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THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1965

Report of the ICES Statistical Committee

1964

R E P O R T
of the ICES Statistical Committee 1964

Chairman: Mr. B.B. Parrish

Rapporteur: Mr. L.P.D. Gertenbach

I. Proceedings

The Statistical Committee met on Tuesday afternoon, 29th September, and Friday afternoon, 2nd October.

In opening the meeting the Chairman welcomed all members, guests and observers, especially Mr. L.P.D. Gertenbach, Chief of the Fisheries Statistics Section of FAO's Fisheries Division, Rome, who also serves as Secretary to the FAO/ICES/ICNAF Continuing Working Party of Fisheries Statistics in the North-Atlantic Area, and Mr. Pieters, Observer for the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Brussels.

The list of the Committee members was checked, and alterations to the membership for Italy and Netherlands were noted.

The following agenda was reviewed and approved:-

1. Bulletin Statistique
 - (a) Progress with publication.
 - (b) Layout of Tables 1-4.
 - (c) Salmon and Trout statistics.
 - (d) Shellfish statistics.
 - (e) Statistics for undesignated western fishing areas in ICES Statistical Area North.
 - (f) Other Matters.
2. Publication of "ICES Statistical Programme for the 1960's".
3. Common and Scientific Names of Species.
 - (a) Extension of Species List.
 - (b) Approach to International Commission for Zoological Nomenclature.
4. Boundaries of ICES Statistical Sub-areas, Divisions and Sub-Divisions.
 - (a) Statistical Area North.
5. STANA Reporting Procedures.
6. Statistics for ICES Statistical Area South.
7. Classification of Fishing Craft for Inventory Fleet Statistics.

8. Relations with other International Bodies.
 - (a) FAO
 - (b) ICNAF
 - (c) Statistical Office of European Communities. Report of Working Group on Fishery Statistics.
 - (d) Continuing Working Party.
9. Statistical News Letters.
 - (a) Publications during the year.
 - (b) Report of News Letters Working Group.
10. Other Business.
11. Election of Chairman.
12. Acknowledgements.

1. Bulletin Statistique

The Secretary General reported that Volume 46 of the Bulletin Statistique for 1961 had been published since the last meeting. He expressed his appreciation of the assistance received from the Fisheries Statistics Section, FAO, in the preparation of the manuscripts of Tables 4, 5, and 8.

The Secretary General also reported that the MMS of Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 for the 1962 and 1963 Volumes had been submitted by the FAO Fisheries Statistics Section. He hoped to issue Volume 47 (1962 Data) early in 1965, and Volume 48 (1963 Data) before the next Annual Meeting.

The Committee noted that the main cause of the delay in publishing the Bulletin Statistique was in compiling the detailed tables of fishing effort. However, it noted with approval the contents of Documents 23 and 24 prepared by Mr. Gertenbach, giving Tables 1-4 of the Bulletin Statistique for 1962 and 1963, and it expressed its appreciation to FAO for making these catch data available so promptly in advance of the publication of the Bulletin Statistique. The Committee expressed the hope that it would be possible for FAO to distribute similar tables with 1964 catch data before the next ICES meeting. Mr. Gertenbach pointed out that the FAO Fisheries Statistics Section could fulfill this request providing national statistical offices meet the deadline of 31st May for submitting STANA 2 forms. The Committee strongly endorsed the need for prompt submission by countries of these statistical data and recommended that the Council urges all member countries to ensure that all efforts are made to comply with the agreed deadlines of 31st May for STANA 2 forms and 31st August for STANA 1 E forms (Rec. C.1).

The Committee noted that the changes in the layout of the Tables 1-4, proposed at its meeting in 1963 could not be incorporated in Volume 46 of Bulletin Statistique but it agreed that they be introduced in Volume 47 for 1962 and succeeding editions.

The Committee decided that the Chairman and the Statistical Editor should decide about the vertical rules separating the three columns for Divisions IV a, IV b and IV c (North Sea) in Tables 1-4. It also decided to retain the indispensable column called in Tables 3 and 4 "Not accounted for". It also agreed that a new column be included in Tables 1-4 for the new Sub-area λ (new numbering) covering the hitherto undesignated southwest corner (south of 48° N latitude) of the ICES Statistical Area (North) to be called "Azores and adjacent waters". It also should be made clear that the existing column referring to Division IX a also includes Division IX b.

The Chairman of the Salmon and Trout Committee reported that his Committee had considered the question put to it regarding the publication of statistics for freshwater species in the Bulletin Statistique and that it proposes their publications be continued. In adopting this proposal, the Committee gave consideration to the definition of the part of a country's total production of these species which should be included in their statistical submissions (Rec. B.1).

The Secretary General reported on the catches taken by member countries in the undesignated, western part of the ICES Statistical Area (North). The available information shows that only Portugal fishes in the southern part of this area in the vicinity of the Azores, and catches between 10,000-15,000 tons, mainly of Tuna, Bonito and Horse Mackerel. The Committee agreed that these statistics should in the future be included in the tables of the Bulletin Statistique, covering the ICES Statistical Area (North). (Rec. B.2). The Committee reviewed the proposals in Section 3 of Doc.No.18 and agreed (Rec. B.2) that this area should be divided, for statistical reporting purposes, into a northern and southern sub-area respectively, the boundary line between being drawn along latitude 48°00'N, in conformity with the boundary between Regions I and III of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Convention area. It further agreed that the new southern sub-area should be termed the "Azores Grounds", and that it and the northern sub-area should be designated Sub-areas X and XII respectively (the designations X-XIII for the southern waters now no longer being used). The boundaries of the two new sub-areas will be as follows:-

Sub-area X (Azores Grounds).

From a point at latitude 48°00'N and longitude 18°00'W southwards along longitude 18°00'W to latitude 36°00'N, thence west along latitude 36°00'N to longitude 42°00'W, thence northward along longitude 42°00'W to latitude 48°00'N and thence eastwards along latitude 48°00'N to longitude 18°00'W.

Sub-area XII

All of the remainder of the present undesignated western fishing area in ICES Statistical Area (North).

It was also agreed that a separate column should be provided in Tables 1-4 of the Bulletin Statistique for the statistics of the Sub-area X, but that for the time being any statistics collected for Sub-area XII would be included in the column entitled "Not accounted for".

With reference to Rec. B.4. of the 1963 meeting of the Committee, the Chairman of the Shellfish Committee reported that no additional Shellfish species should be added to the list for which statistics are currently published in Table 5 of the Bulletin Statistique.

2. Publication of the "ICES Statistical Programme for the 1960's"

The Committee agreed that this document should, after final revision by the Chairman, the Secretary General and the Secretary of the Continuing Working Party, be printed as an appendix in a forthcoming volume of the Bulletin Statistique (Rec. B.3).

3. Common and Scientific Names of Species

The General Secretary reported that Dr. Bertelsen, Dr. Krefft and Prof. Rass had supplied the scientific names for the additional fish species and Prof. Korrings for the shellfish species as requested at the 1963 Annual Meeting. The Committee expressed its thanks to the gentlemen for their efforts. It has decided that the revised list should now be printed along with the "Statistical Programme for the 1960's" in one of the firstcoming volumes of the Bulletin Statistique (Rec. A.3).

The Committee agreed that the layout of the multi-lingual tabulation should be decided by the Secretary General in consultation with the Chairman, the Secretary of the Continuing Working Party and Dr. Krefft, and that the order of the species in the list should be in accordance with the species order and the grouping in Table 4 of the Bulletin Statistique. It also agreed that the Secretary General should circulate the first proofs to all members of the Statistical Committee before publication.

Dr. Krefft informed the Committee that with the exception of the sardine (Sardina pilchardus (Walb.), 1792 = Arengus minor Cornide, 1788) there is no need to refer any of the scientific names in the species list to the International Commission for Zoological Nomenclature. The question of the scientific name of the sardine is currently being considered by the Commission in consultation with Dr. Wheeler of the British Museum, with whom Dr. Krefft is in contact.

The Committee also agreed that the scientific names of the crustaceans, molluscs and other invertebrates appearing in the column headings of Table 5 in the next volume of the Bulletin Statistique should be amended where necessary to comply with those in the new species list.

4. Changes in Boundaries of Sub-areas, Divisions and Sub-divisions in ICES Statistical Area (North)

The following proposals of the Statistical News Letters Working Group (Document No. 30) concerning changes in the boundaries of certain of the statistical areas (Sub-areas I, II, V b and IV) were agreed by the Committee (see: Rec. B.3):-

(a) Sub-areas I and II

(i) The boundary between Sub-areas I and II should be changed from the present position to a line running northwards from the Norwegian coast, along longitude 26°E, to latitude 72°N, then eastwards to longitude 30°E and then northwards along this longitude. All of the area to the east of this line will constitute Sub-area I (Barents Sea) and that to the west of it, Sub-area II (Norwegian Sea);

(ii) The western boundary of Sub-area II should be formed by a line running northwards, along longitude 11°W, from the north-eastern corner of Division V a (Iceland). The area to the west of this line will be included in Sub-area AIV (E.Greenland);

(iii) The boundary between Divisions II a and II b, currently running along latitude 73°N should be moved northwards to latitude 73°30'N. These new boundaries are shown together with those between the proposed smaller "News letter" sub-divisions in Figure 1 of the Report of the Working Group reproduced as Doc. No. 30.

(b) Division V b

For routine reporting of statistics for Bulletin Statistique as well as for News Letter reporting, Division V b should be split into two Sub-divisions, V b₁ (Faroes) and V b₂ (Faroe Bank). Their respective boundaries are drawn in Figure 9 of the Report of the Working Group (Doc.No.30)

(c) Sub-area IV (North Sea)

(i) The boundary between the North Sea and Sub-area III, which currently runs as a diagonal line between the north of Denmark and Lindesnes, should be changed to the following: from Lindesnes along longitude 7°E to latitude 57°30'N, then eastwards to longitude 8°E, then southwards to latitude 57°N and then eastwards to the Danish coast. With this change the boundary in this region coincides with the boundaries between statistical rectangles used by a number of countries for reporting their fishery statistics by small area;

(ii) No changes in the boundaries between Divisions IV a, IV b and IV c should be made for routine reporting of statistics to ICES;

(iii) The breakdown of Division IV a into Sub-divisions, IV a₁ and IV a₂ should be discontinued, and that statistics should be reported for the whole of Division IV a, the eastern boundary of which will extend to the Norwegian coast as previously. However, in reporting their statistics for this Division, countries should supply information on the quantities or proportion of the catch taken to the east of the Norwegian Deeps.

5. STANA Reporting Procedures

The Committee approved the draft notes for the completion of STANA reporting forms 1 E and 2, compiled by the Secretary of the Continuing Working Party and as presented in Doc. No. 18. Mr. Gertenbach reported that these notes had been drawn up in conformity with the reporting procedures laid down in the "ICES Statistical Programme for the 1960's" and with recommendations passed at the 1963 Annual Meeting. He also reported that, for the convenience of the reporting officers, additional drafting pages would now accompany the multi-sheet forms.

The Committee agreed that the proposed changes in the boundaries of the Statistical Areas (as defined in Section 4) should be incorporated in the request for the statistics for 1965, and that the Secretary of the Continuing Working Party should inform the national reporting offices of these changes at the earliest opportunity.

The Committee noted that the response to the request for countries to supply information on their craft and gear classifications and their definitions of fishing effort, in supplying fishing effort data on STANA forms 1 E was, as yet, incomplete. It agreed that the Secretary of the Continuing Working Party should make a further approach to those countries from which replies are still outstanding requesting that they supply the information by 31st December 1964. It also agreed that these items be placed on the agenda for the forthcoming meeting of the Continuing Working Party and that its findings be reported to the next meeting of the Statistical Committee.

6. Statistics for ICES Statistical Area (South)

The Committee expressed its appreciation to FAO for providing in Doc.No. 22 catch statistics for the Eastern Central Atlantic (between latitudes 36°00'N and 10°00'S). These data show that much of the fishing in this

area is done by non-member countries of ICES, so that the statistics published hitherto in the Bulletin Statistique for the "Southern Waters" constitute only a small fraction of the total fish production from it. Therefore, the Committee was unable to recommend at this stage any western and southern boundaries for the ICES Statistical Area (South) or to prescribe any extensions to or improvements in the statistical reporting procedures for this area. However, it expressed the hope that FAO will be in a position to continue to collect and publish such statistics as are available and to make them available to ICES.

In relation to this problem, the Committee noted with interest the joint proposals of the Atlantic, Sardine and Scombriform Committees that a meeting should be held in 1965 to make an appraisal of current scientific knowledge of the fish stocks and their environment in this area, with a view to extending and intensifying the programmes of scientific work there. It was agreed that the meeting, if held, would afford an excellent opportunity for reviewing further the available statistical data and for considering the problems involved in improving the Council's statistical programme for this area. It was therefore unanimously agreed that if possible these items should be placed on the agenda for the Symposium and that papers dealing with the statistics of the area should be presented to it (Res. B.4). Suggestions for specific, relevant agenda items and contributions would be supplied by the Chairman of the Committee, in consultation with the Secretary of the Continuing Working Party to the organizers of the Symposium should it be held.

The Committee also stressed the need, in any future development of a statistical reporting programme for this area, for it to comply with the existing inter-agency STANA system, especially with regard to reporting forms, procedures, arrangements and classification of species, fishing areas, classes of fishing units, definitions of terms etc. Documents outlining the elements of this system would be made available at the Symposium.

The proposal made by the FAO Working Party for Rational Utilisation of Tuna Resources in the Atlantic Ocean that FAO should be responsible for the collection and publication of catch and biological statistics for the Atlantic Tuna was noted with interest. Mr. Gertenbach pointed out that the existing close collaboration between the ICES and FAO statistical offices, both directly and through the Continuing Working Party, would ensure that ICES be kept aware of developments with this programme and that the data collected in the ICES area would be made available to ICES.

It was further agreed that, in view of the growing interest by both FAO and ICES in the statistical programme in the Statistical Area (South), it be placed on the agenda for the forthcoming meeting of the Continuing Working Party.

7. Classification of Inventory-type Fishing Fleet Statistics

The Committee reviewed Table 8 in Volume 46 of the Bulletin Statistique and agreed that this kind of data, covering fishing fleets should, with minor modifications continue to be published. It also considered the need for publishing every three years a list of fishing craft (probably all craft of 51 tons and over) for the ICES Statistical Area (North) similar to the lists published by ICNAF. The Committee agreed that this question should be considered by the Continuing Working Party at its 4th meeting early in 1965 and that it be requested to report to the next meeting of ICES on the possibility of a joint ICES/ICNAF list of craft (Res. C.2).

The Committee also proposes that the detailed tonnage breakdown given in Section 7.6 of Doc.No.17 be used for collecting inventory-type fishing fleet statistics, but that in the published table in Bulletin Statistique categories (1), (2) and (3) be combined, and the category "over 1,800 GRT" be split into the three categories "1801 - 3000", "3001 - 5000" and "5001 GRT and above".

The Committee also noted that various questions about improved definitions of fishing fleets and their coverage have been raised in Doc.No. 17 and recommends that these are reviewed by the Continuing Working Party at its 4th session and its findings reported to the Statistical Committee at its next meeting (Rec. C.2).

8. Relations with other International Bodies

(a) FAO

The Committee expressed its warm appreciation of the close co-operation and liaison between the ICES Secretariat and the FAO Fisheries Statistics Section.

It expressed approval of the proposed FAO Bulletin of Fishery Statistics, presenting catch statistics for the North Atlantic as a whole, and it welcomed the proposal of FAO to issue such a Bulletin every year in time for distribution at the Annual ICES Meeting. The Committee suggested that the usefulness of the Bulletin would be increased, if the groupings of the ICES fishing areas were as follows:-

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| Region I: | (a) I, II a, II b |
| | (b) V a, V b |
| | (c) XIV |
| | (d) XII (new numbering) |
| Region II: | (e) VI a, VI b |
| | (f) VII a-k |
| | (g) IV a, IV b, IV c |
| | (h) III a |
| Region III: | (i) VIII |
| | (j) IX a, IX b |
| | (k) X (new numbering) |

(b) ICNAF

The Committee noted with approval the acceptance by ICNAF of the recommendation by ICES that the reports of their respective Statistical Committees be made available at their respective Annual Meetings.

(c) Statistical Office of the European Communities

The Committee noted the report (Doc.No. 27) of the Secretary General on his attendance at the Working Group on Fisheries Statistics convened in Brussels in June by the Statistical Office of the European Communities. Since several of the fields with which this Working Group is concerned are of direct interest to ICES it was agreed that the Council be requested to make funds available for the Secretary General to attend the next meeting of that Working Group that might be convened between now and the next ICES Annual Meeting (Rec. A.1).

(d) Continuing Working Party

The Secretary of the Continuing Working Party reported that the next meeting of the Continuing Working Party is expected to be held in Rome early in 1965 (probably March). The Committee agreed that, in accordance with decisions taken at the 1963 Annual Meeting, ICES should be represented at the meeting by its Secretary General and the Chairman of its Statistical Committee (Rec. A.2).

9. News Letters Working Group Report

The comments and recommendations of the Subject and Area Committees which had considered the proposals regarding the reporting of detailed statistics and biological data, for publication in Statistical News Letters were reported to the Committee under the following main headings.

(a) Length grouping, reporting of length composition data and age compositions and age-length keys.

(b) Time and Area breakdown of Fishery Statistics and stock record data.

These Committees were unanimous in expressing the view that more time than was available at this meeting was required for the scientists in member countries to examine the Working Group's detailed proposals under both of the above headings before definitive decisions to implement or amend them could be taken. The Statistical Committee, therefore, noted with approval the recommendations of a number of these Committees that these views should be expressed in writing to the respective Chairmen at an early date. It also agreed that pending their receipt, especially with regard to the time and area breakdown of the statistical areas, no action should be taken meanwhile to change the existing system of News Letter publications. However, in view of the desirability of implementing the proposals of the Working Group as soon as possible, it requests the Consultative Committee to consider the best way of ensuring that the views of the scientists concerned are received in good time so that final decisions can be taken at the next Annual Meeting.

The Committee also strongly endorsed the recommendation of the Comparative Fishing Committee concerning the implementation of the proposal by the Working Group that a joint meeting of ICES and ICNAF scientists should be held to consider possible ways of achieving uniformity in reporting sampling data and in improving sampling methods.

10. Other Business

Dr. Biester of the Rostock Institute gave a brief account of the catches taken by the East-German fishery in the ICES Statistical Area North in 1963. He announced that detailed information on these catches broken down by ICES Statistical Areas, would be sent to the Secretary General in the near future.

11. Election

Mr. B.B. Parrish was unanimously re-elected Chairman for the coming year.

12. Acknowledgements

At the close of the meeting the Chairman expressed the Committee's warm thanks and appreciation for the work undertaken by the Secretary General and the staff of the ICES Statistical Office during the past year. He also expressed his appreciation of the continued close cooperation with the Fishery Statistics Section of FAO, and its sincere thanks to Mr. Gertenbach for his collaboration and help in the activities of the ICES Statistical Office during the year, and in acting as Rapporteur during this meeting.

II. Communications

No. 17	L.P.D. Gertenbach	"Proposals for a standard international statistical classification of fishing craft".
No. 18	L.P.D. Gertenbach	"Notes for the completion of Form STANA 1 E and STANA 2".
No. 19	L.P.D. Gertenbach	"Progress Report on national definition of effort measures used in collecting statistics on catch/effort data".
No. 20	L.P.D. Gertenbach	"Progress Report on national lists of all fishing class units for STANA statistics".
No. 21	FAO Fisheries Statistics Section	"Catches in the North Atlantic, 1963".
No. 22	FAO Fisheries Statistics Section	"The catch statistics in the eastern central Atlantic area (off the coast of North West Africa)".
No. 23	FAO Fisheries Statistics Section	"Catch statistics in the North-East Atlantic, 1962".
No. 24	FAO Fisheries Statistics Section	"Catch statistics in the North-East Atlantic, 1963".
No. 25	Á. Fridriksson	"Report to the Statistical Committee from the General Secretary".
No. 27	Á. Fridriksson	"Report on the third meeting of the European Economic Fisheries Council's Working Group on Fishery Statistics".
No. 30	Anon.	"Report of Statistical News Letters Working Group".
No number	Anon.	"Report of the ICNAF Statistics Sub-committee".

III. Recommendations

The Statistical Committee recommends:-

- A (1) That funds be made available for the Secretary General to attend the next meeting in Brussels of the Working Party on Fisheries Statistics, of the Statistical Office of the European Communities, at an estimated cost of D.Kr. 1,400.
- A (2) That, in accordance with decisions reached at the 1963 Annual Meeting concerning the Council's representative on the joint FAO/ICES/ICNAF Continuing Working Party funds be made available for the Secretary General and the Chairman of the Statistical Committee to attend the next meeting of the Working Party, to be held in Rome early in 1965. The cost is estimated at D.Kr. 3,000.
- A (3) That, the document "ICES Statistical Programme for the 1960's", suitably edited and brought up to date in the light of decisions taken at this Annual Meeting, should be published as an Appendix to a forthcoming volume of the Bulletin Statistique, together with the revised list of scientific and common names of fish and shellfish species, at an estimated cost of D.Kr. 2,000.
- B (1) That, statistics of salmon and trout and other anadromous fish species should continue to be published in Bulletin Statistique, and that the statistics submitted by countries through the STANA reporting system should include the catches taken in freshwater systems running into the sea, but should exclude the catches of these species in wholly land-locked waters and impoundments, within the national territories. It further recommends that the statistical area to which the catches taken in fresh water should refer should be that into which the river system runs.
- B (2) The Statistical Committee, noting that catches of between 10,000-15,000 tons of fish are taken annually by Portugal in the undesignated western part of the ICES Statistical Area (North), recommends that the statistics for the southern part of this area should in future be published in the Bulletin Statistique. It further recommends that this area should be divided into southern (Azores Grounds) and northern Sub-areas respectively, as defined in Section 6 of this report.
- B (3) The Statistical Committee recommends that the changes in the boundaries of certain of the statistical Areas in the ICES Statistical Area (North), as defined in Section 4 of this report, be incorporated in requests to countries for statistical data for 1965 and subsequent years through the STANA reporting system, and it requests the Secretary of the Continuing Working Party to inform countries of these proposed changes at an early date. It further recommends that a footnote be added to the Table 4 of the Bulletin Statistique for 1965, notifying the changes in these boundaries.

- B.4. The Statistical Committee, noting with interest the joint proposals of the Atlantic, Sardine and Scombriform Committees of the need for the extension and intensification of scientific work in the eastern part of the Central Atlantic and that a Symposium on the results of investigations in this area should be held in 1965 and, recognizing the need for improving the fishery statistics coverage for this area recommends that the appraisal of the available fishery statistics for the area and the consideration of possible ways of extending and improving them should be on the Agenda for the Symposium should it be held.
- B.5. The Statistical Committee recommends that the Council urge countries to comply with the prescribed deadlines of May 31 and August 31 in submitting their statistics on STANA forms 2 and 1 E respectively.
- B.6. The Statistical Committee recommends that (i) the publication in Bulletin Statistique of inventory fleet statistics by gross tonnage and horse-power classes should be continued, (ii) That the statistics should be collected in accordance with the tonnage categories specified in para. 7.6 of Doc. No. 17 (C.M. 1964), but that in publishing them, classes (1) - (3) should be combined, (iii) That attention should be given by the Continuing Working Party at its next meeting to the practicability of preparing a list of fishing vessels over 50 GRT, comparable with that recently published by ICNAF, and its findings be reported to the next meeting of the Statistical Committee, (iv) The Continuing Working Party should also examine the national classifications of fishing craft and gear, for reporting fishing effort data in the light of the tonnage classification used for inventory fleet statistics.

The following adjustments and remarks to
recommendations concerning statistics were
made by the Consultative Committee

I.

The Consultative Committee recommends that in the interest of economy, Recommendation A(2) be modified to mention only the Chairman of the Statistical Committee on this occasion, while maintaining the principle agreed last year that the Secretary General and the Chairman of the Statistical Committee should both represent the Council at meetings of the joint FAO/ICES/ICNAF, Continuing Working Party.

The Bureau decided that a final decision could be taken later as to the necessity of the General Secretary's attendance of the meeting of the FAO/ICES/ICNAF Continuing Working Party to be held in Rome.

II.

Recommendations B(1) - (6) of the Statistical Committee were approved as follows:-

- (1) That statistics of salmon and trout and other anadromous fish species should continue to be published in Bulletin Statistique, and that the statistics submitted by countries through the STANA reporting system should include the catches taken in freshwater systems running into the sea, but should exclude the catches of these species in wholly land-locked waters and impoundments, within the national territories. It further recommends that the statistical area to which the catches taken in fresh water should refer, should be that into which the river system runs.
- (2) The Statistical Committee, noting that catches of between 10,000 - 15,000 tons of fish, are taken annually by Portugal in the undesignated western part of the ICES Statistical Area (North), recommends that the statistics for the southern part of this area should in future be published in the Bulletin Statistique. It further recommends that this area should be divided into southern (Azores Grounds) and northern Sub-areas respectively, as defined in Section 6 of this report.
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- (4) The Statistical Committee, noting with interest the joint proposals of the Atlantic, Sardine and Scombriform Committees of the need for the extension and intensification of scientific work in the eastern part of the Central Atlantic and that a Symposium on the results of investigations in this area should be held in 1965, and, recognizing the need for improving the fishery statistics coverage for this area recommends that the appraisal of the available fishery statistics for the area and the consideration of possible ways of estimating and improving them should be on the agenda for the Symposium should it be held.
- (5) The Statistical Committee recommends that the Council urge countries to comply with the prescribed deadlines of May 31 and August 31 in submitting their statistics on STANA forms 2 and 1 E respectively.
- (6) The Statistical Committee recommends that (i) the publication in Bulletin Statistique of inventory fleet statistics by gross tonnage and horse-power classes should be continued. (ii) That the statistics should be collected in accordance with the tonnage categories specified in para. 7.6 of Doc.No.17 (C.M.1964), but that in publishing them classes (1) - (3) should be combined. (iii) That attention should be given by the Continuing Working Party at its next meeting to the practicability of preparing a list of fishing vessels over 50 GRT, comparable with that recently published by ICNAF, and its findings be reported to the next meeting of the Statistical Committee. (iv) The Continuing Working Party should also examine the national classifications of fishing craft and gear, for reporting fishing effort data in the light of the tonnage classification used for inventory fleet statistics.