

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

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SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL MEETING - JUNE 1980

Provisional Agenda for the Tenth Session of the Coordinating Working Party
on Atlantic Fishery Statistics

by

Assistant Executive Secretary

1. The Tenth Session of the CWP will take place during 22-29 July 1980 (both dates inclusive). The meetings will be held at the Hotel Castellana, Paseo de la Castellana, 57, Madrid 1, Spain.
2. The Scientific Council of NAFO agreed at its June 1979 Meeting that it continue to be represented according to the established practice. Consequently, the following will be attending on behalf of NAFO:

Mr V. M. Hodder, Assistant Executive Secretary of NAFO
Dr A. S. Seliverstov, Chairman, Standing Committee on Research Coordination
Dr W. G. Doubleday } Nominated by Canada
Mr D. A. Tilley }

3. Other participants in the Tenth Session include representatives from FAO, ICES, ICSEAF, ICCAT, WECAFC, CECAF, GFCM, CARPAS, EUROSTAT and OECD.
4. The Secretary of the CWP, Mr L. P. D. Gertenbach, has prepared a provisional annotated agenda for the Tenth Session, as listed in Appendix 1. Any comments and suggestions by members of the Scientific Council for revision of this provisional agenda should be passed to the Assistant Executive Secretary for forwarding to the CWP Secretary.

COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON ATLANTIC FISHERY STATISTICS

Tenth Session

Madrid, 22-29 July 1980

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Agenda
Item

1 Procedural Matters

Opening of the Tenth Session by the CWP Secretary.
Welcoming address.
Election of Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen.
Adoption of Agenda and Schedule of Work.
Appointment of Rapporteurs.
General and administrative announcements.

2 Agency Programmes and Publications Presenting Atlantic Fishery Statistics

Brief verbal introduction will be made by the participants from FAO, NAFO, ICES, ICSEAF, ICCAT, WECAFC, CECAF, GFCM, CARPAS, EUROSTAT, and OECD. This will introduce and include (i) a brief written summary and (ii) a detailed report submitted by each agency.

The Secretary of the CWP will present a report on the activities of the CWP Secretariat and his outline of work that might be successfully concluded under the aegis of the CWP.

3 Fishing Areas for Statistical Purposes

A review of the boundaries of the major inland and marine fishing areas with particular emphasis on any problems of demarcation and proposed changes that might appear necessary.

Consideration of the current practices and acceptable procedures for the further breakdown of these Atlantic major fishing areas and related ones in subareas, divisions, subdivisions, etc. Attention will be given to the demarcation of the boundaries of the major fishing areas, their subareas, divisions, subdivisions, etc. in the light of developments and requirements in terms of EEZ management policies and their monitoring.

4 Fishing Fleet and Fishing Vessel Statistics

Review of the development of questionnaires for completion by national offices.
Critical review of world and regional publications on fishing fleet statistics.

Consideration of current developments and trends in the establishing and maintenance of national, regional, and global registers of individual vessels.

Introductory discussion of the inclusion of operational characteristics in fleet statistics taking into account fleet management programmes and EEZ policies.

5 Fishing Gears and their Standard Classification

Review of current classifications of fishing gear for use in national, regional and international statistics and in the monitoring of EEZ policies.

Consideration of the first improved and expanded gear classification accompanied by definitions and descriptions, if not illustrations.

6 Species Items and their Groupings

The currently used 9 divisions and 51 groups of FAO's International Standard Statistical Classification of Aquatic Animals and plants have served very well with the development and increase in the number of individual species items. While there is no urgent need to introduce any drastic changes in the groups within the next few years, it is advisable to initiate studies to identify alternative groupings for introduction by as many national and regional agencies as possible sometime in the 1980's. The first step towards such a reconsideration and its possibilities could be made in a paper by the CWP Secretary.

Review of existing identifiers and qualifiers to individual species items - English names, French names, Spanish names, scientific names, taxonomic codes, 3-alpha identifiers, computer codes, etc.

7 Landings Statistics

The work of EUROSTAT and FAO with the collection, processing and publication of annual and monthly landings (quantities and values in national currencies) will be reviewed in the light of regional and global needs. Particular attention will be given to the inadequacies in these statistics which might not facilitate inter-country comparability aggregates.

8 Conversion Factors

Review of the publications and reports by FAO and EUROSTAT on their current activities to compile by species items and product diversifications and according to countries conversion factors (yield rates) on:

- (a) factors to convert landings to nominal catches
- (b) factors to convert commodities to maximum catches
- (c) factors to convert quantities expressed in different measure units

Proposal will be made to expand and improve all aspects of this work which, on a country basis, might require triennial updating together with a report on the methods used to establish the nationally provided factors.

9 Statistics on Aquaculture - Inland and Marine

The inadequacy of data on this growing sector of the fishing industries require a thorough review of the statistics that should be regularly collected on enterprises in the marine areas and it appears advisable not to separate from these the aquaculture activities in inland waters. Work is being done in this direction and the CWP might be able to advance these activities.

10 Recreational Fishing

Catches taken by sports fishermen are generally excluded from the fishery catch data published nationally, regionally and internationally. For particular species and in particular countries the quantities removed by sports fishermen might be very significantly for stock assessment purposes, food supply indicators, investment opportunities, etc. The participants might wish to review the possibilities of improving the records kept on the catch results in these fisheries.

11 Log Sheets and Log Books

Review of log sheets, log books, and other national documents require to monitor EEZ programmes. Proposals for improvements and their standardisation to facilitate completion, surveyance and processing.

12 Standardization and Harmonization of Questionnaires, Forms, Notes, etc.

A very significant degree of standardization and harmonization of questionnaires, the notes for the completion etc. has already been achieved. It should be possible at the stage noting modern word-processing techniques, etc. to complete this work.

13 Retrieval Difficulties - Non-respondents and Late Respondents

A review of the very poor submission performance by certain statistical offices of developed countries with large fisheries in their own and other waters requires consideration of remedial action.

14 The Allocation of Catches by Nationality

The use of flags of convenience, joint ventures, cooperative agreements, agreements on the fishing of EEZ waters, are a few of the issues complicating the allocation of nationality to appreciable quantities of catches. The CWP discussed this problem at its last session. It is obvious that this matter will again require further discussion and elaboration.

15 Glossaries for Fishery Statistics

Report by FAO on manuals and glossaries covering various aspects of fisheries statistics. These drafts should cover classifications, concepts, etc. suitable for use in national, regional and international systems. The usefulness of these would require comment with proposals for future expansion and improvements. To some extent this would involve the alternative species groupings mentioned in Agenda 6.

16 Any Other Business

Time, date and place of Eleventh Session

Other matters

Close of 10th Session