

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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TENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1977

North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission

Fifteenth Annual Meeting

Press Notice

The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission took place in London from 6-11 July 1977. The Chair was taken by the President, Captain J.C.E. Cardoso (Portugal) and, in the President's absence due to illness, by the Second Vice-President, Mr K. Vartdal (Norway). Delegations attended from all Member States, namely:

Belgium, Bulgaria, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United Kingdom.

Observers represented:

the European Economic Community (EEC), FAO, ICES, OECD, and the Governments of Canada, Italy, Japan, and the USA.

Future of NEAFC

The Commission gave lengthy consideration to the draft of a new Convention, concentrating on the texts provided by a NEAFC Working Group and by the EEC. Agreement was reached on a number of outstanding issues and the discussion resulted in a consolidated draft Convention, which it was agreed should be considered further at a Special Meeting of the Commission in November.

Report by the Liaison Committee of ICES

The Commission considered this Report by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, and unanimously welcomed the work which it represented. Part I dealt with stock assessments and management recommendations for the fish stocks in the NEAFC Convention Area and the Commission agreed to ask ICES to produce the same full range of advice in 1978. Part II presented information on the biology, distribution and state of exploitation of the major shared stocks in the North Sea. The Commission agreed to ask ICES to extend this work to cover other shared stocks in the Convention Area.

Regulation of fishing in the Convention Area

The Commission took note of the advice tendered by ICES on regulation of the various fish stocks in the Convention Area. As these stocks occurred mainly within waters under the fisheries jurisdiction of Member States, the Commission did not adopt any new conservation measures.

Attachment to Nets

The Commission agreed to consider the future of Recommendation (3)(A) on attachments to nets at the November meeting.

Enforcement Measures

The Commission accepted the recommendations of its Enforcement Committee that consideration of most outstanding issues should be deferred until the future of NEAFC was clearer.

Contribution to ICES

The Commission allocated the sum of £10,115 from its budget for 1977/78 as its annual contribution to ICES.

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Future Meeting

The Commission agreed to hold a Special Meeting from 1-3 November 1977 in London. The main business for this meeting will be the future of NEAFC.

12 July 1977

Office of the Commission
London