



SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

First Plenary Session - July 3, 1952

(The left hand figures refer to items of the Agenda)

1. Mr. Dobson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a. m. Mr. Bates transmitted a message of welcome to Canada by the Honourable Mr. Mayhew, Minister of Fisheries, who by reason of his duties in Parliament was regretfully unable to be present. Mr. Bates extended an invitation from the Minister for a cruise and luncheon on C. N. A. V. "Sackville" on Sunday, July 6. Mr. Dobson expressed thanks on behalf of all for the gracious message. He extended a welcome to representatives from Spain and Norway. Dr. Rollefson expressed thanks for the very kind welcome and referred to Norway's great interest in fisheries and their conservation. Mr. Dobson went on to give a brief account of what had transpired since he became Acting Chairman. He intimated the appointment of an Acting Vice Chairman in the person of F. W. Sargent (U. S. A.) and expressed his appreciation of the signal services rendered by the Acting Executive Secretary.

2. Adoption of Agenda as Proposed

Following a reply to Dr. Rollefson that the matter of the seal fishery would be dealt with under Item 17, it was moved by Mr. Bates and seconded by Mr. Wimpenny that the agenda be adopted subject to Item 3 being postponed to the end of the meeting. The effect of this was to leave Mr. Dobson as Chairman for the meeting.

3. Item 3 - Election of a New Chairman was, therefore, passed over.

4. Statement of Ratifications

Dr. Martin advised the meeting that Spain had deposited Instrument of Ratification on January 17, 1952, and Norway on July 2, 1952.

5. Review of Panel Membership

Dr. Martin reviewed the present Panel Membership as follows:

- Panel 1 - Denmark, Norway, Spain, United Kingdom
- Panel 2 - Canada only
- Panel 3 - Canada, Spain, United Kingdom
- Panel 4 - Canada, Spain, United States
- Panel 5 - Canada, United States

In accordance with Article IV (2) of the Convention the following Contracting Governments requested inclusion in the Panels indicated opposite their names:

United States desired to join Panel 3.
France (when they had ratified) desired to join
Panels 1, 2, 3, 4.
Portugal (when they had ratified) desired to join
Panels 1, 3, 4.

6. Working Arrangements with other Organizations

The contents of Document 1 were reviewed by the Chairman. Dr. Finn spoke of the co-operation between FAO and this Commission and referred to his Director General's desire to be of whatever assistance may be possible. Dr. Tåning brought greetings from the President of ICES. He referred to work of mutual benefit in Panel 1 and expressed hope future co-operation would be productive of a great deal of good.

7.-8.-10.

The Chairman suggested that matters under these headings might be dealt with in the report of the Finance and Administration Committee and this was agreed.

9. Permanent Site for Headquarters

In compliance with instructions issued at the First Annual Meeting Mr. Dobson and Mr. Sargent intimated that they would present a joint report and it was agreed that this should be considered at a special plenary meeting to be held at 11:30 a. m. on July 4.

11. Consideration of Article X (2) of 1949 Convention

Following discussion it was moved by Dr. Kask and seconded by Dr. Lucas that the following resolution be adopted:

"RESOLVED that having regard to the terms of Article X (2) of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries remain as independent body at all events for the present, it being understood, however, that close co-operation be maintained by ICNAF with ICES and FAO."

A poll by the Secretary produced unanimous agreement.

12. Policy re publication of Reports

The matter was referred to the Finance and Administration Committee for consideration and report.

13. Report by the Committee on Research and Statistics

Dr. Needler, Chairman of this Committee, reported briefly, stating four half-day sessions have been held but that a good deal of further consideration was necessary before a Report could be presented to a plenary session.

14. Report by Committee on Finance and Administration

The Chairman, Mr. MacKichan, reported that one meeting had been held, certain decisions had been taken, while others depended on the decision as to Commission headquarters.

15. Reports from Panels I to V

The Chairman suggested that these reports should be referred to the Research and Statistics Committee for consideration. Agreed.

16. Date and Place of Next Meeting

It was agreed that this matter should be referred to the Finance and Administration Committee.

17. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Seal Fishery

Mr. Bates raised the question as to whether or not conservation of the seal fishery of the Northwest Atlantic might not be brought under the terms of this Convention. He stated that he raised this matter in order to obtain an expression of the views of those concerned. Norway was very interested but expressed the view the seal fishery should be dealt with outside the ambit of this convention. It was, Dr. Rollefson stated, a matter for action by the Governments concerned. Denmark's Commissioner had had no instructions. Dr. Kask, for the United States, voiced the opinion that means could be found to amend the Convention and so avoid an additional Commission. On the suggestion of Dr. Rollefson further consideration was deferred to a later plenary meeting.

(b) Rules of Precedence

The Chairman was of the opinion that Rules of Procedure for General Meetings and for Panels 1, 3, 4

and 5 ought to be reviewed, and he suggested that a small panel be appointed, consisting of Mr. Bates, Mr. Knollenberg and himself, to report at a later plenary meeting so that any amendments suggested might be placed on the agenda for the Third Annual Meeting.

(c) Membership of Standing Committees

Mr. Dobson suggested Committees should be organized by names of countries and not be names of members as these were likely to change from time to time. Agreed.

(d) Mr. Bates brought up the matter of a general research programme for the whole area and expressed the view it should be discussed by the Commission. Following discussion, the Chairman announced there would be a special plenary session at 11 o'clock on Saturday to discuss this subject.

18. Press Release

The Chairman advised that Mr. Manchester (Public Relations Officer) of the Department of Fisheries Information Service was now here. It was agreed that any press releases should be submitted first to Dr. Needler and Mr. Dobson.

19. Adjournment.