

Serial No. 2739
(A.a.4)ICNAF Comm. Doc. 72/15ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1972CANADIAN PROPOSALCONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES BY QUOTA REGULATION FOR CODSTOCKS IN DIVISIONS 3N AND 3O.

No new assessments were available from the Assessments Subcommittee for the 1971 meeting of ICNAF. This Subcommittee did indicate in the previous year, however, that the fishing effort on this stock was probably beyond that necessary to generate the maximum sustainable yield.

The fishery on the particularly rich 1964 year-class in 1967 resulted in an increase in landings from approximately 100,000 tons in 1966 to 220,000 tons in 1967. By 1969 the catches had returned to the 1966 level, indicating that this year-class had ceased to contribute significantly to the catches, although the fish were only five years old.

The 1968 year-class appears to be relatively strong. The Assessments Subcommittee has indicated that a similar heavy fishery on the young fish of this year-class is most undesirable.

Canada proposes that the 1972 meeting of ICNAF consider limiting the level of cod catch in Divisions 3N and 3O to not more than 70,000 metric tons, the average level of catch prevailing during the 1956-66 period.

It is further proposed that this quota be allocated as follows: 40% in proportion to catches by member countries in the most recent three years for which figures are available; 40% in proportion to catches in the preceeding ten years (excepting from these the year 1967 when catches were well above 200% of estimated sustainable yield); 10% to the coastal state; 10% to provide for non-members and new entrants.

