



REPORT OF MEETING OF PANEL 5 - 3 JULY 1952

A meeting of Panel 5 was held at 2:30 p.m. on July 3, 1952. Canada and the United States were represented by Commissioners supported by advisers. Observers were present from Denmark, France, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom and FAO.

The Panel had before it the report "The Status of the Ground Fisheries and the Research Program of the United States Government in the Convention Area" by Dr. Herbert Graham (Document V a) and expressed appreciation of the research carried out by the United States in the Sub-area.

Dr. Graham reviewed the results of recent experiments by the United States, indicating that in order to release 50% of haddock 40 cm. long a minimum mesh size of $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches is required in place of the $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches recommended to the Panel at its February, 1952, meeting. The Panel concurred in the opinion of the Committee on Research and Statistics that in order to obtain the results anticipated in the Panel's recommendation to the Commission a minimum mesh size of $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches should be substituted for $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in the regulation proposed by the Panel at its February meeting. It was pointed out that this would be a change in the mechanics rather than the aim of the mesh regulation. The experimental nature of the regulation was stressed.

In discussion of research program the need for work on the redfish fishery and the great importance of increased research on the haddock fishery, in order to determine the results of the mesh experiment, were emphasized. Mr. Bates, noting that even the intensive work on haddock in this Sub-area required some expansion, and noting too the close relation between haddock and redfish research in Sub-area 5 with that in Sub-area 4, stressed the importance of developing for the Commission an adequate research program based on a broad consideration of the needs of the entire Convention area.


F. W. Sargent,
Chairman.