

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

Serial No. 3744
(A.a.4)

ICNAF Comm.Doc. 76/I/10

EIGHTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - JANUARY 1976

Statement of the German Democratic Republic regarding the effort regulation
in Sub-areas 2-4

At the Seventh Special Meeting of the ICNAF, Montreal, September 1975, the German Democratic Republic has proposed to exclude the fishing for roundnose grenadier from the effort regulation.

The analysis of the commercial catches and the scientific investigations undertaken by the German Democratic Republic since 1967 indicate the following facts:

1. The fishing grounds for roundnose grenadier are quite separately situated from the fishing grounds of the traditionally used ground-fish species. The roundnose grenadier occurs at depth ranges greater than most other species. The German Democratic Republic fishery takes place in depths more than 500 metres. The fishery is carried out outside the cod fishing season. The fishing grounds are situated in the northern part of Sub-area 2G and in the middle to southern part of Sub-area 2H.
2. The by-catches in the directed grenadier fishery are rather small. According to the fishery in 1974 the by-catches amounted to 15%. There was no by-catch of cod in the directed fishery of roundnose grenadier.
3. Taken into account the separately situated distribution area of roundnose grenadier, interactions between that species and most other species are not obvious.
4. There are no signs of over-fishing of the roundnose grenadier stock. According to the mean length data which presently are practically the same as in the beginning of the fishery, the fished stock is in a rather stable condition.