

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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Canadian request for action by the Commission, pursuant to  
Article XIII of the Convention, with respect to the operations  
of non-member countries in the ICNAF Area  
beyond national fisheries jurisdiction

Canada has provided STACTIC with information concerning the sighting of two Venezuelan vessels and two Panamanian vessels fishing in 1978 in the ICNAF Area beyond national fisheries jurisdiction. Canadian fisheries patrol vessels could not be made available at the relevant times and locations to request courtesy boarding of these vessels. Consequently, little information is available concerning the details of their operations. Such details as are available concerning the vessels are contained in Appendices I and II.

Canada believes that the operation of fishing vessels of non-ICNAF members in the area concerned, fishing without regard to ICNAF regulations and outside the ICNAF Joint Enforcement Scheme, represents a serious threat to the conservation regime established by ICNAF for this area, and to the maintenance of the stocks of this area, which are being fully utilized by ICNAF Members. Article XIII of the Convention states the following:

"The Contracting Governments agree to invite the attention of any Government not a party to this Convention to any matter relating to the fishing activities in the Convention Area of the nationals or vessels of that Government which appear to affect adversely the operations of the Commission or the carrying out of the objectives of this Convention."

Canada proposes that the Commission consider acceptance of the following resolution:

"The International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries,

"Having regard to its responsibility for the investigation, protection and conservation of the fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean pursuant to the terms of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries,

"Noting that the Convention applies to an area beyond the fisheries limits of the coastal states of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean and that international cooperation is, therefore, required to ensure the conservation of the stocks of this area,

"Bearing in mind that the stocks of this area have been protected through the restraint of Member States of the Commission operating in conformity with the Commission's management regime in the conduct of their traditional fisheries in this area,

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\* Executive Secretary, ICNAF, P.O. Box 638, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada B2Y 3Y9

"Considering that these stocks are being fully utilized by Member States of the Commission, and that any fishing exceeding total allowable catches would lead to stock depletion,

"Noting reports that fishing vessels of two non-member states, Panama and Venezuela, have been sighted fishing in this area in 1978,

"Hereby resolves that the Chairman of the Commission be instructed to inform the Governments of Venezuela and Panama of the responsibilities of the Commission and the Commission's regulations pertaining to the area concerned,

"And calls upon all Member States of the Commission, pursuant to Article XIII of the ICNAF Convention, to invite the attention of the Governments of Venezuela and Panama to the importance of ensuring that fisheries in the area concerned be conducted in conformity with the Commission's management regime in order to avoid affecting adversely the operations of the Commission and the carrying out of the objectives of the ICNAF Convention."

Vessels flying Venezuelan Flag - 1978

Sightings by Canadian aircraft and patrol vessels

<u>Vessel Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date sighted</u>	<u>Platform</u>	<u>Activity</u>
BACANOVA	46°46'N, 45°43'W	2 February	Argus	Fishing
	46°30'N, 45°40'W	2 March	ATHABASKAN	Fishing
PESCAGEL	46°25'N, 46°05'W	9 March	Tracker	Fishing

Source - Boardings by Dept. of Fisheries and Environment, St. John's, Nfld.

<u>Vessel Name</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Port Entry</u>	<u>Port Departure</u>	<u>Activity</u>
BACANOVA	St. John's	23 January	28 January	Provisions
PESCAGEL	St. John's	23 January	28 January	Provisions

Both vessels entered the Canadian Zone on 20 March en route to St. Pierre et Miquelon to pick up navigational equipment.

Lloyd's Register of Ships (1977)

Vessel name - BACANOVA  
 Flag - Spanish  
 Call sign - EDQQ  
 Port of registry - Santander  
 Gross Registered Tons - 557  
 Registered owners - Bacanova S.A.  
 Year built - 1969  
 Shipbuilders - Maritima de Axpe S.A.  
 Where built - Bilbao  
 Registered length - 41.51 m  
 Structure - Two decks (steel)  
 Vessel type - Refrigerated stern trawler (medium)  
 Speed - 12.5

Vessel name - PESCAGEL  
 Flag - Spanish  
 Call sign - EEHG  
 Port of registry - Santander  
 Gross Registered Tons - 557  
 Registered owners - Pescagel S.A.  
 Year built - 1969  
 Shipbuilders - Maritima de Axpe N.A.  
 Where built - Bilbao  
 Registered length - 41.51 m  
 Structure - Two decks (steel)  
 Vessel type - Refrigerated stern trawler (medium)  
 Speed - 12.5

