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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1969

Report of ICNAF Observer at 15th Annual Meeting of INPFC

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The International North Pacific Fisheries Commission held its Fifteenth Annual Meeting at Seattle, Washington, USA, November 4 through 8, 1968. During the two weeks preceding the meeting, scientists from Canada, Japan and the United States reviewed the results of research by the three countries in 1968 on North Pacific salmon, halibut, king crab and groundfish resources.

The Commission recommended no changes in the abstention provisions of the International Convention for the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean. Under these provisions, Canada and Japan abstain from fishing salmon in certain parts of the Convention area. Japan also abstains from fishing halibut in the northeastern Pacific south of the Aleutian Islands and Alaska Peninsula and from fishing herring off most of the British Columbia coast.

Fishermen of all three countries participate in the halibut fishery in the eastern Bering Sea under conservation regulations recommended by the Commission. For 1969, the Commission recommended regulations for this fishery similar to those in effect in 1968. These regulations include provisions regarding minimum size limits, type of gear, and open and closed seasons for various subdivisions of the eastern Bering Sea area.

The Commission gave continued attention to the effect on the halibut stocks of the expanding trawl fisheries for other species in the Gulf of Alaska. In considering plans for research on groundfish other than halibut in the northeastern Pacific the Commission selected Pacific Ocean perch as the first species to be studied.

Following a review of research on the king crab resources in the eastern Bering Sea, the Commission found that the existing bilateral regulatory measures, placed in effect by the United States and Japan, were not adequate and agreed to forward its findings to Governments. Acting upon a request by the United States, the Commission agreed to initiate a study of the tanner crab resources of the eastern Bering Sea.

It was agreed that the next annual meeting of the INPFC would be held at Vancouver, Canada, beginning 3 November 1969.

2.3 Votes shall be taken by show of hands, by roll call in the English alphabetical order of the names of the countries, or by ballot, as in the opinion of the Chairman appears to be most suitable.

2.4 Between meetings of the Commission or in the case of an emergency, a vote of the Commissioners may be taken by mail, or other means of communication.

Rule 3 Chairman and Vice Chairman

3.1 The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall take office at the conclusion of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

3.2 The powers and duties of the Chairman shall be:

- (a) to declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission;
- (b) to preside at all meetings of the Commission;
- (c) to decide all questions of order raised at meetings of the Commission, subject to the right of any Commissioner to request that any ruling by the Chairman shall be submitted to the Commission for decision by vote;
- (d) to call for votes and to announce the result of the vote to the Commission;
- (e) to determine after consultation with the Commissioners and the Executive Secretary the provisional agenda for the annual Commission meeting;
- (f) to arrange for the appointment of the members of committees established in accordance with the provisions of Rule 6;
- (g) to sign, on behalf of the Commission, a report of the proceedings of each annual or other meeting of the Commission, for transmission to Contracting Governments, Commissioners, and others concerned, as an authoritative record of what took place;
- (h) generally, to make such decisions and give such directions to the Executive Secretary as will ensure, especially in the interval between the meetings of the Commission, that the business of the Commission is carried out efficiently and in accordance with its decisions.

3.3 Whenever the Chairman of the Commission is unable to act, the Vice Chairman shall exercise the powers and duties prescribed for the Chairman.

3.4 If the office of Chairman is vacated, the Vice Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired balance of the term.

3.5 If the offices of Chairman and Vice Chairman are vacated, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration shall exercise the powers and duties prescribed for the Chairman, and the first order of business at the next regular annual meeting or special meeting of the Commission shall be election of a Chairman and a Vice Chairman for the unexpired balance of the term.

Executive Secretary

Rule 4

4.1 The Commission shall designate staff positions to be filled through appointments made by the Executive Secretary. The Commission shall fix the tenure, rate of remuneration, and travelling expenses for the members of the Secretariat.

4.2 The Executive Secretary shall:

- (a) have full power and authority over the Secretariat, subject to the general supervision of the Commission; make all necessary arrangements for Commission, Panel and Committee meetings; and perform such other functions as may be assigned to him by the Commission, its Chairman, or the Chairman of a Panel or a Committee;
- (b) transmit the provisional agenda for the annual Commission meeting to all Contracting Governments and Commissioners not less than 60 days in advance of the meeting;
- (c) address communications to the Depository Government, in pursuance of the provisions of Articles VI (2) and VIII of the Convention, to the Secretary of State of the United States of America;
- (d) receive the credentials of the Commissioners, and report thereon to the Commission from time to time.

Order of Business

Rule 5

No order of business which involves amendment of these Rules of Procedure, budget or related financial matters, Panel membership modifications under Article IV (2) of the Convention, boundary modifications under Article VI (2) of the Convention, or transmittal of proposals or recommendations under Article VIII of the Convention, shall be the subject of a decision by the Commission unless the subject matter has been included in the provisional agenda which has been circulated by the Executive Secretary to the Commissioners at least 60 days in advance of the meeting at which the matter is to be discussed.

Committees

Rule 6

6.1 The Commission may establish such ad hoc Committees as it considers to be required.

6.2 There shall be a Standing Committee on Finance and Administration consisting of one nominee from each of five Contracting Governments who may be assisted by experts and advisers and which shall advise the Commission on:
(a) matters relating to the Secretariat; (b) the budget of the Commission;
(c) the time and place of meetings of the Commission; (d) publications of the Commission. The Committee shall choose its own Chairman from among the nominees. The Chairman shall have no vote but his Contracting Government may designate an alternate nominee who shall cast its vote. The Executive Secretary shall be an ex officio member of this Committee without vote.

6.3 There shall be a Standing Committee on Research and Statistics, consisting of one nominee from each Contracting Government who may be assisted by experts or advisers, and by observers from non-Contracting Governments and from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea. The Committee shall: (a) develop and recommend to the Commission such policies and procedures in the collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination of fishery statistics as may be necessary to ensure that the Commission has available at all times complete, current, and equivalent statistics on fishery activities in the Convention area and adjacent waters; (b) shall keep under continuous review the research programs in progress in the Convention area and adjacent waters, and shall develop and recommend to the Commission from time to time such changes in existing programs, or such new programs as may be deemed desirable. The Committee shall choose its own Chairman. The Executive Secretary shall be an ex officio member of this Committee without vote.

6.4 There shall be a Standing Committee on Regulatory Measures consisting of one nominee from each Contracting Government who may be assisted by experts or advisers, and by observers from non-Contracting Governments and from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The Committee shall:

- (a) consider possible measures for the regulation of fishing in relation to the stocks of fish, or of any particular species of fish in the Convention area, or any part thereof;
- (b) consider the economic and administrative problems involved in the application of such measures and, in consultation with the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics, the scientific and statistical information required for their solution;
- (c) make appropriate recommendations to the Commission.

The Committee shall choose its own Chairman. The Executive Secretary shall be an ex officio member of this Committee without vote.

Language of the Commission

Rule 7

English shall be the official and working language of the Commission but, if desired, any other language may be used, it being understood that persons doing so at meetings will provide their own interpreters. All official publications and communications of the Commission shall be in English.

Records of Proceedings of the Commission and of its Committees

Rule 8

8.1 Records of all meetings of the Commission shall be provided by the Executive Secretary and shall be circulated promptly to all Contracting Governments and Commissioners.

8.2 Summary minutes of the proceedings of all meetings of its Committees shall be furnished to the Commission.

Reports

Rule 9

9.1 The Commission shall publish annually, following its regular annual meeting, a report of its activities during the preceding year. Such report shall include a summary of its findings and of statistical, scientific and other information gathered pertaining to the fisheries of the Convention area, the Chairman's report of the annual meeting, and a financial statement.

9.2 Commissioners should arrange, where feasible, for all reports on subjects of interest to the Commission which are published in their own countries to be sent to the Executive Secretary of the Commission for record purposes. English translations where available should be provided.

4. Review of Rules of Procedure for the Panels

The Subcommittee also examined critically the Rules of Procedure for the Panels adopted 6 April 1951 by Panels 1, 3 and 4; 7 April 1951 by Panel 5, 26 May 1953 by Panel 2 and 5 June 1968 by Panel A. Again it was found that the substance of many of the Rules was already contained in the Articles of the Convention.

The Subcommittee recommends that the Rules of Procedure for the Panels adopted, as detailed in the above paragraph, be repealed and the following Rules of Procedure for the Panels be adopted in lieu thereof.

Rules of Procedure for the Panels

Representation

Rule 1

At any meeting of the Panel, Commissioners of Contracting Governments not participating in the Panel shall inform the Executive Secretary or Panel Chairman of their attendance and of the names of experts and advisers accompanying them.

Voting

Rule 2

2.1 Observers, experts, and advisers may address meetings of the Panel but shall not be entitled to vote.

2.2 Votes shall be taken by a show of hands, by roll call in the English alphabetical order of the names of the countries, or by ballot, as in the opinion of the Chairman appears to be most suitable.

2.3 Between meetings of the Panel or in the case of an emergency, a vote of the Commissioners of the Governments which participate in the Panel may be taken by mail, or other means of communication.

Chairman

Rule 3

3.1 If the office of Chairman is vacated, a new Chairman shall be elected at the next meeting of the Panel for the unexpired balance of the term.

3.2 The powers and duties of the Chairman shall be:

- (a) to declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Panel;
- (b) to preside at all meetings of the Panel;
- (c) to decide all questions of order raised at meetings of the Panel, subject to the right of a Commissioner of any participating Government to request that any ruling by the Chairman shall be submitted to the Panel for decision by vote;
- (d) to call for votes and to announce the result of the vote to the Panel;
- (e) to determine after consultation with the Commissioners of the Governments participating in the Panel the provisional agenda for every meeting, and to submit it to the Executive Secretary for transmittal to all Contracting Governments and Commissioners not less than 60 days in advance of the meeting;
- (f) to submit to the Commission and the participating Governments on the Panel a summary report of each meeting of the Panel;
- (g) generally, to make such decisions and give such directions to the Executive Secretary as will ensure, especially in the interval between the meetings of the Panel, that the business of the Panel is carried out efficiently and in accordance with its decisions.

Order of Business

Rule 4

No order of business which involves amendment of these rules of procedure or recommendations of reports under Article VI (2), VII, or VIII (3) of the Convention shall be the subject of a decision by the Panel unless the subject matter has been included in the provisional agenda which has been circulated by the Executive Secretary to all Commissioners at least 60 days in advance of the meeting at which the matter is to be discussed.

Financial

Rule 5

The Panel shall not incur any expenditure except in accordance with directions given by the Commission.

Meetings

Rule 6

The Panel shall hold a regular annual meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Commission. Any other meetings of the Panel may be called by the Chairman at such time and place as may be agreed upon by a simple majority of the Governments participating in the Panel.

Committees

Rule 7

The Panel may establish such working groups as it considers to be required.

5. Addendum to Financial Regulations

The Subcommittee considered the need for a clause in the Appropriations section of the Financial Regulations adopted by the Commission 1 July 1968 which would allow appropriations from the Working Capital Fund for capital and special expenditures to remain available until expended or no longer needed (e.g. appropriations for publication of NORWESTLANT Surveys).

The Subcommittee therefore recommends

that the following sentence be added to Rule 3.2 of the Financial Regulations adopted by the Commission 1 July 1968:

"However appropriations from the Working Capital Fund for capital and special expenditures shall remain available, as determined by the Commission, until expended or no longer needed for the purpose for which appropriated."