



Serial No. 2724  
(B.g.1)

ICNAF Comm.Doc. 72/7

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1972

Report of the Fourth Meeting of the ICES/ICNAF/IOC  
Coordinating Group for the North Atlantic

Dipoli, Helsinki, 30 September 1971, 1400 hrs

The following persons participated:

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| From ICES  | - The Chairman of the Hydrography Committee, Professor O.H. Saelen     |
|            | - The General Secretary, Mr Hans Tambs-Lyche                           |
| From ICNAF | - The Chairman of the ICNAF Environment Subcommittee, Dr N.J. Campbell |
|            | - The Executive Secretary, Mr L.R. Day                                 |
| From IOC   | - The Assistant Secretary, Dr O.J. Mamayev                             |

1. Professor O.H. Saelen was elected Chairman.
2. The General Secretary of ICES reported on the publication of the Ocean Weather Ships Report on their oceanographic observations and said that so far two volumes had been published in the new series: "ICES Oceanographic Data Lists and Inventories". He said that the distribution was partly from ICES, partly from IOC, and that he had been made aware that there seemed to be some overlapping of mailing lists. He had also been asked by the ICES Editorial Committee to explore if IOC would be willing to share the expenses for this series, since the task seems to have been taken up by ICES at the request of IOC and since IOC now receives a part of the printed numbers free of charge. Dr Mamayev agreed to take this question up with the IOC Secretariat.
3. The Executive Secretary of ICNAF reported on the ICNAF Environmental Symposium which had been held this year and had been successful. There were selected speakers with specified subjects (hydrography, ice, plankton, age structure of fish stocks) and the idea was to hold such symposia with approximately ten years intervals. This was the third in such a series. The proceedings will be published in the ICNAF Special Publications Series.
4. Professor Saelen mentioned the planning of a new "Overflow" expedition which had been going on through a study group of ICES. The plans have now been agreed upon, and ICES will this year set up a formal Working Group (See C.Res.1971/2:15), for execution of the plans. The cruises will take place in August/September 1973, with participation of ships from Canada, Germany, Iceland, Norway, United Kingdom and possibly others. USA might participate and although ICES could invite it directly, it was thought advisable to channel the invitation through ICNAF. It was agreed that since there are no countries operating in the North Atlantic that are not members of ICES or ICNAF, there is no need to channel invitations through IOC.
5. The Sea-Ice Project. The Polar Sea-Ice Project was discussed in the Hydrography Committee on 1 October 1971. If such a Project should materialise, the Committee was of the opinion that any effort on the part of ICES should be made in cooperation with ICNAF.
6. The ICNAF and ICES representatives pointed out that there are misunderstandings in the text of the IOC Resolution 12.11 from its meeting of the Bureau with the Consultative Council in Bordeaux, 1-6 March 1971, in that the Resolution refers to "member countries of the coordinating group" and refers to a project called "Cooperative Systematic Investigations of the North Atlantic". They pointed out that the group is an intersecretariat coordination group, with no country membership, and that there is no specified and defined joint project with the name quoted.

Dr Mamayev brought the attention of the Group to the view of the IOC to re-inforce the cooperative studies in the North Atlantic. In this respect he referred to the IOC Circular Letter No. 343 of 21 June, to which were attached the Reports of the first (1968), second (1969) and third (1970) meetings of the Joint Group requesting interested Member States of IOC which are members either of ICES or of ICNAF, or participate as observers in meetings of one of these bodies, to study carefully these Reports with a view to their putting before the Seventh Session of the Commission proposals for re-inforcing the North Atlantic studies.

To the Circular Letter mentioned above was also attached Document NS/IOC/B-2 of 11 April 1962 ("Programme for International Oceanographic Research in the Northern Areas of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans in 1964/66") which, according to Resolution II-6 of the Commission might, after being reviewed and updated, be "adopted as the basis for the development of a general scheme for international synoptic and oceanographic investigations of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans (North of 20°S)".

The Commission is thus waiting for the response of the interested Member States on the subject outlined here.

7. There was no other business and the meeting was closed at 1430 hrs.