments shall be permitted, in establishing their effort allocations for 1976, to transfer effort between tonnage, gear and area categories for all vessels under their flag. Conversion factors used for transfers between vessel tonnage and gear categories shall be based upon averages of relative catch rates (catch per day fished) for that Contracting Government reported to the Commission for all of Subareas 2, 3, and 4 for the last three years for which such data are available.

"2. That Contracting Governments, by 30 November 1975, shall submit to the Executive Secretary a list of the number of fishing days to apply in 1976 for each tonnage, gear and area category, in accordance with the requirements stated in paragraph 1 above. Such information shall include:

- (a) The single base period which each Contracting Government intends to use in applying the regulation of fishing effort for groundfish by all vessels under its flag;
- (b) Proposed amendments, if any, a Contracting Government wishes to make in the statistical data as reported to the Commission for the years 1972 and 1973 upon which the regulation of fishing effort for groundfish is to be applied and an explanation of any such adjustments;
- (c) A description of any redistribution of fishing effort for groundfish among the various vessel tonnage, gear and area categories for 1976 that a Contracting Government wishes to make for vessels fishing under its flag.

"3. That the Commission, at the Eighth Special Commission Meeting in January 1976, shall review the data supplied pursuant to paragraph 2 above and confirm national allocations for fishing effort for the categories indicated in the attached illustrative table and other categories as necessary, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 above.

"4. During the 1976 fishing season, further transfers involving the movement of fishing effort from area to area shall be limited to 10% of the total number of fishing days for the Contracting Government allocated for the 1976 fishing season in the area to which the transfer is made or 50 fishing days, whichever is greater."

**Attachment 1****Regulation — Integral Part of Proposal (1) for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish to Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area**

- "1. That each national allocation of effort in the attached table is an integral part of this regulation.
- "2. That, for any effort allocation for a particular vessel tonnage, gear and area:
- (a) Each Contracting Government shall limit the number of days fished for groundfish (24-hour periods, reckoned from midnight to midnight, during which any fishing took place) by persons under its jurisdiction in the areas referred to in the table to the number of fishing days listed for that Contracting Government or, in the case of Contracting Governments not listed by name, to the amount listed under "Others";
  - (b) Each Contracting Government mentioned by name in the table shall prohibit fishing for groundfish by persons under its jurisdiction on the date on which accumulated reported number of days fished, estimated unreported number of days fished, and the number of fishing days estimated to be expended before closure could be introduced, equal 100 percent of the allowable number of fishing days. Each Contracting Government mentioned by name in the table shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary of the date on which such prohibition has been put into effect. The Executive Secretary shall promptly inform all Contracting Governments of such notification.
  - (c) Each Contracting Government not mentioned by name in the table shall notify the Executive Secretary in advance if persons under its jurisdiction intend to engage in a fishery to which this regulation applies, together if possible with an estimate of the number of fishing days to be expended; and it shall also promptly report the number of days fished for groundfish by persons under its jurisdiction in the areas mentioned in the table in increments of 25 days. The Executive Secretary shall notify all Contracting Governments of the date on which accumulated reported number of days fished, estimated unreported number of days fished, and the number of fishing days estimated to be expended before closure could be introduced, by persons under the jurisdiction of Contracting Governments not mentioned by name in the table equal 100 percent of the allowable number of fishing days designated for "Others" in the table. Within 10 days of the receipt of such notification from the Executive Secretary, each Contracting Government not mentioned by name in the attached table shall prohibit fishing by persons under its jurisdiction using vessels of the particular tonnage and gear category in the areas mentioned in the regulation.

**Recording of Effort**

- "3. That all Contracting Governments take appropriate action to ensure that all vessels under their jurisdiction which fish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area record their fishing effort on a daily basis according to position, date, and type of gear.<sup>1</sup>

**Other**

- "4. That, with regard to any effort allocation, each linear and columnar entry in the table shall be considered a separate proposal under Article VIII of the Convention as amended. Further, sub-paragraph 2(c) shall apply to each Contracting Government without a specific effort allocation in any linear and columnar entry in the table notwithstanding that sub-paragraph 2(b) may apply to each such Government with respect to another linear and columnar entry in the table.
- "5. That the effort allocations in the table are without prejudice to future allocations."

<sup>1</sup>This paragraph of the regulation is not intended to lessen in any way the obligation of Member Countries to report all other data on fishing effort, such as hours fished, in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area and all data on fishing effort in Subareas 1 and 5 of the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6.

## Attachment 2

Illustrative Table. Integral part of Proposal (1) for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 28 September 1975.

Country	Base period	Vessel tonnages	Gear	Days Fished for Groundfish Base Data					National Allocations of Fishing Effort Days Fishing for 1976				
				Area					Area				
				SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX	SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX
Bulgaria	72-73	> 2000	OT	—	19	—	—	—	—	19	—	—	—
		> 2000	MWT	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Canada*	72-73	150- 499.9	OT	—	1,330	—	1,436	5,222	—	1,600	—	2,200	5,100
		150- 499.9	MWT	—	—	—	47	76	—	—	—	50	100
		150- 499.9	LL	—	140	—	44	176	—	150	—	50	200
		500- 999.9	OT	63	5,880	7	1,053	2,439	1,200	7,100	500	1,500	2,400
		500- 999.9	MWT	11	2	4	103	102	—	—	—	100	100
Denmark	73	150- 499.9	OT	15	9	—	—	—	15	9	—	—	—
		150- 499.9	LL	150	—	2,115	—	—	150	—	2,115	—	—
		500- 999.9	OT	322	76	—	—	303	300	76	—	—	300
		500- 999.9	MWT	—	—	—	7	43	—	—	—	7	43
France*	72-73	150- 499.9	OT	—	108	—	288	102	—	108	—	288	102
		1000-1999.9	OT	411	269	105	109	492	411	269	105	109	492
FRG <sup>b</sup>	73	1000-1999.9	OT	243	13	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		> 2000	OT	1,090	71	33	—	5	839	81	38	—	5
GDR	72-73	500-999.9	OT	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
		1000-1999.9	OT	914	76	—	1	69	504	76	—	1	69
		1000-1999.9	MWT	6	1	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—
		> 2000	OT	224	10	—	—	—	224	10	—	—	—
		> 2000	MWT	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Japan	73	1000-1999.9	OT	—	1	—	1	9	—	1	—	1	9
		> 2000	OT	—	78	—	31	170	—	78	—	31	170
Norway	72-73	150- 499.9	OT	58	—	7	—	—	58	—	7	—	—
		150- 499.9	LL	377	35	111	313	56	377	35	111	313	56
		500- 999.9	OT	82	—	3	—	—	82	—	3	—	—
		500- 999.9	LL	77	—	—	—	—	77	—	—	—	—
		1000-1999.9	OT	37	—	—	—	—	37	—	—	—	—
Poland	73	1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	37	—	—	—	—	—
		> 2000	OT	2,101	448	68	10	8	1,261	300	68	10	40
Portugal	73	500- 999.9	DV	—	200	—	116	7	—	200	—	116	7
		500- 999.9	GN	—	359	—	—	—	—	300	—	—	—
		1000-1999.9	OT	1,778	1,942	592	165	217	1,066	1,165	355	165	217
		1000-1999.9	DV	—	52	—	27	7	—	52	—	27	7
		1000-1999.9	GN	—	594	—	17	2	—	350	—	17	2
		> 2000	OT	817	752	266	34	119	490	451	266	34	119
Romania	72-73	> 2000	OT	175	33	10	2	—	175	33	10	2	—
Spain <sup>c</sup>	72-73	150- 499.9	PT	47	5,240	13	1,118	1,459	47	2,882	13	615	802
		500- 999.9	PT	42	1,852	8	237	740	42	1,019	8	237	407
		1000-1999.9	OT	245	388	233	128	257	245	300	233	128	257
		1000-1999.9	PT	3	291	—	57	120	3	291	—	57	120
USSR	72-73	150- 499.9	OT	—	1,024	23	1,902	53	—	563	23	1,046	53
		500- 999.9	OT	14	94	7	6	106	14	94	7	6	106
		1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		> 2000	OT	5,046	2,947	1,304	154	6,827	2,775	1,621	717	154	3,755
UK	72	500- 999.9	OT	60	43	97	—	—	60	43	97	—	—
		1000-1999.9	OT	684	504	520	—	85	342	300	300	—	85
USA*	72-73	150- 499.9	OT	—	—	—	—	607	—	—	—	—	700
		150- 499.9	MWT	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	30
Cuba	—	> 2000	—	—	—	—	—	—	300	400	225	—	810
Others <sup>d</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	100	100	100	100

\*Estimated number of days fished only, not national allocations of fishing effort.

<sup>b</sup>Others allocation = 100 days fished per effort management area, irrespective of vessel tonnage or gear used.

<sup>c</sup>Figures for the PT gear categories are for days fishing by pairs of trawlers.

## Explanatory Notes to the Table

A number of countries have indicated a preference for one of the three base periods. The preferred base period is included in the above table. For countries that did not indicate a preference, the base period of 1972-73 has been used. A number of countries have provided adjusted statistics on effort and have suggested conversions between tonnage/gear categories as follows:

- 1) Days fished for FRG in tonnage category 1,000-1,999.9 g.t. has been converted to days fished in tonnage category > 2,000 g.t., using a conversion factor of 0.76.
- 2) Data provided by GDR has allowed revision of days fished in Div. 4VWX. Days fished in tonnage category 500-999.9 g.t. has been converted to days fished in tonnage category 1,000-1,999.9 g.t. using a conversion factor of 1.0.
- 3) Data provided by Japan has allowed revision of days fished in the > 2,000 g.t. tonnage category.
- 4) Days fished by Poland in tonnage category 1,000-1,999.9 g.t. has been converted to tonnage category > 2,000 g.t., using a conversion factor of 0.87.
- 5) Data provided by UK has allowed revision of days fished.

**(2) Proposal for International Regulation of Fishing Gear Employed in the Fisheries in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6**

That Proposal (1) for International Regulation of Fishing Gear Employed in Subarea 5 and in Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6, adopted at the November 1974 Fifth Special Commission Meeting (November 1974 Meeting Proceedings, pages 26-27) and entered into force on 27 July 1975, be replaced by the following:

"1. That each Contracting Government take appropriate action to prohibit the taking of fish, other than crustacea, from vessels over 130 feet (39.6 m) in length by persons under its jurisdiction with fishing gear other than pelagic fishing gear (purse seines or true midwater trawls, using midwater trawl doors incapable of being fished on the bottom), in the area adjacent to the United States coast within that part of Subarea 5 (Southern New England and Gulf of Maine) and the adjacent waters to the west and south which lies north of 39°00' N and north of straight lines connecting 39°00' N, 73°30' W; 40°20' N, 72°33' W and 40°20' N, 68°15' W, and south and west of a straight line drawn between the points: 40°20' N, 68°15' W and 43°17' N, 70°00' W (Area I).

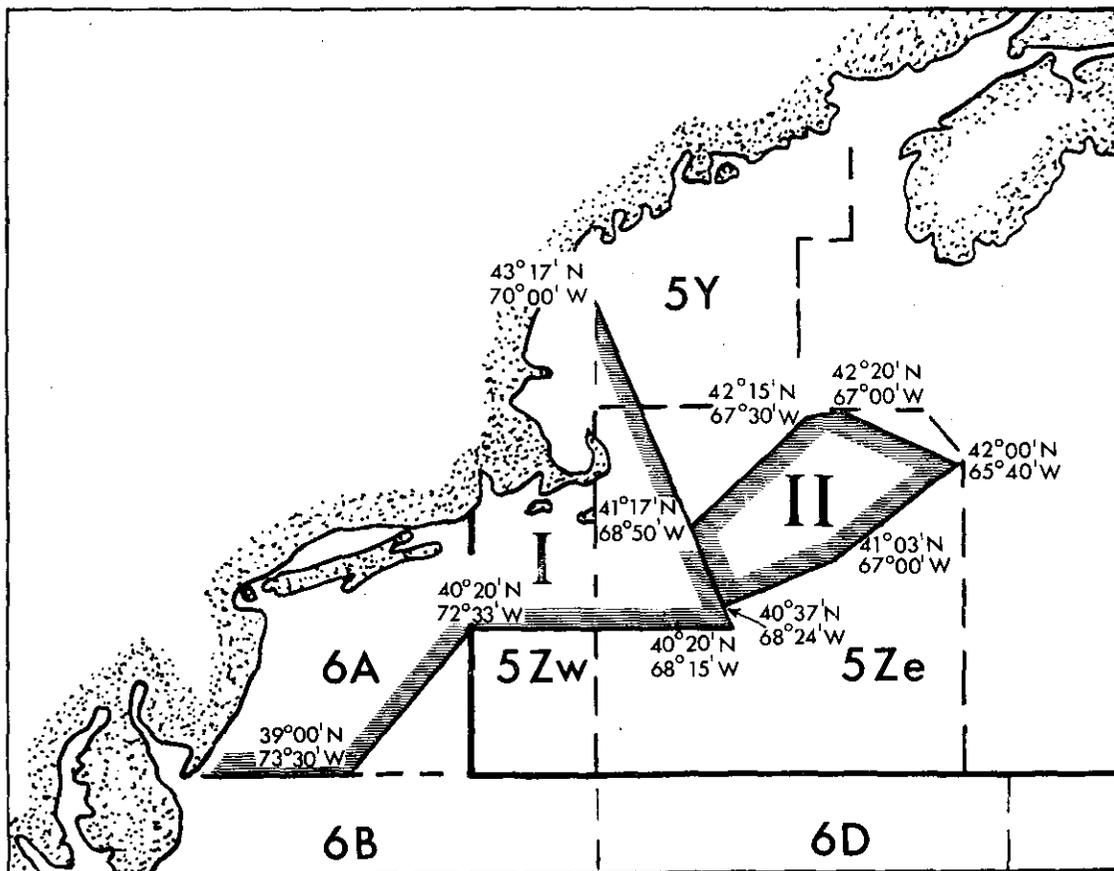
"2. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to prohibit the taking of fish other than crustacea and scallops, by vessels over 155 feet (47.2 m) in length of persons under their jurisdiction with fishing gear other than pelagic fishing gear (purse seines, or true midwater trawls, using midwater trawl doors incapable of being fished on the bottom), in the area of Subarea 5 bounded by straight lines connecting 42°0' N, 67°00' W; 42°00' N, 65°40' W; 41°03' N, 67°00' W; 40°37' N, 68°24' W; 41°17' N, 68°50' W; and 42°15' N, 67°30' W (Area II).

"3. That Contracting Governments prohibit any person to whom paragraphs 1 and 2 above would apply from attaching any protective device to pelagic fishing gear or employing any means which would, in effect, make it possible to fish for demersal species in the areas described in paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

"4. That nothing in this proposal shall affect the trawl mesh-size requirements in force in Subarea 5."

**Note:** Attached is a chart illustrating the Areas I and II affected by this proposal.

Chart illustrating Areas I and II affected by Proposal (2) for International Regulation of Fishing Gear Employed in the Fisheries in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6.



### **(3) Proposal for National Registration of Vessels Engaged in Fishing or in the Treatment of Sea Fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6**

That pursuant to paragraph 5 of Article VIII of the Convention, as amended by the 1963 Protocol, the following arrangements for national registration of fishing vessels be made for the purpose of more effectively managing the fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean:

"1. All vessels over 50 gross tons engaged in fishing or in the treatment of sea fish in the Convention Area or Statistical Areas 0 and 6 shall be registered by the Flag State. A report of this registration shall be filed with the ICNAF Secretariat prior to 1 January of each year, when possible, or in a timely manner following departure of the vessel from its home port, or by message within 30 days if the Flag State changes the terms of its registration.

"2. Such report shall include:

- (a) Name of vessel, both native and Latin alphabet spelling,
- (b) Official number of the vessel registered by appropriate authorities of the Flag State,
- (c) Home port and nationality of vessel,
- (d) Owner or charterer of vessel,
- (e) Certification that master has been provided with the regulations in force for the area or areas where the vessel will be engaged in fishing for sea fish,
- (f) Principal target species of the vessel while engaged in fishing for sea fish while in the Convention Area or Statistical Areas 0 and 6,
- (g) Subareas where the vessel will be expected to fish.

"3. A document of registration of the vessel in a form prescribed by the national legislation shall be maintained aboard the vessel and shall be made available to any authorized inspector conducting an inspection under the provisions of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement.

"4. If the activities or purposes of any properly registered vessel as stated on the registration form are changed, endorsements with the changes noted shall be submitted to the ICNAF Secretariat as soon as possible after the date of the change but in any event no later than 30 days after the date of the change, and message endorsements may be appended to the registration form aboard the vessel to reflect the Flag State's acknowledgement of such changes.

"5. The ICNAF Secretariat will provide to Member Governments requesting such information monthly listings of all vessels registered to fish in the Convention Area or Statistical Areas 0 and 6, including the activities the vessels are authorized to conduct."

**(4) Proposal for International Mesh Regulation of the Trawl Fishery for Cod, Haddock, Redfish, Halibut, Witch, Yellowtail Flounder, American Plaice, Greenland Halibut, Pollock, and White Hake in Subarea 3 of the Convention Area**

That paragraph 3(i) of the Trawl Regulations for Subarea 3, adopted at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report, Vol. 24, 1973/74, page 92) and entered into force on 11 January 1975, be replaced by the following:

"3. (i) In order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for other species and which take small quantities of cod, haddock, and other regulated species incidentally, except as provided for in paragraph 3(ii), the Contracting Governments permit persons under their jurisdiction to take cod, haddock, and other regulated species with nets having a mesh size less than that specified in the preceding paragraph, so long as such persons do not have in possession (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species which has been fishing in the Convention Area or in Statistical Area 6, cod, haddock, and other regulated species mentioned in paragraph 1 above taken together in amounts in excess of 2,500 kg (5,510 lbs) for each or 10% by weight for each, of all fish on board such vessel, whichever is greater."

**(5) Proposal for International Mesh Regulation of the Trawl Fishery for Cod, Haddock, and Flounders in Subarea 4 of the Convention Area**

That paragraph 2(i) of the Trawl Regulations for Subarea 4, adopted at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report, Vol. 24, 1973/74, page 93) and entered into force on 11 January 1975, be replaced by the following:

"2. (i) In order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for other species and which take small quantities of cod, haddock, and flounders incidentally, except as provided for in paragraph 2(ii), the Contracting Governments permit persons under their jurisdiction to take cod, haddock, and flounders with nets having a mesh size less than that specified in the preceding paragraph, so long as such persons do not have in possession (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species which has been fishing in the Convention Area or Statistical Area 6, cod, haddock, and flounders in amounts in excess of 2,500 kg (5,510 lbs) for each or 10% by weight for each, of all fish on board such vessel, whichever is greater."

**(6) Proposal for International Mesh Regulation of the Trawl Fishery for Cod, Haddock, and Yellowtail Flounder in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area, and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6**

That paragraph 2(i) of the Trawl Regulations for Subarea 5, adopted at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report, Vol. 24, 1973/74, page 94) and entered into force on 11 January 1975, be replaced by the following:

"2. (i) In order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for other species and which takes small quantities of cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder incidentally, except as provided for in paragraph 2(ii), the Contracting Governments permit persons under their jurisdiction to take cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder with nets having a mesh size less than that specified in the preceding paragraph, so long as such persons do not have in possession (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species which has been fishing in the Convention Area or in Statistical Area 6, cod, haddock, or yellowtail flounder in amounts in excess of 2,500 kg (5,510 lbs) for each or 10% by weight for each, of all fish on board such vessel, whichever is greater."

### (7) Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in the Convention Area and in Statistical Area 6

- That (a) the national quota allocations for 1976 of nine stocks deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting (Proposal 11) and the revised quota allocations of 19 stocks agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting (Proposal 11), and
- (b) the revised national quota allocations for 1976 of the whole group of stocks or species (collectively) in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 (excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish).
- shall be in accordance with the following table:

Integral part of Proposal (7) for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in the Convention Area in Statistical Area 6.

TABLE (a). National allocations (in metric tons) for 1976 of particular stocks or species in the Convention Area and in Statistical Area 6. Quantities in parentheses are estimated catches outside the Convention Area. (Total = Total Allowable Catches (TAC)).

Country	Cod								Haddock	Redfish					
	2J+3KL	3M	3NO	3Ps	4TVn <sup>a</sup>	4VsW	4X off-shore) <sup>b</sup>	5Z	4X <sup>c</sup>	2+3K	3M	3LN	3O	3P	4VWX
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	24,000 (50,000)	2,100	8,000	14,000 (15,000)	19,000 (4,000)	17,500	3,700	4,519	13,300	500	1,000	1,300	500	12,500	12,000
Denmark	4,200	6,840	—	—	650	350	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	14,000	6,650	500	4,400 (1,000)	4,000	700	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,500	250
Federal Republic of Germany	20,000	500	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic	12,500	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,500	—	1,000	—	—	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	4,000	1,330	—	1,400	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	18,500	1,460	—	—	—	—	—	457	—	4,000	—	—	—	—	—
Portugal	52,500	10,000	2,600	—	375	150	—	—	—	2,500	—	1,000	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain	41,000	2,090	18,400	9,250	1,725	9,600	—	6,645	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR	49,000	4,940	10,200	950	—	900	—	2,314	—	15,000	12,600	13,800	14,300	3,800	1,000
UK	3,300	2,090	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	—	—	—	—	—	—	200	20,000	1,500	750	—	—	—	—	6,000
Cuba	5,000	1,900	2,000	—	—	600	—	400	—	1,500	2,200	2,700	1,000	—	—
Others	2,000	100	1,300	1,500	250	200	100	665	200	3,250	200	200	200	200	750
<b>Total</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>43,000</b>	<b>47,500</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>

<sup>a</sup>Div. 4T (Jan-Dec) and Subdiv. 4Vn(Jan-Apr).

<sup>b</sup>Div. 4X (offshore) in that part of Div. 4X south and east of the straight lines joining coordinates in order listed: 44°20'N, 63°20'W; 43°00'N, 65°40'W; 43°00'00N, 67°40'W.

<sup>c</sup>TAC and allocations pertain to by-catch only with no directed fishery.

Table(a). (continued)

Country	Red hake		Silver hake			American plaice	Flounders <sup>d</sup>	Pollock	Argentine	Mackerel		Other finfish <sup>e</sup>	Squid <i>Loligo</i>
	5Ze	5Zw+6	4VWX	5Ze	5Zw+6	3LNO	4VWX	4VWX+5	4VWX	3+4	5+6	5+6	5+6
Bulgaria	—	—	—	600	—	—	—	—	—	—	16,300	4,000	—
Canada	—	—	2,500	—	—	43,000	17,000	33,500	—	15,300	4,400	—	—
										(20,000)			
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	—	700	250	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,600	—	—	1,200	—	1,000
German Democra-tic Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,500	—	—	48,900	3,000	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,300
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,500	—	—	—	15,700
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78,300	10,000	1,700
Portugal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,200	—	—
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,200	—	—	—	—	8,800
USSR	19,000	9,000	82,000	36,400	30,000	3,000	8,900	2,100	16,500	17,700	88,000	50,000	2,000
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	1,000	6,000	—	8,500	9,000	—	350	11,500	—	500	4,700	68,000	8,500
Cuba	1,400	900	15,000	4,250	3,750	—	1,300	1,200	2,500	2,000	7,000	3,000	1,000
Others	4,600	100	500	250	250	300	200	400	500	500	2,000	12,000	2,000
Total	26,000	16,000	100,000	50,000	43,000	47,000	28,000	55,000	25,000	56,000	254,000	150,000	44,000

<sup>d</sup>Flounders in Div. 4VWX pertain to American plaice, witch and yellowtail.

<sup>e</sup>Excluding TAC species and also menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

NOTE: In addition to the 1976 allocations for Cuba listed in the above Table, their by-catch of witch in Div. 3NO is expected to be 500 tons, and the by-catch of yellowtail in Div. 3LNO is expected to be 300 tons.

TABLE (b). National allocations for 1976 of stocks or species (collectively) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish).

Country	All finfish <sup>f</sup> + squid 5+6
Bulgaria	14,400
Canada	18,000
Denmark	—
France	2,950
Federal Republic of Germany	14,900
German Democratic Republic	48,750
Iceland	—
Italy	6,800
Japan	18,000
Norway	—
Poland	76,500
Portugal	—
Romania	3,850
Spain	16,000
USSR	177,250
UK	—
USA	230,000
Cuba	21,000
Others	1,600
Total	650,000

<sup>f</sup>Excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

# **PART 2**

## **Appendix IV**

### **Seventh Special Commission Meeting — September 1975 Press Notice**

The Seventh Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) was held at Montreal, Canada, during 22-28 September 1975, under the Chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). About 135 representatives attended from 16 of the 17 Member Countries (Bulgaria absent) as follows: Canada, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, and United States of America. Observers were present from Cuba, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

#### **1. Subjects Covered**

The main purpose of the meeting was (a) to establish national quotas for 1976 for nine of the stocks in Subareas 3 and 4 which were deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting, (b) to further consider the conservation of all finfish and squids in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, (c) to further consider the Canadian proposal for reduction of fishing effort on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, (d) to consider a scheme for registering fishing vessels and further conservation regulations about control of by-catch and closed areas, and (e) to consider Cuba's request for allocations from certain stocks.

#### **2. Scientific Advice**

The Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) met at Montreal, Canada, during 17-20 September 1975, to review the state of certain stocks in Subareas 3 and 4 and the overall finfish and squid resource in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, and submitted a comprehensive report on these matters.

#### **3. TACs and National Allocations**

The Commission's agreed total allowable catches (TACs) of the nine stocks, in Subareas 3 and 4 for which decisions were deferred to this Special Commission Meeting (Table 1). In considering the national allocation of catches for the nine stocks, the Commission noted the request of Cuba for allocations for 1976 from a number of stocks whose TACs and national allocations were agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting. Therefore, in addition to the allocation of the catches for the nine stocks, the Commission agreed to revised quota allocations for 19 other stocks, all of which are listed in Table 2(a).

The Commission further considered the implications of excluding squids from the overall second-tier TAC of 650,000 tons in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, as decided at the 1975 Annual Meeting, and agreed to amend that decision by setting the 1976 TAC at 650,000 metric tons for finfish and squids. The revised allocations are given in Table 2 (b).

#### **4. Effort Reduction in Subareas 2, 3, and 4**

The Commission agreed to recommend to Member Governments that fishing effort in Subareas 2, 3 and 4 should be reduced by countries other than the coastal states by approximately 40% of the average number of fishing days in 1972-73. Member Countries will notify the Commission by 30 November of the disposition of the reduced effort in the different areas and by different vessel categories, and may also vary these amounts to a limited extent during 1976. Further consideration will be given to details of the scheme at the January 1976 Meeting.

#### **5. Improvements to Fishery Regulations**

The Commission, in considering the need for further conservation measures to reduce the by-catch of certain groundfish species on Georges Bank, agreed to establish an area on Georges Bank in which the use of fishing gear other than pelagic fishing gear is prohibited for vessels greater than 155 feet (47.2 m) in length.

The Commission also reviewed the ICNAF trawl regulations and agreed to simplify the clauses regarding the permitted by-catch of protected species in fisheries conducted with small-mesh nets.

The Commission further considered the need to improve international enforcement by providing for the licensing of vessels over 50 gross registered tons, engaged in fishing or in processing of fish in the Convention Area, and agreed that all such vessels be registered by the Flag State and that a report of such registration be filed with the ICNAF Secretariat prior to 1 January of each year, the report to include for each vessel the principal target species and the Subareas where fishing is expected to take place.

## **6. Allocation of Stocks to Cuba**

The Commission agreed on the allocation of stocks to be available to Cuba in Subareas 2-5 and Statistical Area 6 in 1976 in anticipation of Cuba's joining the Commission. The Cuban representative stated that this would enable his Government to adhere to the Convention in 1975. In expectation of the Cuban membership, the Commission accepted with pleasure the invitation of the Government of Cuba to hold its 26th Annual Meeting in Havana, Cuba, from 8 to 23 June 1976.

## **7. Special Meeting**

The Eighth Special Meeting of the Commission will be held at FAO in Rome, Italy, in January 1976 to consider the conservation of herring stocks in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6, further details of the scheme of limitation of fishing effort, and other matters.

Office of the Secretariat, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, 9 October 1975.

TABLE 1. Nominal catches for 1972-74 and total allowable catches (TACs) for 1974-76 for nine stocks deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting.

Species	Stock Area	Catches (000 tons)			TACs (000 tons)		
		1972	1973	1974	1974	1975	1976
Cod	3NO	103	80	73	101	88	43
	3Ps	44	53	46	70	62	47.5
	4Vn (Jan-Apr) + 4T	68	50	49	63	50	30
	4VsW	62	54	44	60	60	30
	4X (offshore)	7	7	6	—	5	4
Haddock	4X	13	13	13	0	15	5
Redfish	3P	26	18	22	25	25	18
	4VWX	50	40	33	40	30	20
American plaice	3LNO	59	53	46	60	60	47

TABLE 2(a). National allocations (in metric tons) for 1976 of particular stocks or species in the Convention Area and in Statistical Area 6. Quantities in parentheses are estimated catches outside the Convention Area. (Total = Total Allowable Catches (TAC)).

Country	Cod								Haddock	Redfish					
	2J+3KL	3M	3NO	3Ps	4TVn <sup>a</sup>	4VsW	4X (off-shore) <sup>b</sup>	5Z	4X <sup>c</sup>	2+3K	3M	3LN	3O	3P	4VWX
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	24,000 (50,000)	2,100	8,000	14,000 (15,000)	19,000 (4,000)	17,500	3,700	4,519	13,300	500	1,000	1,300	500	12,500	12,000
Denmark	4,200	6,840	—	—	650	350	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	14,000	6,650	500	4,400 (1,000)	4,000	700	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,500	250
Federal Republic of Germany	20,000	500	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic	12,500	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,500	—	1,000	—	—	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	4,000	1,330	—	1,400	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	18,500	1,460	—	—	—	—	—	457	—	4,000	—	—	—	—	—
Portugal	52,500	10,000	2,600	—	375	150	—	—	—	2,500	—	1,000	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain	41,000	2,090	18,400	9,250	1,725	9,600	—	6,645	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR	49,000	4,940	10,200	950	—	900	—	2,314	—	15,000	12,600	13,800	14,300	3,800	1,000
UK	3,300	2,090	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	—	—	—	—	—	—	200	20,000	1,500	750	—	—	—	—	6,000
Cuba	5,000	1,900	2,000	—	—	600	—	400	—	1,500	2,200	2,700	1,000	—	—
Others	2,000	100	1,300	1,500	250	200	100	665	200	3,250	200	200	200	200	750
Total	300,000	40,000	43,000	47,500	30,000	30,000	4,000	35,000	15,000	30,000	16,000	20,000	16,000	18,000	20,000

<sup>a</sup>Div. 4T (Jan-Dec) and Subdiv. 4Vn(Jan-Apr).

<sup>b</sup>Div. 4X (offshore) in that part of Div. 4X south and east of the straight lines joining coordinates in order listed: 44°20'N, 63°20'W; 43°00'N, 65°40'W; 43°00'00N, 67°40'W.

<sup>c</sup>TAC and allocations pertain to by-catch only with no directed fishery.

Table 2 (a). (continued)

Country	Red hake		Silver hake			American plaice	Flounders <sup>d</sup>	Pollock	Argentine	Mackerel		Other finfish <sup>e</sup>	Squid Loligo
	5Ze	5Zw+6	4VWX	5Ze	5Zw+6	3LNO	4VWX	4VWX+5	4VWX	3+4	5+6	5+6	5+6
Bulgaria	—	—	—	600	—	—	—	—	—	—	16,300	4,000	—
Canada	—	—	2,500	—	—	43,000	17,000	33,500	—	15,300 (20,000)	4,400	—	—
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	—	700	250	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,600	—	—	1,200	—	1,000
German Democratic Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,500	—	—	48,900	3,000	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,300
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,500	—	—	—	15,700
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78,300	10,000	1,700
Portugal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,200	—	—
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,200	—	—	—	—	8,800
USSR	19,000	9,000	82,000	36,400	30,000	3,000	8,900	2,100	16,500	17,700	88,000	50,000	2,000
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	1,000	6,000	—	8,500	9,000	—	350	11,500	—	500	4,700	68,000	8,500
Cuba	1,400	900	15,000	4,250	3,750	—	1,300	1,200	2,500	2,000	7,000	3,000	1,000
Others	4,600	100	500	250	250	300	200	400	500	500	2,000	12,000	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>43,000</b>	<b>47,000</b>	<b>28,000</b>	<b>55,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>56,000</b>	<b>254,000</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>44,000</b>

<sup>d</sup>Flounders in Div. 4VWX pertain to American plaice, witch and yellowtail.

<sup>e</sup>Excluding TAC species and also menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

NOTE: In addition to the 1976 allocations for Cuba listed in the above Table, their by-catch of witch in Div. 3NO is expected to be 500 tons, and the by-catch of yellowtail in Div. 3LNO is expected to be 300 tons.

TABLE 2(b). National allocations for 1976 of stocks or species (collectively) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish).

Country	All finfish <sup>f</sup> + squid 5+6
Bulgaria	14,400
Canada	18,000
Denmark	—
France	2,950
Federal Republic of Germany	14,900
German Democratic Republic	48,750
Iceland	—
Italy	6,800
Japan	18,000
Norway	—
Poland	76,500
Portugal	—
Romania	3,850
Spain	16,000
USSR	177,250
UK	—
USA	230,000
Cuba	21,000
Others	1,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>650,000</b>

<sup>f</sup>Excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.



# PART 3

## Report of the Eighth Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries FAO, Rome, Italy, 21-26 January 1976

### 1. Introduction

At both the 25th Annual Meeting in June 1975 and the Seventh Special Meeting in September 1975, the Commission agreed to defer the following matters for consideration at an Eighth Special Meeting in January 1976:

- a) TACs and national allocations for herring stocks in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6, in Div. 5Y, in Div. 4VWa, and in Div. 4XWb for 1976;
- b) minimum size limit regulations for herring in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6 and mackerel in Subareas 3, 4, 5, and Statistical Area 6;
- c) fishing effort limitation on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 for 1976;
- d) further improvement to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement; and
- e) conservation measures for harp and hooded seals for 1976.

### 2. Time and Place of Meeting

The Eighth Special Meeting was convened at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, from 21 to 26 January 1976 inclusive, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). Meetings of the Standing Committee on International Control (STAC-TIC) met under the chairmanship of Mr W. G. Gordon (USA), between 19 and 26 January and considered amendments to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement. The First Plenary Session assigned Commission agenda items and heard the Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES). Meetings of Panels 4, 5, and A (Seals) and Joint Meetings of Panels 2, 3, and 4 and 3, 4, and 5 considered conservation items. The Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) met from 12 to 16 January and on 20 and 23 January 1976, under the chairmanship of Dr A. W. May (Canada), to review information concerning implementation of effort reduction

in 1976, review conservation measures for herring in Subareas 4, 5, and Statistical Area 6, and review herring and mackerel size limits. The Final Plenary Session received all reports for approval.

### 3. Participants (Appendix I)

Commissioners and Advisers were present from all Member Countries. Observers from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) were in attendance.

### 4. Opening Session

The Chairman of the Commission, Mr E. Gillett (UK), welcomed the Commissioners, Advisers, Observers and Guests and extended, on behalf of the Commission, a warm welcome to the Delegation from the Government of Cuba which has become the Eighteenth Member of the Commission on 28 November 1975.

The Chairman then introduced Mr Fred Popper, Assistant Director-General (Fisheries) for FAO who expressed personal pleasure in renewing acquaintance with many old friends and official pleasure at having some of the world's greatest authorities on fisheries gathered at FAO. He drew attention to the importance of food in the crisis situation in the world today and the aim of FAO to be successful in helping to provide more. He also stressed the role fish would play in relieving the crisis situation. All attending could contribute to the relief of this basic and fatal food problem. He pointed out that fish was in a state of crisis. There was a continuing heavy demand from the resource which is showing the effects of heavy exploitation all over the world. He said that the future role of FAO in fisheries was being examined very thoroughly by a subcommittee of the Committee on Fisheries and that only last week a group of experts gathered together by FAO had met informally to look at the future of international fisheries in the context of a developing new international order, specifically through the Law of the Sea Conference. As a result of the meeting, there was now a better idea of the future shape and role of regional fisheries commissions if there was a general extension of

national jurisdiction over fisheries. There was a convergence of views that future arrangements would depend on a particular region. The group of experts felt that the original commissions would have a more important and effective part to play than in the past. There was, thus, an important and effective role for ICNAF in the future. Mr Popper welcomed the Commission participants to FAO and wished them every success in their deliberations.

The Chairman thanked Mr Popper. He pointed out that crisis situations in ICNAF had so far been overcome and he hoped this could continue. The Law of the Sea deliberations were much on everyone's minds. He noted a continuing function for the regional bodies and expressed gratitude to FAO for introducing its studies on this matter. He thanked FAO, on behalf of the Commission, for the facilities, hospitality and opportunity given the Commission participants to discuss mutual problems with their colleagues at FAO.

The Chairman then declared the Eighth Special Meeting of the Commission recessed to prepare for the beginning of the work of the Commission in its First Plenary Session.

## 5. Agenda (Appendix II)

In accordance with Commission Rules of Procedure 4.2 (b), the provisional Agenda for the Eighth Special Meeting was transmitted to all Contracting Governments and Commissioners, not less than 60 days in advance of the meeting. The Agenda was adopted without change at the First Plenary Session.

### 6. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES)

The Report of STACRES, with reports of an *ad hoc* Working Group on Fishing Effort Regulation in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 and of an *ad hoc* Working Group on Herring appended is published as Part B in ICNAF *Redbook* 1976. The Report was adopted by the Commission in Plenary Session on 26 January 1976. Major items dealt with are summarized as follows:

#### a) Groundfish Effort Regulation, Subareas 2 to 4

The *ad hoc* Working Group on Fishing Effort Regulation in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 reviewed the revisions to the basic fishing effort data and the proposed 1976 allocated days fished, which had been submitted by Member Countries subsequent to the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting (Part 2 this Report). For all countries the decrease in total effort for all areas between

1972 and 1976 was expected to be about 33%. For countries other than coastal states, the decrease was expected to be about 32%. A similar comparison of effort expended in 1973 with proposed effort for 1976 indicated a decrease of 23% for all countries and areas combined. For countries other than coastal states the decrease was expected to be about 33%. The Working Group constructed a table similar in format to the illustrative table in Proposal (1) from the September 1975 Special Meeting (Part 2 this Report) but using the revised base period data and proposed numbers of fishing days for 1976 as submitted by the Member Countries up to 22 January 1976.

#### b) Herring Assessments

The *ad hoc* Working Group on Herring proposed division of the Subarea 4 herring for management purposes into Div. 4V and Div. 4WX stocks, instead of into Div. 4VW(a) and Div. 4XW(b) stocks. A TAC of 11,000 tons was recommended for the Div. 4V herring for the period 1 July 1976 to 30 June 1977, and 118,000 tons for the Div. WX herring for 1976.

To maintain the adult stock at the minimum level of 60,000 tons, a TAC of 4,000 tons or less was recommended for herring for 1976 in Div. 5Y, based on the assumption that the 1973 year-class will be about the same size as the 1971 and 1972 year-classes. Assuming a higher level for the 1973 year-class suggested a TAC of 7,000 tons could be taken.

To maintain the herring stock size at the minimum level of 225,000 tons in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6, a TAC for 1976 should not exceed 60,000 tons.

### 7. Report of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)

The Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) met, under the chairmanship of Mr W. G. Gordon (USA), between 19 and 26 January, to reconsider a Canadian proposal for transfer of ICNAF inspectors by helicopter, and to consider a US proposal for strengthening and improving the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement. The Report of STACTIC was adopted by the Commission in Plenary Session on 26 January 1976. Major items are summarized below:

#### a) Helicopter Transfer of ICNAF Inspectors

STACTIC viewed a film demonstrating boardings at sea of a Canadian fishing trawler by Canadian inspectors from a helicopter, and **agreed** that Member Countries

should consult, as necessary, with their technical experts prior to the 1976 Annual Meeting when a formal Canadian proposal on procedures would be presented for adoption as part of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement.

**b) Improvements to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement**

The STACTIC Working Group reviewed the US proposal and revisions and **agreed** that immediate remedial action should be taken if an inspector finds an apparent infringement of the Commission's regulations, that immediate notice of the apparent infringement should be made to the Flag State of the inspected vessel, and that disputes over the particulars of an infringement should be resolved in a timely fashion. STACTIC accepted the advice of the Working Group regarding the need for each Contracting Government to have an **inspector or designated authority available for contact** regarding resolution of an apparent infringement and details of the course of **actions required upon discovery of an apparent infringement, and recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (1) for amendment of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement of the fishery regulations in the Convention Area and in Statistical Areas 0 and 6 (Appendix III).

STACTIC, having **noted** the need for greater participation by all Member Countries in the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement and on the advice of the STACTIC Working Group, **recommended** that the Commission adopt the following **Resolution Relating to the Enforcement of the Commission's Fishery Regulations**:

**The Commission**

**Recognizing** that the active participation of Contracting Governments in the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement has to be improved significantly in order to ensure adequate enforcement of the Commission's regulations;

**Recognizing Further** that such participation may best be improved by the efforts of Contracting Governments to implement the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement;

**Noting** that the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement provides for an Annual Report of Inspections and Disposition of Infringements to be submitted to the Commission by 1 March each year;

- 1) **Requests** all Contracting Governments take expeditious steps to implement and carry out the provisions of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement;
- 2) **Requests** each Contracting Government submit, as provided in the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement, the Report of Inspections and Disposition of Infringements for 1974, if it has not already done so, and the Report for 1975, by 1 March 1976, and a summary and comments, if appropriate, of the results of the inspections made by their own inspectors;
- 3) **Directs** STACTIC to review the above summaries, comments, and Reports of Inspections and Disposition of Infringements, to report to the Commission at the 1976 Annual Meeting concerning the action taken by Contracting Governments in respect of apparent infringements which have been reported, and to make recommendations to ensure a high level of compliance with the Commission's regulations.

The STACTIC Working Group considered the US proposal that when a significant infringement of the Commission's regulations is verified and concurred by an inspector of the Flag State of the inspected vessel, that inspector may, if permitted by national legislation, temporarily withdraw the vessel's authorization to fish in the Convention Area until the disposition of the infringement by the Flag State. STACTIC, following the advice of its Working Group, **recommended** that the Commission adopt the following **Resolution Relating to Withdrawal of Authorization to Fish Within the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6**:

**The Commission**

**Recognizing** that serious or aggravated infringements of Commission regulations should be disposed of promptly and effectively, that significant penalties should be provided under national legislation upon conviction of serious or aggravated infringements, and that suspension or revocation of a vessel's authorization to fish within the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 represents a significant penalty which could be applied upon conviction of certain serious or aggravated infringements;

**Noting** that serious or aggravated infringements may include the following:

- a) Fishing in a closed area or with gear prohibited within a specific area;
- b) Fishing for stocks or species in a region after having been notified by the Contracting Government having jurisdiction over the vessel that its quota for those stocks or species has been taken;
- c) Fishing in an "Others" quota without prior notification to the ICNAF Secretariat, or after having been notified by the Contracting Government having jurisdiction over the vessel that the "Others" quota for that stock or species has been taken;
- d) Falsification of fishing logbook records;
- e) Failure to possess proper flag state registration documents (authorization to fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6);

**Taking into Account** the fact that the national legislation of many Contracting Governments at present does not allow the suspension or revocation of a vessel's authorization to fish within the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 under most circumstances;

**Having Considered** that it is appropriate to review national legislation and proposed changes to national legislation carefully before agreeing to request changes to that legislation; but

**Being Aware** that time is of the essence in reaching a satisfactory solution to the problem of serious or aggravated infringements; and

**Recognizing** that, in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of the Convention, measures of international control can only be effective if supported by effective and appropriate national legislation;

- 1) **Invites** the attention of the Contracting Governments to the above matters;
- 2) **Requests** that Governments review the status of their national legislation with a view to proposing changes which would authorize or require, among other things, the suspension or revocation of a vessel's authorization to fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 upon conviction of serious or aggravated infringements;

- 3) **Stipulates** that it is necessary to give continuing attention to the adoption of new and more effective measures of international control; and
- 4) **Invites** the appropriate authorities of the Contracting Governments to present the results of their review to the Commission at the next Annual Meeting, and to propose, if necessary, new and more effective measures of international control.

### c) **Amendment of the Management of International Quota Regulations**

STACTIC, having reviewed a US proposal for the adjustment of a national catch quota in the succeeding year when the nationals or vessels of a Contracting Government have taken more than their allowed catch quota for any quota period, and on the advice of the STACTIC Working Group, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (2) for amendment of the management of international quota regulations (quota adjustments) (Appendix III).

### d) **Other Matters**

STACTIC, having **noted** a Canadian proposal regarding enforcement problems in the effort limitation scheme for groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, **agreed** to recommend to the Commission

- i) that the Report of Inspection adopted at the 1975 Annual Meeting be modified to include the following additional entries:
  - 4. Vessel's name, registration number and gross registered tonnage . . . . .
  - 18. Number of days fished for groundfish, and
- ii) that all Contracting Governments ensure that persons under their jurisdiction record, as already required, their fishing effort accurately and completely in their fishing log on a daily basis according to position, date, type of gear, species fished and time fishing begins daily.

## **8. Report of Panels**

The Plenary Agenda was reviewed by the Commission at its First Plenary Session. Pertinent items were

allocated to be considered in meetings of the appropriate Panel or Panels.

The Reports of Panels 2 to 4, A, 5, 4, and 3, 4, and 5 were adopted by the Commission in Final Plenary Session on 26 January 1976 with the Federal Republic of Germany abstaining from voting on proposals for herring in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6 and in Div. 5Y, Iceland abstaining from voting on the effort limitation proposal for groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4.

- a) **Panels 2, 3, and 4.** The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), noted a Bulgarian request for re-opening of catch quota allocation decisions made for eight stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, adopted at the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting. It was **noted** that, due to uncontrollable circumstances, Bulgaria was not able to be represented at the September 1975 negotiations. Following considerable discussion, the delegate of Bulgaria acknowledged the difficulties in re-opening adopted decisions and agreed as an exception for 1976 to fish from the "Others" category but wished it recorded that Bulgaria be given equal consideration as a member of Panels 3 and 4 when quotas and days fishing were being allocated at the 1976 Annual Meeting. The Panels expressed appreciation to the delegate of Bulgaria for his compromise.

The Panels gave serious consideration to the effort limitation scheme for groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 adopted at the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting and to the additional information which nationals had provided as a basis for changing the estimated number of days-fished figures in the effort table. Discussion of a revised proposal centered around the possible deletion of a sentence which was interpreted by Portugal as allowing vessels to fish in the "Others" category wherever they had no specific allocation in the proposal's table. Resolution of this and other difficulties and differences were finally effected and Panels 2, 3, and 4, in joint session, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (3) for international regulation of fishing effort for groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area in 1976 (Appendix III).

- b) **Panel A (Seals).** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr K. Vartdal (Norway), met in special session on 12 December 1975 in Bergen, Norway, and reviewed the reports of the Scientific Advisers

who met in Ottawa, Canada, from 17 to 19 November 1975 and again in Bergen on 9 and 10 December 1975. The Panel **noted** that there was no unanimous agreement on a TAC for harp seals owing to uncertainties in the data available and **agreed** to defer a decision on conservation measures for 1976 for harp and hooded seals to a further meeting of the Panel to be held on 22 January 1976, during the time of the Eighth Special Meeting of the Commission in Rome, Italy.

As required, the Panel, under the acting chairmanship of Mr K. Henriksen (Canada), met at FAO, Rome, on 22 January 1976, and **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (4) for international regulation of the fishery for harp seals in the 'Front' and 'Gulf' Areas, and for hooded seals in the 'Front' Area of the Convention Area in 1976 (Appendix III).

The Panel **noting** that the proposal would not come into effect under the normal Commission procedures for six months, too late for the 1976 sealing season, **recommended** that the Commission adopt the following **Resolution Relating to the Implementation of the Proposal for International Regulation Respecting the Protection of Seals in the 'Gulf' and 'Front' Areas of the Convention Area.**

#### The Commission

**Recognizing** that the proposal for the protection of seals designed to achieve the conservation and optimum utilization of the stocks of seals in the Convention Area has been adopted on 26 January 1976;

**Bearing in Mind** that the regulation is intended to come into force on 12 March 1976 and remain in force throughout 1976;

**Taking into Account** that, under Article VIII of the Convention, as amended, this proposal would not enter into force until six months after the date of the notification from the Depository Government transmitting the proposal to the Contracting Governments, which could not occur before late July 1976, at the earliest; it would, therefore, not come into effect during the open season;

**Having Considered** that the purpose of the Convention is to promote the conservation and optimum utilization of the seal stocks on the basis of scientific investigation, and economic and technical

considerations, and that this purpose cannot be successfully achieved unless the proposal referred to above is applied from 12 March 1976;

**Recognizing** that, in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of the Convention, sealing activity in the Convention Area must be conducted in accordance with this proposal from 12 March throughout 1976;

- 1) **Invites** the attention of Contracting Governments to the above matters;
- 2) **Stipulates** that the proposal referred to above should apply in 1976;
- 3) **Requests** Contracting Governments whose vessels conduct sealing operations in the area to implement the proposal on 12 March 1976;
- 4) **Expects** that Members of Panel A will conduct their sealing operations in accordance with the proposal beginning on 12 March 1976, unless any of the Members of the Panel notifies an objection to the Depositary Government prior to that date.

- c) **Panel 5.** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr Wm.L. Sullivan Jr (USA), considered TACs and national allocations for herring stocks in Div. 5Y, and in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6 for 1976. The Panel **noted** that STACRES recommended a TAC not to exceed 60,000 tons for herring in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6 and that the USA favoured a TAC of 40,000 tons due to the dramatic decline in the herring fishery since 1968 and a need to allow rebuilding of the stock. The USA could accept a TAC of 60,000 tons provided there was also an agreement on constraints and that the TAC for 1977 and subsequent years would be 60,000 tons, or less, until the stock reached a maintenance level of 500,000 tons. In an effort to solve the herring by-catch problem, the Federal Republic of Germany suggested a division of the TAC over two six-month periods and national allocations over the first six months based primarily on the by-catch needs in other fisheries, allocations for the last six months to be decided at the 1976 Annual Meeting. Following several modifications to the proposal, the Panel **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (5) for the international

regulation of the fishery for herring in Div. 5Z of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and Statistical Area 6 for 1976 (Appendix III).

The Panel, **noting** that STACRES recommended for 1976 a TAC of 4,000 tons using the more conservative estimate of recruitment from the 1973 year-class and a TAC of 7,000 tons using the higher estimate, **agreed** to the higher TAC with the possibility of altering the TAC and national allocations at the 1976 Annual Meeting. The Panel, therefore, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (6) for international quota regulation of the fishery for herring in Div. 5Y of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area for 1976 (Appendix III).

- d) **Panel 4.** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr K. Løkkegaard (Denmark), reviewed the decision of the 1975 Annual Meeting regarding 1976 TACs and allocations for herring stocks in Divisions 4VWX of Subarea 4. Consideration was again given to placing quotas on herring in Div. 4VWX and in Div. 4V. However, the Panel was unable to reach unanimous agreement on the proposed redistribution of the allocations from those considered at the 1975 Annual Meeting. The Panel **agreed** that the TACs and national allocations for Subarea 4 herring for 1976 would remain unchanged from those agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting and that the 1976 TACs and national allocations would be subject to review and possible revision at the 1976 Annual Meeting. Panel 4, therefore, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (7) for international quota regulation of the fishery for herring in Div. 4VWa and Div. 4XWb of Subarea 4 of the Convention Area (Appendix III).

- e) **Panels 3, 4, and 5.** The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), reviewed joint Canada/US proposals for amending the size limit regulations for herring in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6 and mackerel in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 and Statistical Area 6. Panels 4 and 5, in joint session with Panel 3, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting

Governments, proposal (8) for the international size limit regulation of the fishery for herring in Subareas 4 and 5 of the Convention Area and in adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 (Appendix III);

and Panels 3, 4, and 5, in joint session, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (9) for the international size limit regulation of the fishery for mackerel in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 of the Convention Area and in adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 (Appendix III).

### **9. Application of the Commission's Mesh Regulations to Cuba**

The Commission **agreed** to a Cuban request that Member Countries in conducting surveillance take into account that Cuban vessels due to difficulties in supply of netting would not be able to comply with the Commission's mesh regulations until after 1 July 1976. The Commission adopted the following **Resolution Relating to the Application of the Commission's Regulations on the Mesh of Nets to Cuba**:

### **The Commission**

**Having Noted** the statement of the delegation of Cuba that difficulties in supply make it impossible for all Cuban vessels fishing in Subareas 2 and 3 to comply with the regulations of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries regarding the mesh of nets before 1 July 1976;

**Notes** that the authorities of Cuba will not require compliance with those regulations in Subareas 2 and 3 by Cuban vessels until 1 July 1976;

**Requests** Member Governments to take this into account in the conduct of inspections under the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement.

### **10. Acknowledgements and Adjournment**

The Vice-Chairman of The Commission, Mr D. H. Wallace (USA), acting for the Chairman, Mr E. Gillett (UK), expressed appreciation for the diligence and dedicated effort demonstrated by all delegations in coming to grips with the complex and important matters before the meeting.

There being no other business, the Vice-Chairman declared the Eighth Special Meeting of the Commission adjourned at 1845 hrs, 26 January 1976.

# PART 3

## Appendix I

### List of Participants

(Head of Delegation In bold)

**Chairman:** Mr E. Gillett, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, St. Andrews House, Edinburgh 1, Scotland.

#### BULGARIA

**Commissioner:**

**Mr D. Nedev**, SEB "Ribno Stopanstvo", 3 Industrialna St., Bourgas.

**Advisers:**

Mr P. Kolarov, Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography, Boul. Chervenoarmeisky 4, Varna.  
Ms S. Zlatanova, Fisheries Institute, 3 Industrialna St., Bourgas.

#### CANADA

**Commissioners:**

Mr A. A. Etchegary, Fishery Products Ltd., P.O. Box 550, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5L1.  
Mr K. Henriksen, H. B. Nickerson & Sons Ltd., P.O. Box 130, North Sydney, Nova Scotia B2A 3M2.  
**Dr A. W. H. Needler**, Huntsman Marine Laboratory, Brandy Cove, St. Andrews, New Brunswick E0G 2X0.

**Advisers:**

Mr S. W. Bartlett, Conservation and Protection (Newfoundland) Branch, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, P.O. Box 5667, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5X1.  
Mr J. S. Beckett, International Fisheries Directorate, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, 580 Booth St., Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3.  
Mr D. R. Bollivar, International Activities Branch, Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, P.O. Box 550, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2S7.  
Mr J. E. Creeper, Fisheries Management (Maritimes), Fisheries and Marine Service, Environment Canada, P.O. Box 550, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2S7.  
Capt E. H. Demone, National Sea Products, P.O. Box 867, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia B0J 2C0.  
Cdr R. Hitesman, Maritime Command HQ, FMO Halifax, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Attention: SSO Sea Ops.  
Mr D. A. McLean, Connors Bros., P.O. Box 166, Black's Harbour, New Brunswick.  
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## **PART 3 Appendix II**

### **Agenda**

1. Opening — Chairman of the Commission, Mr E. Gillett (UK).
2. Adoption of Agenda.
3. Appointment of Rapporteur.
4. Approval of Report of Seventh Special Commission Meeting, Montreal, 22-28 September 1975 (Circular Letter 75/60).
5.
  - a) STACRES Report, 17-20 September 1975 (Summ.Doc. 76/I/1);
  - b) Results of the deliberations of the scientists during the period 12-16 January 1976 will be reported to the Commission (Proc. 1, Serial No. 3734).
6. Consideration of Conservation of Herring in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6:
  - a) Review of TAC and allocation in Div. 4VWa (June 1975 Proc. 10, Section 6(v), and Appendix V);
  - b) Review of TAC and allocation in Div. 4XWb (June 1975 Proc. 10, Section 6(vi), and Appendix V);
  - c) TAC and allocation in Div. 5Y (June 1975 Proc. 11, Section 13(vii), and Appendix III);
  - d) TAC and allocation in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6 (June 1975 Proc. 11, Section 13(vi), and Appendix II);
  - e) Review of size limitation in Subareas 4 and 5 (Proposal (4) from January 1972 Special Commission Meeting, amended by Proposal (1) from January 1974 Special Commission Meeting and Proposal (10) from June 1974 Annual Meeting).
7. Consideration of Conservation of Mackerel in Subareas 3, 4, and 5, and Statistical Area 6:
  - a) Review of size limitation in Subareas 3, 4, and 5, and Statistical Area 6 (June 1975 Proc. 16, Appendix I).
8. Further Consideration of Fishing Effort Reduction on Groundfish Stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 (September 1975 Proc. 4 and 13) (Circular Letter 75/60).
9. Other Business:
  - a) Consideration of Report of STACTIC Meeting, 19-20 January 1976 (Proc.2, Serial No. 3739);
  - b) Consideration of Reports of Panel A (Seals), 12 December 1975 (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/3), and 22 January 1976 (Proc. 6, Serial No. 3748).
10. Adjournment.

## PART 3

### Appendix III

# List of Conservation Proposals (1) to (9) from the Eighth Special Commission Meeting, January 1976

### (1) Proposal for Amendment of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement of the Fishery Regulations in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6

That pursuant to paragraph 5 of Article VIII of the Convention, paragraphs 1 and 5(v) of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement, adopted at the Twenty-fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report Vol. 24, 1973-74, pages 87-89), be replaced by the following:

"1. Control shall be carried out by inspectors of the fishery control services of Contracting Governments. The names of the inspectors appointed for that purpose by the appropriate authority of the respective Governments shall be notified to the Commission. Appropriate authorities of Contracting Governments shall also notify the Commission of the names of the flag state authorities designated to receive immediate notice of infringements and the means by which they may receive and respond to radio communications. Each Contracting Government which has, at any time, more than 15 vessels under its country's flag, or under charter or contract to persons under its jurisdiction, engaged in fishing for sea fish or in the treatment of sea fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 shall, during that time, have an inspector or other designated authority present in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6, or other designated authority present in the country of a Contracting Government which is adjacent to the Convention Area, to receive and respond, without delay, to notice of apparent infringements."

- "5. (v) Where an inspecting officer observes an apparent infringement of the regulations prohibiting:
- (a) Fishing in a closed area or with gear prohibited in a specific area;
  - (b) Fishing for stocks or species in a region after the date on which the Contracting Government having jurisdiction over the inspected vessel has notified the Executive Secretary that persons under its jurisdiction will cease a directed fishery for those stocks or species;
  - (c) Fishing in an "Others" quota without prior notification to the ICAF Secretariat, or more than 10 days after the "Others" quota for that stock or species has been taken and Contracting Governments have been so informed by the Executive Secretary;
  - (d) Fishing without proper flag state registration documents for the area where the vessel is found fishing;
- the inspector shall, with a view toward facilitating flag state action on the apparent infringement, immediately attempt to communicate with an inspector of the inspected vessel's flag state known to be in the vicinity, or the authority of the inspected vessel's flag state designated in accordance with paragraph 1 above. The master of the inspected vessel shall arrange for messages to be sent and received by using his radio equipment and operator for this purpose. At the request of the inspector, the master shall cease all fishing which appears to the inspector to be in contravention of regulations cited above. During this time, the inspector shall complete the inspection and, if he is unable to communicate with an inspector or designated authority of the flag state within a reasonable period of time, he shall leave the inspected vessel and communicate as soon as possible with an inspector or designated authority of the flag state. However, if he succeeds in establishing communications while on board the inspected vessel, and provided that the inspector or designated authority of the flag state agrees, the inspector may remain aboard the inspected vessel. So long as the inspector remains aboard, the master may not resume fishing until the inspector is reasonably satisfied either with the action taken by the vessel's master, or as a result of his communication with an inspector or designated authority of the flag state, that the vessel will not repeat the apparent infringement for which it has been cited."

## **(2) Proposal for Amendment of the Management of International Quota Regulations**

That the Management of International Quota Regulations, adopted at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report Vol. 24, 1973-74, pages 105-106) and amended by the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting (June 1975 Meeting Proceedings No. 4, page 171), be amended by the addition of the following paragraph:

"7. That notwithstanding the above:

- (a) When the Commission finds that vessels of, or under contract or charter to, a Contracting Government have taken more than their national catch quota for any quota period, the Commission may adjust the corresponding catch quota for that Contracting Government in a succeeding quota period; or
- (b) When the Commission finds that a Contracting Government failed to report an intention to fish under an "Others" quota and subsequently took catches thereunder, or failed to report, in accordance with the Commission's regulations, catches taken under an "Others" quota, or continued a directed fishery under an "Others" quota after this fishing had been prohibited in accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Commission may decide upon measures to be taken to compensate for the damage to the stocks or species which was caused by the excessive catch. Such measures might include, among other things, adjustments to national quotas or the establishment of new national quotas for that Contracting Government as might be appropriate.

Quota adjustments shall be subtracted from the relevant quotas following the determination of quotas provided for in paragraphs 2 and 3 above, and shall not result in any increase in other quotas for the Contracting Government to which the quota adjustment applies, nor shall it result in any increase in any quotas for any other Contracting Government unless the Commission determines that the increase will not cause further harm to the stock.

### **(3) Proposal for the International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area**

That Proposal (1) for International Regulation of the Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 28 September 1975 (September 1975 Meeting Proceedings No. 4, Appendix I) and pending entry into force, be replaced by the following:

"1. That Contracting Governments, other than the coastal states, takes appropriate action in 1976 to limit fishing effort for groundfish, i.e., all finfish species listed in the ICNAF List of Species (ICNAF Statistical Bulletin Vol. 24 for the year 1974, pages 7-9) under the categories Principal Groundfish, Flounders, Other Groundfish, and Other Fish (except capelin, porbeagle sharks and other sharks) by vessels under their jurisdiction in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area, in accordance with the following:

"2. That each national allocation of effort in the attached table is an integral part of this regulation.

"3. That, for any effort allocation for a particular vessel tonnage, gear, and area:

- (a) For the purpose of this regulation, a day fished for groundfish is defined as a 24-hour period, reckoned from midnight to midnight, during which any fishing took place for one or more of the above species.
- (b) Each Contracting Government having a national allocation in a particular entry in the table shall prohibit fishing for groundfish by vessels under its jurisdiction on the date on which accumulated reported number of days fished, estimated unreported number of days fished, and the number of fishing days estimated to be expended before closure could be introduced, equal 100 percent of the allowable number of fishing days. Each such Contracting Government shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary of the date on which such prohibition has been put into effect. The Executive Secretary shall promptly inform all Contracting Governments of such notification.
- (c) Each Contracting Government not having a specific national allocation of fishing days in the table shall notify the Executive Secretary in advance if vessels under its jurisdiction intend to engage in a fishery to which this regulation applies, together if possible with an estimate of the number of fishing days to be expended and the gear and tonnage category of the vessels that will engage in the fishery; and it shall also promptly report the number of days fished for groundfish by vessels under its jurisdiction in the areas mentioned in the table in increments of 25 days. The Executive Secretary shall notify all Contracting Governments of the date on which accumulated reported number of days fished, estimated unreported number of days fished, and the number of fishing days estimated to be expended before closure could be introduced, by vessels under the jurisdiction of such Contracting Governments equal 100 percent of the allowable number of fishing days designated for such Contracting Governments. Within 10 days of the receipt of such notification from the Executive Secretary, each such Contracting Government shall prohibit fishing by vessels under its jurisdiction in the particular area.
- (d) Each Contracting Government not having a national allocation in a particular entry in the table shall notify the Executive Secretary in advance if vessels under its jurisdiction intend to engage under the "Others" category in a fishery in an area to which this regulation applies, together if possible with an estimate of the number of fishing days to be expended and the gear and tonnage category of the vessels that will engage in the fishery; and it shall also promptly report the number of days fished for groundfish by vessels under its jurisdiction in the areas mentioned in the table in increments of 10 days. The Executive Secretary shall notify all Contracting Governments of the date on which accumulated reported number of days fished, estimated unreported number of days fished, and the number of fishing days estimated to be expended before closure could be introduced, by vessels under the jurisdiction of such Contracting Governments equal 100 percent of the allowable number of fishing days designated for "Others" in the table. Within 10 days of the receipt of such notification from the Executive Secretary, each such Contracting Government shall prohibit fishing by vessels under its jurisdiction in the "Others" category in the particular area.

"4. Contracting Governments may transfer fishing effort from area to area during the 1976 fishing season, providing such transfers are limited to 10 percent of the total number of fishing days for the Contracting Government allocated for the 1976 fishing season in the area to which the transfer is made or 50 fishing days, whichever is greater; however, in the case of Contracting Governments not having a specific national allocation of fishing days, such transfers shall be limited to a total of 10 percent for all such Contracting Governments. Contracting Governments may also transfer fishing effort from one category to another within the same area, provided that the conversion factors specified in ICNAF Commissioners' Document 76/1/1 with Addenda are used. When a Contracting Government intends to make such a transfer, it shall notify the Executive Secretary in advance, specifying the estimated number of fishing days to be transferred and the areas and categories involved in the transfer. Within 30 days of having notified the Executive Secretary of the estimated number of fishing days transferred, a Contracting Government shall advise the Executive Secretary of the actual number of fishing days transferred. The Executive Secretary shall circulate within 10 days to Contracting Governments any estimated or final changes in the allocations of fishing days submitted to him.

"5. That, with regard to any effort allocation, each entry in the table shall be considered a separate proposal under Article VIII of the Convention as amended. Further, sub-paragraph 3(d) shall apply to each Contracting Government without a specific effort allocation in any entry in the table, notwithstanding that sub-paragraph 3(b) may apply to each such Contracting Government with respect to another entry in the table.

"6. That the effort allocations in the table are without prejudice to future allocations."

ILLUSTRATIVE TABLE. Integral part of Proposal (3) for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area.

Country	Vessel tonnage	Gear	National Allocations Of Fishing Effort (Days Fishing) For 1976				
			Area				
			SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX
Canada <sup>a</sup>	150- 499.9	OT	—	(1600)	—	(2200)	(5100)
	150- 499.9	MWT	—	—	—	(50)	(100)
	150- 499.9	LL	—	(150)	—	(50)	(200)
	500- 999.9	OT	(1200)	(7100)	(500)	(1500)	(2400)
	500- 999.9	MWT	—	—	—	(100)	(100)
Cuba	> 2000	OT	250	450	225	—	810
Denmark	150- 499.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	150- 499.9	LL	540	—	1500	85	140
	500- 999.9	OT	306	83	100	75	125
	500- 999.9	MWT	—	—	—	17	33
France <sup>a</sup>	150- 499.9	OT	—	(108)	—	(288)	(102)
	1000-1999.9	OT	(411)	(269)	(105)	(109)	(492)
Federal Republic of Germany	1000-1999.9	OT	123	6	3	—	—
	> 2000	OT	802	44	17	—	—
German Democratic Republic	500- 999.9	OT	682	38	—	—	—
	1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	1000-1999.9	MWT	—	—	—	—	—
	> 2000	OT	234	30	—	—	—
	> 2000	MWT	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	1000-1999.9	OT	—	1	—	1	18
	> 2000	OT	—	78	—	31	179
Norway	150- 499.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	150- 499.9	LL	300	135	288	304	250
	500- 999.9	OT	130	14	—	—	—
	500- 999.9	LL	—	—	—	—	—
	1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	> 2000	OT	1535	300	80	—	—
Portugal	500- 999.9	GN	—	483	—	8	2
	1000-1999.9	OT	1496	1362	592	24	35
	1000-1999.9	GN	—	527	—	9	5
	> 2000	OT	589	527	266	5	19
Romania	> 2000	OT	80	80	25	35	—
Spain <sup>b</sup>	150- 499.9	PT	215	2136	40	408	341
	500- 999.9	PT	183	1818	34	349	288
	1000-1999.9	OT	558	302	82	105	116
	1000-1999.9	PT	22	202	14	43	33
USSR	150- 499.9	OT	—	563	23	172	53
	500- 999.9	OT	14	94	7	6	108
	1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	> 2000	OT	3505	1051	736	154	3425
	> 2000	MWT	343	662	—	—	—

Table (continued)

Country	Vessel tonnage	Gear	National Allocations Of Fishing Effort (Days Fishing) For 1976				
			Area				
			SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX
UK	500- 999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	1000-1999.9	OT	616	246	370	—	—
USA <sup>a</sup>	150- 499.9	OT	—	—	—	—	(1883)
	150- 499.9	MWT	—	—	—	—	(81)
Bulgaria, Iceland, and Italy <sup>c</sup>			100	100	100	100	200
Others		GN	20	—	20	—	—

<sup>a</sup>Figures in brackets ( ) are estimated only; include estimated fishing days outside the Convention Area.

<sup>b</sup>Figures for the PT gear categories are for days fishing by pairs of trawlers.

<sup>c</sup>Allocation for Bulgaria, Iceland, and Italy as a group = days fished per effort management area, irrespective of vessel tonnage or gear used.

#### Definitions of Abbreviations

OT = otter trawl  
MWT = midwater trawl  
LL = longline  
PT = pair trawl  
GN = gill net

#### (4) Proposal for International Regulation Respecting the Protection of Seals in the "Gulf" and "Front" Areas of the Convention Area

That the International Regulation Respecting the Protection of Seals in the "Gulf" and "Front" areas of the Convention Area, adopted at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report Vol. 24, 1973-74, page 91) and entered into force on 11 January 1975, and amended at the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting (June 1975 Meeting Proceedings No. 12, page 244) and entered into force on 16 January 1976, be replaced by the following:

"1. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to ensure that, for the year 1976 only, the total allowable catch in the "Front"<sup>1</sup> and "Gulf"<sup>2</sup> Areas be 127,100 harp seals, *Pagophilus groenlandica*, including a quota of 52,333 for Canada, 44,667 for Norway, and 100 unallocated, and an estimate of 30,000 harp seals to be caught by indigenous non-mobile fisheries of the "Front" and "Gulf" Areas.

"2. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to ensure that, for the year 1976 only, the total allowable catch in the "Front" Area be 15,100 hooded seals, *Cystophora cristata*, including a quota of 6,000 for Canada, 9,000 for Norway, and 100 unallocated.

"3. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to ensure that the open season in the "Front" Area for the taking of harp seals shall commence not earlier than 0900 hours GMT on 12 March 1976 and terminate not later than 2400 hours GMT on 24 April 1976, and for the taking of hooded seals shall commence not earlier than 1000 hours GMT on 22 March 1976 and terminate not later than 2400 hours GMT on 24 April 1976.

"4. That Contracting Governments take appropriate action to prohibit the killing of adult (harp) seals in whelping patches in the "Gulf" and "Front" Areas.

"5. That Contracting Governments take appropriate action to prohibit the killing, by vessels in the "Front" Area during the open season each day, of harp seals between the hours 2400 GMT and 0900 GMT, and of hooded seals between the hours 2300 GMT and 1000 GMT up to 31 March and between the hours 2400 GMT and 0900 GMT thereafter.

"6. That Contracting Governments take appropriate action to prohibit the killing of whelping hooded seals in Davis Strait from vessels of over 50 gross tons.

"7. That the Proposal for Management of the International Quota Regulations, adopted by the Commission in Plenary Session on 14 June 1974, shall not apply."

<sup>1</sup>All the waters of the Strait of Belle Isle and the Atlantic Ocean east of a straight line between the lighthouse at Amour Point on the east coast of Labrador and the lighthouse on Flowers Island in Flowers Cove, Newfoundland.

<sup>2</sup>All the waters and territories west of a straight line between the lighthouse at Amour Point on the coast of Labrador and the lighthouse on Flowers Island in Flowers Cove, Newfoundland.

**(5) Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fishery for Herring in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6**

"1. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to regulate the catch of herring, *Clupea harengus* L., by persons under their jurisdiction fishing in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6, so that the aggregate catch of herring by persons taking such herring shall not exceed 30,000 metric tons in the period 1 January to 30 June 1976, or 60,000 metric tons in 1976.

"2. That Competent Authorities from each Contracting Government listed below shall limit in the period 1 January to 30 June 1976 the catch of herring taken by persons under their jurisdiction to the amounts listed from Division 5Z of Subarea 5 and adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6:

Bulgaria .....	500 metric tons
Canada .....	1,000 metric tons
Cuba .....	500 metric tons
France .....	500 metric tons
Federal Republic of Germany .....	4,000 metric tons
German Democratic Republic .....	4,000 metric tons
Japan .....	500 metric tons
Poland .....	4,000 metric tons
Romania .....	500 metric tons
USSR .....	5,000 metric tons
USA .....	9,400 metric tons
Others .....	100 metric tons
	<b>30,000 metric tons</b>

Provided, however, that persons under the jurisdiction of any Contracting Government who do not take the total amount of herring in the amounts mentioned above during the period 1 January to 30 June 1976 may take herring in the amounts remaining available within those amounts listed above during the period 1 July to 31 December 1976, in addition to any quotas allocated by subsequent action of the Commission.

"3. Notwithstanding the provision of paragraph 2 above, it is understood that no Contracting Government will permit a directed fishery for herring in the period 1 January to 30 June 1976, except with purse seines or vessels of less than 110 feet (33.5 meters).

"4. To minimize the risk of exceeding the amounts listed in paragraph 2 above and in order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted for other species and which take herring incidentally, that the contracting Governments limit persons under their jurisdiction to have in possession on board a vessel fishing for other species (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) herring caught in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 and in adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 in amounts not exceeding 7.5 percent by weight of all fish on board. Should it be observed during an inspection under the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement that a vessel is taking herring in amounts greater than that permitted during the first 72 hours of fishing since entering the fishery within the region specified in paragraph 1 above, the inspector shall note this fact on the Report of Inspection and bring it to the attention of the master. Such observation in itself shall not be considered an infringement.

"5. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to regulate the catch of herring, *Clupea harengus* L., by persons under their jurisdiction fishing in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6, so that the aggregate catch of herring by vessels from this stock shall not exceed in the period 1 July to 31 December 1976 the amount which is decided for each Contracting Government at the Annual Meeting in June 1976 by unanimous vote of the Contracting Governments present and voting, plus the amount remaining pursuant to paragraph 2 above, which amounts shall become effective for all Contracting Governments on 1 July 1976.

"6. That the Commission shall establish a level of catch for the herring stock in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 and in Adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 for subsequent years which will maintain the adult stock at a level of at least 225,000 tons, and that the total allowable catch will be set at 60,000 tons or less per year, until such time as the adult stock reaches the level of 500,000 tons. Thereafter, the commission will set the total allowable catch so as to maintain the adult stock at a level of at least 500,000 tons."

**(6) Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fishery for Herring in Division 5Y of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area**

"1. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to regulate the catch of herring, *Clupea harengus* L., by persons under their jurisdiction fishing in Division 5Y of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area, so that the aggregate catch of herring by vessels from this stock shall not exceed 7,000 tons in 1976 or an amount which is decided at the Annual Meeting in June 1976 by unanimous vote of the Contracting Governments present and voting, which adjusted amount shall become effective for all Contracting Governments upon receipt of notification from the Depository Government of the amount decided by the Commission.

"2. That Competent Authorities from each Contracting Government shall limit in 1976 the catch of herring taken by persons under their jurisdiction from the above-mentioned stock to the amount below, or the adjusted amount which is decided for each Contracting Government at the Annual Meeting in June 1976 by unanimous vote of the Contracting Governments present and voting, which amount shall become effective for each Contracting Government upon receipt of notification from the Depository Government of the amounts decided by the Commission:

Canada .....	950 metric tons
USA .....	6,000 metric tons
Other .....	50 metric tons
	7,000 metric tons."

**(7) Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fishery for Herring in Division 4V, Division 4W, and Division 4X of Subarea 4 of the Convention Area**

"1. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to regulate the catch of herring, *Clupea harengus* L., by persons under their jurisdiction fishing in Division 4V and that portion of Division 4W north of 44°52'N, and Division 4X and that portion of Division 4W south of 44°52'N, of Subarea 4 of the Convention Area, so that the aggregate catch of herring by vessels from this stock shall not exceed in 1976 an amount decided at the 1976 Annual Meeting by unanimous vote of the Contracting Governments present and voting if a decision to revise the aggregate catch is taken. Such amount would become effective for all Contracting Governments upon receipt of notification from the Depositary Government of the amount decided by the Commission.

"2. That Competent Authorities from each Contracting Government shall limit in 1976 the catch of herring taken by persons under their jurisdiction from the above-mentioned stock to the amount decided for each Contracting Government at the 1976 Annual Meeting by unanimous vote of the Contracting Governments present and voting, if a decision to revise the catch taken by persons under their jurisdiction is taken. Such amount would become effective for each Contracting Government upon receipt of notification from the Depositary Government of the amounts decided by the Commission."

**(8) Proposal for International Size Limit Regulation of the Fishery for Herring in Subareas 4 and 5 of the Convention Area and in Adjacent Waters to the West and South Within Statistical Area 6**

That the International Size Limit Regulation of the Fishery for Herring in Subareas 4 and 5 of the Convention Area and in Adjacent Waters to the West and South Within Statistical Area 6, adopted at the January 1972 Special Commission Meeting (Annual Proceedings Vol. 22, 1971-72, pages 73-74) and amended at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report Vol. 24, 1973-74, page 98), be replaced by the following:

"1. That the Contracting Governments take the appropriate action to prohibit the taking or possession of herring, *Clupea harengus* L., less than 9 inches (22.7 cm), measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail fin, by persons under their jurisdiction, except as provided below, in those portions of Division 4W south of 44°52'N latitude and Division 4X south of 43°50'N latitude of Subarea 4, in Subarea 5, and in adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6.

"2. That the Contracting Governments may permit persons under their jurisdiction to take herring less than 9 inches (22.7 cm), measured as specified in paragraph 1 above, so long as such persons do not have in possession on board a vessel engaged in fishing for sea fish or in the treatment of sea fish herring under this size limit in an amount exceeding 10 percent by weight, or 25 percent by count, of all herring on board the vessel caught in the areas specified in paragraph 1 above which can be identified as to size at the time of inspection.

"3. Should it be observed during an inspection under the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement that a person is taking herring less than 9 inches (22.7 cm) in excessive amounts during the first 48 hours of fishing since entering the fishery within the areas specified in paragraph 1 above, the inspector shall note this fact on the Report of Inspection and bring it to the attention of the master. Such observation in itself shall not be considered an infringement."

**(9) Proposal for International Size Limit Regulation of the Fishery for Mackerel in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 of the Convention Area and in Adjacent Waters to the West and South Within Statistical Area 6**

That the International Size Limit Regulation of the Fishery for Mackerel in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 and in Adjacent Waters to the West and South Within Statistical Area 6, adopted at the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting (June 1975 Meeting Proceedings No. 16, page 257), be replaced by the following:

"1. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to prohibit the taking of possession of mackerel, *Scomber scombrus* L., less than 10 inches (25 cm), measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail fin, by persons under their jurisdiction, except as provided below, in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 of the Convention Area and in adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6.

"2. That the Contracting Governments may permit persons under their jurisdiction to take mackerel less than 10 inches (25 cm), measured as specified in paragraph 1 above, so long as such persons do not have in possession on board a vessel engaged in fishing for sea fish or in the treatment of sea fish mackerel under this size limit in an amount exceeding 10 percent by weight, or 25 percent by count, of all mackerel on board the vessel caught in the areas specified in paragraph 1 above which can be identified as to size at the time of the inspection.

"3. Should it be observed during an inspection under the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement that a person is taking mackerel less than 10 inches (25 cm) in excessive amounts during the first 48 hours of fishing since entering the fishery within the areas specified in paragraph 1 above, the inspector shall note this fact on the Report of Inspection and bring it to the attention of the master. Such observation in itself shall not be considered an infringement."

# PART 3

## Appendix IV

### Eighth Special Commission Meeting — January 1976 Press Notice

The Eighth Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) was held at FAO, Rome, Italy, during 21-26 January 1976, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). About 105 representatives attended from all 18 Member Countries as follows: Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, and United States of America. Observers were present from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Cuba became the 18th Member of the Commission in November 1975 and was accorded a special welcome.

#### 1. Subjects Covered

The main purpose of the meeting was to consider a number of matters deferred from the June 1975 Annual Meeting and the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting: (a) establish total allowable catches (TACs) and national quotas for 1976 in respect of two herring stocks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, and review the conservation measures for two herring stocks in Subarea 4; (b) review, and revise if necessary, the minimum size limit regulations for herring in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6, and mackerel in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 and Statistical Area 6; (c) further consider the matter of fishing effort reduction on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4; (d) consider further improvement to the Commission's Scheme of Joint International Enforcement of the Fishery regulations; and (e) consider the conservation measures for harp and hooded seals for 1976.

#### 2. Scientific and Technical Advice

The Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) met during 12-16 January 1976 to review the state of the herring stocks in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6 and the scientific aspects of effort reduction measures for Subareas 2, 3, and 4, and submitted a comprehensive report on these subjects. Meetings of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) were held during 19-26 January 1976 and submitted a report on proposals for improving the enforcement of the Commission's fishery regulations.

#### 3. Herring Catch Limitations

(a) The Commission agreed to regulations setting a TAC of 60,000 metric tons for herring in **ICNAF Division 5Z and Statistical Area 6** (Georges Bank and Middle Atlantic area) for 1976. A compromise agreement set the TAC at 30,000 metric tons for the period 1 January to 30 June 1976 and provided national allocations as follows:

Bulgaria .....	500 metric tons	Japan .....	500 metric tons
Canada .....	1,000 metric tons	Poland .....	4,000 metric tons
Cuba .....	500 metric tons	Romania .....	500 metric tons
France .....	500 metric tons	USSR .....	4,000 metric tons
Federal Republic of Germany ..	4,000 metric tons	USA .....	9,400 metric tons
German Democratic Republic ..	4,000 metric tons	Others .....	100 metric tons

The agreement also included the prohibition of a directed fishery in this period except with purse seiners or vessels less than 110 feet in length, a limitation of 7.5% of herring caught incidentally in other fisheries, primarily mackerel and hake, constraints on future TACs to prevent further declines and to rebuild the stock, and national allocation of catch for the final six-month period of 1976 at the 1976 Annual Meeting. The TAC and allocations become effective immediately.

(b) The Commission Agreed to a TAC of 7,000 metric tons for herring in **ICNAF Division 5Y** (Gulf of Maine) for 1976 and the allocations to Canada of 950 metric tons, USA 6,000 metric tons, and Others 50 metric tons. These amounts may be adjusted at the 1976 Annual Meeting. The TAC and allocations become effective immediately.

(c) The Commission agreed to allow revision of the TAC and allocations for herring in **ICNAF Divisions 4VWX** (Nova Scotia Bank and Bay of Fundy) at the 1976 Annual Meeting, following failure to reach agreement on adjustments to the TAC and allocations as provided for by the 1975 Annual Meeting.

#### 4. Herring and Mackerel Size Limitation

The Commission agreed to revisions to the herring and mackerel size limitation regulations to provide exemption clauses which would be more enforceable.

## 5. Groundfish Effort Reduction in Subareas 2, 3, and 4

The Commission agreed to modification of the table allocating national fishing effort for groundfish off the Canadian Atlantic coast adopted at the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting (Table 1) and to revision of the governing regulations to make it clearer to deal with three countries (Bulgaria, Iceland, and Italy) not given specific allocations, and to deal with the applicability of the allocation for "Others".

## 6. Management of International Catch Quota Regulations

The Commission agreed to an amendment to the Catch Quota Management regulations which would allow adjustments to be made in national allocations in case of over-fishing of catch quotas.

## 7. Improvements to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement

The Commission agreed to

- a) an addition to the Scheme to require any Member Country having at any time 15 or more fishing vessels in the ICNAF Area to have an inspector or designated authority in the Member Country adjoining the area to receive and respond to notices of infringement;
- b) a revision to the Scheme requiring immediate action in case of infringements, including cessation of illegal fishing, authority for the foreign inspector to remain aboard to safeguard evidence by agreement with the national inspector or designated authority, and conditions on resuming fishing;
- c) a resolution requesting fuller reporting on infringements and detailed analysis and recommendations by the Commission's Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) to the Commission's Annual Meetings;
- d) a resolution requesting review of national legislation with a view to action at the 1976 Annual Meeting on withdrawal of ICNAF registration for vessels infringing the regulation.

## 8. Seal Conservation

The Commission agreed to TACs and national allocations for harp and hooded seals in the "Gulf" and "Front" Areas for 1976. The TAC for **harp seals** was set at 127,100 with a Canadian allocation of 52,333, a Norwegian allocation of 44,667, an estimated 30,000 to be caught in the indigenous non-mobile fisheries, and an unallocated amount of 100. The TAC for **hooded seals** was set at 15,100 with a Canadian allocation of 6,000, a Norwegian allocation of 9,000 and an unallocated of 100.

The Commission agreed to a resolution requesting implementation of the harp and hooded seal proposals by 12 March 1976.

## 9. Cuban Adherence to Mesh Regulations

The Commission agreed to a resolution which recognized the inability of the new Member Country, Cuba, to comply with the mesh-size regulations in Subareas 2 and 3 (Labrador and Newfoundland areas) before 1 July 1976.

## 10. 1976 Annual Meeting

The 1976 Annual Meeting of the Commission will be held, by kindness of the Cuban Government, in Havana, Cuba, from 8 to 23 June 1976, to be preceded by meetings of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES), the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC), and the Scientific Advisers to the Panels from 31 May through 5 June 1976.

Office of the Secretariat, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, 19 February 1976.

**Table 1. Integral part of Proposal (3) for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 26 January 1976**

Country	Vessel tonnage	Gear	National Allocations of Fishing Effort (Days Fishing) For 1976				
			Area				
			SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX
Canada <sup>a</sup>	150- 499.9	OT	—	(1600)	—	(2200)	(5100)
	150- 499.9	MWT	—	—	—	(50)	(100)
	150- 499.9	LL	—	(150)	—	(50)	(200)
	500- 999.9	OT	(1200)	(7100)	(500)	(1500)	(2400)
	500- 999.9	MWT	—	—	—	(100)	(100)
Cuba	> 2000	OT	250	450	225	—	810
Denmark	150- 499.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	150- 499.9	LL	540	—	1500	85	140
	500- 999.9	OT	306	83	100	75	125
	500- 999.9	MWT	—	—	—	17	33
France <sup>a</sup>	150- 499.9	OT	—	(108)	—	(288)	(102)
	1000-1999.9	OT	(411)	(269)	(105)	(109)	(492)
Federal Republic of Germany	1000-1999.9	OT	123	6	3	—	—
	> 2000	OT	802	44	17	—	—
German Democratic Republic	500- 999.9	OT	682	38	—	—	—
	1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	1000-1999.9	MWT	—	—	—	—	—
	> 2000	OT	234	30	—	—	—
	> 2000	MWT	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	1000-1999.9	OT	—	1	—	1	18
	> 2000	OT	—	78	—	31	179
Norway	150- 499.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	150- 499.9	LL	300	135	288	304	250
	500- 999.9	OT	130	14	—	—	—
	500- 999.9	LL	—	—	—	—	—
	1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	> 2000	OT	1535	300	80	—	—
Portugal	500- 999.9	GN	—	483	—	8	2
	1000-1999.9	OT	1496	1362	592	24	35
	1000-1999.9	GN	—	527	—	9	5
	> 2000	OT	589	527	266	5	19
Romania	> 2000	OT	80	80	25	35	—
Spain <sup>b</sup>	150- 499.9	PT	215	2136	40	408	341
	500- 999.9	PT	183	1818	34	349	288
	1000-1999.9	OT	558	302	82	105	116
	1000-1999.9	PT	22	202	14	43	33
USSR	150- 499.9	OT	—	563	23	172	53
	500- 999.9	OT	14	94	7	6	108
	1000-1999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	> 2000	OT	3505	1051	736	154	3425
	> 2000	MWT	343	662	—	—	—

Table 1 (continued)

Country	Vessel tonnage	Gear	National Allocations of Fishing Effort (Days Fishing) for 1976				
			Area				
			SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX
UK	500- 999.9	OT	—	—	—	—	—
	1000-1999.9	OT	616	246	370	—	—
USA <sup>a</sup>	150- 499.9	OT	—	—	—	—	(1883)
	150- 499.9	MWT	—	—	—	—	(81)
Bulgaria, Iceland, and Italy <sup>c</sup>			100	100	100	100	200
Others		GN	20	—	20	—	—

<sup>a</sup>Figures in brackets ( ) are estimated only; include estimated fishing days outside the Convention Area.

<sup>b</sup>Figures for the PT gear categories are for days fishing by pairs of trawlers.

<sup>c</sup>Allocation for Bulgaria, Iceland, and Italy as a group = days fished per effort management area, irrespective of vessel tonnage or gear used.

#### Definitions of Abbreviations

- OT = otter trawl
- MWT = midwater trawl
- LL = longline
- PT = pair trawl
- GN = gill net



# PART 4

## Report of the 26th Annual Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Montreal, Canada, 8-23 June 1976

By the Chairman, Mr E. Gillett

### 1. Introduction

Under the terms of a Convention signed in 1949, the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) is responsible for the investigation, protection and conservation of the fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic in order to make possible the maintenance of a maximum sustained catch from these fisheries. Based on the results of scientific investigations, promoted and coordinated by the Commission, and on economic and technical considerations, measures to achieve the optimum utilization of the stocks of those species of fish which support international fisheries in the Convention Area are recommended to the 18 Contracting Governments.

The Commission has six panels, five of which review the fisheries and recommend conservation measures in geographic subareas of the Convention Area (Subarea 1, off West Greenland; Subarea 2, off Labrador; Subarea 3, off East and South Newfoundland; Subarea 4, the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Nova Scotia banks; and Subarea 5, the Gulf of Maine). The sixth panel has jurisdiction respecting harp and hooded seals in the Convention Area.

The Commission has Standing Committees on Research and Statistics (STACRES), on Finance and Administration (STACFAD), on Regulatory Measures (STACREM), and on International Control (STACTIC).

### 2. Time and Place of Meeting

The 26th Annual Meeting of the Commission was convened, at the invitation of Canada, in the Salle Dorée of the Sheraton-Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, Canada, from 8 to 23 June 1976 under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). The Seventh and Eighth Special Meetings of the Commission were held from 22 to 28 September 1975 at Montreal, Canada (Part 2, this volume) and from 21 to 26 January 1976 at Rome, Italy (Part 3, this volume), respectively.

The Scientific Advisers to Panel A (Seals) met under the chairmanship of Dr M. A. Bigg (Canada) from 17 to 19 November 1975 at Ottawa, Canada, and again under the chairmanship of Dr A. W. Mansfield (Canada) on 9 and 10 December 1975 at Bergen, Norway, to provide advice on conservation of harp and hooded seals to a special meeting of Panel A in Bergen, Norway, on 12 December 1975 and to the Eighth Special Commission Meeting. Scientific Advisers to each of Panels 1 to 5 met on 4, 5, and 15 June 1976 at Montreal, Canada, to provide advice to the 26th Annual Meeting of the Commission.

The Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) met under the chairmanship of Mr W. G. Gordon (USA) on 24 September 1975 and provided advice to the Seventh Special Commission Meeting on the national registration of vessels engaged in fishing or in the treatment of sea fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6. STACTIC met again between 19 and 26 January 1976 and provided advice to the Eighth Special Commission Meeting on amendments to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement and for the management of international quota regulations regarding the detention of and withdrawal of registration of vessels violating the Commission's regulations, the adjustment of catch quotas for over-quota fishing and the transfer of inspectors by helicopter.

The Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) and its Assessments Subcommittee chaired by Mr A. T. Pinhorn (Canada) met under the chairmanship of Dr A. W. May (Canada) during the period 17 to 23 September 1975 prior to the Seventh Special Commission Meeting. STACRES and Working Groups on Fishing Effort Regulation convened by Mr A. T. Pinhorn (Canada) and on Herring convened by Dr V. C. Anthony (USA) met during the period 12 to 16 January and on 23 January 1976 prior to the Eighth Special Commission Meeting. Meetings of the STACRES Assessments and Biological Surveys Subcommittees were held in Dartmouth, Canada, from 31 March to 10 April 1976 under the chairmanship of Mr A. T. Pinhorn (Canada) and Dr J. Messtorff (Fed. Rep. Germany), respectively, and of the

Environmental Working Group at Szczecin, Poland, from 26 to 30 April 1976 under Mr E. J. Sandeman (Canada). Meetings of STACRES, its Subcommittees and Working Groups were held during the period 31 May - 3 June and on 21 June 1976.

From 8 to 23 June 1976, agenda items from the 26th Annual Meeting were considered in Plenary Session or assigned for study and reporting. Reports and recommendations from meetings of the Standing Committees on Research and Statistics (STACRES), on Finance and Administration (STACFAD), and on International Control (STACTIC), and from meetings of each of the six Panels and of joint meetings of Panels 2 and 3, Panels 3, 4, and 5, and Panels 1-5, were considered for approval by the Commission in Plenary Session on 23 June 1976.

### 3. Participants (Appendix I)

Commissioners, their Advisers and Experts were present from all Member Countries, except Romania. Observers were in attendance from the European Economic Community (EEC), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the International Commission for the Southeast Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF), and the Republic of Korea. Guests from the Department of Oceanography, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, took part in discussions of ecosystem management. The organization and officers of the Commission for the year 1975/76 are recorded on page 5 of this volume.

### 4. Opening Session

The Opening Session of the 26th Annual Meeting of the Commission was convened in the Salle Dorée of the Sheraton-Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, Canada, at 1000 hrs on 8 June 1976. The Chairman of the Commission welcomed Commissioners, Advisers, Observers and Guests, and introduced the Honourable Roméo LeBlanc, Minister of State for Fisheries, who addressed the meeting, on behalf of the Government of Canada, as follows:

"It gives me great pleasure to welcome delegates to the 26th Annual Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF).

"I wish to recall that we had been invited by the Government of Cuba to hold this Annual Meeting in Havana. I want to thank the Cuban Government for foregoing their plans so that Canada could host the

meeting. A good deal of preparatory work must have been done in Cuba and I very much appreciate the Cuban decision which has allowed us to hold the meeting here. I also wish to thank the other Member Nations for giving up the beaches of Cuba for the sidewalks of Montreal.

"Much has happened since the Special Meeting of the Commission held in Montreal last September. The great concern about the status of the resource off the Canadian coast, which led to the establishment of an effort reduction program and more stringent TACs for certain stocks, has been reinforced by the pessimistic report developed by the Assessments Subcommittee at its April meeting in Halifax. We know now that the resource crisis is much worse than we had imagined. Even stronger measures are needed for 1977 if the resource is to survive and to provide an economic base for future fisheries, not only by fishermen of coastal states but by others as well.

"On Friday of last week my colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and I announced the decision of the Government of Canada to extend Canadian fisheries jurisdiction to 200 miles by 1 January 1977. We believe that such action is necessary to ensure that the disastrous decline of the stocks is halted and that the next decade will see the restoration of a resource that is vital to meeting the protein needs of the world.

"The Government of Canada took this step only after careful appraisal of the ICNAF scientists' assessments and a careful review of the management results obtained under present multilateral fisheries arrangements. We are convinced that only the coastal state can effectively provide for proper management of the resource, taking into account the interests of both coastal fishing communities and of fishermen of other nations, Canada is committed to allowing others to fish for stocks which may be surplus to Canadian capacity. I reaffirm that commitment now. For many stocks there can only be a surplus if the stocks are rebuilt. It is to the process of rebuilding that the Government of Canada is preparing to devote itself now.

"Canada has long worked toward multilateral solutions of international fisheries problems. We remain committed to this approach. That commitment has brought us to the present ICNAF meeting. Here, in good faith, we are about to work with other Member Nations to bring about sound conservation measures for 1977, measures which recognize the needs of our hard-pressed coastal communities and provide for access within Canada's 200-mile limit by fishermen of other nations so that protein resources do not go

unutilized. We believe that Canadian participation in the present meeting will help us all during the transition between the old and new regimes of fisheries management off Canada's coast.

"I hope that this Canadian approach will be clearly understood. We are here to consult and cooperate with our ICNAF partners. For 1977, however, Canada will determine within its 200-mile zone the conservation measures to be applied, the vessels which will be allowed to fish, and the allocations they will be allowed to take. Vessels fishing within the zone will be fishing under Canadian permits and will be subject to Canadian enforcement procedures. This does **not** mean that Canada will ignore the results of this meeting in 1977. On the contrary, as an interim measure for 1977 only, Canada is prepared to give effect to those regulations agreed within ICNAF with Canada's concurrence, by adopting and enforcing such regulations under Canadian law. Canada, of course, may also adopt additional regulatory measures for 1977 but these too would take into account decisions within ICNAF and would be consistent with agreements reached here with Canadian concurrence.

"For stocks of the area outside 200 miles, Canada is committed to multilateral cooperation and is prepared to negotiate the regulations for such stocks for 1977 on the same basis as at past ICNAF meetings.

"I should also like to outline in brief general terms some key elements in Canada's approach to the long-term future of ICNAF:

- 1) With respect to the future, during 1976, Canada will seek modification of the existing ICNAF arrangements to provide for continued multilateral cooperation regarding the management of stocks beyond 200 miles. In the exercise of its management responsibilities for stocks within 200 miles, Canada will establish consultative procedures aimed at maintaining the present high level of scientific cooperation within ICNAF and providing a forum for discussion of regulations applied by Canada within its zone. We are hopeful that other Members share Canada's desire to continue multilateral cooperation and consultation regarding the management of stocks in the Northwest Atlantic and will join with us in the development of suitable new arrangements.
- 2) In view of the impending jurisdictional changes and the present ICNAF procedure which allows Member Nations to lodge objections to meas-

ures agreed at the present meeting, Canada must serve notice, by 30 June 1976, of its intention to withdraw from ICNAF on 31 December 1976. Canada will not necessarily proceed with withdrawal but must preserve this option to clear the way for new multilateral arrangements which take into account the new jurisdictional realities. Indeed, it is Canada's hope that we can make an uninterrupted transition from the old to the new regimes. It goes without saying, however, that if agreement cannot be reached at the present meeting Canada must exercise its option to withdraw.

"In proposing new arrangements we are mindful of the value of much that has been developed under the old arrangements. We do not wish to lose what is good. It would be unrealistic for us to hope that this meeting could arrive at final decisions about the future of ICNAF. A special meeting on this question may be necessary later this year. I hope, however, that we can all here and now affirm our mutual commitment to continued consultation and cooperation within what we know is the developing new order of the sea. Let us set a model for the implementation of that new order as we have in the past, with all our failings, set a model for other international fisheries commissions. We owe this duty to a hungry world. As a first step, we must work at this meeting to assure the protection of the resource and the development of an orderly transitional regime for 1977. That is the job before us. Good luck!"

The Chairman thanked the Minister for his kind remarks concerning the past achievements of ICNAF and the future possibilities for international cooperation. ICNAF had been world leader in international fisheries management. This had remained true whatever dissatisfaction some Members had had with the degree of success it had achieved. With jurisdictional changes in the offing, ICNAF might well take the lead in developing new forms of international consultation in regard to fisheries.

The Chairman then pointed out that he would conduct the meeting under the Articles of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries and the Rules of Procedure for the Commission and Panels. These rules included the right of any Member State to disassociate itself from any recommendation of the Commission so that the position of each Member State, whether a coastal or non-coastal state, was fully preserved whatever views it might take with regard to the extension of jurisdiction. He noted that Canada and USA had given due notice of their request to have the future of ICNAF considered at this meeting and following his

suggestion, the Commission delegates agreed to recess to consider the agenda item related to the question of extended jurisdiction, namely "the future of the Commission and its potential role under extended coastal state jurisdiction" (Plenary Agenda Item 15) to which would be added "to what extent pending changes in jurisdiction should modify proceedings at this meeting".

The Chairman then declared the 26th Annual Meeting recessed at 1040 hrs, 8 June, to prepare for a further session of the Plenary later in the day. Between 8 and 23 June inclusive, the following business of the Commission was concluded.

## 5. Agenda (Appendix II)

In accordance with Commission Rules of Procedure 4.2(b), a provisional agenda for the Annual Meeting was transmitted to all Contracting Governments and Commissioners not less than 60 days in advance of the meeting. The agenda was adopted at the First Plenary Session on 8 June 1976.

## 6. Publicity

In accordance with past practice, the Commission appointed the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, with the Chairman of STACFAD and the Executive Secretary, to a committee on policy regarding publicity. A press release covering the major items of importance is at Appendix IV.

### 7. Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD)

The Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD) met on 22 June and considered items on its agenda and financial and administrative items assigned from the Plenary Agenda (Items 5-10 and 53). The Report of STACFAD with recommendations was presented to the Final Plenary Session on 23 June 1976.

#### a) Panel Memberships

Panel memberships were reviewed by STACFAD in accordance with Article IV(2) of the Convention. It was noted that the Panels and Commission had approved by telegraphic vote membership by Cuba in Panels 2, 3, 4, and 5 and transfer of membership by Iceland from Panel 1 to Panel 3 effective 1 January 1976. Panel membership for 1976/77 total 66 and are distributed among the 18 Member Countries as follows:

1976/77 total 66 and are distributed among the 18 Member Countries as follows:

Member Country	Panel					A (Seal)	Total
	1	2	3	4	5		
Bulgaria	—	—	1974	1975	1973	—	3
Canada	—	1952	1951	1951	1951	1966	5
Cuba	—	1976*	1976*	1976*	1976*	—	4
Denmark	1951	—	1969	1974	—	1966	4
France	1953	1953	1953	1953	1974	—	5
Fed. Rep. Germany	1957	1960	—	1970	1971	—	4
German Dem. Rep.	—	1974	1974	—	1974	—	3
Iceland	—	1974	1976*	—	—	—	2
Italy	—	—	—	—	1974	—	1
Japan	—	—	1971	1971	1971	—	3
Norway	1952	1970	1968	—	—	1966	4
Poland	1962	1962	1962	1968	1968	—	5
Portugal	1953	1953	1953	1953	—	—	4
Romania	—	1970	1970	—	1967	—	3
Spain	1952	1954	1952	1952	1972	—	5
USSR	1968	1958	1958	1962	1962	—	5
UK	1951	1960	1951	—	—	—	3
USA	—	—	1952	1951	1951	—	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>66</b>

\*Effective 1 January 1976.

#### b) Reports by the Secretariat

The following reports on administrative and financial matters were presented by the Executive Secretary:

- i) Auditor's Report for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1975 (*Annu. Rep.* Vol. 25, 1974/75, p. 13-16);
- ii) Administrative and Financial Report for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1976 (estimated from 30 April 1976) (Comm. Doc. 76/VII/15);
- iii) Budget estimate for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1977 (Appendix I to the 1976 STACFAD agenda);
- iv) Budget forecast for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1978 (Appendix II to the 1976 STACFAD agenda).

#### c) Recommendations on Finance and Administration

The Commission adopted the following recommendations:

- i) that the Auditor's Report showing appropria-

tions of Can \$244,000 including a deficit appropriation of \$4,000 from the Working Capital Fund and obligations incurred of Can \$244,000 for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1975 be adopted;

- ii) that the provisional Administrative Report with the financial statements for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1976 (estimated from 30 April 1976) be adopted;
- iii) that the Commission approve proposals of the International Fisheries Commissions Pension Society (a) to provide for an early retirement plan for the staffs of Member Commissions of the Society, based on the attainment of age 60 and with 20 years' service, and (b) to upgrade pension credits for superannuation to the 1973 earning class from the 1971 earning class level, the cost at 1 October 1976 to be Can \$7,554.20;
- iv) that the Commission adopt the Canadian Government staff regulations regarding termination benefits for the staff members of the Secretariat;
- v) that a deficit appropriation of Can \$14,000 be transferred immediately from the Working Capital Fund and applied to the 1975/76 budget to cover extraordinary expenditures in 1975/76;
- vi) that the Commission appropriate a sum of Can \$368,500 from the Contracting Governments and from the Miscellaneous Fund to meet ordinary expenses for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1977, the appropriations to be used for the following purposes:

1.	Personal Services	
a)	Salaries .....	\$197,000
b)	Superannuation .....	12,000
c)	Additional help .....	2,000
d)	Group medical and insurance plans .....	2,500
e)	Contingencies .....	17,000
2.	Travel .....	5,500
3.	Transportation .....	1,500
4.	Communications .....	20,000
5.	Publications .....	22,000
6.	Other Contractual Services .....	20,000
7.	Materials and Supplies .....	9,000
8.	Equipment .....	5,000
9.	Annual and Mid-Year Meetings .....	20,000
10.	Computer Services .....	25,000
11.	Contingencies .....	10,000
Total Ordinary Expenditures .....		\$368,500

1975/76 Extraordinary Expenditures to be covered  
by Appropriation from Working Capital Fund ..... \$ 14,000

- vii) that the Contracting Governments be billed by the Commission for payments due under the 1976/77 administrative budget, in accordance with Article XI of the Convention, on 16 August 1976;
- viii) that the Contracting Governments give consideration at the 1977 Annual Meeting to authorizing appropriations of Can \$405,000 for the ordinary expenses of the Commission for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1978, the appropriations to be used for the following purposes:

1.	Personal Services	
a)	Salaries .....	\$218,000 <sup>a</sup>
b)	Superannuation .....	7,000
c)	Additional help .....	2,000
d)	Group medical and insurance plans .....	3,000
e)	Contingencies .....	18,000
2.	Travel .....	6,000
3.	Transportation .....	1,500
4.	Communications .....	25,000
5.	Publications .....	25,000
6.	Other Contractual Services .....	22,000
7.	Materials and Supplies .....	10,000
8.	Equipment .....	5,000
9.	Annual and Mid-Year Meetings .....	25,000
10.	Computer Services .....	27,500
11.	Contingencies .....	10,000
Total Ordinary Expenditures .....		\$405,000

<sup>a</sup>Includes prior year's salary scale increases.

- ix) that, unless invitations are extended, the 1977, 1978, and 1979 Annual Meetings be held at Commission Headquarters beginning Tuesday of the first full week in June (see Section 14 for further information on future meeting dates and site);
- x) that, if necessary, an interim meeting of STACFAD be held to review future financial arrangements for ICAAF during the Ninth Special Commission Meeting in December 1976;
- xi) that the Commission note the re-election of Mr E. B. Young (Canada) as Chairman of STACFAD for the year 1976/77.

## 8. Status of Commission Proposals

The Commission reviewed the status of proposals for changes in the Convention and for international regulation of the fisheries as presented in Section 8 of Part I of this volume and in Comm.Doc. 76/VI/16.

a) **Changes in the Convention**

The Commission noted that the **1973 Protocol Relating to Basic Payment for Contracting Governments** had not yet been approved by the required three-quarters (14) of the Contracting Governments. To date, approval had been received from Canada, Cuba, Fed.Rep. Germany, German Democratic Republic, and Norway only.

b) **International Regulation of the Fisheries**

The Commission noted that the **June 1969 proposal** (1) from the 19th Annual Commission Meeting (*Annu.Rep.* Vol. 19, 1968/69, p. 28) for the prohibition of Atlantic salmon fishing in the waters outside national fishing limits in the Convention Area was in effect for all Contracting Governments, except Denmark and the Fed.Rep. Germany.

The Commission noted that the **November 1974 proposals** (1) to (8) from the Fifth Special Commission Meeting (*Annu.Rep.* Vol. 25, 1974/75, p. 29-36) and the **January 1975 proposal** (1) from the Sixth Special Commission Meeting (*Annu.Rep.* Vol. 25, 1974/75, p. 48-49) were in effect during the 1975 fisheries in the Convention and Statistical Areas. The **June 1975 proposals** (1) to (11) from the 25th Annual Commission Meeting (*Annu.Rep.* Vol. 25, 1974/75, p. 84-96), the **September 1975 proposals** (1) to (7) from the Seventh Special Commission Meeting (Appendix III of Part 2, this volume) and the **January 1976 proposals** (1) to (9) from the Eighth Special Commission Meeting (Appendix III of Part 3, this volume) were in effect during the 1976 fisheries.

The Commission adopted the **June 1976 proposals** (1) to (8) from the 26th Annual Commission Meeting (Appendix III of Part 4, this volume) on 23 June 1976 and transmitted, them to Depositary Government on the same date.

**9. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES)**

The Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) met under the chairmanship of Dr A. W. May (Canada) with Mr V. M. Hodder (ICNAF) as Rapporteur, at Montreal, Canada, during 31 May to 3 June and on 21 June 1976. Meetings of the Assessments and Biological Surveys Subcommittees of STACRES were held at Dartmouth, Canada, from 31 March to 10 April 1976, and of the Environmental Working Group at

Szczecin, Poland, from 26 to 30 April 1976.

The Report of STACRES, with Subcommittee and Working Group reports appended, is published as Section C in ICNAF Redbook 1976. The Report was adopted by the Commission in Plenary Session on 23 June 1976. Major items are summarized below:

a) **Assessments**

The Assessments Subcommittee reported

- i) that the total nominal catch of all species in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 in 1975 was about 3,800,000 (metric) tons, a 5% decline from the 4,000,000 tons in 1974. Substantial declines occurred for cod in Subareas 2 to 4 (150,000 tons) and for mackerel (50,000 tons) and other pelagic species (50,000 tons) in the southern part of the ICNAF Area. Substantial increases were recorded for shrimp (northern deepwater prawn) in Subarea 1 (20,000 tons) and capelin in Subareas 2 and 3 (80,000 tons). Increases were recorded for Subareas 1, 2, and Statistical Area 0 (40,000 tons) and decreases for Subareas 3 to 5 and Statistical Area 6 (245,000 tons).
- ii) that, as a consequence of calculating total allowable catches (TACs) associated with levels of fishing less than those giving  $F_{max}$  or  $F_{MSY}$ , generally at  $F_{0.1}$ , and because of continued stock declines in a number of cases, the recommended TACs for 1977 for about 65 stocks of finfish and squid were generally less than those recommended for 1976. In several cases where the spawning biomass might be too low, the recommended TAC was zero, e.g. TACs for the haddock stocks in Subareas 4 and 5;
- iii) that, in spite of meetings of the Assessments Subcommittee in April 1976 and of an *ad hoc* Working Group on Mackerel in June 1976, a specific TAC for mackerel in Subarea 3 to 5 and Statistical Area 6 for 1977 could not be agreed due to differences in the interpretation of data among the scientists and STACRES described the data and analyses required for further assessments during the period of the Ninth Special Commission Meeting in December 1976;
- iv) that the overall second-tier TAC of 500,000

tons for 1977 which was agreed at the Assessments meeting in April 1976 as only an upper reference point could be modified depending on the results of consideration of new assessments for mackerel and new data for other stocks by the STACRES and Scientific Advisers to Panel 5 during the Ninth Special Commission Meeting in December 1976.

- v) that Member Countries were again urged to provide their scientists with the resources required to improve their capacity to provide good advice and, in particular, to improve their sampling efficiency in the interests of more accurate assessment advice;
- vi) that the overall decline in catch rates for groundfish in Subareas 2 to 4 in the 1970's has not reflected any beneficial effects of TAC regulation. The reductions in TACs recommended for 1977 indicate that no increase in fishing effort can be recommended.

#### b) Biological Surveys

The Biological Surveys Subcommittee reported

- i) that total survey activity in 1975 was of about the same scale as in 1974 with most of the surveys concentrated in the southern part of the ICNAF Area. Special attention would be given to survey designs for clustered fish species, e.g. mackerel;
- ii) that a preliminary draft of the ICNAF Manual on Groundfish Surveys would be available in 1977;
- iii) that considerable attention was being given to the potential and current limitations of hydroacoustic techniques as an adjunct to conventional surveys for abundance estimation.

#### c) Statistics and Sampling

The Statistics and Sampling Subcommittee reported

- i) that, in general, there has been little improvement in the quality and promptness of statistical reporting to the Commission;
- ii) that provision has now been made on the statistical reporting from (STATLANT 21B) for

reporting catch and effort data by 30' × 30' unit areas and twice-monthly time periods;

- iii) that Canada was requested to nominate a representative to participate on behalf of ICNAF, in addition to the Assistant Executive Secretary and Chairman of the Statistics and Sampling Subcommittee, at the Ninth Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Statistics (CWP) to be held at Dartmouth, Canada, in the latter part of 1977;
- iv) that, because there was a definite advantage in the processing of sampling data by the ICNAF Secretariat, as opposed to processing by individual countries, an adequate base of sampling would be established at the Secretariat and a small group of consultants nominated with the Secretariat to specify the requirements and costs of implementation, including method of processing.

#### d) Fishing Effort Studies

The *ad hoc* Working Group on Fishing Effort Studies reported

- i) that use of a new "learning index" suggested that sharp increases in efficiency occurred for the larger vessels (> 1800 GRT) of USSR, German Dem.Rep., and Poland since these began fishing in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, but that similar increases were not apparent for smaller vessels of these and other countries;
- ii) that studies of variation in daily catch per unit effort led to the implication that attempts to reduce fishing mortality by reducing the number of days fished could, in theory, be nullified by increasing the number of hours fished per day;
- iii) that analysis of data on fishing power indicated the calculation of fishing effort to correspond to a desired level of fishing mortality would require the fine-scale reporting of catch and effort data.

#### e) Environmental Matters

The Environmental Subcommittee reported

- i) that the cooperative study on Georges Bank-Gulf of Maine herring to determine the

factors involved in the production of good and poor year-classes was progressing satisfactorily, while a similar study on the Flemish Cap cod and redfish is being considered at a meeting of a small group of scientists convened by Dr K. G. Konstantinov (USSR) in Murmansk, USSR, in May 1977;

- ii) that a complete and fully amended list of standard ICNAF oceanographic sections and stations has been adopted;
- iii) that the Poland/USA Plankton Sorting and Identification Centre at Szczecin, Poland, is now actively engaged in ICNAF work.

#### f) Other Matters

STACRES recommended

- i) that ageing workshops on cod convened by Mr R. Wells (Canada) and on silver and red hakes be held at Woods Hole, USA, in October 1976 and at St. John's, Newfoundland in January 1977, respectively;
- ii) that the Assessments Subcommittee meet for 10 days in the last half of April 1977 at Commission Headquarters in Dartmouth, Canada.

STACRES **agreed** that, in view of the stated intentions of Canada and USA to extend coastal state jurisdiction for fisheries management, there was a need for continued international cooperation in regard to the ATLANT system of statistical reporting, the implementation of the ICNAF data base for fisheries statistical and biological data, and the coordination of research activities. The Committee further **noted** that STACRES could serve as a forum for discussions on general problems of fisheries science and management in the Northwest Atlantic.

STACRES expressed its thanks to the outgoing Chairman, Dr A. W. May (Canada), for his able leadership during the past 3 years and welcomed the incoming Chairman, Dr M. D. Grosslein (USA).

### 10. Report of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)

The Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) met under the chairmanship of Mr W. G. Gordon (USA) between 31 May and 2 June and again on 21 June, to review the status and results of implementation of the Scheme of Joint Enforcement and to consider

improvements to the Scheme including a Canadian proposal for transfer of ICNAF inspectors by helicopter. The Report of STACTIC was presented for adoption at the Commission's Final Plenary Session on 23 June 1976. Major items are summarized as follows:

#### a) Status and Application of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement

STACTIC reported.

- i) that all Member Countries were ready to inspect, except Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway, and Portugal;
- ii) that Romania had not yet withdrawn a reservation to the Scheme;
- iii) that Spanish inspectors had completed a series of successful cooperative inspections with Canadian inspectors from Canadian inspection vessels;
- iv) that all Member Countries, except Iceland, had authorities designated to receive immediate notice of and respond to apparent infringements;
- v) that all Member Countries were applying the Scheme on a mandatory basis in Statistical Areas 0 and 6, except Canada, Denmark, France, Portugal, and the UK, who were applying the Scheme on a voluntary basis;
- vi) that only 12 of the Member Countries had submitted the required reports of inspections, infringements, and their disposition in 1975 to the Panels and the Commission. Concern was expressed at the large number of citations for logbook and discard infractions and for fishing from the "Others" quota without first having notified the ICNAF Secretariat of intended fishing activity and estimated expected catch;
- vii) that a comparison of the NEAFC and ICNAF Schemes resulted in a proposal to change "excess landings" to "excess by-catch" in the ICNAF reporting form.

#### b) Amendments to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement

STACTIC reviewed a Canadian proposal introduced at the Eighth Special Commission Meeting

(Section 7 of Part 3, this volume) to amend the Scheme to permit the transfer of ICNAF inspectors to vessels to be inspected, by means of helicopter in cases where it might be more appropriate or safer. A working group revised the proposal based on suggestions and objections. Following comments on the technical and legal aspects of the proposal from USSR, Portugal, Bulgaria, and Japan, and their reservations regarding having the proposal possibly apply only in certain areas and not on their vessels, STACTIC **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (1) for amendment to the ICNAF Scheme of Joint International Enforcement of the Fishery Regulations to permit inspections by helicopter hoist procedure in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 (Appendix III).

**c) Effective Enforcement of the Commission's Regulations**

STACTIC discussed a proposed US resolution relating to effective enforcement between the Convention Area which includes all waters up to the territorial limits (3 miles) of the coastal states and the area in which the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement applies, i.e., up to the limits of national fisheries jurisdiction. Thus, the proposal was designed to provide a means of enforcement of the Commission's decisions on the conduct of the fisheries between the limits of territorial waters and the limits of national fisheries jurisdiction. Following lengthy debate which took into account the pending extension of the limits of national fisheries jurisdictions by Canada and USA and the lack of authority on the part of the Members of STACTIC to accept the proposal, the delegate of USA withdrew the proposal.

**d) Other Matters**

STACTIC heard reports by the Member Countries on the status of their legislation regarding authorization for revocation or suspension of vessels' authorization to fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 upon conviction of certain serious or aggravated infringements.

STACTIC reviewed the requirement from the 25th Annual Commission Meeting for Member Countries to notify the ICNAF Secretariat of their fisheries research vessels operating on a permanent or

temporary basis in the Convention Area or Statistical Areas 0 and 6. To 30 June 1976, the requirements were met from 1976 by Cuba, Fed.Rep. Germany, German Dem.Rep., Japan, Poland, USSR, and USA.

STACTIC **noted** that to 30 June 1976 all Member Countries except Canada (Maritimes and Quebec), Denmark, Iceland, and Portugal had met the Seventh Special Commission Meeting requirement for a report of their vessels engaged in fishing or in the treatment of sea fish in 1976 in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6.

**11. Future of the Commission and its Potential Role Under Extended Coastal State Jurisdiction**

The Commission, having considered the statement of the Canadian Minister of State for Fisheries at the Opening Session (see Section 4) regarding the extension by Canada of fisheries jurisdiction to 200 miles effective 1 January 1977, then heard the following statement by the US delegate regarding extension by USA of fisheries jurisdiction to 200 miles effective 1 March 1977:

"I believe it appropriate before we move into the schedule of Committees and the program of small group deliberations laid out for the next two weeks for the United States also to share with the Members of the Commission the principles and objectives which guide its work and participation here. Before doing so, I would like to thank our Canadian colleagues for the arrangements made for this important meeting. I would like to express to our hosts our appreciation for the hospitality of the Canadian Government on this occasion.

"The Commission meets in Montreal in circumstances which can only be described as unique in ICNAF's 26-year history. Since our last session, the United States has passed into law the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The purposes and content of this Act undoubtedly are well known, but I think it worthwhile to review them here.

I

"In the first instance, the purpose of the Act is to foster a national program for the conservation and management of the fishery resources of the United States in order to prevent overfishing, to rebuild overfished stocks, to ensure conservation and to realize the full potential of the fishery resources of the United States. The Act directs that immediate action be taken to

conserve and manage the fishery resources found off the coast of the United States and to do so through the establishment of a fishery conservation zone which shall extend seaward of 200 nautical miles on the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured. Enforcement of the authority of the United States within the fishery management zone will commence on 1 March 1977.

"The Act provides for foreign fishing within the zone after 28 February 1977 under certain described circumstances and conditions. The principles underlining the continuation of foreign fishing within the zone are that it shall be pursuant to a governing international fishery agreement — a bilateral agreement in character — and that foreign nations with which the United States has such agreements may apply for access to that portion of the optimum yield of any fishery subject to the exclusive fishery management authority of the United States which will not be harvested by vessels of the United States. The determination of the total allowable catch, the harvesting capacity of vessels of the United States and the allowable surplus will, at such time as the new regime is completely in place, be a function of a system which begins with a domestic Regional Council as provided in US law.

"Enforcement within the zone under the new regime obviously resides with the United States as the coastal state and will take place pursuant to the United States law.

## II

"The United States is prepared to consider remaining in ICNAF for a transitional year but it must, in that consideration, determine whether the outcome of this meeting is consistent with the change in jurisdiction which will take place on 1 March 1977.

"In order to be consistent, this Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting would have to proceed on the basis that the determination of total allowable catch, coastal state harvesting capacity, and a finding that a surplus exists is, within the 200-mile fishery conservation zone, the responsibility of the coastal state.

"Enforcement is an area of equal importance. The United States takes note that the Scheme of Joint Enforcement applies only in the area outside the national fishery limits or, for the United States, only beyond 200 miles as of 1 March 1977.

"Were ICNAF to continue into 1977, and assuming it has been possible for others to agree to the proposals for fishing in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 on the basis I've just described, then the United States would

give them full effect while they remain in force for the United States in accordance with the Convention. The United States would take such enforcement action as would be necessary within its zone to ensure that fishing activities are undertaken in accordance with the proposals of the Commission, as provided by United States law.

"Finally, if it is going to be possible for the United States to remain in ICNAF for a transitional period, each vessel fishing within the fishery conservation zone of the United States after 28 February 1977 must obtain a permit issued annually by the Secretary of State, display it prominently in the wheelhouse of the vessel, and show it upon request to a duly authorized enforcement official of the United States. The terms and conditions of these permits will be the same as the proposals adopted by the Commission, that enter into force in accordance with the Convention. The United States would expect to receive from each Government a list of vessels fishing off the coast of the United States under ICNAF and would issue such permits for each such fishing vessel needed to take that Government's allocation. The sole purpose of the requirement is to provide enforcement officers on the scene with readily apparent evidence that a vessel is authorized to fish in the area by virtue of the Convention.

"The provision in United States law authorizing continued fishing under ICNAF is a temporary measure. It is not a substitute for the conclusion of governing international fishery agreements on a bilateral basis. The continuation of ICNAF for the United States is not only dependent on acceptance of the registration permit requirement, but is also dependent on acceptance of United States positions on enforcement and fishing effort limitations. Further, the domestic Regional Councils could require additional conservation measures which would apply within the zone.

"Having described the outcome of this session which would provide the most favourable prospect of the United States being able to remain in ICNAF for a transitional year, I would add that I and the members of the US delegation are not unaware of the difficulties it may present. Nonetheless, we believe that the 26 years of our association require us to be as candid as possible as to the limitation on continued United States participation should the Commission deem it desirable to provide for a transition from the old regime to a new regime.

## III

"Of course, it may be that a transition period of the kind I have described is neither required nor desirable. The

United States is prepared to negotiate bilaterally with those nations which wish to apply to fish within the fisheries conservation zone after 1 March 1977 and since our agreements will apply to both coasts, those negotiations will be going forward in any case.

## IV

"The United States is prepared to participate in the negotiation of new multilateral arrangements for cooperation and consultation for this region, with the understanding, of course that management authority within the zone off the coast of the United States rests with the United States.

## V

"Finally, recognizing that the months ahead are unpredictable and that it may not be possible for us to achieve all that must be achieved between now and 1 March 1977, the United States feels incumbent to report that it will as of 30 June give notice of intent to withdraw from ICNAF in order to establish the condition precedent to possible withdrawal by the United States from ICNAF as of 31 December 1976.

"Mr Chairman.

"I have outlined several courses of action open to the Commission, all of which are, for the United States, consistent with our law. We will be prepared to consider them as the other Members of the Commission decide.

"We have also, as perhaps many of you are aware, made this statement available to the Secretariat so that it may be distributed as soon after this presentation as possible."

The Commission then met on several occasions from 9 to 22 June to hear the preliminary and non-committal views and comments of delegates from each of the Member Countries, and to discuss whether there was a role for an international body within and outside the 200-mile limit, how soon steps could be taken and by whom to begin formulation of a revised or a new international fisheries body, should a working group be set up to advise on the possible formulation of a revised or a new body and the role of such a group, and what practical arrangements were envisaged for enforcement in the future.

In response to the various comments and questions posed by the delegates of Member Countries regarding the Canadian position, the following statement was made by the Canadian delegate:

"The Canadian position with regard to both the conduct and significance of the present meeting of ICNAF and the future of ICNAF was fully set out in the statement of the Honourable Roméo LeBlanc at our opening session. In the light of statements by other delegations on these matters, I wish to reiterate the Canadian approach, to attempt to answer various questions that have been raised, and to comment on certain proposals.

"The Canadian delegation considers it an important development that this meeting is proceeding with what we might call "business as usual". We are here developing recommendations for sound conservation measures, including allocations, for 1977 in accordance with the usual ICNAF procedures, while taking into account the positions expressed by the two principal coastal states. Those recommendations, in keeping with a fundamental commitment we all share, must also satisfy the principle of optimum utilization, as a number of delegations have urged. For Canada's part, both the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of State for Fisheries have underlined our commitment to this principle.

"As was stated by Mr LeBlanc, Canada has undertaken to give effect within its 200-mile zone, in 1977, to those measures agreed at the present ICNAF meeting with Canadian concurrence. This means that Canada would adopt, apply and enforce the measures in question as Canadian regulations under Canadian law. As to allocations to other countries agreed upon with Canadian concurrence, Canada would issue appropriate permits on the basis of those allocations relating to stocks of the Canadian 200-mile zone.

"To answer a number of questions raised by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, I wish to make the following additional points on this matter:

- (1) As a transitional measure for 1977 at least, Canada has made clear that it would issue such permits even to those ICNAF Member States with which Canada does not have bilateral agreements. The Canadian Government's approach to this question for the years beyond 1977 remains under consideration.
- (2) Canada sees no reason why the ICNAF vessel registration scheme should not continue in 1977, although that scheme could not prejudice or be a substitute for the permits to be issued by Canada as a Canadian requirement. Indeed, the ICNAF vessel registration scheme will remain most valuable for the area beyond 200 miles.

- (3) As to flag state licences for fishing within Canada's 200-mile zone, it must be understood that these cannot substitute for Canadian permits. I must stress here Canada's view that even under a system of coastal state regulation and enforcement, flag states would not be relieved of their responsibility to ensure that their vessels comply with the applicable regulations, including strict adherence to quota allocations.
- (4) More generally, I would reply to the questions raised by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany by assuring him and all others here that Canada would undertake to carry out appropriate consultations later this year with the countries concerned on the modalities of implementation of jurisdiction, especially as to licensing procedures and, where appropriate, enforcement procedures — recalling, of course, that enforcement will fall within Canadian authority.

"The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany also inquired what additional regulatory measures might be established by Canada in 1977 beyond those agreed at the present meeting with Canadian concurrence. I am not certain that it would be possible or useful to try to give examples at this time. In any event, as stated by Mr LeBlanc, any additional Canadian regulations in 1977 would take into account and be consistent with agreements reached here with Canadian concurrence.

"As to the future of ICNAF, we have already stated that Canada is committed to continued multilateral cooperation in the management of stocks beyond 200 miles and wishes to negotiate as soon as possible new multilateral arrangements to this end. Obviously, the ICNAF Convention in its present form cannot apply to the 200-mile zone. However, the sort of system we have developed in ICNAF would be valuable and indeed necessary for the conservation and management of stocks within the ICNAF Area beyond 200 miles. We have an open mind as to whether new arrangements should be negotiated by way of amendments to the present Convention or otherwise. In either case, a basic change would be in the geographic area of application of these multilateral arrangements. In addition, the Canadian Government believes that the new arrangements would have to take into account the relationship between the stocks of the 200-mile limit and those beyond.

"As to arrangements concerning stocks of the 200-mile zone, I would reaffirm Canada's commitment to consult annually with other countries fishing in the zone, in the

development of Canadian regulations for conservation and management of the stocks and the allocation of surpluses. We attach the highest importance to maintaining the kind of scientific cooperation that has developed in ICNAF. Canada proposes to establish an appropriate mechanism or forum for consultations on these matters. The precise form of that mechanism, and its possible relationship to the multilateral organization for the area beyond 200 miles, are questions that remain under consideration in Canada. It would seem desirable at any rate for consultations regarding regulations in the 200-mile zone to be carried out in conjunction with meetings of the international commissions dealing with stocks beyond 200 miles. Certainly, we would be pleased and grateful to hear the views and suggestions of other countries on these possible approaches, although I must emphasize that the establishment by Canada of a consultative mechanism for stocks of the 200-mile zone will not be a matter for negotiation as such.

"I should like at this point to recall Mr LeBlanc's suggestion that a special meeting to deal with the future of ICNAF may be necessary later this year. The Canadian delegation hopes that all here would agree on the usefulness of such a meeting, either of the Commission itself or of plenipotentiaries. Any delay could seriously prejudice the future of multilateral consultation and cooperation to which we are all committed. Mr LeBlanc stated a few days ago Canada's hope that we can make an uninterrupted transition from the old to the new regime, and to do this it would be imperative to set to work immediately on the elaboration of a new regime. For Canada to remain a Member of ICNAF in 1977, we must have adequate assurance that management measures for 1978 will be developed under the new arrangements.

"As to the Cuban suggestion, which has already been supported by some Members, that we create a working group that would meet at an early date to produce a draft of what might be a modified ICNAF Convention, this idea is a useful one and I would like to set out Canada's views on it.

"The group should have a wide mandate. We believe that it should examine what new arrangements will be necessary in order to ensure the continuance of multilateral cooperation in the management of stocks found outside expanded national fishery limits. This might well be accomplished by modifications to the present ICNAF Convention, but Canada for its part has an open mind on this question, as I have already indicated. What we want to ensure is that the lessons of ICNAF are not lost whatever the arrangements arrived at, and that particular attention be paid in such

arrangements to ensure that stocks which straddle the outer limit of national jurisdiction — or migrate back and forth across the limit — are managed in cooperation with the coastal state.

“It is important, in the Canadian view, that the proposed group have a certain degree of flexibility. It would be our suggestion, therefore, that those taking part in the group do so in a personal capacity, as experts in this field, and not as representatives of Governments. We would also suggest that the group be convened soon enough to be in a position to submit their report to the Special ICNAF Meeting or meeting of plenipotentiaries we have proposed to be held later this year. We would be pleased to act as hosts for both the group of experts meeting and the special meeting of the Commission or of plenipotentiaries here in Canada.”

In further clarification of the US position, the following statement was made by the US delegate:

“We think, upon reflection, it was quite wise of you to have provided some several days between our initial consideration of the future of ICNAF and our exchange this morning. It has given us an opportunity to hear the views of others, to hear from others the questions which were raised by our statement, and to try to respond to those questions in an additional statement today. We have not, however, anticipated some of the questions which you posed this morning in introducing the subject, but we would certainly, in an exchange which might follow, be prepared to try to respond to those specific questions.

“Let me try once again to provide some insight into the United States position and to do so from a perspective somewhat different from that employed last week. Let me try, this time, to state our position in terms of what the United States Government will be looking for at such time as the Commission completes its deliberations and the results are circulated to Governments. After the conclusion of this Annual Meeting, when the United States Government receives the proposed Commission regulations for 1977, it will look for the following:

“First, do the regulations take into account the provisions of United States law which will be binding for the United States as of 1 March 1977?

“Second, do the Commission regulations create a conflict between United States law and what would become treaty obligations on the United States were the United States to accept the ICNAF proposed regulations and were ICNAF to remain in force for 1977?

“To take the second question first, obviously the United States Government cannot put itself in a position of having to choose, on 1 March 1977, between abiding by its own domestic law and abiding by its treaty obligations under the Convention. Either the United States law and the international commitments we accept at the time we accept Commission proposals are consistent, or the United States will face such a choice. Clearly, the choice would be in favour of its own law. It would be intolerable for any government knowingly to place itself in a position in which its behaviour, while consistent with international treaty obligations, is inconsistent with its domestic regulations.

“Turning then to the first question, do the regulations take into account the provisions of United States law? The United States, in reviewing the Commission proposed regulations which would flow from this meeting, and the recommendations, would seek specifically to determine whether

- first, the proposed regulations provide for coastal state enforcement within the limits of national fisheries jurisdiction as those limits are determined by a coastal state;
- second, do they provide, also within the limits of national fisheries jurisdiction, for a national permit system determined by the coastal state in a manner consistent with its domestic law?
- third, the United States, in reviewing the proposed Commission regulations, would seek to determine whether those regulations intrude into the arena of domestic rule-making with respect to the management of fishery resources within the limits of national fisheries jurisdiction;
- fourth, do the proposed regulations for 1977 establish quotas which take into account the setting of the total allowable catch within the limits of national fisheries jurisdiction by the coastal state and the determination by the coastal state of its needs before the allocation of any surplus.

“The United States believes these four prerequisites to United States acceptance of the Commission-proposed regulations must be met if the United States is not to exercise its intention to withdraw by 31 December 1976. We think that they can be achieved within the limits of the present Convention. Whether they can be achieved without raising questions of principle for other Members, is a matter which is not for the United States to determine. If the nations represented here find that questions of principle are

raised, even though we see them as practicalities, and that they cannot be accommodated, then clearly the delegations representing their nations within the Commission would act on that finding. Or their Governments, subsequently, would decide questions of principle had been raised which cannot be accommodated and would act on that finding. The result is very much the same whether it flows from the Commission proceedings or subsequent decisions by Governments to object to the regulations. To the extent that it is not possible for the ICNAF regulations for 1977 to meet the four objectives I have stated above, the United States would have to move toward withdrawal.

"If I may, in an aside here, just say that the task that we have struggled with in the weeks preceding this Commission meeting is the task posed by the second question we offered. Is it tolerable for any government to put itself in a position where it must choose between international treaty obligations or domestic law? We decided that it was not. We are trying to structure a situation in which the treaty obligations which would flow from the acceptance of the proposed regulations are the same as domestic law and, therefore, a conflict does not arise.

"There are two items which do require specific comment. First, the question was raised the other day by the Federal Republic of Germany — what does the United States mean when it says additional conservation measures might be applied within the zone following 1 March? If the Commission regulations and recommendations are acceptable to the United States and ICNAF remains in force for the United States for 1977, it would nonetheless be the intention of the United States to reserve for itself the right to expand on those regulations after 1 March. This is not to say that the United States would not abide by the determinations of surplus and allocations reached at this meeting. There are, however, other ways by which coastal states may manage the fisheries. These include area and season closures and gear regulations. We can foresee that as the program of domestic management of fisheries resources comes into force for the United States, decisions would be reached by the United States which amplify the international measures agreed to within ICNAF or which are new. We believe it essential that somehow provision be made for the coming into force of such additional measures after 1 March 1977, if the United States should decide upon such measures. We certainly are not unaware that this reservation of authority creates fears that such measures might be used to negate the decisions reached here with respect to surplus and allocations. I can only hope that the United States' commitment to abide by its treaty obligations which would be inherent

in the acceptance of the Commission-proposed regulations, would be seen as assurance enough that those additional measures which might come into force, if any, would be consistent with the measures we have agreed to internationally

"All of what I have said up until now relates to a single question for the United States — that is, whether it is possible, through ICNAF, to provide a transition for coming into force of extended jurisdiction off the coast of the United States — the transition to last only for 1977. Thereafter, distant-water states which wish to fish off the coast of the United States would have to have entered into bilateral agreements. In many instances in 1977, in this transition, it is obvious that the relationship would be governed in a rather dual fashion, both by the treaty obligations and by those bilateral agreements which we negotiate between now and 1 March.

"The question of the future of ICNAF becomes more clear if one makes this distinction between managing the fisheries in 1977 in a way that provides a transition, and discussing the multilateral relationship that might exist once we have moved through the transition period. Clearly, the United States cannot remain in ICNAF, as we know ICNAF, past 1977. Thus, I am, this morning in talking about the future, talking about a new organization which, if agreed upon, would come into force no later than 1978. The United States would support the re-negotiation of the Convention, or any other approach to reaching agreement on new arrangements, whichever approach is found to be the more appropriate for the new situation. We are here with no firm guidelines as to what the future might be. We are prepared to participate fully in an examination of the guidelines, or in any other preparatory work that others might find appropriate. We are prepared to respond positively to the proposal that there be a working group and that the working group operate, without commitment, to examine what might be appropriate means for the future, or what might be the appropriate arrangements for a multilateral organization.

"I think that you will find us here wanting not to go into great detail as to our participation in such a working group. One, we want to be without commitment to a particular solution, to be able to examine, frankly, and without mental reservation, if you will, what the various proposals are; we are prepared to take into account the interest that others might have in assigning specific duties in a new organization, both with respect to the management of stocks which are transboundary or to the discussion of consultative arrangements, if any, that might apply within the zone. We do not think that

this work needs to be completed in 1976. It should be initiated in 1976 if there is to be a transition without interruption. It would obviously have to be completed by 1977 and ready to go into force no later than 1978.

"Mr Chairman, I hope this makes more clear what it is the United States is trying to achieve in this Commission meeting. The two tasks, reaching agreement on proposed regulations for 1977 and preparing the way for the future are, in our view, entirely separate. We are prepared to participate in both. We hope that the outcome of both is favourable to continued international cooperation. I have not, as I said in the beginning, answered some of the specific questions which you posed. We would be happy to answer those questions specifically in the course of this morning."

On the recommendation of an *ad hoc* working group set up to determine a future course of action, the Commission **agreed**

- 1) That experts be designated from Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Portugal, USSR, and USA to discuss the future of ICNAF and related matters in the light of recent and impending developments. In particular, the Group of Experts should:
  - a) examine and seek to formulate suggestions regarding the future of multilateral cooperation in the field of fisheries in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean;
  - b) examine and seek to formulate suggestions regarding the procedure and timing to be followed in pursuing the matter considered in (a) above;
- 2) That the designated experts together with such assistants as are necessary, act in a personal capacity of meetings of the Group and that its discussions and any suggestions formulated by it be without prejudice to the position of any ICNAF Member Governments;
- 3) That the Executive Secretary of ICNAF be invited to attend meetings of the Group in a consultative capacity;
- 4) That suggestions formulated and reports prepared by the Group be sent to the ICNAF Commissioners for the appropriate attention of their respective Governments;
- 5) That the Group of Experts hold its first substantive meeting in Ottawa, at the invitation of the Government of Canada, during the last half of September

1976. The convening of any subsequent meeting of the Group shall be decided upon at the September meeting.

The Commission also **agreed** that the report of the Group of Experts should be sent to the Commissioners immediately upon completion so that they could provide early advice to their Governments prior to further discussion of the future of the Commission at a Special Meeting of the Commission possibly in the last week of November or the first week of December 1976.

The Commission **noted** that the likely course of events after the Group of Experts reported to the Commissioners was that there would then emerge from some country a proposal that the matter should be discussed in ICNAF or under some new international arrangements. On the financial side, the Commission **agreed** that a budget should be adopted for the whole of the fiscal year 1976/77.

The Commission **took note** of the following statement presented on behalf of the Member Countries of ICNAF who were members of the European Economic Community (EEC):

"I take the floor on behalf of the Member States of the European Communities present at this Meeting. These States have taken note of the general views which were presented by the USA and Canada regarding future control and management of fisheries stocks. They are convinced of the fundamental importance of measures to secure the conservation and optimum utilization of the living resources of the sea and remain willing to work towards achieving this end.

"As some delegates will be aware, the European Communities are currently undertaking a reappraisal of their common fisheries policy in the light of changing circumstances. This will affect not only the arrangements to apply to waters under the jurisdiction of Community Member States, but also the approach to be adopted in the framework of cooperation with other countries. Some of the problems which have been discussed at the Meeting will fall within the scope of the developing Common Fisheries Policy. The process of reappraisal to which I have referred is not yet complete. It should, therefore, be made clear that the Member States of the Community cannot at this stage prejudice their position on the way in which their common institutions will contribute to the realization of the objectives which they share with all other parties to the Convention, or the way in which the proposals adopted at this Meeting are to be set within a community context."

## 12. Reports of Panels

Items dealing with the conservation of the various stocks of species or species groups were considered in meetings of the appropriate Panel or Panels.

The Reports of Meetings of Panels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and A (Seals) and Joint Meetings of Panels 2 and 3, 3 to 5, and 1 to 5, with proposals and resolutions, were adopted by the Commission in Final Plenary Session on 23 June 1976. Spain was unable to accept the allocations for cod stocks in Subarea 3 and Subareas 2 and 3. Iceland voted against the capelin allocation in Div. 3LNO and Subdiv. 3Ps. France voted against the allocations for cod in Div. 2J and 3KL.

- a) **Panel 1.** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr V. M. Kamentsev (USSR), **noting** that the TAC recommended by STACRES for roundnose grenadier in Subarea 1 and Statistical Area 0 was reduced from 13,500 tons for 1976 to 8,000 tons for 1977 and for Greenland halibut remained as for 1976 at 20,000 tons, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposals for international quota regulation of the fisheries for Greenland halibut and roundnose grenadier in Subarea 1 and Statistical Area 0 in 1977 (see proposal (8) in Appendix III).

The Panels **noted** that, because of extreme social and economic dependence of the Greenlanders on the cod fishery in Subarea 1, Denmark could not accept the zero TAC recommended for 1977 by STACRES. A TAC of 31,000 tons was suggested as an absolute maximum with an allocation for Denmark at the 1976 level (28,000 tons). However, the Panel could not agree to the national allocation and further consideration was deferred to a special Commission meeting later in the year.

The Panel **noted** the concern of Denmark for the rapid rise in catches in the shrimp fisheries in Subarea 1 and the reluctance to accept a TAC higher than the 25,000 tons recommended for 1977 by STACRES. The Panel **agreed** to defer decision on the TAC and national allocations until the results of analysis of additional data were available for consideration at a special Commission meeting later in the year.

- b) **Panel 2.** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr W. Kalinowski (Poland), accepted the TAC of

20,000 tons recommended by STACRES for cod in Div. 2GH in 1977 and the estimated Canadian requirement for 3,000 tons, and **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, a proposal for international quota regulation of the fishery for cod in Div. 2GH of Subarea 2 in 1977 (see proposal (8) in Appendix III).

- c) **Panel 3.** The Panel, with Mr E. Gillett (UK) acting on behalf of the Chairman, Mr R. H. Letaconnoux (France), accepted the recommendations of STACRES for TACs for 1977 for the 13 stocks of cod, redfish, witch, yellowtail and American plaice, and gave Canada and France where applicable, as coastal states, special consideration in allocation of these TACs. Finally, the Panel, with Spain unable to accept, as a matter of principle, the overall scheme of national allocation for the cod stocks proposed for the non-coastal states, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposals for international quota regulation of the fisheries for cod in Div. 3M, 3N0, and Subdiv. 3Ps; for redfish in Div. 3M, 3LN, 3O, and 3P; for witch in Div. 3NO and Subdiv. 3Ps; for yellowtail in Div. 3LNO; and for American plaice in Div. 3M, 3LNO, and Subdiv. 3Ps in 1977 (see proposal (8) in Appendix III).

- d) **Panel 4.** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr K. Løkkegaard (Denmark), considered TACs and national allocations for 1977 for 12 stocks of cod, haddock, redfish, silver hake, flounders, argentine, and herring in Subarea 4, and **noting** that zero TACs were recommended by STACRES for cod in Div. 4T (Jan-Dec) — Subdiv. 4Vn(Jan-Apr) and for haddock in Div. 4VW and 4X, with Spain objecting, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposals for international quota regulation of the fisheries for cod (unallocated TAC only) in Div. 4T(Jan-Dec)-Subdiv. 4Vn(Jan-Apr), Subdiv. 4Vn(May-Dec), Subdiv. 4Vs-Div. 4W, and Div. 4X(offshore); for haddock in Div. 4VW and 4X; for redfish in Div. 4VWX; for argentine in Div. 4VWX; and for herring in Div. 4VW(a) (1 July 1977-30 June 1978) of Subarea 4 in 1977 (see proposal (8) in Appendix III).

As requested by the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting (Part 2, this volume), the Panel reconsidered the 1976 TAC and allocation for herring in Div. 4XW(b) and **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (7) for international quota regulation of the fishery for herring in Div. 4XW(b) of Subarea 4 in 1976 (Appendix III).

The Panel **agreed to defer** decision on a 1977 TAC and allocations and proposed gear regulations for the silver hake fishery in Div. 4VWX until the Special Commission Meeting later in 1976. However, following consideration of a need for a minimum mesh size of 60 mm (manila) for all trawls in Subarea 4, the Panel **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (2) for international regulation of the fishery for silver hake in Subarea 4 (minimum mesh size regulation) (Appendix III).

The Panel **agreed** that proposal (2) should take effect on 1 April 1977 and be subject to review at the Special Commission Meeting later in 1976.

The Panel considered a proposal which would avoid impairment of fisheries for other species and which take small quantities of haddock in Div. 4V and 4W of Subarea 4 and **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (3) for international regulation of the fishery for haddock in Div. 4V and 4W of Subarea 4 for 1977 (by-catch allowance) (Appendix III).

The Panel **agreed to defer** a decision on TACs and allocations for flounders (yellowtail witch, and American plaice) in Div. 4VWX and for herring in Div. 4XW(b) for 1977 to the Special Commission Meeting later in 1976.

- e) **Panel 5.** The Panel, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK) who acted for the Chairman of the Panel, Mr Wm. L. Sullivan (USA), considered a request from the US Commissioners to apply a by-catch limitation in the offshore trawl fishery in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 for river herring (*Allosa pseudo-harengus* and *Alosa aestivalis*),

which is continued could result in a collapse of the US fishery, and **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (4) for the international regulation of the fishery for river herring in Subarea 5 and adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 (Appendix III).

The Panel considered a US proposal which would assure continued exclusive harvesting of the fully-utilized fishery for menhaden (*Brevoortia tyrannus*) by US fishermen, and **recommended** that the Commission adopt the following **Resolution (1) Relating to the Taking of Menhaden in Subarea 5 and Adjacent Waters to the West and South Within Statistical Area 6;**

#### The Commission

**Recognizing** that it was not the intent of the Commission to include the menhaden fishery within the conservation regime of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries;

**Noting** that the Commission has excluded menhaden (*Brevoortia tyrannus* (Latrobe)) from all catch quota regulations and other conservation measures;

- 1) **Requests** that all Contracting Governments take expeditious steps to ensure that nationals or vessels under their jurisdiction refrain from engaging in directed fisheries for menhaden and to limit the by-catch;
- 2) **Stipulates** that each Contracting Government take appropriate action to prohibit the taking of menhaden by vessels over 130 feet (39.6 m) in length by persons under its jurisdiction within Subarea 5 and adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6;
- 3) **Suggests** that STACRES review this situation and provide advice to the Commission on means of minimizing by-catches of menhaden without interference with fisheries conducted for regulated species.

The Panel considered the need for an exemption clause for the shell-size and meat-count regulation

for sea scallops in Div. 5Z of Subarea 5 (Proposal (23) from the June 1972 Annual Commission Meeting), which entered into force for all countries, except Canada and USA, on 29 March 1973, and **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (5) for the international regulation respecting the fishery for sea scallops in Div. 5Z of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area (Appendix III);

and, in order to have the proposal operative by 1 September 1976, **recommended** that the Commission adopt the following **Resolution (2) Relating to the Implementation of the Proposal for International Regulation Respecting the Fishery for Sea Scallops in Div. 5Z of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area**:

#### **The Commission**

**Recognizing** that a proposal designed to achieve the conservation and optimum utilization of stocks of sea scallops in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area through the international regulation respecting the fishery for sea scallops has been adopted at the June 1976 Annual Commission Meeting;

**Taking into Account** that under Article VIII of the Convention, as amended, this proposal would not enter into force until six months after the date on the notification from the Depositary Government transmitting the proposals to the Contracting Governments, which could not occur before January 1977 at the earliest;

**Having Considered** that the purpose of the Convention is to promote the conservation and optimum utilization of fish stocks on the basis of scientific investigation, and economic and technical considerations, and that this purpose would be better served if implementation of the proposal referred to above is effected as early as possible, but in any event on later than 1 September 1976;

**Recognizing** that, in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of the Convention, fishing activity in the area must be conducted in accordance with this proposal as early as possible in 1976;

- 1) **Invites** the attention of Governments to the above matters;

- 2) **Stipulates** that the proposal referred to above should apply as early as possible in 1976, but in any event no later than 1 September 1976;
- 3) **Requests** Governments whose vessels conduct fishing operations in the area to implement the proposal no later than 1 September 1976;
- 4) **Expects** that all Members of the Commission will conduct their fishing operations in accordance with the proposal no later than 1 September 1976 unless any of the Members of Panel 5 to which the proposal refers notifies an objection to the Depositary Government prior to that date.

The Panel, **recognizing** that the by-catch regulation for haddock in Subarea 5 which entered into force on 16 January 1976 for the year 1976 should be retained in subsequent years, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (6) for amending the international regulation of the fishery for haddock in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area (Appendix III).

The Panel **noted** that proposal (5) from the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting allocated 30,000 tons of the 60,000-ton TAC for herring in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6 for the period January to June 1976 only and examined a US proposal for allocation for the whole year 1976. Following re-allocations based on expected catches for the period July to December 1976, the Panel **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, a proposal for international quota regulation of the fisheries in Subareas 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Convention Area and adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 for 1976 (see proposal (7) of Appendix III).

The Panel gave detailed consideration to US proposals (i) for TACs and catch requirements for the coastal states for 1977 in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 for 18 first-tier individual stocks of cod, haddock, redfish, pollock, silver hake, red hake, yellowtail, flounders (except yellowtail), herring, mackerel, other finfish, and squids (*Illex* and *Loligo*); (ii) for elimination of the "Others" quota — a

category set up to allow fishing by non-allocated and non-member countries and to allow for by-catch — because of substantial overruns, neglect to notify the Commission of intentions to fish and estimated catches from the "Others" quota and neglect to report catch by 100-ton increments; and (iii) for the concept of "windows" (areas) open to fishing, instead of areas closed to fishing, to ensure both a high catch per unit of effort in directed fisheries for squid (*Illex* and *Loligo*), silver and red hakes, and mackerel, and to control by-catches in these fisheries.

Regarding (i) and (ii) above, the Panel **agreed to defer** to the Special Meeting in December 1976 setting TACs and allocations for mackerel in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, and herring in Div. 5Z of Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6; and allocation of an agreed TAC for other finfish of 150,000 tons in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. However, agreement on **TACs and allocations for 15 of the 18 individual stocks** resulted in a symbolic allocation to "Others" in all stocks, no surplus for allocation to non-coastal states in all stocks except the silver and red hakes and the squids (*Illex* and *Loligo*), agreement on no new directed fisheries, and a US proposal for use of the "window" concept to control by-catch. Accordingly, the Panel **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, a proposal for international quota regulation of the fisheries for cod in Div. 5Y and in Div. 5Z; for haddock (by-catch only) in Subarea 5; for redfish in Subarea 5; for silver hake in Div. 5Y, in Subdiv. 5Ze, and in Subdiv. 5Zw and Statistical Area 6; for red hake in Subdiv. 5Ze, and in Subdiv. 5Zw and Statistical Area 6; for yellowtail in Subarea 5 east of 69°W and in Subarea 5 west of 69°W and Statistical Area 6; for flounders (except yellowtail) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6; for herring in Div. 5Y; and for squid (*Illex*) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 and squid (*Loligo*) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (see proposal (8) of Appendix III).

The Panel **agreed** that, because the setting of TACs for mackerel in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 and for herring in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6 was deferred to the Special Commission Meeting in December 1976, the **second-tier TAC** should also be postponed until after the Commission decided the herring and mackerel TACs.

Regarding (iii) above, the Panel, taking into consideration the difficulties the delegates of Member Countries were having in accepting the US proposal for silver and red hakes, squids, and mackerel based on the "window" concept, and having been advised that there was not the data available on fishing activity and distribution to assess the impact of the US proposal, on the advice of an *ad hoc* Working Group on a Subarea 5 Regulatory Regime, **agreed** that data requirements for a fuller understanding and analysis of the by-catch problem and the proposed seasonal and gear regulation would be presented to the *ad hoc* Working Group at the Special Commission Meeting in December 1976.

The Panel elected Dr J. A. Storer (USA) Chairman for the period 1976/77 and 1977/78.

f) **Panel A (Seals)**. The Panel met under Mr K. Raasck (Norway) in the absence of the Chairman, Mr K. Vartdal (Norway), and **agreed** that the Scientific Advisers to the Panel should meet in Copenhagen, Denmark, in October 1976, and conduct an assessment of the relationship between seal and fish populations, particularly with respect to the quantity of fish consumed by seals, and report to a meeting of Panel A to be held after the proposed Scientific Advisers meeting. The Panel elected Mr E. Lemche (Denmark) Chairman for 1976/77 and 1977/78.

g) **Panels 2 and 3**. The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), considered a Canadian request for adjustments of national allocations for certain redfish and capelin stocks agreed for 1976. Following agreement by USA and Cuba to transfer 15,500 tons of their 1976 redfish allocations to Canada and agreement by the Panels to increase the 1976 USSR allocation of capelin in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K from 160,000 tons to 197,500 tons without increasing the TAC, the Panels, in joint session, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposals for adjustment of the international quota regulation of the fisheries for redfish in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K, in Div. 3M, in Div. 3LN, in Div. 3O, and in Div. 3P, and for capelin in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K for 1976 (see proposal (7) of Appendix III).

Following lengthy discussion of the TACs and national allocations for 10 stocks of cod, witch, Greenland halibut, redfish, American plaice, roundnose grenadier, and capelin in Subareas 2 and 3 for 1977, and **having agreed** to the TACs recommended by STACRES and the requests by Canada for national allocations based on her needs, the Panels, in joint session, **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposals for international quota regulation of the fisheries for cod in Div. 2J and Div. 3KL; for witch in Div. 2J and Div. 3KL; for Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 and Div. 3KL; for redfish in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K; for American plaice in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K; for roundnose grenadier in Subareas 2 and 3; and for capelin in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K, in Div. 3L, in Div. 3NO, and in Subdiv. 3Ps for 1977 (see proposal (8) of Appendix III).

A Spanish proposal to sum the individual TACs for all the stocks of cod, deduct the total requirements of the coastal states, and distribute the balance according to the participation in 1976 was considered to be worthy of serious consideration of a future meeting. The **delegate of Spain** advised that his Government might be unable to accept the cod allocations recommended by Panels 2 and 3. The **delegate of Iceland** objected to the capelin allocations in Div. 3LNO and in Subdiv. 3Ps. The **delegate of France** voted against the cod allocations in Div. 2J and Div. 3KL.

- h) **Panels 3, 4, and 5.** The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), considered conservation requirements for mackerel in Subareas 3, 4, and 5, and Statistical Area 6, the TAC and allocations for squid (*Illex*) in Subareas 3 and 4, and the TAC and allocations for pollock in Subareas 4 and 5.

The Panels reviewed the results of mackerel assessments by STACRES and **noted** that it was not possible to reconcile the differences of opinion of the scientists on the appropriate values for the 1975 fishing mortality on age-groups 3 and older, the partial recruitment of age 2 fish in 1975, and the sizes of the 1975 and 1976 year-classes. As a consequence, the range of individual scientific opinion on the recommended TAC level for 1977 was from zero to 250,000 tons. Following lengthy discussion in which no agreement could be reached, the Panels, in joint session, **recommended**

that setting the 1977 TAC and national allocations for mackerel in Subareas 3, 4, and 5, and Statistical Area 6 be deferred to a Special Commission Meeting in early December 1976, subject to a commitment by those Member Governments interested in mackerel to provide specified data and analyses required and the formats and timetables for their provision as requested by the assessment scientists of STACRES.

The **delegates of Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, German Dem.Rep., Poland, USSR, and USA** each made a specific commitment to provide the required data in time for consideration by the scientists at the Special Meeting in December 1976.

Panels 3 and 4, in joint session with Panel 5, **agreed** that there was no need to change the TAC and national allocations established for 1976 for squid (*Illex*) and that the TAC of 30,000 tons for pollock in Div. 4VWX and Subarea 5 should be allocated to the coastal states (Canada and USA) with a symbolic amount for "Others" and **recommended**

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposals for international quota regulation of the fisheries for squid (*Illex*) in Subareas 3 and 4, and for pollock in Div. 4VWX and Subarea 5 for 1977 (see proposal (8) of Appendix III).

- i) **Panels 1-5.** The Panels, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), considered a proposal by the delegate of Spain to change the present method of allocating national quotas which was giving Spain a greater disproportionate reduction in allocations of cod than any other Member Country (see also Section 12 (g) above). The proposal, that national allocations for cod should be made on the basis of the species as a whole, rather than stock by stock, and then divided amongst the various stocks according to national interest in the different Subareas, was met with such comments as (1) the proposal might result in allotments being received by countries in areas in which they were not wanted, (2) the concept of regionality was basic to the ICNAF management system, (3) the proposal would force changes in the patterns of fishing for some countries, and (4) the concept would be unfair if applied to cod alone. The Panels concluded that the proposal should not be adopted at the present time but **agreed** that delegations were not precluded for submitting such a proposal at future meetings.

### 13. International Quota Regulation

The Commission **noted** the Panel and Joint Panel reports recommending TACs and allocations for 1977 in respect of 52 stocks in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 and further, that these TACs and allocations combined in a single table comprised a proposal for international quota regulation of the fisheries in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6. The Commission, therefore, **agreed**

to transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (8) for international quota regulation of the fisheries in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 (Appendix III).

The Commission **noted** the need for implementing for 1977 the decisions of the Special Meeting in December 1976 regarding conservation measures for the stocks or species which were deferred by the present Commission meeting and **agreed to adopt** the following **Resolution (3) Relating to the Implementation of Proposals Concerning Fishing Activity in Subareas 1, 3, 4, and 5 of the Convention Area and Statistical Area 6 and the Gulf and Front Areas of the Convention Area:**

#### The Commission

**Recognizing** that proposals designed to achieve the conservation and optimum utilization of the stocks of:

- a) cod (*Gadus morhua*) in Subarea 1 through the setting of national allocations,
- b) shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in Subarea 1 through the setting of a total allowable catch and national allocations,
- c) silver hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*) in Subarea 4 through the setting of a total allowable catch and national allocations and by establishing closed areas and fishing gear restrictions,
- d) flounder (American plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*), witch (*Glyptocephalus cynoglossus*), and yellowtail (*Limanda ferruginea*)) in Division 4VWX of Subarea 4 through the setting of national allocations,
- e) herring (*Clupea harengus*) in Division 4XWb of Subarea 4 through the setting of national allocations,

- f) mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*) in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 and Statistical Area 6 through the setting of a total allowable catch and national allocations,
- g) herring (*Clupea harengus*) in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 through the setting of a total allowable catch and national allocations,
- h) other finfish, except menhaden, billfishes, tunas, and large sharks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 through the setting of a total allowable catch and national allocations,
- i) all species, except menhaden, billfishes, tunas, and large sharks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 through the setting of the second-tier total allowable catch and national allocations,
- j) protected species in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 by establishing closed areas and gear restrictions, and
- k) seals in the Gulf<sup>1</sup> and Front<sup>2</sup> Areas of the Convention Area through the setting of total allowable catches and national allocations and such other regulations considered appropriate;

will be discussed at a Special Meeting of the Commission later in 1976;

**Taking into Account** that under Article VIII of the Convention, as amended, these proposals would not enter into force until six months after the date on the notification from the Depository Government transmitting the proposals to the Contracting Governments, which would not occur before May 1977, at the earliest;

**Bearing in Mind** that, in these circumstances, no Commission regulations to ensure conservation and optimum utilization of these stocks would be effective for approximately one half of 1977;

**Having Considered** that the purpose of the Convention is to promote the conservation and optimum utilization of the fish stocks on the basis of scientific investigation, and economic and technical considerations and that this purpose cannot be successfully achieved unless the proposals referred to above are applied throughout 1977;

**Recognizing** that, in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of the Convention, fishing activity in the

<sup>1</sup>All the waters of the Strait of Belle Isle and the Atlantic Ocean east of a straight line between the lighthouse at Amour Point on the east coast of Labrador and the lighthouse on Flowers Island in Flowers Cove, Newfoundland.

<sup>2</sup>All the waters and territories west of a straight line between the lighthouse at Amour Point on the coast of Labrador and the lighthouse on Flowers Island in Flowers Cove, Newfoundland.

area must be conducted in accordance with these proposals throughout 1977;

- 1) **Invites** the attention of Governments to the above matters;
- 2) **Stipulates** that the proposals referred to above should apply throughout 1977;
- 3) **Requests** delegations to draw the immediate attention of their Governments to proposals agreed by the Commission at its meeting later in 1976;
- 4) **Expects** Contracting Governments to notify the Executive Secretary by 31 December 1976, that, subject to a similar undertaking by all other Members of the respective Panel or Panels, they will implement such proposals for the entire year 1977 and will not invoke paragraph 7(b) of Article VIII of the Convention as amended.

#### 14. Other Business

The **delegate of Italy** read a prepared statement which pointed out the inconsistencies and inequalities which had resulted in low allowable catch being awarded Italy in the negotiation of allocations.

The **delegate of Canada** thought it appropriate to say that the Canadian delegation's assessment of the meeting results was favourable enough to lead him to recommend to the Government of Canada that she remain a Member of the Commission through 1977. However, the Government of Canada would be giving

notice of withdrawal from the Commission is required by the Convention in case there was need for withdrawal on 31 December 1976. He thanked the delegates for the sympathetic and cooperative manner in which they had met Canada's needs.

The Commission accepted the kind invitation of Spain to hold its Ninth Special Commission Meeting in the Canary Islands from 1 to 9 December 1976 inclusive, to be preceded by meetings of STACRES from 24 to 29 November inclusive, and by the *ad hoc* Working Group on a Subarea 5 Regulatory Regime on 30 November and following days, as necessary.

#### 15. Election of Vice-Chairman

The Commission **noted** with regret that a new assignment would prevent Dr D. H. Wallace (USA) from future participation at Commission meetings and **agreed** unanimously that Dr D. Booss (Fed.Rep. Germany) should complete Mr Wallace's term of office as Vice-Chairman for the 1976/77 period.

#### 16. Acknowledgements and Adjournment

The **delegate of Portugal**, speaking on behalf of all meeting participants, thanked the Chairman, Mr E. Gillett (UK), for the efficient and effective manner in which he had handled the many duties thrust upon him.

There being no other business, the Twenty- Sixth Annual Meeting of the Commission was declared adjourned at 1345 hrs, 23 June 1976.

# PART 4

## Appendix I

### List of Participants

(Head of Delegation in **bold**)

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# PART 4

## Appendix II

### Agenda

#### PROCEDURES

1. Opening
2. Agenda.
3. Publicity.

#### ADMINISTRATION

4. Approval of draft report of Proceedings of Eighth Special Commission Meeting (*Summ.Doc. 76/VI/6*).
5. Panel memberships (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/14*).
6. Administrative Report (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/15*).

#### FINANCE

7. Auditor's Report, 1974/75.
8. Financial Statement, 1975/76.
9. Budget Estimate, 1976/77 (*Appendix I to STACFAD Agenda*).
10. Budget Forecast, 1977/78 (*Appendix II to STACFAD Agenda*).

#### COMMISSION PROPOSALS

11. Status of proposals adopted by the Commission (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/16*):
  - a) for changes in the Convention;
  - b) for regulation of fisheries.
12. Amendments to Financial Regulations, and Commission and Panel Rules of Procedure (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/19*).

#### INTERNATIONAL CONTROL

13. Annual Returns of Infringements (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/17*).
14. Scheme of Joint International Enforcement (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/29*).

#### FUTURE OF COMMISSION

15. Discussion of the future of the Commission and its potential role under extended coastal state jurisdiction (*Comm.Docs 76/VI/23 and 76/VI/30*).

#### CONSERVATION

16. Reduction of fishing effort on groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 for 1977.
17. Conservation of cod stocks in the Convention Area.
18. Conservation of haddock stocks in Subareas 4 and 5.
19. Conservation of redfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, 4, and 5.
20. Conservation of silver hake stocks in Subareas 4, 5, and Statistical Area 6.
21. Conservation of red hake stocks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.
22. Conservation of pollock stocks in Subareas 4 and 5.
23. Conservation of American plaice stocks in Subareas 2 and 3.
24. Conservation of witch flounder stocks in Subareas 2 and 3.

25. Conservation of yellowtail flounder stocks in Subareas 3, 5, and Statistical Area 6.
26. Conservation of Greenland halibut stocks in Statistical Area 0 and Subareas 1, 2, and 3.
27. Conservation of American plaice, witch and yellowtail stock in Subarea 4.
28. Conservation of flounder (except yellowtail) stocks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.
29. Conservation of roundnose grenadier stocks in Statistical Area 0 and Subareas 1, 2, and 3.
30. Conservation of herring stocks in Subareas 4, 5, and Statistical Area 6.
31. Conservation of mackerel stocks in Subareas 3, 4, 5, and Statistical Area 6.
32. Conservation of argentine stocks in Subarea 4.
33. Conservation of capelin stocks in Subareas 2 and 3.
34. Conservation of other finfish stocks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.
35. Conservation of squid (*Illex*) stocks in Subareas 3, 4, 5, and Statistical Area 6.
36. Conservation of squid (*Loligo*) stock in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.
37. Conservation of all finfish and squids in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.
38. Conservation of northern deep-water prawn in Subarea 1.
39. Conservation of scallops in Subarea 5.
40. Conservation of harp and hooded seals in the Northwest Atlantic.
41. Conservation of Atlantic salmon in the Convention Area.
42. Conservation of alewives in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/19*).
43. Conservation of menhaden in Statistical Area 6 (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/26*).
44. Conservation by seasonal closures for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/27*).
45. Conservation by gear regulations for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/28*).
46. Management objectives for groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/22*).
47. Further consideration of 1976 allocations of redfish and capelin in Subareas 2 and 3 (*Comm.Doc. 76/VI/31*).

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

48. Report of Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES).
49. Report of Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD).
50. Report of Standing Committee on Regulatory Measures (STAC-REM).
51. Report of Standing Committee on International Control (STAC-TIC).
52. Reports of Panels 1-5 and Panel A (Seals).

#### OTHER MATTERS

53. Date and location of 1977, 1978 and 1979 Annual Meetings.
54. Press Statement.
55. Other Business.
56. Adjournment.

## PART 4

### Appendix III

# List of Conservation Proposals (1) to (8) from the Annual Meeting, June 1976

### (1) Proposal for Amendment to ICNAF Scheme of Joint International Enforcement to Permit Inspections by Helicopter Hoist Procedure in the Convention Area and in Statistical Areas 0 and 6

STACTIC recommends that the Commission transmit the following proposal to Depository Government for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

That pursuant to paragraph 5 of Article VIII of the Convention, paragraphs 2, 4, and 7 of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement, adopted at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report Vol. 24, 1973-74, pages 87-89), be replaced by the following; and that Annexes A and B be added to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement:

"2. Vessels and helicopters carrying inspectors shall display a special flag or pennant approved by the Commission to indicate that the inspector is carrying out international inspection duties. The names of the vessels which may be either special inspection vessels or fishing vessels and the identify of the helicopters so used for the time being, shall be notified to the Commission.

- "4. (i) The master of a vessel employed for the time being in fishing for sea fish or in the treatment of sea fish in the Convention Area or in Statistical Areas 0 and 6 shall facilitate boarding when given the appropriate signal in the International Code of Signals by a vessel or a helicopter carrying an inspector. The vessel to be boarded shall not be required to stop or manoeuver when fishing, shooting, or hauling. The master shall nonetheless provide:
- a) a boarding ladder; or
  - b) such assistance to boardings from helicopters as specified in Annex A to the Scheme of International Enforcement.

In either case, the master shall observe the ordinary practice of good seamanship to enable an inspection party to board as soon as practicable. With respect to personnel helicopter hoist transfers, in certain circumstances such as those cited in paragraph 7 of Annex A, a boarding, using the helicopter hoist transfer procedure, will not be attempted;

- (ii) The procedures established for personnel helicopter hoist transfers are not intended to place a higher duty of care upon the master of a fishing vessel than would otherwise be the case under International Law;
- (iii) Fishery support vessels in transit and not for the time being connected with fishing or transferring unprocessed fish are not subject to boarding under this Scheme;
- (iv) An inspection party will consist of one inspector in charge of making the inspection who may be accompanied by additional inspectors appointed under this Scheme and not more than two witnesses. The word "inspector" hereafter refers only to the inspector in charge unless it is clear that all inspectors appointed under this Scheme and included in the inspection party are referred to;
- (v) The master shall enable the inspector to examine and photograph catch, nets, or other gear and any relevant documents as the inspector deems necessary to verify the observance of the Commission's regulations in force in relation to the flag state of the vessel concerned.

"7. An inspector observing a failure of a vessel to enable an inspection party to board after being properly signalled shall:

- (i) Report the apparent infringement as soon as possible to any inspector of the flag state known to be in the vicinity or a designated authority of the flag state;
- (ii) Prepare a report giving as much information as possible, including the distance from which the signal was given, the visibility at the time, sea state, wind and icing conditions."

**NOTE:** Attached are Annexes A and B which form an integral part of this proposal.

**Annex A — Integral part of Proposal (1) for amendment to ICNAF Scheme of Joint International Enforcement to permit inspections by helicopter hoist procedure in the Convention Area and in Statistical Areas 0 and 6.**

**Instructions to masters for transfer of an ICNAF inspection party by helicopter to and from fishing vessels.**

The Contracting Governments shall take appropriate action to ensure that all masters of fishing vessels under their jurisdiction engaged in fishing for sea fish or in the treatment of sea fish in the Convention Area or in Statistical Areas 0 and 6 are made aware of and comply with the following instructions with regard to the transfer of ICNAF inspection parties by helicopter to and from fishing vessels:

1. Inspection parties authorized under the ICNAF Scheme of Joint Enforcement procedures may board a vessel not only by sea boat, but also by helicopter. In some ice conditions this may be the only practical way of boarding a vessel. Masters shall be aware of this method of transferring inspectors, and shall be conversant with the information contained in these instructions.
2. The captain of the helicopter shall be in charge of and shall ensure for the safety of personnel who are being transferred between a vessel and the helicopter during the entire time such personnel are attached to the helicopter via the hoist cable and the lifting device.
3. The master of the vessel shall follow the procedures described below to assist the helicopter:
  - (i) Attempt to communicate by radio in some common language;
  - (ii) Alter course and speed if requested and if free to do so;
  - (iii) Maintain a steady course and speed throughout the transfer operation unless the safety of the vessel is in jeopardy;
  - (iv) Provide a visual indication of relative wind by means of a pennant or other suitable device;
  - (v) Clear the transfer area of objects which could be blown loose;
  - (vi) Radio transmission shall not be made on standing wire antennae (high frequency) in the immediate vicinity of the transfer area during the transfer. If such transmissions become necessary, the helicopter shall be advised so that the transfer can be delayed;
  - (vii) A guide line may on occasions be lowered first. Crew members should be available to man this line to assist in the transfer of the inspection party, but the inspection party, other lines and wires should not be touched by the crew of the vessel until the inspection party ground them on the vessel;
  - (viii) TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO ENSURE TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE THAT NONE OF THE LINES OR FITTINGS LOWERED FROM THE HELICOPTER ARE ATTACHED TO OR PERMITTED TO FOUL IN THE VESSEL.
4. The helicopter displaying its ICNAF pennant shall communicate to the vessel, by one or more of the following means, his intention to conduct a boarding:
  - (i) Radio communications on 2182 KHZ, VHF-FM Channel 16 or other agreed to frequencies;
  - (ii) Visual or aural indication of an appropriate signal extracted from the International Code of Signals as included in Annex B of the ICNAF International Inspection Scheme;
  - (iii) Hover over or near the intended boarding position in conjunction with hand signals indicated in paragraph 5.
5. The following visual hand signals, adopted from the International Code of Signals, may be used by the air crew or vessel crew to permit communication as appropriate to the stage of the boarding operation:
  - (i)
 

<b>Signal:</b>	Pointing movement by the arm or hand
<b>Used by:</b>	<b>Meanings:</b>
Helicopter	Wish to conduct transfer or boarding in the indicated location
  - (ii)
 

<b>Signal:</b>	Vertical motion with an arm or a flag, or a "Thumbs-Up" indication
<b>Used by:</b>	<b>Meanings</b>
Either	Ready or conduct transfer; or
Vessel	Desire transfer from this position; or
Helicopter	Take up the slack on the guide line; or
Helicopter	Pull in gently on the guide line; or
Either	Any affirmative response.
  - (iii)
 

<b>Signal:</b>	Horizontal motion with arm or flag, or "Thumbs-Down" indication
<b>Used by:</b>	<b>Meanings:</b>
Vessel	Transfer not recommended from this position — recommend alternate (and point towards desired position); or
Either	Not ready to conduct transfer; or
Vessel	Request you stop the transfer; or
Helicopter	Ease the tension on the guide line; or
Helicopter	Release the guide line; or
Either	Any negative response.

6. A visual display of the symbol YU by the helicopter or the radio transmission of YANKEE UNIFORM to the fishing vessel indicates the signals in Annex B of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement are to be used for inspection communications.
7. The following situations are representative of conditions under which a personnel helicopter hoist transfer will **not** be attempted:
  - (i) In the opinion of the captain of the aircraft or the master of the vessel, there is inadequate clear space for a transfer or there are too many obstructions;
  - (ii) There is significant vessel motion such that, in the opinion of the captain of the aircraft or the master of the vessel, a hazard exists;
  - (iii) The helicopter cannot position itself with an acceptable relative wind;
  - (iv) Other hazards exist which prejudice the safety of the helicopter or the vessel or of personnel being transferred.

**Annex B — Integral part of Proposal (1) for amendment to ICNAF Scheme of Joint International Enforcement to permit inspections by helicopter hoist procedure in the Convention Area and in Statistical Areas 0 and 6**

**Standard examples with meanings from the International Code of Signals and remarks pertinent to helicopter transfers under the ICNAF Scheme of Joint Enforcement**

INCO SIGNAL	INCO Meaning	ICNAF Remarks
SQ 3	You should stop, or heave to, I am going to board you	The display of the ICNAF pennant indicates the presence of an authorized ICNAF inspection team in the helicopter
MG	You should steer course _____	Course is true
IK-RQ	Request you proceed at _____ KTS	
AZ	I cannot alight but I can lift crew	Indication of intentions to conduct helicopter hoist transfer (used with BB signal)
BB1-RQ	May I alight on your deck: are you ready to receive me forward	Used in conjunction with signal AZ to indicate helicopter will not alight but will conduct a hoist transfer in the area indicated
BB2-RQ	May I alight on your deck: are you ready to receive me amidships	
BB3-RQ	May I alight on your deck: are you ready to receive me aft	
K	I wish to communicate with you by . . . . . (extracts from INCO Table 1)  6 . . . International Code Flags 8 . . . Radiotelephony 2182 KHZ 9 . . . VHF Radiotelephony Channel 16	
YX	I wish to communicate by radiotelephony on frequency indicated	
C	YES (affirmative)	
N	NO (negative)	November Oscar by voice or radio transmission
YU	I am going to communicate with your station by means of the International Code of Signals	
BT	Helicopter is coming to you now (or at time indicated)	

## (2) Proposal for International Regulation of Trawl Net Mesh Size in the Silver Hake Fishery in Subarea 4 of the Convention Area

Panel 4 recommends that the Commission transmit the following proposal to Depositary Government for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

"1. That Contracting Governments take appropriate action to prohibit, except as provided in paragraph 2, the taking of silver hake, *Merluccius bilinearis*, in Subarea 4 of the Convention Area by persons under their jurisdiction with trawl nets having in any part of the net meshes of dimensions less than 60 mm or 2-<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches as measured by the ICNAF gauge specified below. These mesh sizes relate to manila twine netting when measured wet after use or the equivalent thereof when measured dry before use. The Commission may, on the basis of scientific advice as to selectivity equivalents, determine the appropriate mesh sizes when trawl nets made of materials other than manila are used or when seine nets are used.

(a) Mesh sizes are measured by a flat wedge-shaped gauge having a taper of 2 centimeters in 8 centimeters and a thickness of 2.3 millimeters, inserted into meshes under a pressure or pull of 5 kilograms. The mesh size of a net shall be taken to be the average of the measurements of any series of twenty consecutive meshes, at least ten meshes from the lacings, and when measured in the codend of the net beginning at the after end and running parallel to the long axis.

"2. (i) In order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for species other than silver hake not otherwise regulated by ICNAF trawl net mesh size regulations, which take small quantities of silver hake incidentally, except as provided for in paragraph 2 (ii), the Contracting Governments may permit persons under their jurisdiction to take silver hake with nets having a mesh size less than that specified in the preceding paragraph, so long as such persons do not have in possession (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species, which has been fishing in Subarea 4 of the Convention Area, silver hake taken in amounts in excess of 2,500 kg (5,510 lbs) or 10% by weight of all fish on board such vessel, whichever is greater.

(ii) Should it be observed during an inspection that a vessel is taking silver hake in excessive amounts during its first 48 hours fishing in Subarea 4 of the Convention Area since leaving port or previously off-loading, the inspector shall note this fact on the inspection report and bring it to the attention of the master. Such an observation in itself shall not be considered an infringement.

"3. That Contracting Governments prohibit the use, by persons to whom this proposal would apply, of any means or device other than those described in paragraph 4, which would obstruct the meshes of the nets or which would otherwise, in effect, diminish the size of the meshes of the nets, provided that devices may be attached to the upper side of the codend in such a manner that they will not obstruct the meshes of the codend. Any such device, on the basis of scientific evidence, must not obstruct the meshes or reduce significantly the selectivity of the codend.

"4. That Contracting Governments may permit any canvas, netting, or other material to be attached to the underside only of the codend of a net to reduce and prevent damage.

"5. That this regulation will not enter into force for Contracting Governments until 1 April 1977 in order to provide Contracting Governments an additional period of time to acquire and distribute to their vessels new trawl nets that comply with the above regulation."

### **(3) Proposal for International Regulation of the Fishery for Haddock in Division 4V and Division 4W of Subarea 4 of the Convention Area**

Panel 4 recommends that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government the following proposal for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

That Proposal (3) from the June 1975 Annual Meeting for International Regulation of the Fishery for Haddock in Division 4V and Division 4W of Subarea 4 of the Convention Area (June 1975 Annual Meeting Proceedings No. 10, Appendix III, page 213) which entered into force on 16 January 1976, be replaced by the following:

"1. That, in order to avoid impairment of fisheries for other species and which take small quantities of haddock incidentally Contracting Governments not mentioned by name in the part of Proposal (8) for International Quota Regulation dealing with national allocations for haddock in Division 4V and Division 4W of Subarea 4 may permit persons under their jurisdiction to have in possession on board a vessel fishing for other species (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) haddock caught in Division 4V and Division 4W of Subarea 4 in amounts not exceeding 5,510 lbs or 2,500 kg, or 1 percent by weight, of all other fish on board caught in Division 4V and Division 4W of Subarea 4 whichever is greater.

"2. For Contracting Governments not mentioned by name in the part of Proposal (8) for International Quota Regulation dealing with national allocations for haddock in Division 4V and Division 4W of Subarea 4, the provisions of paragraph 2 of the Trawl Regulations for Subarea 4 regarding the incidental catch of haddock shall be suspended in Division 4V and Division 4W of Subarea 4 during the period that this proposal is in effect."

**(4) Proposal for the International Regulation of the Fishery for River Herring in Subarea 5 and Adjacent Areas to the West and South in Statistical Area 6**

Panel 5 recommends that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government the following proposal for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

"1. That each Contracting Government take appropriate action to prohibit the taking of river herring (*Alosa aestivalis* and *A. pseudoharengus*) by persons under its jurisdiction except as provided for in the following paragraph.

"2. That, in order to avoid impairment of the fisheries for other species which take small quantities of river herring (*Alosa aestivalis* and *A. pseudoharengus*) incidentally, Contracting Governments may permit persons under their jurisdiction to have in possession on board a vessel fishing for other species (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) river herring caught in Subarea 5 or in the area adjacent to the west and south in Statistical Area 6 in amounts not exceeding 5,510 pounds or 2,500 kilograms, or 1 percent by weight, of all other fish on board, whichever is greater."

**(5) Proposal for International Regulation Respecting the Fishery for Sea Scallops in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 of the Convention Area**

Panel 5 recommends that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government the following proposal for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

That Proposal (23) from the June 1972 Annual Meeting for International Regulation Respecting the Fishery for Sea Scallops in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 (June 1972 Meeting Proceedings No. 7, Appendix IV, page 51) and entered into force on 29 March 1973 (except Canada and USA) be replaced by the following:

"That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action in Division 5Z of Subarea 5 to prohibit the retention and landing of sea scallops, *Placopecten magellanicus* (Gmelin), by persons under their jurisdiction,

- (a) of a shell size of less than 95 mm, measured from the hinge to the opposite margin, provided, however, that 10 percent of the quantity of sea scallops retained on board a vessel at sea or at the time of off-loading may be below this limit; and
- (b) the meats of which provide an average count of more than 40 units per pound, provided, however, that such average count of sea scallops in possession on board a vessel at sea or at the time of off-loading may exceed this limit by up to 10 percent."

**(6) Proposal for Amending the International Regulation of the Fishery for Haddock in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area**

Panel 5 recommends that the Commission transmit the following proposal to Depositary Government for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

That paragraphs 1 and 3 of Proposal (8), adopted at the June 1975 Annual Meeting for International Regulation of the Fishery for Haddock in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and entered into force on 16 January 1976, be replaced by the following:

"1. That, in order to avoid impairment of fisheries for other species and which take small quantities of haddock incidentally, Contracting Governments not mentioned by name in the national allocations for haddock in Subarea 5 may permit persons under their jurisdiction to have in possession on board a vessel fishing for other species (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) haddock caught in Subarea 5 in amounts not exceeding 5,510 pounds or 2,500 kilograms, or 1 percent by weight, of all other fish on board caught in Subarea 5, whichever is greater.

"3. For Contracting Governments not mentioned by name in national allocations for haddock in Subarea 5, the provisions of paragraph 2 of the Trawl Regulations for Subarea 5 regarding the incidental catch of haddock shall be suspended in Subarea 5 during the period that this proposal is in effect."

**(7) Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in Subareas 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Convention Area and Adjacent Waters to the West and South Within Statistical Area 6,**

"That the national quota allocations for 1976 of the four redfish stocks in Subarea 2 and Division 3K, Division 3M, Divisions 3LN, and Division 3O, the capelin stock in Subareas 2 and Division 3K, and the herring stock in Divisions 4XW(b), adopted at the 1975 Annual Meeting (Proposal (11)), and the redfish stock in Division 3P, adopted at the September 1975 Commission Meeting (Proposal (7)), and the herring stock in Division 5Z and Statistical Area 6, adopted at the January 1976 Commission Meeting (Proposal (5)), shall be revised in accordance with the following table:

Table — Integral part of Proposal (7) for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in Subareas 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Convention Area and Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6

National re-allocations (in metric tons) for 1976 of particular stocks or species Subareas 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Convention Area and Statistical Area 6 (Total = Total Allowable Catches (TAC)).

Species or stock:	REDFISH					CAPELIN	HERRING	
	2+3K	3M	3LN	3O	3P	2+3K	4XW(b)	5Z+6
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	900
Canada	2,500	6,000	4,800	2,500	15,500	—	76,700 <sup>b</sup>	1,000
Cuba	500	2,200	2,200	1,000	—	—	—	1,000
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	1,500	—	—	1,100
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9,200
German Democratic Republic	2,500	—	1,000	—	—	—	—	9,300
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	20,000	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,100
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	4,000	—	—	—	—	20,000	—	11,000
Portugal	2,500	—	1,000	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	800
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR	14,000	7,600	10,800	12,300	800	197,500	11,000	12,190
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	750	—	—	—	—	—	500	12,400
Others	3,250	200	200	200	200	10,000 <sup>a</sup>	1,000	10
Total	30,000	16,000	20,000	16,000	18,000	237,000+	89,200	60,000

<sup>a</sup>Countries without specific allocations may each take up to 10,000 tons from this stock.

<sup>b</sup>Allocation includes 15,000 tons estimated for inshore catches.

**(8) Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in the Convention Area and in Statistical Areas 0 and 6**

"That the total allowable catch and/or national quota allocation for 1977 of particular stocks or species in the Convention Area and in Statistical Areas 0 and 6 shall be in accordance with the attached table."

Table — Integral part of Proposal (8) for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in the Convention Area and in Statistical Areas 0 and 6.

Total allowable catch (TAC) and/or national quota allocation for 1977 of particular stocks or species in the Convention Area and in Statistical Areas 0 and 6.

Species or stock:	COD											
Stock region:	1	2GH	2J+3KL	3M	3NO	3Ps	4TVn <sup>1</sup>	4Vn <sup>2</sup>	4VsW	4X(off- shore) <sup>3</sup>	5Y	5Z
Bulgaria		—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Canada		3,000	70,000	2,100	8,000	26,900		3,250	6,550	3,600	80	3,350
Cuba		—	1,810	1,150	1,250	—		—	—	—	—	—
Denmark		—	1,690	4,050	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
France		450	5,630	3,950	310	5,000		150	250	—	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany		3,600	8,030	300	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic		900	5,020	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Iceland		—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Italy		—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Japan		—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Norway		800	1,610	800	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Poland		4,000	7,430	850	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Portugal		2,900	21,100	5,950	1,620	—		—	—	—	—	—
Romania		400	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Spain		450	16,270	1,250	11,460	—		—	—	—	—	—
USSR		2,300	18,880	2,950	6,360	—		—	—	—	—	—
UK		700	1,330	1,250	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
USA		—	—	—	—	—		—	100	300	4,915	16,630
Others		500	1,200	400	1,000	100		100	100	100	5	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>160,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>

Table (continued)

Species or stock:	HADDOCK			REDFISH							RED HAKE	
	4VW	4X	5	2+3K	3M	3LN	3O	3P	4VWX	5	5Ze	5Zw+6
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	1,700	13,400	1,260	14,000	4,450	8,000	8,000	15,500	13,000	90	1,000	1,000
Cuba	—	—	—	850	1,600	1,150	500	—	—	—	920	1,810
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,900	250	—	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic	—	—	—	1,425	—	425	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	2,275	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portugal	—	—	—	1,425	500	425	—	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR	—	—	—	8,600	9,250	5,900	7,400	500	500	—	12,530	18,090
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	200	1,500	4,735	425	—	—	—	—	6,000	8,900	1,500	7,000
Others	100	100	5	1,000	200	100	100	100	250	10	50	100
Total	2,000 <sup>4</sup>	15,000 <sup>4</sup>	6,000 <sup>4</sup>	30,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	18,000	20,000	9,000	16,000	28,000

Table (continued)

Species or stock:	SILVER HAKE				POLLOCK	AMERICAN PLAICE				WITCH		
	4VWX	5Y	5ZE	5Zw+6	4VWX+5	2+3K	3M	3LNO	3Ps	2J+3KL	3NO	3Ps
Bulgaria	—	—	760	1,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	—	—	2,500	—	20,975	5,800	500	44,800	53,300	9,000	7,000	2,500
Cuba	—	—	5,375	4,140	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	700	600	—	—	400
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	300	—	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,500	—	—
Portugal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR	—	—	46,050	32,090	—	2,000	1,000	1,000	—	3,700	2,900	—
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	8,990	15,000	12,500	—	9,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others	10	315 <sup>5</sup>	270 <sup>6</sup>	—	25	200	500	500	100	500	100	100
Total	9,000	70,000	50,000	—	30,000	8,000	2,000	47,000	6,000	17,000	10,000	3,000

Table (continued)

Species or stock:	YELLOWTAIL			GREENLAND HALIBUT		FLOUNDERS		ROUNDNOSE GRENADIER		ARGENTINE	MACKEREL	
	3LNO	5(E69 <sup>a</sup> )	5(W69 <sup>a</sup> ) + 6	0+1	2+3KL	4VWX <sup>7</sup>	5+6 <sup>8</sup>	0+1	2+3	4VWX	3+4	5+6
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	11,200	90	—	—	13,000	—	200	—	2,000	1,000	—	—
Cuba	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,925	—	—
Denmark	—	—	—	7,200	—	—	—	2,000	—	—	—	—
France	300	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic	—	—	—	—	2,100	—	—	1,100	4,250	—	—	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,250	—	—
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	—	6,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portugal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR	—	—	—	10,000	6,400	—	—	3,800	24,750	12,725	—	—
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	—	9,900	3,995	—	—	—	19,790	—	—	—	—	—
Others	500	10	5	2,800	2,500	—	10	1,100	4,000	100	—	—
Total	12,000	10,000	4,000	20,000	30,000	28,000	20,000	8,000	35,000	20,000	—	—

Table (continued)

Species or stock:	HERRING				CAPELIN				SQUID ( <i>Illex</i> )		SQUID ( <i>Loligo</i> )	SHRIMP <sup>15</sup>
	4VW(a) <sup>9</sup>	4XW(b) <sup>10</sup>	5Y <sup>10</sup>	5Z+6	2+3K	3L	3NO	3Ps	3+4	5+6	5+6	1
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	400	—	—
Canada	33,400	—	990	—	15,000	14,800 <sup>12</sup>	16,300	8,900 <sup>12</sup>	10,000	1,000	2,000	—
Cuba	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	500	—
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	500	—
German Democratic Republic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	980	1,640	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,440	7,820	—
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	6,600 <sup>12</sup>	49,900	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,910	4,390	—
Portugal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,910	850	—
USSR	—	—	—	—	197,500	26,400 <sup>12</sup>	58,300	—	15,000	7,370	1,000	—
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	—	—	6,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	11,500	25,000	—
Others	100	—	10	—	10,000 <sup>11</sup>	2,200	16,500	100	3,000 <sup>13</sup>	490 <sup>14</sup>	300	—
Total	33,500	84,000	7,000	—	212,500+	50,000	141,000	9,000	25,000+	35,000	44,000	—

Table (continued)

Species or stock	OTHER FINFISH <sup>16</sup>	ALL FINFISH <sup>17</sup> AND SQUIDS	Notes to Preceding TACs and Allocations
Stock region	5+6	5+6	
Bulgaria	DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING	DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING	<sup>1</sup> Div. 4T(Jan-Dec) and Subdiv. 4Vn(Jan-Apr).
Canada			<sup>2</sup> Subdiv. 4Vn(May-Dec).
Cuba			<sup>3</sup> Div. 4X (offshore) is that part of Div. 4X south and east of the Straight lines joining coordinates in the order listed: 44°20'N, 63°20'W; 43°00'N, 65°40'N, 43°00'N, 67°40'W.
Denmark			<sup>4</sup> By-catch only, no directed fishery.
France			<sup>5</sup> 300 tons reserved for by-catch.
Federal Republic of Germany			<sup>6</sup> 250 tons reserved for by-catch.
German Democratic Republic			<sup>7</sup> American plaice, witch and yellowtail
Iceland			<sup>8</sup> Flounders except yellowtail.
Italy			<sup>9</sup> TACs and allocations pertain to the period 1 July 1977 — 30 June 1978.
Japan			<sup>10</sup> Fisheries for adult herring.
Norway			<sup>11</sup> Countries without specific allocations may each take up to 10,000 tons from this stock.
Poland			<sup>12</sup> Any part of this allocation not taken may be added to the allocation in Div. 3NO.
Portugal			<sup>13</sup> Countries without specific allocations may each take up to 3,000 tons from this stock.
Romania			<sup>14</sup> Reserved for by-catch only.
Spain			<sup>15</sup> <i>Pandalus borealis</i> .
USSR			<sup>16</sup> Except TAC species and also menhaden, billfishes, tunas and large sharks other than dogfish.
UK			<sup>17</sup> Except menhaden, billfishes, tunas and large sharks other than dogfish.
USA			
Others			
Total			

# **PART 4**

## **Appendix IV**

### **Annual Meeting — June 1976**

#### **Press Notice**

The 26th Annual Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) was held in Montreal, Canada, from 8-23 June 1976. About 175 representatives attended from all Member Countries (except Romania) as follows: Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Observers were present from the European Economic Community (EEC), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), International Commission for the Southeast Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF), and the Republic of Korea.

The Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett, Fisheries Secretary for Scotland.

#### **1. Purpose of the Meeting**

One of the most important items for discussion was the future of the Commission and its potential role under extended jurisdiction to 200 miles by the coastal states, Canada and the United States of America. In addition, the allocation of national catch quotas for 1977 for over 60 stocks of the principal commercial species fished in the Northwest Atlantic were to be negotiated. Discussions aimed at strengthening the Commission's scheme for enforcement of its international fishing regulations were scheduled.

#### **2. Scientific Advice to the Commission**

The Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) met at the Commission's headquarters in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, from 31 March to 10 April 1976 and again at Montreal, Canada, during 31 May to 3 June, and submitted authoritative advice on the state of the fish stocks, the total allowable catch for each, and other measures of control.

In past years, with few exceptions, the Commission has based its fisheries management decisions on the concept of maximum sustainable yield, on the premise that each fish stock should be harvested at a level which produces the absolute maximum yield in the long term. At the current meeting, the Commission was informed that this concept has recently been questioned by ICNAF scientists, that total allowable catches based on the maximum sustainable yield concept are difficult to calculate precisely, and that greater year to year stability in catches could be assured by adopting a different management objective. As a result, the Commission has agreed, for virtually all fish stocks, that total allowable catches in 1977 will be set at levels below the theoretical maximum. In doing so, the Commission anticipates increases in fish abundance, and improvements in total catch and catch rates after 1977.

#### **3. Catch Quotas**

The Commission agreed to total allowable catches (TACs) for 1977 in respect of 55 stocks, with decisions on 7 stocks (shrimp in Subarea 1, silver hake in Subarea 4, both mackerel stocks in Subarea 3 to Statistical Area 6, and herring, other finfish and all finfish plus squids in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6) being deferred to a Special Meeting later in 1976 (Table 1). The Commission also agreed to the national allocations for 1977 in respect of 51 stocks, with decisions on 10 stocks being deferred to the proposed Special Meeting (Table 2). It was further agreed that a decision on quotas for harp and hooded seals in the northern part of the Convention Area be deferred to the Special Meeting. In order to improve the scientific advice for achievement of its management objectives for those stocks requiring further consideration of TACs, the Commission adopted the recommendations of its scientific advisers in respect to the specific data requirements and other information necessary for STACRES to undertake further assessments of these stocks prior to the Special Meeting.

The Commission reviewed the 1976 national allocations of 8 stocks and agreed to the re-allocation for these stocks as set out in Table 3.

#### **4. Enforcement of Fishery Regulations**

The Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) reviewed present methods of international control of fishing activities and recommended changes in enforcement procedures. These changes will make it possible to carry out inspections of fishing vessels by transfer of inspection officers from helicopters to the fishing vessels operating in the Northwest Atlantic within the Convention Area. STACTIC also reviewed enforcement proposals contemplated for the future fishery regime but in view of the fact that the coastal states claim to take all enforcement measures in the extended zone requires consideration by other Member Governments, the Commission referred these proposals, without recommendations, to Member Governments.

## **5. Future of the Commission**

Although the delegations of Canada and the United States of America could not commit their governments to remaining in the Commission, except possibly for a transitional period, the delegations of most other countries were not authorized to commit their governments on the extension of fishing limits to 200 miles, there was agreement to appoint a working group whose members, on a personal basis, will recommend possible future arrangements for international fisheries co-operation in the Northwest Atlantic. The position will be clearer if the next session of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference (August-September 1976) supports the extension of fishing limits, and the Special Meeting of the Commission will consider the matter in December, on the basis either of a revised ICNAF Convention or of a new international agreement.

## **6. Election of Vice-Chairman**

Dr D. Booss, Commissioner for the Federal Republic of Germany to ICNAF was elected Vice-Chairman of the Commission replacing Mr D. H. Wallace, Commission for the United States of America to ICNAF, for the period 1976/77.

## **7. Special Commission Meeting**

The Ninth Special Meeting of the Commission will be held from 1 to 9 December 1976 in the Canary Islands. The Meeting will be preceded by associated meetings of the Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics from 24-29 November 1976 and of an *ad hoc* Working Group on a Subarea 5 Regulatory Regime on 30 November and following days as necessary.

Office of the Secretariat, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, 20 July 1976.

TABLE 1. Nominal catches (1973-75) and TACs (1975-77) for stocks under quota regulation in the Northwest Atlantic.

Species	Stock Area	Catches (000 tons)			TACs (000 tons) <sup>a</sup>		
		1973	1974	1975 <sup>a</sup>	1975	1976	1977
Cod	1	63	48	48	80	45	31
	2GH	—	4	7	20	20	20
	2J+3KL	355	373	288	554	300	160
	3M	23	25	22	40	40	25
	3NO	80	73	44	88	43	30
	3Ps	53	47	36	52	48	32
	4Vn(Jan-Apr) + 4T	51	49	39	50	30	15
	4Vn(May-Dec)	8	6	4	10	10	3.5
	4VsW	54	44	32	60	30	7
	4X(offshore)	7	6	5	5	4	4
5Y	6	8	9	10	8	5	
5Z	29	27	24	35	35	20	
Haddock	4VW	4	2	2	0	2 <sup>c</sup>	3 <sup>c</sup>
	4X	13	13	18	15	15 <sup>c</sup>	15 <sup>c</sup>
	5	8	5	7	0	6 <sup>c</sup>	6 <sup>c</sup>
Redfish	2+3K	39	30	26	30	30	30
	3M	22	35	18	16	16	16
	3LN	33	22	18	20	20	16
	3O	9	13	15	16	16	16
	3P	18	22	28	25	18	18
	4VWX	40	33	28	30	20	20
	5	17	10	11	25	17	9
Silver hake	4VWX	299	96	116	120	100	... <sup>d</sup>
	5Y	9	5	9	15	10	9
	5Za	62	66	63	80	50	70
	5Zw+6	65	58	42	80	43	28
Red hake	5Za	25	10	15	20	28	16
	5Zw+6	41	24	13	45	16	28
Pollock	4VWX+5	43	38	39	55	55	30
Amer. plaice	2+3K	5	6	6	8	8	8
	3M	1	2	2	2	2	2
	3LN	53	46	43	60	47	47
	3Ps	15	7	4	11	8	6
Witch	2J+3KL	24	18	12	17	17	17
	3NO	7	8	6	10	10	10
	3Ps	3	2	1	3	3	3
Yellowtail <sup>l</sup>	3LN	33	24	23	35	9	12
	5(E89 <sup>2</sup> )	16	15	14	16	16	10
	5(W69 <sup>2</sup> ) + 6	10	9	6	4 <sup>c</sup>	4 <sup>c</sup>	4 <sup>c</sup>
G. halibut	0+1	10	14	25	—	20	20
	2+3KL	29	27	28	40	30	30
Flounders	4VWX <sup>e</sup>	28	25	22	32	28	28
	5+6 <sup>f</sup>	22	21	27	25	20	20
R. grenadier	0+1	5	12	5	10	13	8
	2+3	18	28	27	32	32	35
Argentine Herring	4VWX	1	17	15	25	25	20
Herring	4VW(a)	30	44	33	45 <sup>g</sup>	36 <sup>g</sup>	33.5 <sup>g</sup>
	4XW(b) (adults)	91	97	95	90	89	84
	5Y (adults)	16	18	21	16	7	7
	5Z+6	202	150	1	150	60	... <sup>d</sup>
Mackerel	3+4	38	45	36	70	56	... <sup>d</sup>
	5+6	381	295	251	285	254	... <sup>d</sup>
Capelin	2+3K	136	127	199	160+ <sup>h</sup>	237+ <sup>h</sup>	212+ <sup>h</sup>
	3L	4	58	34	45	45	50
	3NO	127	101	130	128	126	141
	3Ps	1	2	2	9	9	9
O. finfish <sup>l</sup>	5+6	157	132	120	150	150	... <sup>d</sup>
Shrimp	1	13	18	39	—	—	... <sup>d</sup>
Squid-Illex	3+4	10	—	17	25+ <sup>h</sup>	25+ <sup>h</sup>	25+ <sup>h</sup>
	5+6	—	—	—	30	30	35
Squid-Loligo	5+6	59	56	47	71	44	44
All finfish <sup>l</sup> and squids	5+6	1159	942	852	850	650	... <sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Provisional statistics compiled for 1978 Annual Meeting.

<sup>b</sup>TACs include quantities estimated to be taken outside the Convention Area.

<sup>c</sup>By-catch only, no directed fishery.

<sup>d</sup>Deferred to a Special Commission Meeting.

<sup>e</sup>American plaice, witch and yellowtail.

<sup>f</sup>All flounders except yellowtail.

<sup>g</sup>TACs pertain to seasonal fishery in 1 July-30 June of 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78, respectively.

<sup>h</sup>In addition, countries without specific allocations may each take up to 10,000 tons.

<sup>i</sup>In addition, countries without specific allocations may each take up to 5,000 tons in 3LNOP's.

<sup>j</sup>Excludes all TAC species and also menhaden, billfishes, tunas, and large sharks other than dogfish.

<sup>k</sup>In addition, countries without specific allocations may each take up to 3,000 tons.

<sup>l</sup>All finfish except menhaden, billfishes, tunas, and large sharks other than dogfish.

Table 2. Total allowable catches (TAC) and/or national quota allocation for 1977 of particular stocks or species in the Convention Area and in Statistical Areas 0 and 6 (Total = Total Allowable Catches (TAC)).

Species or stock:	COD											
	1	2GH	2J+3KL	3M	3NO	3Ps	4TVn <sup>1</sup>	4Vn <sup>2</sup>	4VsW	4X(off- shore) <sup>3</sup>	5Y	5Z
Bulgaria		—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Canada		3,000	70,000	2,100	8,000	26,900		3,250	6,550	3,600	80	3,350
Cuba		—	1,810	1,150	1,250	—		—	—	—	—	—
Denmark		—	1,690	4,050	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
France		450	5,630	3,950	310	5,000		150	250	—	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany		3,600	8,030	300	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic		900	5,020	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Iceland		—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Italy		—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Japan		—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Norway		800	1,610	800	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Poland		4,000	7,430	850	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Portugal		2,900	21,100	5,950	1,620	—		—	—	—	—	—
Romania		400	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Spain		450	16,270	1,250	11,460	—		—	—	—	—	—
USSR		2,300	18,880	2,950	6,360	—		—	—	—	—	—
UK		700	1,330	1,250	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
USA		—	—	—	—	—		—	100	300	4,915	16,630
Others		500	1,200	400	1,000	100		100	100	100	5	20
Total	31,000	20,000	160,000	25,000	30,000	32,000	15,000	3,500	7,000	4,000	5,000	20,000

Table 2. (continued)

Species or stock:	HADDOCK			REDFISH							RED HAKE	
	4VW	4X	5	2+3K	3M	3LN	3O	3P	4VWX	5	5Ze	5Zw+6
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	1,700	13,400	1,260	14,000	4,450	8,000	8,000	15,500	13,000	90	1,000	1,000
Cuba	—	—	—	850	1,600	1,150	500	—	—	—	920	1,810
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,900	250	—	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic	—	—	—	1,425	—	425	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	2,275	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portugal	—	—	—	1,425	500	425	—	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR	—	—	—	8,600	9,250	5,900	7,400	500	500	—	12,530	18,090
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	200	1,500	4,735	425	—	—	—	—	6,000	8,900	1,500	7,000
Others	100	100	5	1,000	200	100	100	100	250	10	50	100
Total	2,000 <sup>4</sup>	15,000 <sup>4</sup>	6,000 <sup>4</sup>	30,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	18,000	20,000	9,000	16,000	28,000

Table 2. (continued)

Species or stock:	SILVER HAKE				POLLOCK	AMERICAN PLAICE				WITCH		
	4VWX	5Y	5Ze	5Zw+6		4VWX+5	2+3K	3M	3LNO	3Ps	2J+3KL	3NO
Bulgaria		—	760	1,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada		—	2,500	—	20,975	5,800	500	44,800	5,300	9,000	7,000	2,500
Cuba		—	5,375	4,140	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denmark		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France		—	—	—	—	—	—	700	600	—	—	400
Federal Republic of Germany		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	300	—	—
Iceland		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,500	—	—
Portugal		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Romania		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR		—	46,050	32,090	—	2,000	1,000	1,000	—	3,700	2,900	—
UK		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA		8,990	15,000	12,500	9,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others		10	315 <sup>5</sup>	270 <sup>6</sup>	25	200	500	500	100	500	100	100
Total		9,000	70,000	50,000	30,000	8,000	2,000	47,000	6,000	17,000	10,000	3,000

DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING

Table 2. (continued)

Species or stock:	YELLOWTAIL			GREENLAND HALIBUT		FLOUNDERS		ROUNDNOSE GRENADIER		ARGENTINE	MACKEREL	
	3LNO	5(E69 <sup>7</sup> )	5(W69 <sup>8</sup> ) +6	0+1	2+3KL	4VWX <sup>7</sup>	5+6 <sup>8</sup>	0+1	2+3	4VWX	3+4	5+6
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	11,200	90	—	—	13,000	—	200	—	2,000	1,000	—	—
Cuba	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,925	—	—
Denmark	—	—	—	7,200	—	—	—	2,000	—	—	—	—
France	300	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
German Democratic Republic	—	—	—	—	2,100	—	—	1,100	4,250	—	—	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,250	—	—
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	—	—	—	—	6,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portugal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR	—	—	—	10,000	6,400	—	—	3,800	24,750	12,725	—	—
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	—	9,900	3,995	—	—	—	19,790	—	—	—	—	—
Others	500	10	5	2,800	2,500	—	10	1,100	4,000	100	—	—
Total	12,000	10,000	4,000	20,000	30,000	28,000	20,000	8,000	35,000	20,000	—	—

DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING

DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING

DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING

Table 2. (continued)

Species or stock:	HERRING				CAPELIN				SQUID ( <i>Illex</i> )		SQUID ( <i>Loligo</i> )	SHRIMP <sup>15</sup>		
	4VW(a) <sup>9</sup>	4XW(b) <sup>10</sup>	5Y <sup>10</sup>	5Z+6	2+3K	3L	3NO	3Ps	3+4	5+6	5+6			
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	400	—	DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING		
Canada	33,400	—	990	—	15,000	14,800 <sup>12</sup>	16,300	8,900 <sup>12</sup>	10,000	1,000	2,000			
Cuba	—	DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING	—	DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING	—	—	—	—	—	—	500			
Denmark	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	
France	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	
Federal Republic of Germany	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		500	
German Democratic Republic	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	
Iceland	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	
Italy	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		980	1,640
Japan	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		3,440	7,820
Norway	—		—		—	—	—	6,600 <sup>12</sup>	49,900	—	—		—	—
Poland	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		4,910	850
Portugal	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—
Romania	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—
Spain	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—		4,910	4,390
USSR	—		—		—	—	197,500	26,400 <sup>12</sup>	58,300	—	15,000	7,370	1,000	
UK	—		—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
USA	—	—	6,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	11,500	25,000			
Others	100	—	10	—	10,000 <sup>11</sup>	2,200	16,500	100	3,000 <sup>13</sup>	490 <sup>14</sup>	300			
Total	33,500	84,000	7,000	—	212,500+	50,000	141,000	9,000	25,000+	35,000	44,000			

Table (continued)

Species or stock:	OTHER FINFISH <sup>16</sup>	ALL FINFISH <sup>17</sup> AND SQUIDS	Notes to Preceding TACs and Allocations
	5+6	5+6	
Bulgaria	DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING	DEFERRED TO SPECIAL MEETING	<sup>1</sup> Div. 4T (Jan-Dec) and Subdiv. 4Vn (Jan-Apr). <sup>2</sup> Subdiv. 4Vn (May-Dec). <sup>3</sup> Div. 4X (offshore) is that part of Div. 4X south and east of the Straight lines joining coordinates in the order listed: 44°20'N, 63°20'W, 43°00'N, 65°40'N, 43°00'N, 67°40'W. <sup>4</sup> By-catch only, no directed fishery. <sup>5</sup> 300 tons reserved for by-catch. <sup>6</sup> 250 tons reserved for by-catch. <sup>7</sup> American plaice, witch and yellowtail <sup>8</sup> Flounders except yellowtail. <sup>9</sup> TACs and allocations pertain to the period 1 July 1977 — 30 June 1978. <sup>10</sup> Fisheries for adult herring. <sup>11</sup> Countries without specific allocations may each take up to 10,000 tons from this stock. <sup>12</sup> Any part of this allocation not taken may be added to the allocation in Div. 3NO. <sup>13</sup> Countries without specific allocations may each take up to 3,000 tons from this stock. <sup>14</sup> Reserved for by-catch only. <sup>15</sup> <i>Pandalus borealis</i> . <sup>16</sup> Except TAC species and also menhaden, billfishes, tunas and large sharks other than dogfish. <sup>17</sup> Except menhaden, billfishes, tunas and large sharks other than dogfish.
Canada			
Cuba			
Denmark			
France			
Federal Republic of Germany			
German Democratic Republic			
Iceland			
Italy			
Japan			
Norway			
Poland			
Portugal			
Romania			
Spain			
USSR			
UK			
USA			
Others			
Total			

Table 3. National re-allocation (in metric tons) for 1976 of particular stocks or species in Subareas 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Convention and Statistical Area 6 (Total = Total Allowable Catches (TAC)).

Species or stock:	REDFISH					CAPELIN	HERRING	
	2+3K	3M	3LN	3O	3P	2+3K	4XW(b)	5Z+6
Bulgaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	900
Canada	2,500	6,000	4,800	2,500	15,500	—	76,700 <sup>2</sup>	1,000
Cuba	500	2,200	2,200	1,000	—	—	—	1,000
Denmark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	1,500	—	—	1,100
Federal Republic of Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9,200
German Democratic Republic	2,500	—	1,000	—	—	—	—	9,300
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	20,000	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,100
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poland	4,000	—	—	—	—	20,000	—	11,000
Portugal	2,500	—	1,000	—	—	—	—	—
Romania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	800
Spain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USSR	14,000	7,600	10,800	12,300	800	197,500	11,000	12,190
UK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
USA	750	—	—	—	—	—	500	12,400
Others	3,250	200	200	200	200	10,000 <sup>1</sup>	1,000	10
Total	30,000	16,000	20,000	16,000	18,000	237,000+	89,200	60,000

<sup>1</sup> Countries without specific allocations may each take up to 10,000 tons from this stock.

<sup>2</sup> Allocation includes 15,000 tons estimated for inshore catches.



## PART 5

# Summaries of Research and Status of Fisheries for Subareas and Seals, 1975

The following summaries are based on reports prepared by the Chairmen of Scientific Advisers to the Panels for National Research Reports and the pertinent documents submitted to the 1976 Annual Meeting of the Commission from Member Countries.

The Chairmen were:

for Subarea 1 — Ø. Ulltang (Norway);

for Subarea 2 — B. B. Parrish (UK) acting for D. J. Garrod (UK);

for Subarea 3 — B. B. Parrish (UK);

for Subarea 4 — R. C. Hennemuth (USA);

for Subarea 5 — R. G. Halliday (Canada);

for Seals — A. W. Mansfield (Canada).

### Subarea 1, Statistical Area 0, and East Greenland

Reports of research in 1975 were submitted by Canada, Denmark, Fed. Rep. Germany (FRG), German Dem. Rep. (GDR), Norway, Portugal, Spain, USSR, and UK.

#### 1. Status of Fisheries

In Subarea 1 and Statistical Area 0, total nominal catch in metric tons of all species increased from 115,000 tons in 1974 to 145,000 tons in 1975. The increase was due largely to increases in the catch of shrimp (18,500 to 39,000 tons), redfish (3,000 to 9,000 tons), and Greenland halibut (14,000 to 25,000 tons). Catch of cod remained at 48,000 tons, while the catch of roundnose grenadier decreased from 12,000 to 5,000 tons.

Catches by countries in 1975, with 1974 in parentheses, were: Denmark 61,000 (59,500); FRG 16,000 (2,500); GDR 200 (3,000); Norway 12,000 (10,000); Portugal 5,000 (10,000); Spain 12,000 (6,000); USSR 38,000 (22,000); and UK 200 (1,500). The marked increase in catch by FRG was due primarily to increased effort in the cod fishery, while the USSR increase was primarily due to increased catches of Greenland halibut and in the new fishery for shrimps. Increases by Denmark, Norway, and Spain were from the shrimp fishery.

In Statistical Area 0, the total catches of Greenland halibut and roundnose grenadier decreased from 4,000 to 2,000 tons. The fisheries were carried out by Denmark and USSR only.

At East Greenland, total nominal catch in 1975 was 53,000 tons of mainly redfish (25,000 tons), Greenland

halibut (20,000 tons), and cod (6,000 tons). GDR took 27,000 tons, mainly Greenland halibut (17,000 tons) and redfish (4,000 tons). USSR took 11,000 tons, mainly redfish (10,000 tons). Iceland took mainly redfish (6,000 tons), Norway mainly cod (2,000 tons), and Poland mainly Greenland halibut (1,000 tons).

#### 2. Work Carried Out

- a) **Canada:** Samples of blood and scales from salmon during the cruise of the R/V *Dana* off West Greenland in August 1975.
- b) **Denmark:** Standard hydrographic and plankton sections off West Greenland. Sampling of benthic fauna in Div. 1B-1D prior to expected oil drilling. Inshore studies at the lead and zinc mines in Umanak Fjord (Div. 1A) in April and September. Cod egg and larval sampling. Young cod sampling. Tagged 1,852 cod, mainly small cod inshore in Div. 1D. Exploratory fishing for roundnose grenadier in Statistical Area 0. Tagged 95 Greenland halibut. Sampling salmon from R/V *Dana*. Collection of biological data on capelin, cod, shrimp, and queen crab.
- c) **Fed. Rep. Germany:** Hydrographic investigations off West East Greenland. Cod samples for biological data.
- d) **UK:** Continuous Plankton Recorder survey covered 1,308 miles, from May to December.
- e) **USSR:** Biological studies on Greenland halibut and

redfish in Statistical Area 0. Hydrographic studies off West Greenland. Size and sex composition of roundnose grenadier, American plaice, and cod. Shrimp survey combining trawl and underwater observations.

### 3. Hydrography

Winter cooling was very strong. In February, the water over the shallow part of Fyllas Bank was cooled to the freezing point and sea ice formed. In May, June, and July, a relatively strong heating occurred in the upper 50 m and the temperatures were probably high enough to allow for a relatively good survival of cod larvae.

### 4. Plankton

On the Fyllas Bank section, a considerable increased mean volume of plankton from 1974 to 1975 was observed, the volume in 1975 being close to the mean for the 1961-68 period.

### 5. Cod

- a) **Eggs and larvae:** Denmark reported that the number of cod larvae found in the plankton was somewhat greater in 1975 than in the preceding cold years 1969-74. Temperatures in June-July were probably high enough to allow for a relatively good survival of the cod larvae. What influence the extreme cold winter 1975/76 may have had on the further survival of young cod remains to be seen. Since the difference between larvae of cod and those of *Gadus ogac* is not sufficiently well known, some of the observed larvae may belong to the apparent increasing stock of the latter species.
- b) **Young fish (age-groups I, II, and III):** After several years without significant number of small cod in research catches in Subarea 1, Denmark reported that 1975 catches of small cod, especially 2-year-old, were observed both in research catches with small-mesh otter trawl and as undersized fish (discards) in the commercial pound-net catches. Fish of the 1973 year-class seemed to be especially numerous in the southern Divisions and are likely of East Greenland origin. Danish observations in 1976 have so far confirmed their earlier assessment of abundance of the 1973 year-class. FRG also reported that the 1973 year-class was well represented in the research catches, both in Subarea 1 and off East Greenland.

- c) **Commercial stock:** The 1968 year-class, as expected, was dominant in most samples in Subarea 1. Samples taken in January-May, when about 84% of the Greenland trawl catches of cod were taken, however, contained a considerable number of the 1969 year-class and younger year-classes. Also, FRG reported that the catches contained a considerable number of fish from younger year-classes. It is possible that the 1968 year-class is emigrating to the more southern Divisions and to East Greenland and, therefore, will not contribute much to future catches in Div. 1B-1D. FRG reported that the 1968 and 1970 year-classes were dominant in the catches off East Greenland.

### 6. Roundnose Grenadier

Grenadiers were taken by a Greenland scouting vessel around 62°N latitude, 61°N longitude, at depths of 600-800 m. Most were roundnose grenadier (*C. rupertis*), but about 10-12 specimens of roughhead grenadier (*M. berglax*) were taken in each haul. Stomach contents consisted of crustaceans, worms, and small redfish. Roundnose grenadiers taken from the area of the Greenland-Canadian Ridge, at depths of 700-800 m for length and sex composition, were about 60% males. The lengths ranged from 30 to 90 cm, with a mean length for both males and females of about 56 cm. Of 1,000 fish examined, all were immature. Shrimp were the predominant food item.

### 7. Greenland Halibut

Greenland halibut taken along the continental slope of Baffinland for length and sex composition were about 70% males. Lengths ranged from 36 to 81 cm for males with a mean length of 60 cm, while the females ranged from 40 to 101 cm with a mean length of 66 cm. Redfish, grenadiers, and other deepwater fish were found in their stomachs.

### 8. Shrimp

With a rapidly increasing international fishery for shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) taking place on the offshore banks of West Greenland catches rose from 9,000 tons in 1973 to 39,000 tons in 1975, precautionary conservation measures are being proposed and studies of distribution and abundance have been intensified. Spawning in the Store Hellefiske Bank area started in the middle of August in 1975.

## Subarea 2

Reports on research in 1975 were submitted by Canada, Fed. Rep. Germany (FRG), German Dem. Rep. (GDR), Norway, Poland, Spain, and USSR.

### 1. Status of Fisheries

Total catch of all species again increased from 255,000 tons in 1974 to 286,000 tons in 1975. Increased catches were reported by Canada (3,000 to 5,000 tons) and USSR (126,000 to 186,000 tons), while declines were reported by FRG (34,000 to 25,000 tons), GDR (25,000 to 18,000 tons), Poland (37,000 to 34,000 tons), Portugal (23,000 to 11,000 tons), and Spain (4,000 to 1,000 tons).

Cod catches decreased from 125,000 to 89,000 tons, Greenland halibut from 16,000 to 12,000 tons and flounders from 21,000 to 15,000 tons, while catches of redfish increased from 6,000 to 14,000 tons, roundnose grenadier from 6,000 to 12,000 tons, and capelin from 85,000 to 145,000 tons.

### 2. Work Carried Out

- a) **Canada:** Monitoring of the coastal fishery was continued in 1975. Catches were small. Samples for age and length composition of cod were taken from the trap and gillnet fishery. Cod samples were also taken from the otter trawler fishery in Div. 2J. Research vessel activity in the Subarea consisted of one groundfish survey, one acoustic survey for capelin, and an exploratory cruise for shrimp in the Hawke Channel area. Programs of commercial sampling of Atlantic salmon and investigation on Arctic char in Northern Labrador were continued. Hydrographic observations were carried out during August.
- b) **Fed. Rep. Germany:** The autumn groundfish research vessel cruise series was continued in 1975, using the random stratified method of fishing station selection. Commercial catches were also sampled. All finfish caught were at least sampled for length frequencies. Cod, redfish, and Greenland halibut were also sampled for age composition. Hydrographic data were also collected.
- c) **German Dem. Rep.:** Biological sampling of cod, redfish, and Greenland halibut was carried out. In Div. 2J some hydrographic work was also done.
- d) **Norway:** Research on harp and hooded seals continued, also investigation on distribution and abundance of capelin.
- e) **Poland:** Commercial catches of cod, redfish, Greenland halibut, and plaice were sampled for lengths and ages.
- f) **USSR:** Hydrographic observations were made at various times throughout the year. Samples of cod and roundnose grenadier were obtained for lengths, ages, and other hydrological studies. Cod and Greenland halibut were tagged primarily in Div. 2J.

### 3. Hydrography

Although temperatures during the first half of the year were below norm, autumn temperatures in 1975, both at the surface and bottom, were higher than in 1974, with bottom temperatures on Hamilton Inlet Bank during the autumn of 1975 about 1°C higher than in the previous year according to FRG research vessel records. Solar heat at the surface layers were more intense than in 1974 but was not as strong as in 1973.

### 4. Cod

Because of improved ice conditions, the fishery improved somewhat in the winter and spring of 1975. In spite of this, there was an overall 28% decrease in the catch. Improved catch rates were evident in Div. 2GH, as compared to the previous three years with catch rates by FRG being more than double that of 1974. The improvement in Div. 2GH was more than offset by the apparent decline in abundance in Div. 2J. USSR research data indicated a reduction in cod abundance, especially in Div. 2J, mainly because of low abundance of the 1969-72 year-classes. Preliminary estimates by the latter country indicate that the 1973 and 1974 year-classes were average but will not, at any rate, be recruited to the fishery until 1978-79. Thus, the good year-classes which contributed to high catches in the 1960's are being replaced by the poor 1969-72 year-classes and abundance of cod in the Subarea is therefore relatively low and will remain so until there is a marked improvement in the recruitment pattern.

## 5. Redfish

Polish sampling of commercial redfish indicate that January catches were composed of 20 to 61 cm specimens with a mean length of 29.8 cm. In February the redfish were somewhat smaller, 20-51 cm (27.3 average). FRG redfish age frequencies from survey cruises indicated peaks at 7, 11, and 14 years. A greater proportion of small fish were encountered in shallow strata.

## 6. Capelin

Information to age distribution, sex ratios, and sexual maturity indicated that, in Div. 2J, age-group 2 males (28%) and females (60%) predominated the Canadian research vessel catches during the autumn of

1975. Most of these fish would spawn in the spring of 1976.

## 7. Roundnose Grenadier

Greenland halibut was the most frequent by-catch species, but redfish, and to a minor extent cod, were also recorded. These by-catches ranged from 1.8 to 29.1% of the grenadier catch in Subarea 2.

## 8. Greenland Halibut

Length frequencies of Greenland halibut ranged from 32 to 98 cm; these were somewhat similar to those recorded by GDR at 24-82 cm.

# Subarea 3

Reports of research in 1975 were submitted by Canada, France, Fed.Rep. Germany (FRG), German Dem.Rep. (GDR), Japan, Norway, Poland, Spain, USSR, UK, and USA.

## 1. Status of Fisheries

Total nominal catch of all species in 1975 decreased to 827,000 tons from 936,000 tons in 1974. Increased catches were reported by Canada (190,000 to 195,000 tons), GDR (8,000 to 12,000 tons), Iceland (zero to 16,000 tons), Japan (1,000 to 3,000 tons), and Poland (24,000 to 26,000 tons). Decreased catches were reported by Denmark (6,000 to 5,000 tons), France (14,000 to 12,000 tons), FRG (17,000 to 12,000 tons), Norway (47,000 to 39,000 tons), Portugal (93,000 to 68,000 tons), Spain (116,000 to 73,000 tons), USSR (407,000 to 362,000 tons), and UK (10,000 to 2,000 tons).

Cod catches again decreased substantially from 410,000 to 314,000 tons with greatest decreases reported by Portugal (85,000 to 56,000 tons), Spain (110,000 to 69,000 tons), and USSR (109,000 to 87,000 tons). Redfish catches also decreased dramatically from 116,000 to 88,000 tons, with USSR having the major decrease (85,000 to 54,000 tons) and Canada having increased her catch (10,000 to 22,000 tons). Flounder catches declined from 120,000 to 113,000 tons. Roundnose grenadier catches taken almost entirely by USSR decreased from 23,000 to 16,000 tons. Capelin catches increased from 202,000 to 221,000 tons, due mainly to increased fishing by USSR. Herring catches in the Canadian inshore fishery increased from 7,000 to 23,000 tons.

## 2. Work Carried Out

- a) **Canada:** Hydrographic sections from eastern Labrador to the southern Grand Bank, July-August. Monitoring coastal and offshore cod fisheries. Day and night redfish survey, Subdiv. 3Ps. Redfish stock assessments, Div. 3M, 3LN, and 3O. Incidence of larval nematodes in redfish. Stock assessment of American plaice, Greenland halibut, witch, yellow-tail. Biology and stock discrimination of capelin. Tagging Atlantic salmon, Div. 3L and Subdiv. 3Ps. Sampling commercial squid, herring, mackerel and salmon fisheries.
- b) **France:** R/V *Cryos*. Exploratory fishing. Hydrographic observations. Biology of cod, redfish, and American plaice.
- c) **Fed. Rep. Germany:** R/V *Anton Dohrn*. Oceanographic and groundfish survey, Div. 2J-3K, November-December. Hydrographic sections off Seal Island across Hamilton Inlet Bank. Cod, redfish, Greenland halibut, and roundnose grenadier sampling.
- d) **German Dem. Rep.:** R/V *Ernst Haeckel*. Hydrographic observations in Div. 2J-3K. Groundfish survey. Cod, redfish, and Greenland halibut sampling in Div. 2J-3K, January-February.
- e) **Japan:** Biological studies of capelin and redfish.
- f) **Norway:** R/V *Havdron*. Distribution and composition of capelin, June-July.

- g) **Poland:** Biology of cod, redfish, Greenland halibut, witch, American plaice, roundnose grenadier, and capelin.
- h) **Portugal:** Cod sampling in Div. 3M and 3L, November-December.
- i) **Spain:** Biology of capelin, Div. 3N and 3O, June-July. Distribution and abundance of *Illex*.
- j) **UK:** Hydrographic studies, R/V *Cirolana*, July. Biochemical and genetic analyses of cod races. Continuous Plankton Recorder survey, 3,667 miles.
- k) **USSR:** R/V's *Gemma*, *Persey III*, and *Ayaks*. Hydrographic observations at standard sections, January, June-September. Abundance of juvenile cod and haddock. Biology of capelin. Benthos survey.
- l) **USA:** Oceanographic studies by US Coast Guard in support of International Ice Patrol in Div. 3N, 3L, and 3O.

### 3. Environmental Studies

Hydrographic observations were made in the Subarea in 1975 by Canada, France, FRG, GDR, USSR, UK, and USA. They showed that in the first half of the year temperatures in the surface 200-m depth layer on the Labrador and Newfoundland shelf area were somewhat lower than the long-term average (ice conditions again hampered fishing in the northern Newfoundland coastal waters in 1975), but in the second half of the year they were above average, especially on the southern edge of the Grand Bank where, according to USSR observations, the influence of the Gulf Stream gave temperatures 3° to 4.5°C higher than the long-term average. The influence of the cold Labrador Current was below average in the Flemish Cap area in June, but was considerably above it in the Labrador Shelf area in August.

### 4. Plankton

Plankton Recorder surveys of the plankton in the Subarea were again conducted by the Institute of Marine Environmental Research in the UK. These showed that the phytoplankton concentrations (principally of *Thalassiosira* spp., *Chaetoceros* spp., and *Thalassiothyx longissima*) were much above average in April, and *Thalassiosira* spp. was also abundant in October-December. The abundance of copepods was also higher than average in the summer months (July-September), that of the adult stages of *Calanus finmarchicus* being especially so. The abundance of Euphausiacea, principally

*Thysanoessa longicaudata*, was also much above average, the numbers sampled in 1975 being the highest in any year since the surveys started in 1961. The numbers of fish larvae recorded in the surveys were again very low. USSR plankton investigations in the Grand Bank and Flemish Cap areas in June showed that the centres of highest phytoplankton blooms occurred at the boundaries between the cod and warmer water masses in the hydrographic frontal zones and were associated with the highest concentrations of zooplankton (*Calanus finmarchicus* and Euphausiacea).

A survey of benthos in Subarea 3 was conducted by USSR in 1975, the depths sampled ranging from 43 to 850 m. The highest biomass was recorded on the slope of the banks and the lowest in the deep water on the edge of the continental slope. When compared with the results of an earlier survey, the results suggest that the influence of the cold Labrador Current in the Newfoundland shelf area had decreased during the past decade.

### 5. Cod

The results of the commercial catch sampling and research vessel trawl surveys by the USSR and FRG provided further evidence that the abundance of young cod (1 to 3-year-olds) in the Div. 2J-3KL stock was low and resulted in a continuation of the decrease in stock abundance reported last year. This was reflected in reduced catches and catches-per-unit-effort in most countries' cod fisheries on this stock, and points to a further decrease in the abundance of this stock in the immediate future. The 1968 year-class (7-year-old) was prominent in both the inshore and offshore components of this fishery. USSR observations indicated that in other cod stocks in the Subarea the strength of the young year-classes were of average strength, except in Div. 3M where the 1973 year-class was again shown to be a strong one, which should result in an increase in the exploited stock in future years. A USSR analysis of trawl survey data for cod in Div. 3NO showed a significant relationship between the numbers of pre-recruit age-groups and subsequent fishery yields.

### 6. Redfish

USSR trawl survey data in 1975 gave above average abundance indices for redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in all Divisions, except 3L. The indices were particularly high in Div. 3NOP and indicate a continuing increase in stock abundance in the southeastern part of the Subarea. Canadian data showed that 8 to 12-year-old redfish year-classes of moderate strength entered the fishery on the shelf in Div. 3P for the first time in 1974 and

1975. Under stable fishing conditions they are likely to give a lower sustained yield than those recruiting in previous years during the past decade. Canadian studies in Subdiv. 3Ps showed large diurnal variations in redfish catches by bottom trawl, the magnitude of which differed between age-groups. Unless allowed for in the survey design, this phenomenon may lead to biased results for redfish from stratified groundfish surveys. Redfish stock delineation studies, using multi-variate analyses or morphological characters and observations on nematode worm parasite infestation, were reported to be in progress in Canada.

### 7. Flatfish

Canadian investigations of the flatfish stocks in Subarea 3 showed that stock abundance for the main stocks, witch and yellowtail flounder, has decreased sharply in recent years. The results of these investigations and of new or updated assessments for the flatfish stocks by Canadian and other scientists were presented to and used by the Assessments Subcommittee for estimating TACs for these stocks. Canadian comparative studies of the food of yellowtail flounder and American plaice showed that the main components of the diet of yellowtail were Polychaet worms and Amphipods, whereas that of American plaice contained considerable proportions of fish and Echinoderms. Growth studies of witch showed that fish from the northern part of the Subarea grow faster, have a shorter life span and mature at an earlier age than those in the southern part.

### 8. Roundnose Grenadier

Length and age sampling of roundnose grenadier catches was carried out in 1975 by USSR, GDR, and Poland. Information presented on by-catches taken by USSR trawlers fishing for roundnose grenadier in the years 1967-74 in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K showed that in

Div. 3K by-catches were small at all depths between 500 and 120 m, ranging between zero at the greater depths fished (1,000-1,200 m) to 6% by weight at 700-800 m. Greenland halibut and redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) were the main by-catch species. Cod formed a very small part of the by-catch (0.2%) in the shallowest depths fished (500-700 m). Results of a virtual population assessment for roundnose grenadier, based on GDR length and age composition data from Subareas 2 and 3 in 1973 and 1974, gave an estimated catch at the  $F_{0.1}$  level of between 32,000-40,000 tons.

### 9. Capelin

Further investigation of the migration of capelin to and from the spawning area and the measurement of spawning stock size in Div. 3N, conducted by USSR scientists in the summer, showed that the main body of mature capelin moved into the spawning area in early June and spawning took place throughout the period late June-early August, with the peak occurring between 20-25 July. Following spawning the spent fish moved northward and from August to October were observed feeding heavily on planktonic crustacea in Div. 3K and 3L. The spawning concentrations consisted mainly of 3- and 4-year-olds (1972 and 1971 year-classes). The stock size in this area was estimated, using a combination of acoustic, photographic and fishing techniques, to be approximately 1.05 million tons. These results, and others reported for the capelin in Div. 2J and 3K suggest that the fishing mortality generated by the fishery under the present quota regulations is quite low. The results of Spanish length sampling in Div. 3N and 3O in June-July showed a predominance of female capelin in the commercial catches (73% female; 27% male) and a large size composition for males. A larger length at age for males was also observed in Canadian samples of mixed immature and adult capelin from Div. 3K in November 1975.

## Subarea 4

Reports on research in 1975 were submitted by Canada, France, Fed.Rep. Germany (FRG), German Dem.Rep. (GDR), Japan, Poland, Spain, USSR, UK, and USA.

### 1. Status of Fisheries

Total nominal catch of all species in 1975 was 920,000 tons, a decrease from the 937,000 tons taken in 1974. Finfish catches totalled 831,000 tons, 3,000 tons

less than in 1974. Total catches of invertebrates increased to 49,000 tons from 36,000 tons. Groundfish and pelagic fish catches remained much the same as in 1974.

Cod catches declined from 172,000 tons in 1974 to 154,000 tons in 1975. The declines occurred in almost equal quantities in the stocks in Div. 4T-Subdiv. 4Vn and in Subdiv. 4Vs-Div. 4W, partly due to catch quota restrictions on Denmark, Portugal, and Spain. Haddock catches increased from 19,000 to 20,000 tons, silver hake

from 96,000 to 116,000 tons, American angler from 12,000 to 18,000 tons, herring from 228,000 to 241,000 tons, and squid from 400 to 14,000 tons. Decreases were recorded for redfish (96,000 to 93,000 tons), American plaice (28,000 to 22,000 tons), Atlantic sea robins (9,000 to 3,000 tons), mackerel (43,000 to 32,000 tons), alewife (18,000 to 6,000 tons), and argentine (17,000 to 15,000 tons).

Increases in catch were reported by France (251,000 to 264,000 tons) and by USSR (251,000 to 264,000 tons), while decreases were reported by Canada (590,000 to 572,000 tons), Denmark (5,000 to 3,000 tons), Portugal (18,000 to 15,000 tons), Spain (34,000 to 21,000 tons), and USA (13,000 to 10,000 tons).

## 2. Work Carried Out

- a) **Canada:** Seasonal physical oceanographic surveys, including T-S and current measurements were carried out in the Gulf of St. Lawrence (Div. 4RST) and T-S measurements were made along the Halifax Section (Div. 4W). Estuarine and coastal embayment studies were continued with physical oceanographic measurements being made in Georges Bay (Div. 4T) and St. Margaret's Bay (Div. 4X), and suspended sediment studies carried out in the Northumberland Strait (Div. 4T). Temperature and salinity data were collected on a variety of research cruises throughout the Subarea.

Studies of the Yarmouth upwelling were continued (Div. 4X). Surveys for temperature, salinity, phytoplankton, and chlorophyll were made with a towed porpoising body (BATFISH), and airborne remote sensing flights were undertaken to detect surface chlorophyll. Quantitative analysis of zooplankton samples from survey cruises in the Bay of Fundy (Div. 4X) is being made to investigate persistence, distribution, and movement of selected local stocks of plankton.

A survey was conducted to study the presence of Bunker C oil in Chedabucto Bay beaches and in intertidal invertebrates and attached algae (Div. 4W). Measurements were made of levels of insecticides and heavy metals in liver and muscles of cod from Div. 4T, 4W, 4X and Subdiv. 4Vn, as part of a continuing program under the auspices of the ICES Working Group on Pollution Baseline and Monitoring Studies.

Annual groundfish research vessel surveys were completed on the Scotian Shelf (Div. 4VWX) in July-August, in the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence

(Div. 4T) in August-September, and in the northern Gulf of St. Lawrence (Div. 4S) in July. Surveys of groundfish populations and larval herring distribution were carried out in February in Div. 4VWX. The annual groundfish egg and larval survey in Div. 4T was completed in July-August and herring larval surveys were made in the Bay of Fundy and Gulf of Maine (Div. 4X and 5Y) in April and November. Field trials were conducted to develop a survey design for hydroacoustic counting methods for a large-scale groundfish inventory.

Monitoring and biological sampling of commercial landings and study of sampling methods and data treatment continued, and a sampling program by the Quebec Department of Fisheries for cod, redfish, and flatfish was initiated in Div. 4RS.

Investigations of the geographic distribution, incidence, and intensity of infection of helminth parasites and of *Eimeria gadi*, a potentially serious disease of the gas bladder of haddock were initiated.

Studies of herring fecundity were continued. Studies of the relationships between the structure of hydrographic systems in the Bay of Fundy and the siting of herring spawning grounds, absolute size, and distribution of herring stocks have been initiated. Weir catches of juvenile fish in the Bay of Fundy are being studied as indicators of movement of fish groups and of the origin of the Bay of Fundy sardines.

Biological data on swordfish stocks off the Scotian Shelf (Div. 4VWX) were collected during experimental longline operations with chartered vessels.

An apparatus was built to measure target strengths of live fish at different aspects, in relation to development of an echo-counting system. An obstacle avoidance system has been designed for the bottom-referencing underwater towed instrument vehicle (BRUTIV). Planning and trials were made on high-headline trawls and on double-codend trawls for separation of redfish and shrimp.

- b) **France:** Hydrographic data and biological data on cod, herring, refish, and American plaice were collected on two research vessel cruises in Div. 4RTVW in the January-April period. Cod tagging was conducted in Div. 4R. Surveys were conducted for squids in Div. 4WX in spring and autumn.
- c) **Fed. Rep. Germany:** Juvenile herring surveys were conducted in March and hydrographic and larval

herring surveys were conducted in October-November which covered part of Div. 4X as well as Subarea 5.

- d) **German Dem. Rep.:** A herring survey in March covered part of Div. 4X.
- e) **Japan:** Experimental fishing for *Illex* squid by jigging was conducted during June-October on the Scotian Shelf in depths of 150-200 m. Commercial sampling of butterfish was conducted in Div. 4X.
- f) **Spain:** A scouting cruise for *Illex* squid made 32 tows in Div. 4VWX, and commercial catches of cod in Subdiv. 4Vn were sampled in January.
- g) **USSR:** A trawl survey was conducted in Emerald Basin (Div. 4WX) in autumn.
- h) **UK:** The Continuous Plankton Recorder survey covered 332 miles in 1975.
- i) **USA:** Hydrographic, plankton, and bottom-trawl surveys were conducted in Div. 4X in spring and autumn as part of large-scale surveys which also cover Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

### 3. Hydrographic and Plankton Studies

Physical and chemical studies related to the productivity of the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the past 5 years have shown that temperature ranges from  $-2^{\circ}$  to  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the lowest values occurring both at the surface in winter and in the intermediate "cold layer". The importance of the cold layer to the productivity of the Gulf lies in the fact that it effectively separates the photic zone from the nutrient-rich deep water during those months when insolation is not the limiting factor or phyto-plankton growth. Salinity ranges from 25‰ to 35‰, the low values having their origin in the freshwater input, the high values in incoming waters from the North Atlantic Ocean. Specific gravity correlates very strongly with temperature, in contrast to the Scotian Shelf where variations are much more dependent on salinity. Oxygen ranges from 2ml/l to 10 ml/l, decreasing to a minimum of intermediate depths. Studies of particulate organic matter show that there is an export of 1 million tons of organic matter from the Gulf annually to the Atlantic Ocean through Cabot Strait.

A study of long-term variation in heat content of Scotian Shelf waters in the period 1962-72 shows that waters were cooling between 1962 and 1964 with a subsequent fairly regular increase in temperature in 1972.

Maps of the distribution of hydrographic stations

from 1950 on file with the Marine Environmental Data Service (MEDS), Ottawa, are now available.

Twenty-one oceanographic sections across North-east Channel were taken in 1975 and indicate that Slope Water was regularly present from March through December, frequently inside the sill, confirming previous observations of sporadic flow into the Gulf of Maine.

The volumes of zooplankton in samples collected in 1973 were higher off southwestern Nova Scotia (Div. 4X) than on Georges Bank and the Gulf of Maine in spring, but lower than on Georges Bank and similar to the Gulf of Maine in autumn.

Summaries of abundance, length frequency, and distribution of larval fishes collected on eight cruises by US vessels during ICNAF larval herring surveys from September 1971 to February 1975 are now available and portions of these data refer to Div. 4X.

A description of the abundance, composition, and distribution of zooplankton on Browns Bank in comparison to Georges Bank and the Gulf of Maine in September-October 1974 is now available. The data suggest that predatory Salpidae may compete with plankton-eating fishes for Copepoda.

A study of plankton volumes in the area of the Laurentian Channel in November-December 1972 showed that plankton volumes were largest in the Cape Breton region and smallest off southwestern Newfoundland, with Banquereau intermediate.

### 4. Cod

A study of the age at maturity of Browns Bank cod in 1972 indicated that 50% maturity occurred at 3.5 years, almost a year older than in Georges Bank cod.

The year-class sizes at age 1 of cod in Subdiv. 4Vs-Div. 4W was found to be negatively correlated with the catch rate of silver hake. It is hypothesized that silver hake and the fishery on it are important determining factors of cod recruitment through predation and by-catch of small cod.

Tagging experiments conducted in Div. 4R and 3P in the winters of 1975 and 1976 confirm the movement of cod south as far as Burgeo Bank in winter and a return movement back into the Gulf of St. Lawrence (Div. 4R) in spring. It is suggested that the southern migration is associated with feeding and the northern one with spawning.

## 5. Pollock

The biology of pollock has been reviewed particularly in relation to stock separation and it is concluded that there are strong interrelationships between pollock in Subareas 4 and 5. Separate stocks of pollock cannot be identified with present knowledge. New data on growth give von Bertalanffy growth parameters of  $L_{\infty} = 102$  cm,  $K = 0.22$ , and  $t_0 = 0.38$ .

## 6. Silver Hake

A negative correlation between the length of 1-year-old silver hake in commercial catches in September and the size of the year-class to which they belong suggests that the growth characteristics may be useful in prediction of year-class strength.

## 7. Redfish

A study of catch, catch rate, and fishing effort trends for redfish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence suggests that the MSY is in the order of 50,000 metric tons, but that catches and effort since 1968 have been above the equilibrium level and catches below this level can be expected in the immediate future.

## 8. Herring

An historical review of literature on herring distribution on the Scotian Shelf was combined with new data from the USSR scouting and fishing fleet for the 1963-72 period. A complex distributional pattern which varies by fish size, season, and hydrographic conditions was discerned. Review of tagging results from Bay of Fundy tagging experiments confirm previous results that there are strong interrelationships between Bay of Fundy and Chedabucto Bay herring (Subdiv. 4Wa) and between herring on both sides of the Bay of Fundy. Significant intermixing with Subarea 5 stocks is also indicated and urgently requires further study. A stochastic model was used to study the effects of temperature perturbations, and predation and competition from mackerel on the recruitment process for Gulf of St. Lawrence herring. It was determined that temperature and abundance of age-group 0 mackerel affected the growth rate of herring, but that neither the total herring biomass or total pelagic biomass had a measurable effect on growth rate. The growth rate of herring, coupled with adult stock size and environmental effects mediated through temperature, were the prime determinants of the abundance of larvae <10 mm.

## 9. Mackerel

Mackerel tagging experiments conducted in 1974 were reported on and reports on 1973 experiments updated. Results confirm that a substantial movement into Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 occurs during winter, with a return movement into both Subareas 3 and 4 in the summer. Mackerel found in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in summer are shown to participate in this migration as do those found along the Nova Scotia coast. A study of length-weight parameters, maturation rate, and nematode infection in mackerel in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6 found no differences among areas and hence did not provide a basis for stock separation.

## 10. Squid (*Illex*)

An exploratory survey for squid in June caught moderate quantities on Banquereau Bank (Subdiv. 4Vs) in depths of 76 to 84 fathoms. These *Illex* had a range in mantle length of 10 to 20.5 cm with a modal length in most samples of 15.5 cm. A trawl survey in Div. 4VWX in May caught *Illex* only to the south of LaHave Bank (Div. 4X) and these were smaller (mean length 14.3 cm for males and 14.6 cm for females) than specimens caught on Georges Bank (Div. 5Z) at the same period. Most *Illex* were immature. In a survey in November-December, with a small number of stations in Div. 4X, a large proportion of the *Illex* caught were juveniles with mean length of 10 cm. Squid of larger size were also present. A study of *Illex* growth indicated that, in the period May to December, males grow 1.4 cm per month and females, 1.7 cm per month. Two groups with different reproductive cycles are hypothesized to explain observed size changes.

## 11. Squid (*Loligo*)

Only a few large specimens of *Loligo* were caught off southwestern Nova Scotia in a May trawl survey. Only two specimens were caught in this area in a November-December survey. A growth study of *Loligo* was conducted on material largely caught in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

## 12. Sea Scallops

Assessments of the Bay of Fundy (Div. 4X) and southern Gulf of St. Lawrence (Div. 4T) scallop fisheries indicate that low and declining landings result from fishing effort more than twice that needed to provide close to optimal yields.

### 13. Bluefin Tuna

Tag and recapture, and size frequency data, indicate that fisheries for giant bluefin tuna in the West Atlantic, north of Cape Cod, exploit a common population of mature fish. Catch trends, mean sizes, and ages are similar in the Northeast and Northwest Atlantic. Ageing

data indicate that 19-24-year-old fish dominated the 1975 Canadian catch with very few fish younger than 14 years. Few recruits have entered the fishery since the early 1950's. The population of giant fish is expected to continue to decline to about 10% of current stock levels in the next 4-10 years, even with management practices giving protection to juvenile fish and limiting catch.

## Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6

Reports on research in 1975 were submitted by Canada, France, Fed.Rep. Germany (FRG), German Dem.Rep. (GDR), Japan, Poland, Spain, USSR, and USA.

### 1. Status of Fisheries

Total nominal catch of all species from Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 decreased from 1,804,000 tons in 1974 to 1,685,000 tons in 1975. Finfish (excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and sharks) and squid catches decreased from 922,000 tons to 860,000 tons. Groundfish catches decreased from 306,000 tons to 281,000 tons, pelagic fish from 753,000 tons to 654,000 tons, while invertebrate catches increased from 665,000 tons to 671,000 tons.

Catches decreased (maximum decrease 80% for Romania (10,000 to 2,000 tons), minimum decrease 4% for USA (1,017,000 to 980,000 tons)) for all countries, except Canada which reported an increase of over 20% (62,000 to 76,000 tons). Increased catches were reported for haddock (5,000 to 7,000 tons), redfish (10,000 to 11,000 tons), pollock (12,000 to 14,000 tons), flounders (except yellowtail) (21,000 to 27,000 tons). Decreased catches were reported for cod (35,000 to 34,000 tons), silver hake (130,000 to 114,000 tons), red hake (33,000 to 29,000 tons), yellowtail (25,000 to 20,000 tons), herring (187,000 to 183,000 tons), mackerel (295,000 to 251,000 tons), butterfish (13,000 to 11,000 tons), menhaden (249,000 to 200,000 tons), and squids (55,000 to 52,000 tons).

In Subarea 5 total catches declined from 806,000 to 791,000 tons and in Statistical Area 6 from 998,000 to 894,000 tons.

### 2. Work Carried Out

- a) **Canada:** Scallop sampling. Herring tagging in Bay of Funday.
- b) **France:** R/V *Cryos*. *Loligo* and *Illex* squid growth studies.
- c) **Fed. Rep. Germany:** R/V *Walther Herwig* and *Anton Dohrn*. Juvenile herring and mackerel surveys, March. Plankton survey, March. Larval herring survey, October-November. Hydrographic observations.
- d) **German Dem. Rep.:** R/V *Ernst Haeckel*. Mackerel and herring assessments. Hydrographic observations. Hydroacoustical survey, March. Fish survey, February-March. Juvenile herring and mackerel survey, March.
- e) **Japan:** Biology of butterfish, redfish, mackerel, herring, and squids.
- f) **Poland:** R/V *Wieczno*. Mackerel and herring assessment. Biology of *Illex* squid. Hydroacoustical studies, March-April. Juvenile herring and mackerel survey, March. Squid survey, April.
- g) **USSR:** R/V's *Poisk* and *Belogorsk*. Mackerel and red hake assessments. Biology of silver and red hakes, mackerel, herring and *Illex* squid. Hydroacoustical survey, March-April. Groundfish survey, August. Gear trials, September. Larval herring survey, September-November.
- h) **USA:** Commercial sampling of all commercial species. R/V's *Albatross IV*, *Delaware II*, *Lulu* and *Alvin*. Gear studies, January-February, July-August, September, October. Larval fish survey, February, October, November-December. Groundfish survey, March, April, May, October, November. Hydroacoustical survey, March-April. Juvenile fish survey, May. Food chain and hydrographic survey, July. Sea scallop survey, August. Larval herring survey, September-October, October-November, December. Haddock, silver hake, yellowtail, herring, mackerel, and *Loligo* and *Illex* squid assessments. *In situ* investigation of herring spawning

ecology, Plankton studies. Motivation and food habits of selected commercial species.

### 3. Hydrography

Oceanographic investigations by the USSR indicated that the level of the thermal background became lower throughout Georges Bank. There was a slight mixing of bank waters and adjacent ocean waters in winter and early spring that was confirmed indirectly by the formation of a clear temperature and salinity gradient along the 200-m isobath. In August, enormous masses of cold water of an intermediate layer (from 60 to 200 deep) upwelled and covered the oceanic slopes of the Bank at 63°30'W-68°40'W. A strong advection of warm oceanic water was observed at the same time in 1974. A preliminary assessment showed a fall in temperature of 0.5° to 2.0°C in the near-bottom layers of Georges Bank. In the autumn of 1975 temperatures were somewhat lower than in 1974.

### 4. Cod and Haddock

The combined US research survey index for cod (Subarea 5) increased slightly over 1974 levels but was still below values observed in 1972 and 1973. Fishing mortality levels exceeded  $F_{max}$  in 1975, indicating the desirability of a reduced TAC. Preliminary data suggest that the 1975 year-class is about equal to the fairly strong 1971 year-class. US research vessel survey indices for haddock indicate that the modest improvement in stock size observed since 1971 is continuing; furthermore, the 1975 young-of-year index for haddock was the highest observed since 1963, indicating improved recruitment in 1977. However, recent projections indicate that even if landings continue at present low levels, complete recovery of this stock is not likely unless a succession of strong year-classes appears.

### 5. Herring

Landings in the Div. 5Y adult fishery increased to 21,700 tons in 1975 from 18,100 tons in 1974; for the Div. 5Z-Statistical Area 6 stock, the catch of 146,100 tons in 1975 was slightly below the 149,500 tons reported for 1974. For both stocks, stock size declined sharply in 1975 due to poor recruitment of the 1971 and 1972 year-classes. The 1973 year-class appears to be equal to or slightly better than the two preceding ones. Unless subsequent year-classes are strong, further reductions in TAC levels may be necessary if present levels of stock size are to be maintained.

### 6. Mackerel

Catches continued to decline from a high of 387,000 tons in 1972 to 251,000 tons in 1975, a decrease of 35%. Stock biomass (Subareas 3-5, Statistical Area 6) decreased 27% from 1974 to 1975, and since its peak year in 1969 has declined 77%. US spring and autumn bottom trawl survey indices also decreased sharply in 1975. Catches in 1974-75 have shown a sharp increase in the numbers of 1-3 year old fish accompanied by an equally sharp decrease in the numbers of age 4+ fish caught. Because of this, a minimum size limit of 25 cm has been imposed to restrict harvests of smaller fish. Current assessments indicate that the entire mackerel stock is now in a seriously depressed state and that a reduced TAC is warranted for 1977.

### 7. Yellowtail

Yellowtail stock abundance on Georges Bank (east of 60°W) was stable from 1971 to 1973 but declined in 1974 and again in 1975. In the area west of 69°W, catches for the Cape Cod stock in 1975 were similar compared to the long-term average, although commercial abundance indices declined.

The Southern New England and Statistical Area 6 stocks have declined in abundance by 80-90% in recent years. Recruitment prospects for Georges Bank appear to be lower than for the mid-1960's, and incoming year-classes in the Southern New England and Statistical Area 6 stocks appear extremely weak.

### 8. Silver Hake

US survey data and virtual population analyses indicate increased abundance for all three stocks (Div. 5Y, Subdiv. 5Ze, and Subdiv. 5zw-Statistical Area 6) in 1975 resulting from improved recruitment in recent years. The latter two stocks have recovered substantially from low levels observed from 1969-1971, although capture and discarding of undersized silver hake in the US Div. 5Y fishery has been detrimental and this stock still remains at a relatively low level. Accordingly, it appears that the TAC for Div. 5Y should be reduced for 1977, while harvest levels for the remaining stocks may be increased.

### 9. Red Hake

US bottom trawl surveys indicate increased abundance for both the Subdiv. 5Ze and Subdiv. 5Zw-Statistical Area 6 stocks in 1975 due to improved

recruitment in recent years. However, stock size levels remain uncertain, primarily because ageing techniques are unreliable. Improvement of existing assessments will be contingent upon development of reliable ageing techniques.

### 10. Squids

US bottom-trawl surveys indicated an increase in abundance of *Illex* and *Loligo* squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 in 1975. In view of uncertainty regarding current catches and stock size levels, the policy of setting pre-emptive catch quotas to ensure the orderly development of fisheries for these species should be continued.

### 11. Redfish

US commercial abundance indices for redfish continued the declining trend observed since 1968. The 1975 nominal catch was approximately equal to the 1974 figure. US bottom-trawl surveys indicate that improved recruitment can be expected over the next four years. However, a recent assessment indicates a lower MSY than previously calculated.

### 12. Pollock

Nominal catches of pollock for the Div. 4VWX-Subarea 5 stock approximated 39,000 tons in 1975, a modest increase over the 1974 figure of 37,800 tons. US and Canadian bottom-trawl surveys indicated recent declines in abundance, and estimates from both commercial and research vessel survey data indicated that  $F$  has exceeded  $F_{max}$  since 1973. Furthermore, recruitment prospects for pollock appear weaker in the immediate future than for the 1971-1974 period.

### 13. Other Flounders

The nominal catch of flounders, except yellowtail, was 26,500 tons in 1975, somewhat higher than the 1974 catch of 21,200 tons. US surveys detected no significant

change in biomass between 1974 and 1975.

### 14. Other Finfish

Catch of "other finfish" declined to 119,500 tons in 1975 from the 1974 figure of 132,100 tons. US surveys indicate an increase in biomass in 1975 for this group of species compared to 1974, but abundance indices for certain species within this group have declined markedly. A study of yield and abundance of river herring (ie., alewife and blueback herring) in Statistical Area 6 indicates pronounced declines in abundance since the advent of the offshore fishery in 1968. Uncertainty regarding current stock size levels for both river herring and butterfish and the potential for increased fishing pressure on these species indicate an interim need for precautionary TACs until adequate assessments can be prepared.

### 15. Total Finfish and Squids

Overexploitation of the total stock biomass in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 in recent years has led to the need to further reduce the so-called second-tier TAC for finfish (except menhaden, billfishes, tunas and large sharks) and squids in order to achieve stock recovery.

### 16. Sea Scallops

Sea scallop landings totalled 98,400 tons in 1975, an increase of 25% over the 1974 figure of 73,600 tons. Landings for Georges Bank have increased continually since 1972, although corresponding data on abundance are lacking. Similarly, landings from Statistical Area 6 have increased sharply since 1973. Yield per recruit studies indicate the need for reducing fishing mortality and increasing age at first harvest. To achieve the latter objective Panel 5 has recommended a 95 mm minimum size limit (measured from the hinge to the opposite margin) for sea scallops in Div 5Z, providing that 10% of the total quantity on board may be of a smaller size. (This corresponds to an average count of 40 meats per pound or less, with the provision that the average count may exceed this limit by up to 10%.)

## Seals

Reports on research in 1975 and catch statistics for

1976 were received from Canada, Denmark, and Norway.

## 1. Status of Fisheries

### a) Harp Seal

In 1975, the total harvest in the "Gulf" and on the "Front" was 174,363, compared to the ICNAF quota of 150,100.

In 1976, the total allowable catch (TAC) in the "Front" and "Gulf" was set at 127,100 harp seals, including a quota of 52,333 for Canada, 44,667 for Norway, and 100 unallocated and an estimate of 30,000 harp seals to be caught by indigenous non-mobile fisheries of the "Front" and "Gulf" areas.

Provisional figures for the 1976 catch are as follows:

	Pups and beaters	Immatures and adults	Total
Canadian landsmen and small vessels	38,146	28,341	66,487
Canadian vessels	50,776	2,256	53,032
Norwegian vessels	43,163	2,320	45,483
<b>Total harp seal catch<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>132,085</b>	<b>32,917</b>	<b>165,002</b>

<sup>a</sup>In addition, about 5,000 harp seals were taken in Greenland waters in 1976.

### b) Hooded Seal

In 1975, a total of 15,611 hooded seals were taken against a TAC of 15,000. In addition, 2,900 hooded seals were reported taken in Greenland waters.

In 1976, the TAC on the "Front" was 15,100 hooded seals, including a quota of 6,000 for Canada, 9,000 for Norway, and 100 unallocated.

Provisional figures for the 1976 catch are as follows:

	Pups	Immatures and adults	Total
Canadian landsmen and small vessels	475	127	602
Canadian vessels	1,644	1,621	3,265
Norwegian vessels	4,421	4,097	8,518
<b>Total hooded seal catch</b>	<b>6,540</b>	<b>5,845</b>	<b>12,385</b>

## 2. Work Carried Out

### a) Harp Seal

A Canadian ultra-violet photographic aerial survey in 1975 in the Gulf (Subarea 4) suggested that the technique appears to be well suited for counting exposed white-coat pups, but substantial ground-truthing is essential. Similar surveys were made on the "Front" Area. Analysis of age material continued on a regular basis.

Norway continued sampling and charting seal concentrations in relation to ice edges in the "Front" Area.

Much time and effort was spent by Canadian, Norwegian, and Danish scientists in assessment of the harp seal stock.

### b) Hooded Seal

Norway carried out sampling and general biological studies in the "Front" Area. Analysis of age samples taken in 1973, 1974, and 1975 confirmed that females were fully recruited among the breeders at 6 years of age and the males at 9 to 10 years of age. During the 1975 hunt, 65 young and 8 adult hooded seals were tagged off Newfoundland.

