INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR



THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

FIRST MEETING - WASHINGTON, D. C. - APRIL 2, 1951 -

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REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Thursday, April 5, 1951

Attendance

Canada:

Denmark:

A.W.H. Needler Paul M. Hansen A. Vedel Taning Kristian Djurhuus

Iceland:
Norway:

Arni Fridriksson Magne Oppedal Klaus Sunnanaa

United Kingdom:

A.T.A. Dobson

C. Michael Graham

H. Wood

United States:

Francis W. Sargent

Edwin H. Dahlgren, Chairman

Edward Castleman

Richard T. Whiteleather Howard A. Schuck, Secretary

FAO: D. B. Finn

Mr. Dahlgren was designated as Chairman and presided for the business of the meeting, which was called to consider Rule 16 (c), DOC/2 (Rev.1), Proposed Rules of Procedure for the Commission.

Preliminary to the consideration of this Rule, each of the countries represented was asked for a brief review of the scope of its coverage in the collection of statistics, especially for the Convention Area. It developed that there are considerable variations among the several countries, not only in the methods of collection, but also in the adequacy of statistics.

It was noted that for France and Portugal, no records are available of the origin of their catches. Thus, for certain subareas, including especially Subarea 3, it will be impossible, at present, to get an adequate estimate of the total landings therefrom.

Dr. Finn offered the cooperation of FAO in any attempt to obtain equivalent statistics of the landings from the Convention Area from various countries, including countries not signatories to the Convention.

As a result of the discussion, the Committee wishes to stress the importance of having statistics which are useful in biological research, and recommends to the Commission that the various governments may wish to bear this in mind when naming participants to the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics.

The Committee further recommends that the Commission give attention to the question of making equivalent the pertinent statistics obtained by the various member Governments. In this connection, the Commission might well consider the desirability of requesting any Committee it may constitute on Research and Statistics to make a study of this question, in order that it may provide the Commission with appropriate recommendations at its next annual meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.