

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1979

North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission

Seventeenth Annual Meeting

Press Notice

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission took place in London on 21st and 22nd November. The Chair was taken by the President, Captain J. C. E. Cardoso (Portugal). Delegations attended from the following Member States:

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

Observers represented:

Canada, the European Economic Community (EEC), the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Future of NEAFC

The future of the Commission remains uncertain and it was confirmed at this meeting that Sweden had deposited its papers of withdrawal which will become effective in September 1979. There remains a general wish among the Member States, however, that a new NEAFC, taking account of the changes which extended fishery limits have brought, would have a positive role to play in the future. It was agreed that the adoption of a new Convention remains the primary objective of the Commission and hope was expressed that initiatives towards this goal would be taken in the near future.

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 in 1979.

Report by the Advisory Committee on Fishery Management

The Commission considered the Report by the Advisory Committee on Fishery Management (ICES) and unanimously welcomed the work which it represented. As well as providing valuable advice on stock assessments in the NEAFC Area, it presented a comprehensive report on the biology, distribution, and state of exploitation of many stocks in the Convention Area.

Recommendations

Recommendation (12). Supply of Catch Statistics to ICES

The Member States of the Commission agreed to provide ICES with annual catch data on three new stocks, viz. Blue Whiting, Horse Mackerel, and Greenland Halibut.

Arrangements for Future Meetings

It was agreed that the Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the Commission would be held in London during the period 20-22nd November 1979. In addition, at the President's discretion, a Special Meeting of the Commission may be held on 27th and 28th June.

23 November 1978

Office of the Commission
London

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