## THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

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# REPORT ON THE 49TH STATUTORY MEETING OF I C E S IN CHARLOTTENLUND, DENMARK OCTOBER 1961.

#### Observer for ICNAF E. Bertelsen

Bearing in mind that all papers and reports from the ICES-meetings are forwarded to the ICNAF secretariat, and taking into account that a considerable number of the delegates and experts attending the ICES-meeting are participants in the Annual Meeting of ICNAF as well, this report may be confined to a short outline.

The meeting was held at ICES headquarters in Charlottenlund, Denmark on 2 - 11 October 1961.

About 150 delegates and experts representing the 16 member contries, and about 40 observers and guests participated.

A total of about 140 papers were prepared for the various committees. Concerning the co-operation with ICNAF the following resolutions were adopted:

1. The ICNAF Proposal to hold an Environmental Symposium in 1963, concerning the effects of the environment on cod and other groundfish species in the North Atlantic was welcomed. Acknowledging its own great interest in such matters the Council agreed to commend strongly the proposal to ICES scientists who may be approached by the ICNAF Conveners for Contributions.

The Gadoid Fish Committee welsomed the decision of ICNAF to set up a Working Party on "Ageing Techniques", and the Council decided to seek ICNAF's permission for European groundfish workers to participate in the work of the group.

The Council agreed to accept the invitation extended to it by the ICNAF to collaborate with the Commission in securing contributions from scientists experienced in studying the influence of the environment on the fisheries of the North-Eastern Atlantic Ocean; and to accept the suggestion of the commission which is contained in their Proceedings No. 1. II (Supplement), Serial No. 899 (B.Proc. d.61), that on the same terms as are proposed for the acceptance of hydrographical data at the Service Hydrographique as from 1st January 1963, all European ICNAF countries should render their hydrographic data for the North Atlantic Ocean to the ICES.

Other resolutions of special interest were as follows:

- 1. It was agreed that an International Selectivity Experiment should be undertaken in Icelandic waters in 1962. The follwing countries had signified their wish to participate: Belgium, England, France, Germany, Iceland, Norway, Scotland and U.S.S.R. It was also decided that Canada and the United States be informed of this proposed experiment and be invited to participate if they so wish.
- 2. It was agreed to collect much more detailed and comprehensive fisheries statistics than has been done earlier in co-operation with FAO and the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries.
- 3. A standard apparatus for measuring mesh size in trawls and seines, the "ICES Gauge", was agreed to.
- 4. It was decided that, in connection with the next annual meeting of the Council, a special meeting should be held to consider problems in the exploitation and regulation of fisheries for Crustacea (lobster, crabs, shrimps etc.). Another symposium on "Measurement of Abundance of Fish Stocks" will be held in connection with the annual meeting in 1963.

Several intermidiate meetings of working groups were decided. The next annual meeting of the Council, the 50th one, will take place from 1st to 10th October, 1962 in Copenhagen; this will be 60 years since the Council was founded in 1902.

Soller