International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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TENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - MARCH 1979

Draft Canadian proposal for the regulation of minimum mesh size for the fishing of squid (*Illex*) within Subareas 3 and 4 of the Convention Area

Noting the scientific results of mesh selection experiments for squid in Sum. Doc. 79/VI/5 and the practical advantages of having a standard minimum mesh size for small-mesh fisheries in Subareas 3 and 4, and

Noting that the Government of Canada intends to introduce a minimum mesh size of 60 mm for fishing for squid within the Canadian zone in 1979,

To provide consistency of regulation,

The Commission

recommends

- 1. That Contracting Governments take appropriate action to prohibit the taking of squid, *Illex illecebrosus*, outside areas under national fisheries jurisdiction in Subareas 3 and 4 of the Convention Area by persons under their jurisdiction with trawl nets having in any part of the net, meshes of dimensions of less than 60 mm or 2-3/8 inches as measured by the ICNAF gauge. These mesh sizes relate to netting when measured wet after use irrespective of material, or the equivalent thereof when measured dry before use.
- 2. That Contracting Governments prohibit the use, by any person to whom this proposal would apply, of any means or device, other than those described in paragraph 3, which would obstruct the meshes of the nets or which would otherwise, in effect, diminish the size of the nets, provided that strengthening ropes may be attached to the codend in such a manner that they will not obstruct the meshes of the codend.
- 3. That Contracting Governments permit any canvas, netting, or other material to be attached to the underside of the codend of a net to reduce and prevent damage.

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