

Serial No. 2740
(A.a.4)ICNAF Comm.Doc. 72/16ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1972CANADIAN PROPOSAL
CONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES BY QUOTA REGULATION FOR COD
STOCKS IN DIVISION 4V SOUTH AND 4W.

An assessment of the cod stocks in Divisions 4V south and 4W has not been produced by the Assessments Subcommittee in recent years. An earlier report of a working group on fishery assessments (ICNAF Annual Proceedings Supplement to Vol. 11, 1962) states that average landings of 40,000 tons in the 1947-58 period resulted in a fishing mortality rate of $F=0.30$. This mortality rate is similar to that producing maximum yield per recruit in the adjacent stocks in Divisions 3N and 3O, Division 3P south, and Division 4X (offshore).

In the period 1960-1970 this stock has yielded an average of 62,000 tons per year. The stock is accordingly currently being exploited probably beyond maximum sustainable yield.

Likely regulation of other major cod stocks in the ICNAF area may be expected to produce a diversion of effort to this stock complex which would result in an undesirable exploitation rate.

Canada proposes that the 1972 meeting of ICNAF consider a catch quota of approximately 60,000 metric tons for the cod stock complex of Divisions 4V south and 4W in 1973.

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 preceding ten years; 10% to the coastal state; 10% to provide for non-members and new entrants.

