

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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TENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - MARCH 1979

Canadian request for changes in statistical reporting
areas for Baffin Bay and the Davis Strait

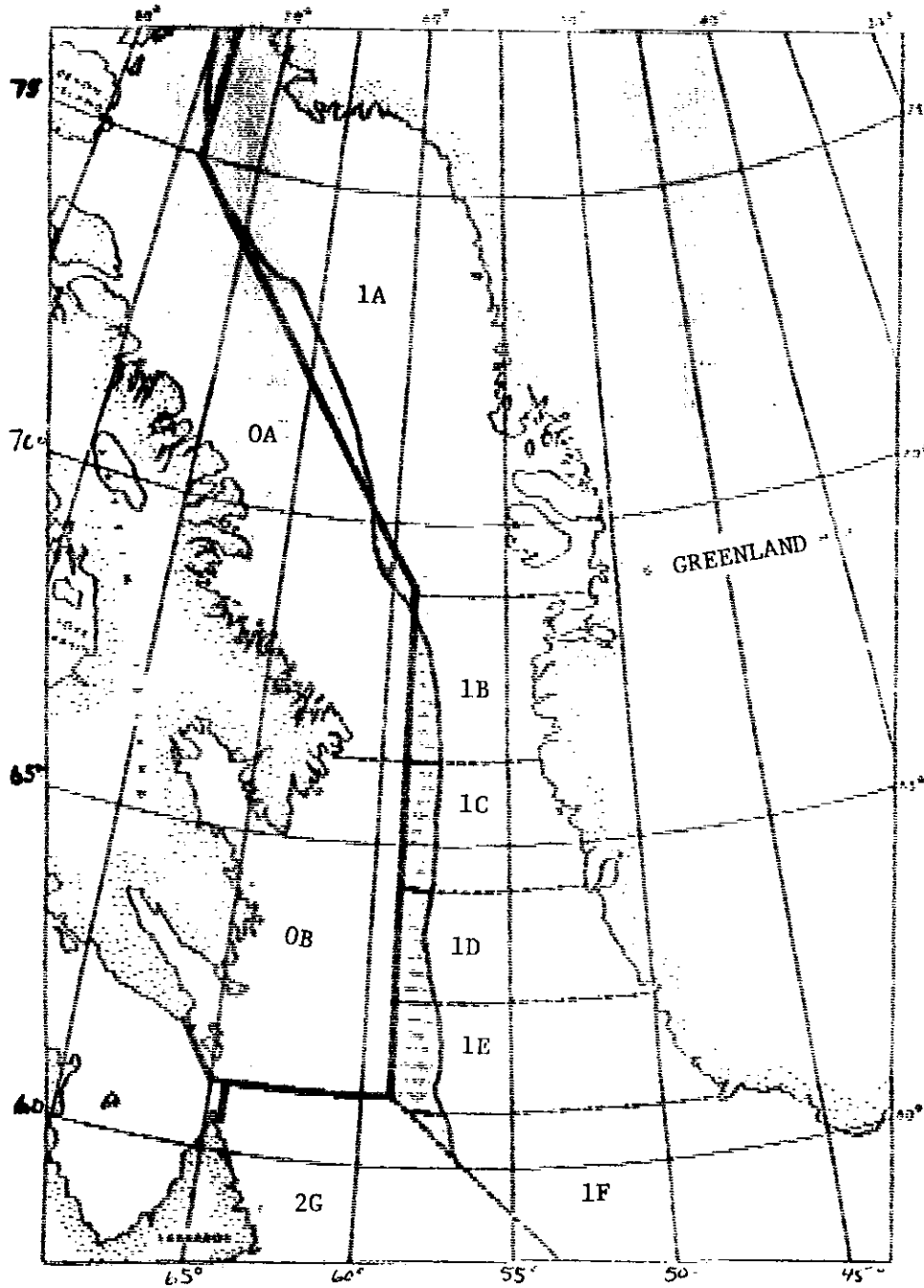
Under both the ICNAF and NAFO Conventions, the Western boundary of Subarea 1 is the same. This line approximates to, but does not follow, the dividing line agreed between the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark and the Government of Canada relating to the delimitation of the Continental Shelf between Greenland and Canada, as illustrated in the attached chartlet. This difference between the ICNAF/NAFO statistical boundaries and the Continental Shelf delimitation line creates difficulties for Canada, and the other coastal state concerned, in the assignment of catches to their respective areas of jurisdiction. Furthermore, the existing boundary was determined arbitrarily and does not conform to any stock boundary.

Canada, with the concurrence of the other coastal state involved, intends to propose to the 1st Annual Meeting of NAFO, that the western boundary of Subarea 1 be modified to conform to the above-mentioned Continental Shelf dividing line, and that appropriate subdivisions be created to identify the extensions to existing divisions.

In the meantime, with the concurrence of the other coastal state concerned, Canada will be requiring countries fishing in this area in 1979 to collect fisheries data in such a manner that they will be able to report these data separately for the proposed new subdivisions to ICNAF/NAFO in 1979. Further details will be provided at the time of the Special ICNAF Meeting in March.

(over)

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Map for illustrative purposes showing the approximate changes proposed in the boundary of Subarea 1.