



ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE, 1963

PERTINENT ABSTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE THIRD SESSION
OF THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS
IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC AREA
ROME - MARCH 18-22, 1963

- BY: B. F. C. DEBAIE

THE ABOVE MEETING WAS HELD IN ROME, ITALY ON 18TH-22ND MARCH, 1963.

MR. J. B. RUTHERFORD (CANADA) WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING AND MR. L. BUTLER (UNITED KINGDOM) WAS ELECTED VICE-CHAIRMAN.

WHILE COPIES OF THE FULL REPORT ARE AVAILABLE AT THIS ANNUAL MEETING (VIDE DOCUMENT No. 11), ONLY THOSE SELECTED POINTS WHICH REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ACTION BY ICNAF ARE DEALT WITH IN THIS RESUMÉ.

PROPOSALS SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED TO ICNAF

1. THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY SUGGESTED THAT ICNAF CONSIDER, AT THIS ANNUAL MEETING, THE EXTENSION OF ITS STATISTICAL AREA SOUTHWARD. THIS POINT ON THE NORTH AMERICAN COASTLINE TO BE BASED ON A RECOMMENDATION TO BE MADE BY THE UNITED STATES CONCERNING THE MOST APPROPRIATE DIVISION OF THE FISHERIES ALONG ITS ATLANTIC SEABOARD. (SECTION 2.1.2. PAGE 4)

IT WAS NOTED THAT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE DEFINITION OF THE ATLANTIC BOUNDARIES OF THE ICES STATISTICAL AREA THAT ICES USE $36^{\circ} 00'$ NORTH LATITUDE AS ITS SOUTHERMOST BOUNDARY. THIS SOUTHERN BOUNDARY WOULD TOGETHER WITH THE PROPOSED SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF ICNAF'S STATISTICAL AREA BE CONSIDERED TO BE THE LINE (STRETCHING FROM THE EUROPEAN COAST TO THAT OF NORTH AMERICA) DIVIDING THE NORTH ATLANTIC FROM THE CENTRAL ATLANTIC FOR FISHERY STATISTICAL PURPOSES.

2. THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY NOTED THAT A REVISED LIST OF COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAMES OF SPECIES OCCURRING IN THE ICES BULLETIN STATISTIQUE HAD BEEN DRAWN UP BY A GROUP OF TAXONOMY EXPERTS AND HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY ICES, AND WOULD BE USED HENCEFORTH AND PUBLISHED BY THE COUNCIL IN ITS STATISTICAL BULLETIN.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THIS LIST SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE NOTICE OF ICNAF WITH A VIEW TO THE TWO NORTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ACHIEVING AS FAR AS POSSIBLE STANDARDIZATION IN THE USE OF SCIENTIFIC AND COMMON NAMES FOR THE SAME SPECIES.

IT WAS FURTHER AGREED THAT AS A FIRST STEP FAO SHOULD PREPARE A SUMMARY COMPARISON OF THE NAMES USED BY ICNAF AND THOSE RECENTLY AGREED TO BY ICES, TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF A PROPOSED CONSOLIDATED LIST WHICH WOULD BE PRESENTED AT THIS ANNUAL MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION. (SECT. 3.1.2. PAGE 10)

3. THE DEFINITIONS OF THE FOLLOWING MEASURES WERE CONSIDERED:

- (1) DAYS ABSENT FROM PORT (SECT. 3.1.6. PAGE 12)

THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY AGREED THAT WHERE, ON ANY TRIP A FISHING CRAFT VISITS MORE THAN ONE STATISTICAL DIVISION, AN APPROPRIATE FRACTION OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF

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3 (I) DAYS ABSENT FROM PORT (CONT'D)

DAYS' ABSENCE SHOULD BE ALLOCATED TO EACH DIVISION, IN PROPORTION TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS SPENT IN EACH, SO THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS ABSENCE WILL BE THE SUM OF THE NUMBER IN EACH DIVISION.

THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY ALSO AGREED THAT, EXCEPT WHERE IT IS KNOWN THAT FISHING TAKES PLACE ON EACH DAY, THE NUMBER OF DAYS ABSENT FROM PORT ON ANY TRIP SHOULD INCLUDE THE DAY ON WHICH THE FISHING CRAFT SAILS BUT NOT THE DAY OF LANDING.

(II) DAYS FISHED (SECT. 3.1.6. PAGE 13)

THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY NOTED THAT THE ICES AND ICNAF DEFINITIONS OF THIS UNIT ARE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME. IT AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT FOR THOSE FISHERIES IN WHICH SEARCHING IS A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF THE FISHING OPERATION, DAYS "ON GROUNDS" IN WHICH SEARCHING BUT NOT FISHING TOOK PLACE, SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE DAYS FISHED DATA. IT RECOMMENDS THE ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING DEFINITION:

"THE NUMBER OF DAYS (24 HOURS PERIODS, RECKONED FROM MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT) ON WHICH THE FISHING CRAFT WAS ON THE "FISHING GROUNDS", INTENT ON CATCHING FISH (NOT COUNTING THE TIME SPENT STEAMING TO OR FROM PORT AND BETWEEN GROUNDS) MINUS THE NUMBER OF FISHING DAYS LOST THROUGH DELAYS FROM WEATHER, BREAKDOWN OR OTHER FACTORS."

(III) NUMBER OF FISHING UNITS OPERATING (SECT. 3.1.6. PAGE 13)

THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY AGREED THAT IN THE CASE OF "PAIR" BOAT FISHERIES, THE TWO CRAFT TOGETHER SHOULD CONSTITUTE ONE FISHING UNIT.

(IV) NUMBER OF TRIPS (SECT. 3.1.6. PAGE 13)

THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY NOTED THAT DISCREPANCIES EXISTED IN THE PRACTICES AMONG COUNTRIES IN THE TREATMENT OF FRACTION OF DAYS FISHED AND SUGGESTED THAT ICES AND ICNAF SHOULD GIVE SOME ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER.

THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY ALSO AGREED THAT WHEN IN A SINGLE TRIP A CRAFT VISITS MORE THAN ONE DIVISION A FRACTION OF THE TRIP SHOULD BE APPORTIONED TO EACH DIVISION IN PROPORTION TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS SPENT IN EACH.

4. THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY REVIEWED IN DETAIL THE SUBJECT OF ADOPTING A STANDARDIZED FORM FOR SUBMISSION OF FISHERY STATISTICS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TO ICNAF, ICES, AND FAO. (SECT. 3.2. PAGE 14)

AFTER CONSIDERING AT GREAT LENGTH VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES OF POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION ICNAF MIGHT ADOPT, THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY AGREED THAT IT SHOULD REQUEST ICNAF TO CONSIDER AGAIN THE SUBJECT OF ADOPTING THE COMMON REPORTING SYSTEM, OR, AT LEAST, OF TAKING SOME ACTION TOWARDS THE ADOPTION OF THE SYSTEM.

SEVERAL PROPOSALS FOR ICNAF'S CONSIDERATION WERE OUTLINED AND DISCUSSED BY THE CONTINUING WORKING PARTY WHICH ACCORDINGLY TOOK THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

- (1) A STANDARDIZED FORM IW FOR THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC WAS PREPARED FOR CIRCULATION TO ICNAF FOR CONSIDERATION AT ITS 1963 ANNUAL MEETING. THIS FORM PROVIDES STUBS AND

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4 (I) (CONT'D)

BOXES SUITABLE FOR THE STATISTICS REQUIRED BY ICNAF AND FAO AND IS THE SAME AS STANA
IE AS FAR AS THE GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THE SUBMISSION OF EFFORT IS CONCERNED.

(II) A REVISION OF THE EXISTING FAO-SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL STANDARD STATISTICAL CLASS-
IFICATION OF AQUATIC ANIMALS AND PLANTS WAS PROPOSED WITH A VIEW TO INTRODUCING
CHANGES WHICH WOULD ELIMINATE SOME OF ICNAF'S OBJECTIONS. ATTENTION WAS PARTICULARLY
DIRECTED TO THE POSITION OF THE REDFISH, WHICH WAS BROUGHT IN JUXTAPOSITION TO THE
CODS AND FLOUNDERS, THE GENERAL GROUND FISH GROUP TO WHICH REDFISH IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED
IN THE FISHERY.

(III) ON THE BASIS OF THE REVISED VERSION OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARD STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION,
TWO ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS OF THE SPECIES CAUGHT IN THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC AREA AND
APPEARING IN THE CURRENT ICNAF'S TABULATIONS, WERE PREPARED TO ILLUSTRATE THE PROPOSED
LISTING OF THESE SPECIES IN COLUMN C OF THE PROPOSED STANA IW FORM.

IT WAS STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT, IF ICNAF SHOULD AGREE TO THE PROPOSAL OF A COMMON REPORTING
SYSTEM, IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO HAVE SUCH A COMMITMENT THIS YEAR, EVEN THOUGH COMPLETE
ACCORD WERE NOT ATTAINED FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

5. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE BENEFICIAL IF THE STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS (BULLETINS) OF THE
TWO REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PUBLISHING NORTH ATLANTIC FISHERY STATISTICS, ICES AND ICNAF, WERE
OF A SIMILAR FORMAT, AND THAT THIS ASPECT BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS.
(SECT. 3.2. PAGE 15)