

REPORT OF MEETING OF PANEL 1Copenhagen, 8 October 1952

1. A meeting of the Panel for Subarea 1 was held at Charlottenlund Slot, Copenhagen, Denmark on 8 October 1952. The Commissioners from the Contracting Governments, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom were present supported by advisers. Observers were also present from Denmark, France, Iceland, the United States and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea. The Panel was welcomed by the Honourable K. Ree, Minister of Fisheries for Denmark. A complete list of the participants in the meeting is contained in Appendix I to this report.
2. The agenda adopted by the meeting is contained in Appendix II to this report.
3. Paul Hansen reported on the Danish investigations in the West-Greenland waters during the summer half year of 1952 from "Ad. S. Jensen" along the shores and from "Dana" in the open sea.

The amount of fry (eggs and larvae) of cod of the year-class 1952 was less than in the previous years, especially on the banks. Young cod of the 1950 year-class occurred in large quantities in the fjords, and this year-class must be expected to be of considerable importance for the fishery from about 1956. The rich year-class 1942 has lost its value to the fisheries more quickly than did previous year-classes; year-classes of special importance to the fishery are now 1945 and 1947.

The growth of the cod has decreased in later years; further the cod now becomes mature at an age of about 7 years, against 9-11 years in the thirties.

Judging from the recent marking experiments the migrations of cod between Iceland and Greenland are now of far less importance than in former years. The Greenland stock of cod now appears to be largely independent.

From the marking experiments of Greenland halibut a recovery of about 30% resulted, with very restricted movements.

4. Frede Hermann reported on hydrographic investigations from "Dana". Sections had been worked in various areas. The researches over a long period of years have shown a positive correlation between bottom water-temperatures in June (larval period) and the fishery-yield of the corresponding year-classes. The year 1952 was relatively cold and a low production of cod of the year-class 1952 is predicted.
5. Birger Rasmussen stated that Norwegian Research in the area had been carried out in the summer of 1952 from one fishing vessel. Hydrographic sections had been made and tagging of cod carried out. The results from the commercial fishing show that the cod were smaller on the southern than on the northern banks.

6. Arni Fridriksson stated that Iceland now had started investigations in Subarea 1, and collections of otoliths of cod had been made. He expected the work to be extended in the nearest future.
7. Commander Almeida reported on observations made from various Portuguese fishing vessels operating in the area. In June the fishery yielded only rather poor results. Later in summer the yield increased, especially on Fyllas Banke. The abundance of cod was higher than formerly in most of the area fished, and especially many smaller fishes were observed.
8. Jose Maria Guitian, Olegario Rodriguez and Alfonso Varela reported on the Spanish Fishery in the Subarea in 1952. Only few vessels had been working in the area.

For 1953 it was planned that scientists on board one of the fishing vessels should collect otoliths mainly of cod, and carry out measurements of fish.

9. M.P. Desbrosses gave a report on the French research in 1952. From the frigate "Aventure" a series of hydrographic stations had been worked off the West coast of Greenland.
10. C.E. Lucas gave a preliminary report just received by wire from "Ernest Holt" which worked in the area during the late summer of 1952. Commercial cod fishing had been carried out simultaneously with hydrographic observations. The best catches were made at a temperature just below 2°C. The cod caught were for the greater part of sizes between 55-76 cm.; they were feeding heavily and mainly on benthic food.

The hydrographic section off Kap Farvel was carried out.

11. From the considerations and discussions of the reports it appeared that the following questions concerning the cod in Greenland waters deserve special attention to clarify the conditions which are of importance to recruitment:
  - a. The change within later years in the pattern of the migrations between Greenland and other areas.
  - b. The degree of independence of the stocks on the southern and northern banks and in inshore waters.

12. The proposed research programs for the year 1953 were received. Pending the development of the Commission Research Program it was agreed that there should be an exchange of information concerning proposed programs through the Commission Secretariat. Accordingly the following resolution was adopted by the meeting:

"It is resolved that the Executive Secretary of the Commission be requested to approach the Governments participating in the work carried on in Panel 1 and to ask that their programs of work in this area for the year 1953 should be transmitted to the Commission's Headquarters with the least possible delay in order that the Executive Secretary may distribute them to all the participating Governments before the beginning of 1953."

13. Dr. Martin reviewed the Commission requirements for improved statistics and the meeting was concluded with the following resolution for the attention of Member Governments:

"Panel 1 having heard the expose in respect of statistics made by Dr. Martin, and being informed that a memorandum on the whole subject has been circulated to all Contracting Governments on 1 October 1952, desires to express the hope that all such Governments after a study of the said memorandum, will do their best to supply the desired statistics in as detailed form as may be possible."

Signed: B. Dinesen,  
Chairman.

APPENDIX I

Participants

<u>Denmark:</u>	Commissioners	B. Dinesen - Chairman Kristian Djurhuus Dr. Paul Hansen
	advisers	Dr. Å. Vedel Tåning Laurids Thygesen Niels Bjerregaard Eske Brun G.L. Mourier Adolf Jørgensen
<u>Norway:</u>	Commissioners	Klaus Sunnanå Birger Rasmussen Dr. Gunnar Roliefson
	Advisers	O. Lund Johannes Sellæg
<u>Portugal:</u>	Commissioner	Tavares de Almeida
<u>Spain:</u>	Commissioners	Jose Maria Guitian Dr. Olegario Rodriguez Alfonso Varela
<u>United Kingdom:</u>	Commissioners	A.T.A. Dobson Dr. C.E. Lucas R.S. Wimpenny
<u>Observers:</u>	Denmark:	M.F. Hermann Dr. E. Bertelsen
	France:	Alain Perier P. Desbrosses
	Iceland:	Dr. Arni Fridriksson
	U.S.A.:	Dr. Herbert W. Graham
	I.C.E.S.:	Dr. K.A. Andersson
<u>Host:</u>	Hon. K. Ree	Minister of Fisheries, Denmark.
<u>International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries:</u>	W.R. Martin Erik M. Poulsen Miss E. Ravnkilde	Acting Executive Secretary Executive Secretary Stenographer

APPENDIX II

Panel for Subarea 1.

Charlottenlund Slot, Copenhagen, Denmark

9.30 a.m., Wednesday, 8 October 1952

Agenda.

1. Reports of Commissioners, Advisers and Observers on the status of the fisheries and of research programmes in Subarea 1 during the year 1952.
2. Consideration of long-term research programme and cooperation in carrying through the 1953 programme in Subarea 1 (to be considered in the light of Commission Scientists' discussions held on 26-27 September at Copenhagen).
3. Review of fisheries statistics for Subarea 1 and a consideration of ways and means of improving them for the purposes of the Commission.
4. Other business.
5. Formulation and adoption of recommendations to the Commission.

