

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization



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CWP Recommendations of Direct Importance to the NAFO Scientific Council

by

Assistant Executive Secretary

The Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics (CWP) held its 10th session at Madrid, Spain, during 23-29 July 1980. In addition to the usual representation of FAO, ICES, ICCAT, ICSEAF and NAFO, participants attended from EUROSTAT, OECD, 2 FAO sponsored agencies (CECAF and WECAF), and several national statistical agencies. The Report of the Tenth Session of the CWP will be published by FAO later in 1980, and the NAFO Secretariat will be supplied with copies for distribution well in advance of the June 1981 Meeting of the Scientific Council. The following sections, outlining some matters of direct importance to the Scientific Council, have been extracted from the draft report.

1. Standard Country Abbreviations

The CWP noted that, although a considerable degree of standardization has been achieved in regional publications with regard to abbreviations used for species, gears, etc., there was no consistency in the use of abbreviations for countries. Consequently, the CWP proposed that the regional agencies should adopt the 3-letter country identifiers established by ISO (International Organization for Standardization) when it is necessary to use country abbreviations in tabular presentations. The proposed 3-letter codes applicable for countries fishing in the Northwest Atlantic are listed below, together with the abbreviations used previously in ICNAF Statistical Bulletin for comparison. The full list of standard abbreviations for countries fishing in the whole of the Atlantic may be obtained from the NAFO Secretariat upon request. In the case of Canada (CAN), it was necessary to supplement the 3-letter codes by an additional letter to designate components of this country for which fishery statistics are reported separately.

Country name	Present abbreviation	Proposed abbreviation
Bulgaria	BUL	BGR
Canada (Maritimes)	CAN-MQ	CAN-M
Canada (Quebec)		CAN-Q
Canada (Newfoundland)		CAN-N
Cuba	CUBA	CUB
Denmark	DEN-M	DNK
Faroe Islands	DEN-F	FRO
France	FRA-M	FRA
German Democratic Republic	GDR	DDR
Germany, Federal Republic of	FRC	DEU
Greenland	DEN-G	GRL
Iceland	ICE	ISL
Ireland	IRE	IRL
Italy	ITA	ITA
Japan	JAP	JPN
Korea, Republic of	KOR-S	KOR
Mexico	MEX	MEX
Norway	NOR	NOR
Poland	POL	POL
Portugal	POR	PRT
Romania	ROM	ROM
St. Pierre and Miquelon	FRA-SP	SPM
Spain	SPA	ESP
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	USSR	SUN
United Kingdom	UK	GBR
United States of American	USA	USA

2. Classification of Fishing Gear for Use in Statistics

The CWP reviewed the International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG), proposed some amendments to make the list more complete, and recommended that the final version of the classification (see Appendix I) should be used as the basic list of gear types and abbreviations by all international, regional and national institutions.

3. Standardization of STATLANT Forms and Notes

The CWP, in reviewing the basic concepts underlying the development and long-standing use of STATLANT A and B forms, considered a proposal that the existing definitions of classes of fishing units (gear, GRT categories, etc.) applicable to the STATLANT B form be replaced by more flexible, nationally-identified definitions of "unit fisheries" for which catch and effort data would be reported, thus enabling some countries with poorly developed statistical systems to report partial data when complete coverage of their fisheries is not available.

The CWP was concerned that such changes would result in significant incompatibilities in the data submitted to regional agencies and could adversely affect the comparability of long time series of data in existing data banks. It was also noted that significant changes in the STATLANT B form for one region would, if not introduced for all regions, reduce the degree of standardization already achieved and could lead to unnecessary confusion in national statistical offices responsible for completing the B forms for different regions. The CWP therefore recommended (a) that the basic standard concepts underlying the present system of STATLANT A and B forms remain unchanged, and (b) that the participating agencies of the CWP should consult each other on any proposed amendments to the new concepts and that such proposals be given careful consideration before their adoption.

4. Allocation of Catches by Nationality

The CWP again reviewed the problem of allocation of catches by nationality, noting that difficulties have been encountered in all major fishing regions. Two aspects of the problem were noted: who will be responsible for collecting and submitting statistics, and under what country heading should the reported statistics be included in international statistical tabulations. After thorough debate, the CWP, in reaffirming the recommendation of the 9th Session in 1977, concluded that criteria were needed for the application of exceptions to the "flag state" principle, and accordingly recommended that the flag of the vessel should, for the time being, be considered the paramount indication of nationality and should only be overridden when the following arrangements between foreign flag vessels and host countries exist: (a) the vessels are chartered by the host country to augment its fishing fleet; (b) vessels that fish for a country through arrangement by joint venture contract, etc. (as opposed to the ad hoc practise of vessels selling catches for foreign boats or landing catches at foreign ports), where the operation of such vessels is an integral part of the economy of the host country.

The CWP further recommended that, when Governments negotiate joint ventures or other contracts where vessels of one nation land their catches at ports of the other country or unload their catches to vessels of the other country and where the above criteria are applicable, the nationality of such catches and landings should be a part of the negotiations and final arrangements.

5. Future of the CWP

From its beginning in 1959, the Working Party has been a subsidiary body of FAO (article of FAO's Council). Although some consideration was given to this matter at the 9th Session, the participants at the current session considered that the time was now opportune for reorganizing the structure of the CWP within the existing geographical context into a truly inter-agency body of experts providing technical advice on fishery statistical matters to participating agencies and national statistical offices upon request. In particular, it was agreed that the functions and activities of the CWP should not be continued under the aegis of FAO but rather as an independent inter-agency organization, composed of representatives of the inter-governmental organizations of the entire Atlantic region with related objectives concerning the collection and publication of regional fisheries statistics. Accordingly, the CWP recommended that FAO be requested to obtain the approval of its appropriate governing bodies to dissolve the present Working Group as a subsidiary body of FAO, and agreed that its future functions as an inter-agency body for the Atlantic region should be guided by the terms of reference set out in Appendix II.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF FISHING GEAR

Gear Categories	Standard Abbreviation	ISSCFG Code	NAFO Code
<u>SURROUNDING NETS</u>			
With purse lines (purse seines)	PS	01.1.0	31
- one boat operated purse seines	PS1	01.1.1	-
- two boats operated purse seines	PS2	01.1.2	-
Without purse lines (lampara)	LA	01.2.0	-
<u>SEINE NETS</u>			
Beach seines	SB	02.1.0	24
Boat or vessel seines	SV	02.2.0	-
- Danish seines	SDN	02.2.1	21
- Scottish seines	SSC	02.2.2	22
- Pair seines	SPR	02.2.3	23
Seine nets (not specified)	SX	02.9.0	-
<u>TRAWLS</u>			
Bottom trawls		03.1.0	-
- beam trawls	TBB	03.1.1	18
- otter trawls 1/	OTB	03.1.2	10
- pair trawls	PTP	03.1.3	16
- nephrops trawls	TBN	03.1.4	-
- shrimp trawls	TBS	03.1.5	-
- bottom trawls (not specified)	TB	03.1.9	-
Midwater trawls		03.2.0	-
- otter trawls 1/	OTM	03.2.1	13
- pair trawls	PTM	03.2.2	17
- shrimp trawls	TMS	03.2.3	-
- midwater trawls (not specified)	TM	03.2.9	-
Otter twin trawls	OTT	03.3.0	-
Otter trawls (not specified)	OT	03.4.9	-
Pair trawls (not specified)	PT	03.5.9	-
Other trawls (not specified)	TX	03.9.0	-
<u>DREDGES</u>			
Boat dredges	DRB	04.1.0	71
Hand dredges	DRH	04.2.0	72
<u>LIFT NETS</u>			
Portable lift nets	LNP	05.1.0	-
Boat operated lift nets	LNB	05.2.0	-
Shore operated stationary lift nets	LNS	05.3.0	-
Lift nets (not specified)	LN	05.9.0	-
<u>FALLING GEAR</u>			
Cast nets	FCN	06.1.0	-
Falling gear (not specified)	FG	06.9.0	-
<u>GILLNETS AND ENTANGLING NETS</u>			
Set gillnets (anchored)	GNS	07.1.0	41
Drift nets	GND	07.2.0	42
Encircling gillnets	GNC	07.3.0	-
Fixed gillnets (on stakes)	GNF	07.4.0	-
Trammel nets	GTR	07.5.0	-
Combined gillnets-trammel nets	GTN	07.6.0	-
Gillnets and entangling nets (not specified)	GEN	07.9.0	-
Gillnets (not specified)	GN	07.9.1	40

Gear Categories	Standard Abbreviation	ISSCFG Code	NAFO Code
<u>TRAPS</u>		08.0.0	-
Stationary uncovered pound-nets	FPN	08.1.0	61
Pots	FPO	08.2.0	62
Fyke nets	FYK	08.3.0	-
Stow-nets	FSN	08.4.0	-
Barriers, fences, weirs, etc.	FWR	08.5.0	63
Aerial traps	FAR	08.6.0	-
Traps (not specified)	FIX	08.9.0	60
<u>HOOKS AND LINES</u>		09.0.0.	
Hand-lines and pole-lines (hand operated) 2/	LHP	09.1.0	53
Hand-lines and pole-lines (mechanized) 2/	LHM	09.2.0	55
Set lines (longlines set)	LLS	09.3.0	51
Drifting longlines	LLD	09.4.0	52
Longlines (not specified)	LL	09.5.0	50
Trolling lines	LTL	09.6.0	54
Hooks and lines (not specified) 3/	LX	09.9.0	-
<u>GRAPPLING AND WOUNDING</u>		10.0.0	-
Harpoons	HAR	10.1.0	81
<u>HARVESTING MACHINES</u>		11.0.0	-
Pumps	HMP	11.1.0	-
Mechanized dredges	HMD	11.2.0	-
Harvesting machines (not specified)	HMX	11.9.0	-
<u>MISCELLANEOUS GEAR 4/</u>	MIS	20.0.0	90
<u>RECREATIONAL FISHING GEAR</u>	RG	25.0.0	
<u>GEAR NOT KNOWN OR NOT SPECIFIED</u>	NK	99.0.0	99

1/: See Section 4.4.

2/: Including jigging lines.

3/: Code LDV (NAFO code 58) for dory operated line gears will be maintained for historical data purposes.

4/: This item includes: hand and landing nets, drive-in-nets, gathering by hand with simple hand implements with or without diving equipment, poisons and explosives, trained animals, electrical fishing.

Note: NAFO requires that vessel type be specified for trawl gears; this is accomplished by using the digits "1" and "2" in association with the abbreviations OTM and OTB as follows:

- (i) bottom otter trawls - side: OTB 1 (NAFO code 11)
- (ii) bottom otter trawls - stern: OTB 2 (NAFO code 12)
- (iii) midwater otter trawls - side: OTM 1 (NAFO code 14)
- (iv) midwater otter trawls - stern: OTM 2 (NAFO code 15)

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR FUTURE INTER-AGENCY ORGANIZATION

1. Name

The group shall be known as the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics (CWP).

2. Membership

The membership of the CWP shall be composed of representatives of the following:

- (a) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- (b) International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
- (c) International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- (d) International Commission for the Southeast Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF)
- (e) Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
- (f) Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Living Marine Resources (CCALMR)
- (g) Statistical Office for the European Communities (EUROSTAT)
- (h) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

3. Representation

- (a) Each of ICCAT, ICES, ICSEAF, NAFO and CCALMR may nominate up to three representatives, one of whom must be a member of the secretariat, one should be the chairman (or a designated member) of the appropriate statistics committee of the agency, and one may be a representative (involved in fishery statistics) of a member state of the agency.
- (b) EUROSTAT and OECD may each be represented by one person (involved in fishery statistics). In the event that no representative of the member states of the European Economic Community is included in the nominations of ICCAT, ICES, ICSEAF, NAFO and CCALMR, EUROSTAT may nominate a national representative in addition to the participant from the statistical office.
- (c) The Director General of FAO may appoint up to five participants in view of FAO's leading role in world fisheries and in view of FAO's regional fisheries bodies in the Atlantic - WECAF, CECAF, GFCM, CARPAS, etc.
- (d) The total number of participants in regular sessions of the CWP shall normally be limited to 25.
- (e) Each agency shall inform the Secretary of the CWP of the names and addresses of its nominees at least six months in advance of each regular session.

4. Meeting

- (a) Regular sessions of the CWP shall normally be held every two years, at times and places to be agreed by the secretariats of the participating agencies.
- (b) An ad hoc inter-agency consultation shall be held approximately one year before each session to draw up the provisional agenda and to coordinate plans and participation for the session. This consultation may be by correspondence initiated by the Secretary of the CWP, or may be a meeting of secretariat representatives at the time and place of a regular meeting of one of the participating organizations if at least four of the secretariats can participate.

5. Officers

At the beginning of the session, the CWP Secretary shall call the meeting to order, and the participants shall from among their members elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson, who shall hold office for the duration of the session.

6. CWP Secretariat

The CWP Secretariat should preferably be provided by FAO. Should it become necessary to alter this arrangement, secretariat services for the CWP should alternate among those participating agencies with adequate resources to undertake this task.

7. Documentation

Documents for each session should, if possible, be distributed to all nominated participants at least two months before the start of each session. However, documents prepared by one agency that may require the secretariat of another agency to consult with its statistics committee before a decision can be taken should be distributed at least four months before the start of the session. Each agency shall be responsible for the timely distribution of its documentation in accordance with the mailing list of participants supplied by the CWP Secretary.

8. Report

The CWP Secretary, in collaboration with the Chairman, shall, within three months after the end of each session, prepare for publication and distribute the adopted English version of the report with all relevant appendices as follows:

- (a) One copy for each participant in the session; and
- (b) The number of copies specified by each participating agency .

French and Spanish versions of the report may be prepared by FAO, in consultation with other agencies requiring such versions, and distributed upon request in sufficient copies to meet the needs of the various agencies.

9. Amendment

These terms of reference may be modified by agreement among the agencies.