

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

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Canadian Proposal for Improving the Scientific Knowledge on
the Fisheries in the Regulatory Area

Canada is concerned about the deficiencies in the level of scientific information available to the Fisheries Commission on the stocks under the Commission's management in the Regulatory Area.

Canada, therefore, proposes that the Scientific Council be asked to analyze the extent of scientific information available on the stocks in the Regulatory Area, identifying the shortcomings in available data. This analysis should include comment on how such information is collected for each fleet component and whether it meets the level that the Council would deem adequate for its purposes, and further proposes that each Contracting Party report its plans for addressing the Council's needs in the coming year, including the identification of opportunities for accommodating scientific observers aboard vessels fishing in the Regulatory Area. The details of any such cooperative deployment should be worked out between the authorities of the Contracting Parties concerned. The Council is requested also to make suggestions as to the means available for collecting any necessary additional data.

Data from such programs shall be communicated to the NAFO Secretariat in the normal manner and in the case of cooperative arrangements, also be supplied to the flag state of the fishing vessel.

The notes taken by scientific observers working under such a program shall not be subject to inspection by any NAFO inspector.