

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1979

North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission

Sixteenth Annual Meeting

Press Notice

The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission took place in London from 20-22 June 1978. The Chair was taken by the President, Captain J. C. E. Cardoso (Portugal). Delegations attended from the following Member States:

Bulgaria, Cuba, Denmark (for the Faroes), Finland, German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Observers represented:

The European Economic Community (EEC), the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), and the International Commission for the Southeast Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF).

Future of NEAFC

The Commission reappraised its current position in the light of its reduced membership (resulting from the withdrawal of the seven EEC Member States and Norway whose withdrawal will be effective from 1 July 1978) and the inconclusive end to the Diplomatic Conference held earlier in the year. The importance of continued multilateral cooperation in the North-East Atlantic fisheries was emphasized and it was agreed that work towards the adoption of a new Convention should be continued.

Relationship with the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

The Commission reaffirmed its relationship with ICES and sought from it the normal full range of advice on the assessment of fish stocks and other matters in 1979. In addition, revised arrangements were agreed to ensure the continued provision of statistical information to ICES by all Member States, including those who had left the Commission.

Report by the Advisory Committee on Fishery Management

The Commission considered the Report by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea and unanimously welcomed the work which it represented. As well as reviewing the nominal catches in the NEAFC Area for the period 1969-1978, it presented a comprehensive stock assessment of all the principal species of fish in the Convention Area, examined the efficacy of the current fishing gear regulations, and rendered advice on the management of the stocks. As the stocks concerned occurred mainly within waters under the fisheries jurisdiction of Member States, the Commission did not adopt any new conservation measures.

Recommendations

Recommendation (3)(A). Attachments to Nets

The Commission agreed to extend this recommendation for a period of two years, i.e., until 30 September 1980.

Recommendation (22). Regulation of Fishing Effort in the Southern Part of the Convention Area

The Commission agreed that this recommendation should expire on 31 December 1978.

Election of President

By unanimous agreement, Captain Cardoso was elected to continue in office as President of the Commission.

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Arrangements for Future Meetings

It was agreed that the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Commission would be held in London during the period 21-23 November 1978.

23 June 1978

Office of the Commission
London