



Serial No. N5570

NAFO/GC Doc. 08/3

30th ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2008

Resolution on the Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention on the Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

(adopted September 2008)

The Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Future Multilateral Cooperation in Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (hereinafter referred to as the Convention),

Recognizing the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982; the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, 1995; the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, 1993, and

Taking into account the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries adopted by the 28th Session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in October 1995,

Desiring to promote the long-term conservation and optimum utilization of the fishery resources of the Northwest Atlantic Area,

Recognizing the economic and social benefits from the sustainable use of fishery resources,

Noting the amendments to the Convention adopted at the 29th annual meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO),

Declare that in giving effect to the objective of the Convention, Contracting Parties individually and collectively, intend to:

- a) adopt measures based on the best scientific evidence available to ensure that fishery resources are maintained at or restored to levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield;
- b) apply the precautionary approach in accordance with Article 6 of the 1995 Agreement;
- c) take due account of the impact of fisheries on other species and marine ecosystems, and in doing so adopt measures to minimize harmful impacts on living marine resources and marine ecosystems;
- d) take due account of the need to preserve marine biological diversity;
- e) prevent or eliminate overfishing and excess fishing capacity, and ensure that levels of fishing effort do not exceed those commensurate with the sustainable use of the fishery resources;
- f) ensure that complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities within the Regulatory Area are collected and shared among them in a timely manner;
- g) ensure effective compliance with management measures and that sanctions for any infringements are adequate in severity; and
- (h) adopt measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing activities.