

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

Serial No. 3237  
(A. c. 4)

ICNAF Comm.Doc. 74/14

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1974

Memorandum by the Danish Commissioner regarding  
increase of the salmon quota for local Greenland fishermen

The Government of Denmark has reviewed the situation with regard to the salmon fishery of Greenland on the basis of the figure now available for the catches in the year 1973. It will be recalled that, according to the recommendation adopted on 2 June 1972 by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF), fishing for salmon by local Greenland fishermen of Greenland "may be maintained so as to be at the approximate level of annual catches measured from 1964 through 1971 in round weight which is estimated to be 1,100 metric tons". The development of the salmon fishery in the last few years does not indicate that the total catch has endangered the species. On the contrary, the catch of salmon increased in all home waters from 1972 to 1973 and has now reached a level about equal to or perhaps slightly above the average of the last ten years. At the same time, the salmon fishery has relatively become increasingly important to the local Greenland fishermen, particularly because of the failure of the cod fishery, and the salmon fishery now accounts for more than one third of the local fishermen's income. For that reason and in consideration of the fact that in 1973 the Greenland quota had been reached before the first half of the fishing season, the local fishermen urgently request that the quota be increased. At the forthcoming regular session of ICNAF in Halifax, 4-14 June 1974, the Government of Denmark, therefore, intends to propose an increase of the quota for fishing of salmon by local Greenland fishermen of Greenland.

K. Løkkegaard