

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR



THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

Serial No. 3135
(B.x.)

ICNAF Summ.Doc. 74/2

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1974

Proceedings of Special Commission Meeting¹
Ottawa, 15-19 October 1973

The Reports of Meetings of the Plenary, Panels and Committees together with Appendices are listed below. The page numbers referred to are those given at the bottom of the pages.

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¹ Presented to the Special Commission Meeting, FAO, Rome, January 1974 as Summ.Doc. 74/2.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR



THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

Serial No. 3128
(B.x.)

Proceedings No. 2

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

Report of the First Plenary Session

Monday, 15 October, 1015 hrs

- Item 1. Welcome. The First Plenary Session of the Special Meeting of the Commission was called to order by the Chairman, Mr M. Fila (Poland). He welcomed delegates from 12 of the 16 Member Governments, and Observers from the German Democratic Republic and FAO (Appendix I). The Chairman introduced Dr A.W.H. Needler, Head of the delegation of Canada, who welcomed the Commission to Ottawa on behalf of the Canadian Government and the Minister of Fisheries, Mr J. Davis. The Chairman thanked Dr Needler for his kind remarks, his warm welcome and hospitality on behalf of the Canadian Government and addressed the meeting as follows:

"Before starting our work, I would like to say only a few words about our Commission. I share with pleasure and satisfaction the common opinion which prevails in the fishing world, that ICNAF is a leading international regional fisheries body, very effective in its actions. Due to the spirit of cooperation of all ICNAF Member Countries and thanks to the hard work of our scientists until now, we have always been able to come through all our problems.

"This special meeting gives us a good opportunity to confirm this opinion.

"As we can remember during the 23rd Annual Meeting of ICNAF in Copenhagen, it was recommended that a special meeting of the Commission should be held to solve the problems which could not be overcome there. So we are in Ottawa this time. We have to continue our discussion and try to reach an agreement upon the regulations needed to protect the fish stocks in ICNAF Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

"This Commission introduced with success many regulatory measures and kept in satisfactory condition many fish stocks in the ICNAF Convention Area. For example, I can mention some of them: closed seasons and areas, gear and mesh regulations, size limits for herring, and total and nationalized catch quotas for particular species in different areas.

"We have also established an effective enforcement scheme.

"The assessment of stocks and the provision of advice concerning the question of regulatory measures and, in particular, catch quotas sometimes are very complicated problems. When dealt with in various scientific committees and at the Plenary sessions, they provoke lively discussions and agreements on these matters are by no means easy to reach.

"Nevertheless, during the last years, especially under the chairmanship of Mr Knud Løkkegaard, the Commission has, thanks to the spirit of cooperation and almost always of compromise, used its powers to initiate new and more effective measures. We realize, however, that an overwhelming burden of unsolved problems is still on the shoulders of the Commission.

"In opening our meeting, may I express an optimistic feeling that all of us will do our best to sustain the good ICNAF opinion regarding international cooperation. May I encourage all distinguished delegates to help our Commission to pass over our today problems. The fishing world is looking at us and expects that we will be able to tackle these vital problems which we are facing.

"I wish for all of us that this meeting will be a real success."

- Item 2. Agenda. The Agenda was approved without change (Appendix II).

- Item 3. Approval of draft Report of Proceedings of the 23rd Annual Meeting, Copenhagen, June 1973. The draft Report (ICNAF Circular Letter 73/44 dated 27 July 1973) and corrigenda (Circular Letter 73/62 dated 2 October 1973) were adopted.

Items 5, 6, 7 & 8. 5. Consideration of need arising out of action in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, for conservation measures in Subareas 1 to 4. 6. Other Business. 7. Date and place of 1974 Mid-Term and 1975 Annual Commission Meetings. 8. Adjournment. These items were set aside for later consideration by Plenary.

Item 4. Further consideration of conservation measures in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. The Plenary, recognizing that this item was a continuation of consideration of conservation proposals presented to meetings of Panel 5 at the 23rd Annual Meeting of the Commission in June 1973 (1973 Annu.Mtg. Proc. No. 11), agreed to refer the item to a meeting of Panel 5 which would be convened immediately following the Plenary session.

The Plenary adjourned at 1045 hrs.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

(Names of Heads of Delegations underlined)

Chairman: Mr M. Fila, Ministry of Shipping, 12 Swietokrzyska St., Warsaw, Poland

BULGARIA

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Advisers:

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Commissioners:

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Mr K. Henriksen, H.B. Nickerson & Sons Ltd., P.O. Box 130, North Sydney, N.S.
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SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973Agenda

1. Address of Welcome by a Representative of the host Government of Canada
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Approval of draft report of Proceedings of the 23rd Annual Meeting of the Commission, Copenhagen, June 1973 (ICNAF Circular Letter 73/44 dated 27 July 1973)
4. Further Consideration of Conservation Measures in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6

Note: Since this item is a continuation of consideration of conservation proposals presented to the January 1973 Special Commission Meeting and the June 1973 Annual Meeting, it will be understood that these proposals still apply as proposals for consideration at the present Special Meeting of the Commission

a) Effort Limitation Measures

(ICNAF Summ.Doc. 73/1 "Proceedings of Special Commission Meeting, January 1973")
 (ICNAF Comm.Doc. 73/3 "Memorandum by the US Commissioners on the Regulation of Fishing Effort")
 (ICNAF Circular Letter 73/44 dated 27 July 1973 "Proceedings of 23rd Annual Meeting, June 1973")
 (ICNAF Comm.Doc. 73/18 and Addendum I "Note by US Commissioners on ICNAF Conservation Actions")

b) Catch Limitation Measures

(ICNAF Circular Letter 73/44 "Proceedings of 23rd Annual Meeting, No. 11, 16 and 17")

- 1) Total Allowable Catches (TAC's) for single species and groups of species
 - ii) Overall TAC
 - iii) National Allocations

c) Gear Restriction Measures

- 1) Minimum mesh size (ICNAF Comm.Doc. 73/18, p. 4)
- ii) Selective gear (ICNAF Circular Letter 73/44 "Proceedings of 23rd Annual Meeting, No. 11, Appendix IV with Annex 1")

d) Closed Areas and Seasons

(ICNAF Circular Letter 73/44 "Proceedings of 23rd Annual Meeting, No. 11, Appendix III (silver and red hakes) and No. 16, Appendix VI (haddock)")

e) Enforcement Capabilities in Relation to Proposed Conservation Measures

(ICNAF Comm.Doc. 73/18, p. 4-5)
 (ICNAF Circular Letter 73/44 "Proceedings of 23rd Annual Meeting, No. 4")
 (ICNAF Circular Letter 73/49 dated 16 August 1973)

5. Consideration of Need arising out of Action in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 for Further Conservation Measures in Subareas 1 to 4

(ICNAF Comm.Doc. 73/15 "Canadian proposal regarding control of fishing effort")
 (ICNAF Circular Letter 73/44 "Proceedings of 23rd Annual Meeting, No. 16, p. 2")

6. Other Business
7. Date and place of 1974 Mid-Term and 1975 Annual Commission Meetings
8. Adjournment



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SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

Report of Meetings of Panel 5

Monday, 15 October, 1100 hrs
Tuesday, 16 October, 1130 and 1500 hrs
Friday, 19 October, 0900 hrs

1. The Chairman of the Commission, Mr M. Fila (Poland), called the meeting to order with all Member Countries of the Panel represented, except Bulgaria and Romania. Other Member Countries, except Iceland and Portugal, and the German Democratic Republic were represented. Mr D. Wallace (USA) was elected Chairman. The Executive Secretary was named Rapporteur.
 2. Under Plenary Agenda Item 4, "Further Consideration of Conservation Measures in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6", which had been referred to the Panel from the First Plenary Session, the Chairman recognized the delegate of USA who restated the views of his Government with regard to the state of the stocks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 and the urgent need for measures which would not only halt the drastic decline in abundance but would provide for some restoration of those stocks. He pointed out that a US proposal for effort reduction was set aside by the June 1973 Meeting for further study but that, as an alternative and interim measure, a US proposal for a two-tier quota scheme involving catch quotas for individual stocks and a total overall catch quota was examined but not approved (1973 Annu.Mtg.Proc.No. 11). He hoped that the substantial fishery by the German Democratic Republic could be taken fully into account in such a scheme and that the coastal states would not be required to reduce their fisheries. He reiterated that the USA could only agree to a "package" that included the two-tier scheme and further gear and fishing restrictions. He assured the Panel members that this meeting was being watched with great concern by both the US public and Congress which expected a successful conclusion to the by-catch and conservation problem in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.
 3. Following discussion the Panel agreed that STACRES be asked to meet immediately to (a) review the latest information available on catches and effort in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, and (b) consider the implications of an overall TAC together with TAC's for individual species and to report its findings to the next meeting of Panel 5.
 4. The Panel further agreed that an ad hoc Committee on Implementation of Regulatory Measures be set up under the Chairmanship of the Commission's Vice-Chairman, Mr E. Gillett (UK), to consider the possibilities for implementation from 1 January 1974 of agreements made at this Special Commission Meeting. It was agreed that the ad hoc Committee should meet immediately in order that the views of the delegates of Member Countries would be available as soon as possible.
 5. The Panel recessed at 1145 hrs, 15 October.
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6. The Panel reconvened at 1130 hrs, 16 October. The Chairman, Mr D. Wallace (USA), welcomed the Bulgarian and Portuguese delegations which had recently arrived.
 7. The Report of the ad hoc Committee on Implementation of Regulatory Measures (Proc. 4) was presented by the Committee Chairman, Mr Gillett. The Panel agreed to support the views of the ad hoc Committee when presented to the Plenary.
 8. The Report of STACRES (Proc. 1) was presented by the Chairman, Dr A.W. May (Canada). Comments included commendation of the scientists for their spirit of cooperation and for a clear analysis of the latest (projected to December 1973) catch information and fishing activity as they relate to potential yield and future management of the fisheries in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.
 9. Delegates of Norway, UK, Portugal and France who were not members of the Panel all agreed there was an urgent need for conservation measures and reduction of fishing activity to stabilize and begin restoration

of depleted stocks. They expressed the hope that the STACRES report would provide a possible means to solution of the problems in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. The delegate of Portugal drew attention to the possibility of a phased annual reduction to reach the maximum sustainable yield (MSY). The delegate of USA noted that the STACRES report amply substantiated the US views. Other matters to be noted were that a 50% decline had taken place in the US fishery in recent years, that some countries had target fisheries, while others did not, and that there should be a reduction in the amount of catch sufficient to begin restoration of the stocks to the level of the MSY. The delegate of Poland felt that the 1974 stocks were not in as great danger as the STACRES report stated and, therefore, the report should not be the firm basis for the Commissioners to propose drastic catch reduction. He maintained that further interim research was needed. The delegate of USSR said his Government was prepared to accept catch reduction but at great sacrifice to USSR fishermen. He suggested that decreasing the sum of the TAC's (1,056,000 tons) by 5% to give 1,003,000 tons was a reduction for the USSR of 15.5% of its 1972 catch. The delegate of Canada agreed with the conclusions of the STACRES report and pointed to the importance of taking immediate steps to stabilize and begin restoration to MSY of the stocks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany drew attention to the different problems which led STACRES to its conclusions. The proposed reduction of catches should, therefore, be different and correspond to the extent to which each country had contributed to those difficulties. In this respect, he pointed out that the Federal Republic of Germany had reduced its catch and effort continuously and considerably since 1970, that its catches were more than 90% herring with the by-catches amounting to only about 3%, and that the conservation need for its target species was already met by the Commission's commitment from the 1973 Annual Meeting on how to fix the quota for 1974 at the 1974 Mid-Term Meeting. The delegate of Japan pointed out that their target species were squid, butterflyfish and herring. They too suggested a different rate of catch reduction be applied for different species. The delegate of Italy supported the suggestion of the Federal Republic of Germany and of Japan re different rates for catch reduction as their fishery took only squid. The delegate of Spain expressed interest in the squid fishery and requested a quota of 18,000 tons. The delegate of Bulgaria supported the STACRES report and its use as a guideline for a rational solution to the exploitation problem in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. The Observer from the German Democratic Republic said his Government, although it was not yet a member of the Commission, was prepared to cooperate within the limits possible. Participation depended on a just allocation to the German Democratic Republic. A decision regarding ICNAF membership would be made this year. He said that the German Democratic Republic was fully convinced of the seriousness of the situation regarding the state of the stocks.

10. The Panel, at the suggestion of the delegate of USA, agreed that a Working Group on Catch Allocations for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, to be chaired by Mr E. Gillett (UK), should meet immediately to consider and propose TAC's and national allocations on an overall basis and for each species in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 for submission to the Panel. The Panel further agreed that in order to keep the Working Group small and, therefore, more effective, the Working Group should consist of a Commissioner and Adviser from each delegation, including that of the German Democratic Republic, as well as the Chairmen of STACRES and the Assessments Subcommittee.

11. The Panel recessed at 1730 hrs, 16 October.

12. The Panel reconvened at 0900 hrs, 19 October. A draft report of meetings of the Panel held on 15 and 16 October was presented by the Executive Secretary and adopted with amendments which included statements by the Federal Republic of Germany and Poland. Romania was now represented.

13. The Report of the Working Group on Catch Allocations for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (Proc. 5) was presented by the Chairman of the Working Group, Mr E. Gillett (UK). The overall allowable catch of finfish and squid and its allocation (Proc. 5, Appendix I) and the species TAC's and their allocation (Proc. 5, Appendix II) proposed by the Working Group for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 were discussed. The delegate of Romania pointed out that the 4,300-ton allocation of the total overall catch was not satisfactory as Romania expected to raise its catch to 12,000 tons in 1974. In response, the Chairman of the Working Group, supported by the USA, said projected catches were not a basis for the allocations and that any allocation greater than the catch in past years was not justified as it added to the problem of the depletion of the stocks. The report of the Working Group with minor additions was adopted by the Panel. The Chairman of the Panel complimented the members of the Working Group for their statesmanship and thanked the delegation of the German Democratic Republic for its excellent cooperation.

14. The Panel considered a draft of the wording of a Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in Subarea 5 and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 based on the recommendations of the Working Group on Allocations for total overall allowable catches and species TAC's, and their allocations in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. The delegate of Denmark drew attention to the inconsistency in using "Others" in the proposal and "Other Members" in the text of the Working Group report and "Other Countries" in the Appendix to the Working Group report. Following discussion, the Panel members agreed that the single allocation called "Others" should be used in paragraph 2 and in the table annexed to paragraph 3(a) of the proposal with the understanding, as also recorded in Section 5 of Proceedings

No. 6 of the January 1973 meeting, that, in making provision for countries not individually specified, it was not the intention of the Commission that fishing by Non-Member Countries should have the effect of limiting the catches which Member Countries, not individually specified, were permitted to take. After considerable discussion and acceptance of modification to the proposal, Panel 5

agreed to recommend

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government for joint action by the Contracting Governments proposal (1) for international quota regulation of the fisheries for finfish (excluding menhaden, tuna, billfishes, and sharks other than dogfish) and squid in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and to the west and south in Statistical Area 6 (Appendix I).

15. The Panel considered a US Proposal for International Regulation of Fishing Gear Employed in the Fisheries in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area. The delegate of USA pointed out that this proposal was discussed at the 1973 Annual Meeting of the Commission (1973 Annu.Mtg.Proc.No. 11), and that the regulation was designed to protect the US small-boat fishery for yellowtail flounder in Southern New England and Gulf of Maine waters. The delegates of Japan, Spain and Italy could accept the proposal but wished to reserve the right to request some possible changes in the area proposed for regulation at the 1974 Mid-Term Meeting. Following a discussion of the description of the midwater trawl doors as "incapable of being fished on the bottom", the Panel agreed that there was a need for technical advice on the type of door which would fit the requirement and how an infringement could be determined, and that these matters would be considered again at the 1974 Mid-Term Meeting. Panel 5 then

agreed to recommend

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government for joint action by the Contracting Governments proposal (2) for international regulation of fishing gear employed in the fisheries in Subarea 5 (Appendix II).

16. The Chairman requested a report on progress of the STACTIC Working Group on Improving the International Joint Enforcement Scheme. The Working Group was required by the 1973 Annual Meeting to continue its study of possible improvements with particular reference to the US proposal for a revised scheme (1973 Annu.Mtg. Proc.No. 4, Appendix I). Capt J.C.E. Cardoso (Portugal), Chairman of the Working Group, reported that ICNAF Circular Letter 73/48 dated 16 August 1973 was distributed to members of the Working Group requesting submission of initial views on further improvements to the scheme by 1 October 1973 so that they could be reviewed at the present meeting. No comments had been received. Capt Cardoso asked the Chairman of the Panel to press for comments. The delegate of USA emphasized the importance of an appropriate enforcement scheme and of active participation by Commission members. He said that the US proposal to detain vessels which have violated the regulations will again be raised at the 1974 Mid-Term Meeting. The delegate of Canada reviewed the Canadian participation in the enforcement scheme since 1 July 1973 and cited violations as an example of how important the problems are and the need for Governments to know the difficulties and to be active in making improvements to the scheme. As regulations became more complicated, there would be need for more alert and more consistent enforcement. Governments would have to accept greater responsibility for enforcing the regulations. The delegate of USSR agreed there was a need for improvement to the scheme by increasing the demand on the fishing vessel captains and the inspectors. The delegate of Portugal agreed with the need for improvement and noted that a big step had been taken with withdrawal of the USSR reservations to the scheme, effective 15 November 1973. The Chairman of the Panel strongly urged Member Countries to send their views and comments on improvements to the scheme to Capt Cardoso and reiterated the suggestion of the delegate of Norway that any views or comments sent to Capt Cardoso should be copied to all members of the Working Group.

17. The Chairman of the Panel then requested a report on the progress of the STACREM Working Group of Experts on Effort Limitation. The Working Group was required by the 1973 Annual Meeting to continue its study of effort limitation (1973 Annu.Mtg.Proc.No. 5). Dr R.L. Edwards (USA), Chairman of the Working Group, reported that ICNAF Circular Letter 73/43 dated 24 July 1973 was distributed requesting data for evaluation and consideration at the 1974 Mid-Term Meeting.

18. The Chairman of the Panel then called for consideration of a US draft Resolution Relating to the Implementation of Proposals Concerning Fishing Activity in Subarea 5 and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6. The delegate of USA informed the Panel that the Resolution puts into words the agreement reached in the ad hoc Committee on the Implementation of Regulatory Measures (Proc. 4) regarding entry into force on 1 January 1974 of measures adopted at this meeting. The Chairman of the ad hoc Committee on the Implementation of Regulatory Measures, Mr E. Gillett (UK), stated that the Resolution seemed to correctly give effect to the discussions in the ad hoc Committee. The delegate of Japan supported the Resolution and said that his Government preferred the resolution format for effecting early entry into force rather than the format used for herring and mackerel at the 1973 Annual Meeting. Following further discussion and some minor suggestions for change in the text, Panel 5

agreed to recommend

that the Commission adopt the resolution relating to early implementation of proposals concerning fishing activity in Subarea 5 and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 (Appendix III).

19. The Chairman of the Panel thanked all meeting participants for their cooperation and successful efforts. The Panel then elected Mr D. Wallace (USA) Chairman of the Panel for the 1973/74 and 1974/75 period.

20. The meeting of Panel 5 adjourned at 1300 hrs, 19 October.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

(1) Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in Subarea 5 and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6

Panel 5 recommends that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government the following proposal for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

"1. That Governments take appropriate action to regulate the catch of all species of finfish (excluding menhaden, tuna, billfishes, and sharks other than dogfish) and squid, by persons under their jurisdiction fishing on the stocks of fish found in Subarea 5 and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 so that the aggregate overall catch of these species shall not exceed 923,900 metric tons in 1974, 850,000 metric tons in 1975, and in 1976 an amount which will allow the biomass to recover to a level which will produce the maximum sustainable yield.

"2. (a) That Competent Authorities from each Government listed below, including Contracting Governments not listed by name listed as "Others", shall limit, in 1974, the catches of the species mentioned in paragraph 1 above, taken by persons under their jurisdiction in the region referred to in paragraph 1 above, to the overall amount listed:

Bulgaria	29,100	metric tons
Canada	25,000	" tons
Federal Republic of Germany	27,000	" tons
German Democratic Republic	97,600	" tons
Italy	4,700	" tons
Japan	24,300	" tons
Poland	152,200	" tons
Romania	4,300	" tons
Spain	17,200	" tons
USSR	342,500	" tons
USA	195,000	" tons
Others	5,000	" tons

"(b) That at the 1974 Annual Meeting, the Commission shall establish allocations for 1975 which shall be substituted for the allocations in paragraph 2(a) above, and which shall not total more than 850,000 metric tons as indicated in paragraph 1 above.

"(c) That at the 1975 Annual Meeting, the Commission, using the criteria set forth in paragraph 1 above, shall establish the level of catch for 1976 and the allocation of that catch. These figures shall be substituted, respectively, for the catch and the allocations thereof in paragraphs 1 and 2(a) above.

"3. (a) That the Governments take appropriate action to regulate the catch of fish by persons under their jurisdiction fishing on the stocks of fish found in Subarea 5 and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 so that the aggregate catch of each species and stock in 1974 shall not exceed the amount in the table annexed to this proposal. The Competent Authorities from each Government listed in the table annexed to this proposal shall, in the region indicated in the table, limit the catch of each species or stock for which a quota is listed in the table as for it by persons under its jurisdiction to the amount listed. The table annexed to this proposal forms an integral part of this paragraph.

"(b) That the Commission shall establish at the 1974 Annual Meeting a table for 1975 and at the 1975 Annual Meeting a table for 1976, each of which shall be substituted for the table referred to in paragraph 3(a) above.

"4. (a) That each Government mentioned by name in paragraph 2 above shall take appropriate action to prohibit fishing by persons under its jurisdiction for the species in the region mentioned in paragraph 1 above on the date on which accumulated reported catch, estimated unreported catch, the quantity estimated to be taken before closure could be introduced, and the likely incidental catch for the remainder of the year, equal 100 percent of the allowable catch indicated in paragraph 2 above for it. This shall apply whether or not it has, on that date, caught the full amount allocated to it for any particular species or stock under paragraph 3 above or any other regulation of the Commission. Each Government mentioned by name in paragraph 2 above shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary of the date on which persons under its jurisdiction will cease a fishery for the species in the region mentioned in paragraph 1 above. The Executive Secretary shall promptly inform all other Governments mentioned by name in paragraph 2 above and all other Contracting Governments of such notification.

"(b) That each Contracting Government not mentioned by name in paragraph 2 above shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary if persons under its jurisdiction engage in a fishery on the species in the region mentioned in paragraph 1 above, together if possible with an estimate of the projected catch. Each Contracting Government not mentioned by name in paragraph 2 above shall promptly report catches of the species in the region mentioned in paragraph 1 above by persons under its jurisdiction in increments of 100 tons to the Executive Secretary of the Commission. The Executive Secretary shall notify each Government listed by name in paragraph 2 above and all other Contracting Governments, of the date on which accumulated reported catch, estimated unreported catch, the quantity estimated to be taken before closure could be introduced, and the likely incidental catch for the remainder of the year, by persons under the jurisdiction of Contracting Governments not listed equal 100 percent of the allowable catch designated as for "Others" in paragraph 2 above. Within 10 days of the receipt of such notification from the Executive Secretary, each Contracting Government not mentioned by name in paragraph 2 above shall prohibit fishing by persons under its jurisdiction for the species in the region mentioned in paragraph 1 above.

"5. (a) That each Government mentioned by name in paragraph 3 above shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary of the date on which its vessels have ceased a specialized fishery in the region indicated in the table for any species or stock for which a quota is listed as for it.

"(b) That each Government not mentioned by name in paragraph 3 above, and each Government mentioned by name in paragraph 3 above which does not have a quota listed as for it for any particular species or stock, shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary if its vessels engage in a fishery for which a quota is not listed as for it in paragraph 3 above in the region indicated in the table, together if possible with an estimate of the projected catch for each species or stock. Each such Government shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary of catches for which a quota is not listed as for it in increments of 100 tons, which shall include a breakdown by species or stock. The Executive Secretary shall promptly inform all Governments listed in paragraph 3 above and all other Contracting Governments of such notifications.

"(c) That the Executive Secretary shall notify each Government listed in paragraph 3 above and all other Contracting Governments of the date on which accumulated reported catch, estimated unreported catch, the quantity estimated to be taken before closure could be introduced, and the likely incidental catch for the remainder of the year, of each species or stock listed in paragraph 3 above by persons under the jurisdiction of each Government listed which does not have a quota listed as for it and of Contracting Governments not listed equal 100 percent of the allowable catch designated as for "Others" in paragraph 3 above. Within 10 days of receipt of such notification from the Executive Secretary, each Contracting Government not mentioned by name in paragraph 3 above and each Government listed in paragraph 3 above which does not have a quota listed for it for that particular species or stock which is the subject of each notification shall prohibit the fishing by persons under its jurisdiction for that species or stock in the region indicated in the table.

"(d) That a Government shall prohibit fishing by persons under its jurisdiction in the relevant region for a particular species or stock under quota regulation when the relevant individual species or stock quota is reached, as specified in paragraphs 5(a), (b), and (c) above, even if the overall quota applicable for that Government under paragraph 2 above has not yet been reached. When the relevant overall quota is reached, as specified in paragraphs 2 and 4 above, a Government shall prohibit fishing by persons under its jurisdiction for all of the species in the region referred to in paragraph 1 above, including those listed in paragraph 3 above, even if the individual quota for any of the species or stocks under quota regulation has not yet been reached.

"6. That the Governments take appropriate action to ensure that all vessels under their jurisdiction which fish in Subarea 5 and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 record their catches on a daily basis according to position, amount, date, type of gear, amount of effort, i.e., number of sets (or hooks) x time gear on the bottom (otter trawl) or fishing (midwater trawl, lines, other gear), discards, catch composition, and disposition of catch.

"7. That the allocations in paragraphs 2 and 3 above are without prejudice to future allocations of catches for these or other species or stocks."

Table - Integral Part of Paragraph 3 of the Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in Subarea 5 and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 19 October 1973.

Proposed species TACs¹ and allocations for 1974 in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

Species	Stock area	Bulgaria	Canada	Fed. Rep. Germany	German Dem. Rep.	Italy	Japan	Poland	Romania	Spain	USSR	USA	Others	TAC ¹
Cod	5Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,677	1,323	10,000
	5Z	-	4,820	-	-	-	-	487	-	7,088	2,468	16,590	3,547	35,000
Yellowtail	5(E of 69°)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,000	1,000	16,000
	5(W of 69°)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,000	1,000	10,000
Silver hake	5Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600	8,380	1,020	10,000
	5Za	1,496	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60,248	11,056	7,200	80,000
	5Zw + 6	1,552	-	-	-	-	-	-	444	-	52,208	18,864	6,932	80,000
Red hake	5Z(W of 69°) + 6	1,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,000	15,000	1,500	50,000
Pollock ²	4 + 5	-	34,000	1,600	4,000	-	-	-	-	1,200	2,100	12,000	100	55,000
Redfish	5	-	414	-	-	-	-	-	412	-	1,725	24,747	2,702	30,000
Other Flounders (except Yellowtail)	5 + 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,600	21,700	700	25,000
Herring ³	5Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5Z + 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mackerel ³	5 + 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Finfish ³	5 + 6	-	-	-	-	4,700	24,300	6,800	-	13,000	8,500	5,600	7,100	71,000
Squid	5 + 6	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ TAC = Total Allowable Catch

² TAC and allocations for pollock agreed in Joint Meeting of Panels 4 and 5 (1973 Annu.Mtg.Proc.No. 16, Appendix I). Each country will record its catch separately for Subareas 4 and 5 and note that its catch in Subarea 5 must be applied against its share of the total overall allocation agreed for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6

³ TAC and allocations to be set at the January 1974 Meeting of the Commission

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

(2) Proposal for International Regulation of Fishing Gear Employed in the Fisheries in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area

Panel 5 recommends that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government the following proposal for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

"1. That each Contracting Government take appropriate action to prohibit the taking of fish, other than crustacea, from vessels over 145 feet (44.2 m) in length by persons under its jurisdiction with fishing gear other than pelagic fishing gear (purse seines or true midwater trawls, using midwater trawl doors incapable of being fished on the bottom) during the period from 1 July through 31 December in the area adjacent to the United States coast within that part of Subarea 5 (Southern New England and Gulf of Maine) north of 40°20'N, south of 43°17'N, and west of the straight line drawn between the points:

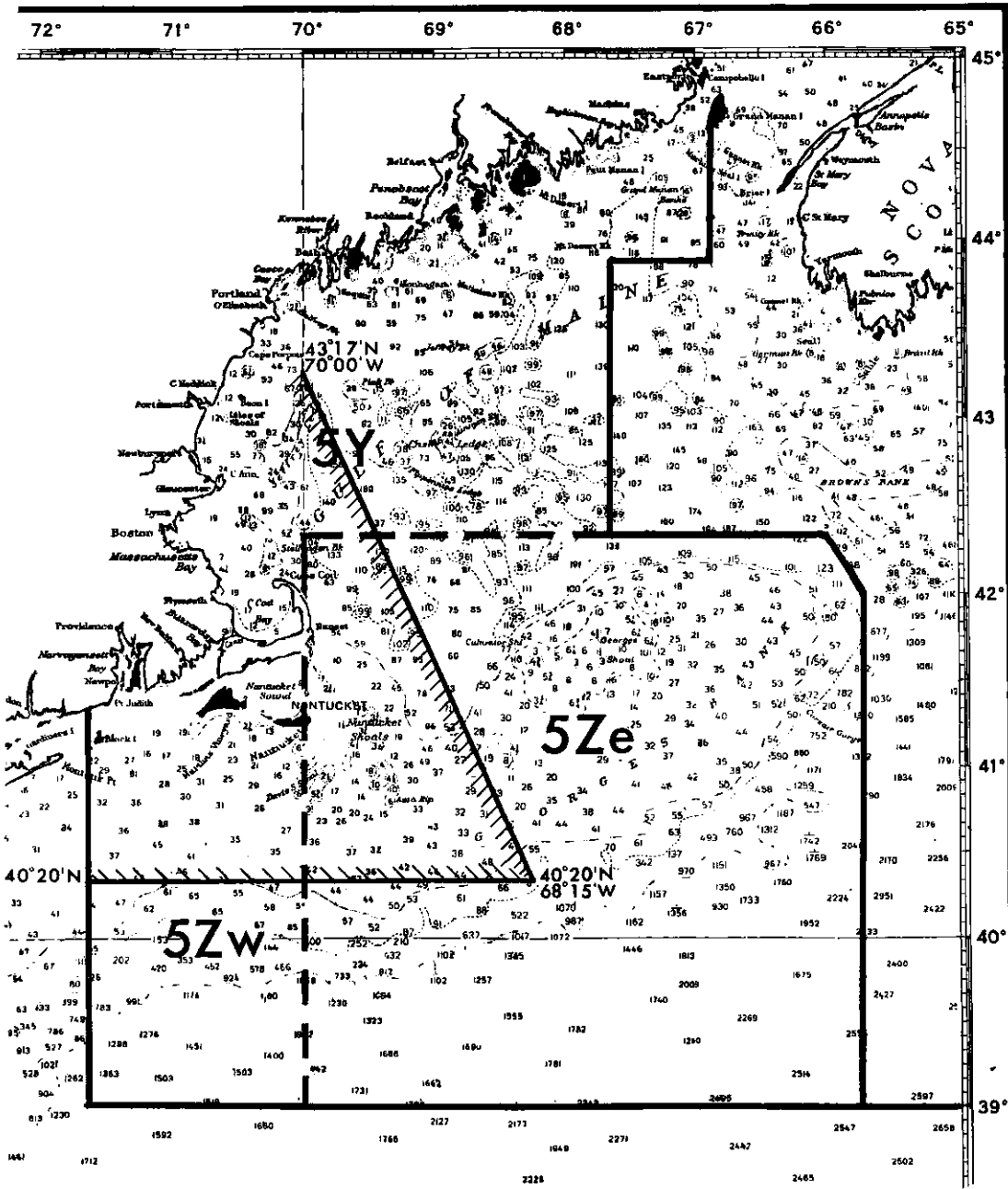
68°15'W, 40°20'N and 70°00'W, 43°17'N.

"2. That Contracting Governments prohibit any person to whom paragraph 1 above would apply from attaching any protective device to pelagic fishing gear or employing any means which would, in effect, make it possible to fish for demersal species in the area described in paragraph 1 above.

"3. That nothing in this proposal shall affect the trawl mesh-size requirements in force in Subarea 5."

NOTE: Attached is a chart illustrating the area affected by this proposal.

Chart illustrating the area affected by the Proposal for International Regulation of Fishing Gear Employed in the Fisheries in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 19 October 1973.



SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

Resolution Relating to the Implementation of Proposals Concerning Fishing Activity in Subarea 5 and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6

Panel 5 recommends the following draft resolution for adoption by the Commission:

The Commission

Recognizing that proposals designed to achieve the conservation and optimum utilization of stocks of fish in Subarea 5 and the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 have been adopted at the October 1973 Meeting;

Taking into Account that under Article VIII of the Convention, as amended, these proposals would not enter into force until six months after the date on the notification from the Depositary Government transmitting the proposals to the Contracting Governments, which could not occur before late April, 1974, at the earliest;

Bearing in Mind that because the 1973 regulations would not be in force after 31 December 1973, no regulations to ensure conservation and the optimum utilization of stocks would be effective for approximately one-third of 1974;

Having Considered that the purpose of the Convention is to promote the conservation and optimum utilization of fish stocks on the basis of scientific investigation, and economic and technical considerations and that this purpose cannot be successfully achieved unless the proposals referred to above are applied throughout 1974;

Recognizing that in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of the Convention, fishing activity in the area must be conducted in accordance with these proposals throughout 1974;

1. Invites the attention of Governments to the above matters;
2. Stipulates that the proposals referred to above should apply throughout 1974;
3. Requests Governments whose vessels conduct fishing operations in the area to implement the proposals beginning on 1 January 1974;
4. Expects that all members of Panel 5 will conduct their fishing operations in accordance with the proposals beginning on 1 January 1974 unless any of the members of the Panel notifies an objection to the Depositary Government prior to that date.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR



THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

Serial No. 3130
(B.g.30)

Proceedings No. 4

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

Report of Meeting of *ad hoc* Committee on the Implementation of Regulatory Measures

Monday, 15 October, 1200 hrs

1. The *ad hoc* Committee convened, as recommended by Panel 5 (Proc. 3), under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK), to consider the possibilities for implementation from 1 January 1974 of agreements made at this Special Commission Meeting. Mr C.J. Dandy (UK) was appointed Rapporteur.
2. All Member Countries, except Iceland, were represented.
3. The Chairman of the *ad hoc* Committee reminded delegates of the US proposal (Appendix I) that agreements made at this Special Commission Meeting should be implemented from 1 January 1974, and also of the formal procedure relating to rights of objection under amended Paragraph 7 of Article VIII of the Convention.
4. The delegate of USA drew attention to previous attempts made within the Commission to achieve early implementation of recommendations, which had been nullified by the various administrative and legal difficulties of the Governments involved. Two main aspects of the present proposal were emphasized. First, although the recommendations would be effective for the whole of 1974, and acceptance should be notified before 1 January 1974, they would not begin to have any effect on fishing operations until at least April. Second, unless objections were received, all members of Panel 5 would be expected to comply. In further clarification, and in answer to questions from several delegations, the delegate of USA stressed that early acceptance would not be a formal commitment: Governments would be given the opportunity to comply on a voluntary basis, within the limits of their individual powers, until such time as the statutory powers under amended Paragraph 7 of Article VIII of the Convention had been completed.
5. With this clarification, the proposal received the general support of the meeting, although individual delegations, in expressing their willingness to cooperate, made the following points.
6. The delegate of USSR drew attention to the fact that transmission of recommendations in their final form could take up to two months. He requested that final recommendations be available for delegates by the end of the meeting to avoid delay in their legislative implementation.
7. The delegate of Denmark, while accepting the proposal on behalf of Denmark and Greenland, reserved the position of the Faroe Islands, since it would have to be considered separately by their Parliament.
8. The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany pointed out that compliance on their part would depend on regulation being shown to be necessary for conservation and maximum utilization of fish stocks. Also, the outcome of this meeting could affect the arrangements for implementation of herring and mackerel quotas for which a procedure had been made at the 1973 Annual Meeting.
9. The Chairman of the *ad hoc* Committee, in summing up, and thanking delegates for their cooperation, pointed out that a voluntary scheme could be implemented before formal circulation of proposals by the Depositary Government: this would take its normal course in accordance with amended Paragraph 7 of Article VIII of the Convention. He also proposed, and the *ad hoc* Committee agreed, that the Commission should be invited to include in any recommendation agreed at this meeting a statement to the effect that it was a measure urgently necessary on conservation grounds.
10. The meeting of the *ad hoc* Committee adjourned at 1247 hrs, 15 October.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973US Proposal Regarding Early Entry Into Force of Measures
Adopted at the Special Commission Meeting, 15-19 October 1973

According to the provisions of Paragraph 7 of Article VIII of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries as amended, conservation measures adopted by the Commission ordinarily take effect six months after they are circulated by the Depositary Government. Thus, actions taken by the October Special Meeting cannot take effect under the normal procedure until about one-third of the 1974 season has passed. The Commission has attempted to achieve an earlier effective date for certain measures by requesting members to signify their early acceptance. This has not achieved its purpose, and no measures have taken effect in this way. However, it remains a possibility if all members of Panel 5 could accept regulations through the regular ICNAF framework prior to 1 January 1974.

Since the early effectiveness procedure formerly used has not proven effective, it is obvious that an alternative procedure must be applied. The United States suggests the following procedure:

The Commission, in adopting the proposal, should stipulate that they apply to the entire 1974 season, and members should be requested to implement them effective 1 January 1974. The Commission should also stipulate that all members of Panel 5 would be expected to comply with the regulations for Subarea 5 on 1 January 1974 unless any of the members of the Panel notified an objection to the Depositary Government prior to that date. Members of the Panel might also be requested to formally notify the Depositary Government of their acceptance of the measures proposed at the October 1973 Special Commission Meeting before 1 January 1974. (The same could be followed for other Subareas if the Commission determines under Plenary Agenda Item No. 4 that any measures are required for Subareas 1-4 because of the measures adopted for Subarea 5 - and Statistical Area 6 with regard to certain species.)

Since almost all fishing by ICNAF members in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 is done by members of Panel 5, this procedure should ensure that the regulations are applied for the entire 1974 season without imposing any undue burden on ICNAF members which are not members of Panel 5 and do not fish in Subarea 5 or Statistical Area 6. ICNAF members not members of Panel 5 conducting limited fishing in the region would be expected to conduct their fisheries there in a manner compatible with the regulations.

The procedural proposals on herring and mackerel adopted by the 1973 Annual Meeting of ICNAF (Proposals (26), (27), and (28) circulated by the Depositary Government on 17 July 1973) should ensure that measures for the regulation of the herring and mackerel fisheries in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 adopted by the January 1974 Special Meeting of the Commission are applicable for the 1974 season. However, the parties may wish to take some kind of alternative action in case an objection is filed to the mackerel and herring proposals prior to the January 1974 Special Meeting rendering them inoperative with respect to the January Meeting. In this case, the procedure described in paragraph 3 above could be employed at the October 1973 Special Commission Meeting with respect to herring and mackerel as well as other species.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR



THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

Serial No. 3131
(B.g.31)

Proceedings No. 5

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

Report of the Working Group on Catch Allocations
for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6

Tuesday, 16 October, 2000 hrs
Wednesday, 17 October, 0930 hrs
Thursday, 18 October, 1025 hrs

1. The Working Group convened, as recommended by Panel 5 (Proc. 3), under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK).
 2. Mr C.J. Dandy (UK) was Rapporteur.
 3. All Members of Panel 5 were present, except Romania. In addition, Italy was represented. The Panel agreed that the German Democratic Republic be invited to attend subsequent discussions.
 4. The terms of reference of the Working Group were defined as follows: "to propose TAC's and national allocations on an overall basis and for each species in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 for submission to Panel 5".
 5. The meeting of the Working Group recessed at 2030 hrs, 16 October.
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6. The Meeting of the Working Group reconvened at 0930 hrs, 17 October. Romania was now represented, as was the German Democratic Republic.
 7. Discussion began on the basis of a paper submitted by the USA which proposed alternative overall catch quotas of 800,000 and 900,000 tons. Tentative agreement was reached to proceed with consideration of the 900,000 tons proposal. The delegates of USA and Canada pointed out that reduction of catch to less than 900,000 tons is necessary to begin recovery of the biomass, and that coastal fishermen have already suffered economically through depletion of stocks and are not mobile. Other delegates pointed out that the economic consequences of reduction of 1972 catch by more than 20% would be very severe. Specific problems were identified with regard to countries whose fisheries are directed predominantly at herring or at squid. The delegate of Romania proposed that his national allocation be raised to 12,000 tons to match expected catch in 1974. The general consensus, however, was that in the current stock situation this would be inconsistent with the objectives of the Commission. After submission of this and other proposals which would raise the overall quota to over 950,000 tons, the Chairman proposed the national allocations and overall quota in the table attached (Appendix I). He observed that in his view this represented the compromise most likely to receive general acceptance and reminded delegates of the serious consequences of disagreement. On this basis the Working Group agreed to give serious consideration to recommending to Panel 5 the proposals for overall catch quota and its allocations for 1974 as presented in Appendix I.
 8. The delegates of USA and Canada said that they regarded it as essential that these proposals for 1974 should be regarded as the first stage in a further program of reduction of overall quota for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. After discussion, the Chairman proposed that the following be in the Commission's proposal relating to overall quotas:

"It is the intention of the Commission, at the 1974 Annual Meeting, to fix an overall quota for 1975 for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 of 850,000 tons, unless scientific advice then indicates otherwise. It would further be the intention of the Commission to recommend, if necessary, a subsequent reduction in overall quota for 1976 consistent with scientific advice and aimed at allowing recovery of the stocks to maximum sustainable yield."
 9. The meeting of the Working Group recessed at 2400 hrs, 17 October.

10. The Working Group reconvened at 1025 hrs, 18 October.

11. After consideration of the proposal in paragraph 8 above, the delegate of USA stated that he could not accept the suggested wording. He felt that it should contain a definite commitment by Member Governments for future reduction. In the absence of such commitment, a further reduction in overall quota in 1974 by all countries would be necessary. In any case, the delegate of USA felt strongly that the overall total for 1974 should not exceed 900,000 tons.

12. Other delegates said that in their view it was necessary to retain the 1974 figures at the level in Appendix I, and a number of proposals for reduction in overall quotas for future years were considered. The Chairman of the Working Group finally proposed that the overall quota for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 shall be 924,000 tons for 1974 and 850,000 tons for 1975, and for 1976 an amount which will allow the biomass to recover to a level which will produce the maximum sustainable yield.

13. The delegate of USA stated that he could accept this proposal on condition that it formed part of a package including their other proposals on restrictions of gear and areas. On this condition and on the understanding that the national allocation of the overall quotas for 1975 and 1976 would be decided at a later meeting, the Working Group agreed to recommend the proposal in paragraph 12 above to Panel 5.

14. On the question of national allocations of species quotas in 1974, it was noted that consideration of herring and mackerel must be deferred to the 1974 Mid-Term Meeting. It was also decided to consider "other fish" at the Mid-Term Meeting. This disposed of some points of difficulty on the part of countries particularly concerned with these fisheries.

15. Leaving these species aside and with some minor increases in the squid allocation, the figures tentatively agreed at the 1973 Annual Meeting were accepted. It was also agreed that all national allocations of 400 tons or less would be transferred to the "other members" (unallocated) column. The resulting allocations are given in Appendix II.

16. The meeting of the Working Group adjourned at 1740 hrs, 18 October.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

Proposed overall TAC and allocations ('000 tons) for 1974 in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

<u>Country</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Bulgaria	29.1
Canada	25.0
Federal Republic of Germany	27.0
Italy	4.7
Japan	24.3
Poland	152.2
Romania	4.3
Spain	17.2
USSR	342.5
USA	195.0
German Democratic Republic	97.6
Other Countries	5.0
<u>TAC</u>	<u>923.9</u>

Serial No. 3131
(B. & 31)

Proposed species TAC's and allocations for 1974 in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

Species	Stock Area	Bulgaria	Canada	Fed. Rep. Germany	Italy	Japan	Poland	Romania	Spain	USSR	USA	German Dem. Rep.	Other Countries	TAC
Cod	5Y 5Z	- -	- 4,820	- -	- -	- -	- 487	- -	- 7,088	- 2,468	- 8,677 16,590	- -	1,323 3,547	10,000 35,000
Yellowtail	5(E of 69°) 5(W of 69°)	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	15,000 9,000	- -	1,000 1,000	16,000 10,000
Silver hake	5Y 5Ze 5Zw + 6	- 1,496 1,552	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 444	- -	600 60,248 52,208	8,380 11,056 18,864	- -	1,020 7,200 6,932	10,000 80,000 80,000
Red hake	5Z(W of 69°) + 6	1,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,000	15,000	-	1,500	50,000
Pollock ¹	4 + 5	-	34,000	1,600	-	-	-	-	1,200	2,100	12,000	4,000	100	55,000
Redfish	5	-	414	-	-	-	-	412	-	1,725	24,747	-	2,702	30,000
Other Flounders (except Yellowtail)	5 + 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,600	21,700	-	700	25,000
Herring ²	5Y 5Z + 6	- -	- -	- -	4,700	24,300	6,800	-	13,000	8,500	5,600	-	7,100	71,000
Mackerel ²	5 + 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Finfish ² (except Menhaden)	5 + 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Squid	5 + 6	-	-	1,000	4,700	24,300	6,800	-	13,000	8,500	5,600	-	7,100	71,000

1 TAC and allocations for pollock agreed in Joint Meeting of Panels 4 and 5 (1973 Annu. Mtg. Proc. No. 16, Appendix I). Each country will record its catch separately for Subareas 4 and 5 and note that its catch in Subarea 5 must be applied against its share of the total overall allocation agreed for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

2 TAC and allocations to be set at the January 1974 Meeting of the Commission.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR



THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES

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SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

Report of Final Plenary Session

Thursday, 18 October, 0955 hrs

Friday, 19 October, 1615 hrs

1. The Chairman, Mr M. Fila (Poland), opened the meeting. Representatives of all Member Countries, except Iceland, were present. Observers were present from the German Democratic Republic and FAO.
 2. The Report of the First Plenary Session (Proc. 2) was approved.
 3. The Report of STACRES (Proc. 1) was adopted with minor editorial changes. The delegate of Poland said that his Government was prepared to offer the services of the new Polish research vessel, *Professor Siedlecki*, for cooperative herring and mackerel research in 1974 in the ICNAF Area. Arrangements for such a venture could be made during the Mid-Term Meeting of STACRES or at the time of the 1974 Annual Meeting. The delegate of USSR strongly supported the generous offer of the Polish Government.
 4. The Chairman of Panel 5, Mr D. Wallace (USA), presented a brief report on the meetings of Panel 5 held to date.
 5. The Report of the ad hoc Committee on Implementation of Regulatory Measures (Proc. 4) was adopted. It reported that there seemed to be general agreement among the delegations that it would be possible to give effect to conservation measures from this meeting on 1 January 1974 without infringing on states' rights.
 6. The Chairman of the Working Group on Catch Allocations for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, Mr E. Gillett (UK), reported on meetings of the Working Group held on 17 October and was hopeful of continued progress.
 7. The Plenary agreed that the Working Group on Catch Allocations for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 should reconvene directly following the Plenary session. It was further agreed that Panel 5 would meet at 1500 hrs.
 8. The Plenary recessed at 1015 hrs, 18 October.
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9. The Plenary reconvened at 1615 hrs, 19 October. Representatives of all Member Countries, except Iceland, and Observers from the German Democratic Republic and FAO were present.
 10. The Report of Panel 5 (Proc. 3), because of limited time, was not available in written form. The Chairman of the Panel, Mr D. Wallace (USA), drew attention to the following recommendations from the Panel to the Commission: proposal (1) regarding catch quota regulation in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (Proc. 3, Appendix I), proposal (2) regarding regulation of fishing gear used in Subarea 5 (Proc. 3, Appendix II), and the resolution regarding entry into force on 1 January 1974 of measures adopted at this Special Commission Meeting. Following detailed consideration of the proposals and the resolution, they were adopted by the Plenary with the delegate of Romania abstaining from the vote on proposal (1) regarding catch quota regulation in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 as the Romanian allocation in the view of the Romanian Government was unsatisfactory for its needs.
 11. Under Plenary Agenda Item 5, "Consideration of Need Arising out of Action in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 for Further Conservation Measures in Subarea 1 to 4", the delegate of Canada pointed out that this matter was raised at the 1973 Annual Meeting in order to prevent massive diversion of effort from Subarea 5 into Subareas 2 to 4. The Plenary agreed that a memorandum presented by the delegate of Canada giving notice of Canada's intention to present proposals for species TAC's and their allocations in Subareas 2 to 4 at the 1974 Mid-Term Meeting should be appended to this report (Appendix I)

and also circulated to participants before leaving this meeting and that this memorandum would be taken as the 60-day notice of intention in accordance with Rule 5 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure.

12. Under Plenary Agenda Item 7, "Date and Place of 1974 Mid-Term and the 1975 Annual Commission Meetings", the Plenary agreed that the 1974 Mid-Term Commission Meeting should be held at FAO, Rome from 22 to 30 January 1974, with STACRES and its Subcommittees and Working Groups meeting from 7 to 21 January. It was noted that computer programs for use in the Wang computer were available for herring and mackerel assessments at Hamburg and that, if suitable computer facilities were not available at FAO, the herring and mackerel assessments portion of the scientific meetings might be arranged for Hamburg. The delegate of Italy kindly offered to provide meeting rooms if FAO meeting accommodation could not be arranged.

The Plenary further agreed that the 1975 Annual Commission Meeting would be held in Halifax beginning on 10 June and would be preceded by meetings of STACRES and its Subcommittees.

13. Under Plenary Agenda Item 6, "Other Business", the remarks of the Observer from FAO, Mr J. Naylor, are included at Appendix II.

14. Under Plenary Agenda Item 8, "Adjournment", the Chairman of the Commission, Mr M. Fila (Poland), expressed his gratitude for the spirit of cooperation exhibited during the sessions, commended Mr Gillett (Chairman of the *ad hoc* Working Group on Allocations and the *ad hoc* Committee on Implementation), Mr Wallace (Chairman of Panel 5), and Dr May (Chairman of STACRES) for their excellent leadership. He thanked the Secretariat for its efforts and expressed the appreciation of all to the Canadian Government for its kind hospitality and superb meeting facilities.

15. There being no other business, the Chairman declared the Special Commission Meeting adjourned at 1800 hrs, 19 October 1973.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

Canadian proposal for quota regulation in Subareas 2 to 4
to be considered at January 1974 Meeting of Commission

Canada accepts the conclusions of STACRES that in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 the sum of the TAC's for individual stocks over-estimates the MSY of the fish stocks in the area, and that a two-tier quota system with an overall quota substantially less than the sum of the TAC's is essential to maximize fisheries yield from the area. Implementation of this system could result in substantial diversion of effort to the northern Subareas.

However, species diversity and hence by-catch problems decline from south to north. Furthermore, species quotas in Subareas 2 to 4 have been set close to the levels recommended by biologists although there are a few notable exceptions, e.g. redfish in Div. 3M, cod in Div. 3NO and silver hake in Subarea 4. While biological interactions are poorly understood, the Commission has acted positively and taken a suitably cautious approach to development of new fisheries on prey species as evidenced by proposed capelin regulations - a recognition of the biologists' concern over the inter-relationship of production in capelin and cod, which is probably the major interaction in the northern areas.

For these reasons, we believe that the present system of individual species quotas may suffice for the time being in regulating the fisheries in Subareas 2 to 4 at the level of the maximum sustainable yield although other measures may well become necessary in the near future. However, this implies that all stocks subject to directed fisheries are also subject to quota regulation and this is not currently the case.

Therefore, Canada proposes that the following stocks be brought under quota regulation in 1974 and that quotas and allocations be set for them at the January 1974 Meeting and implemented as quickly as possible by voluntary action as in the case of regulations arising from the present meeting:

Redfish	- Subarea 2 and Div. 3K
Greenland halibut	- Subarea 2 and Div. 3KL
American plaice	- Subarea 2 and Div. 3K
American plaice	- Div. 3M
American plaice	- Subdiv. 3Ps
Roundnose grenadier	- Subareas 2 and 3
Cod	- Div. 4T and Subdiv. 4Vn
Cod	- Div. 4X offshore
Argentines	- Subarea 4

Canada further proposes that no country should initiate directed fisheries for previously unexploited species without informing the Commission of its intention and its expected catches so that the Commission can take action to establish pre-emptive quotas if necessary, thus controlling the development of the fishery.

Mr Chairman, the present statement should be minuted and taken as notice, so that the 60-day requirement will be satisfied.

SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - OCTOBER 1973

Statement by the FAO Observer to the Special Meeting of ICNAF
Ottawa, 15-19 October 1973

Mr Chairman,

I would like to thank the Commission on behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization for the invitation to observe the activities of your meeting and for this opportunity of making a few remarks at the conclusion of your discussions.

The problems which arise when seeking better ways of managing complex fisheries, particularly where a diversity of species are exploited by international fleets, are not limited to the ICNAF region but are being increasingly encountered in many other parts of the world. The experience of your Commission in dealing with these problems is thus of considerable interest and value to FAO in relation to its growing involvement with regional fishery bodies elsewhere and to its wider responsibilities in promoting the rational exploitation of the world's fishery resources.

Since the end of 1971, when sufficient powers were accorded to the Commission, ICNAF has been able to make notable progress in introducing management measures. However, serious problems have remained unresolved and over the last twelve months your continuing debate of these difficulties has been the subject of intense and widespread interest.

The decisions taken at this Special Meeting will have far-reaching effects, not only upon the future effectiveness of your Commission, but also upon the attitudes of many countries to the principles and practices of control and management of fisheries as they complete their preparations for the forthcoming Law of the Sea Conference.

It has, thus, been very encouraging to note the agreement achieved this week upon an improved system of management for important fishery resources within the sphere of competence of your Commission. It has also been satisfying to observe that certain aspects of your deliberations this week have been positively influenced by discussions of various management concepts earlier this year during FAO's Technical Conference in Vancouver.

A vital factor in your activities this week has been the spirit of compromise and of realism which has enabled your Commission to take such important decisions, despite the inadequacies which still exist in the scientific evidence and notwithstanding the differences which remain upon the interpretation of some of the data available. There can be little doubt that the two-tier, phased reduction system of quotas adopted at this meeting marks a significant further step forward not only for ICNAF but also for all concerned with fisheries management. FAO greatly values its long association with the activities of ICNAF; the cooperation which exists between our bodies in fields of joint interest will, I am sure, continue to be of mutual importance and benefit. In particular, FAO looks forward to the possibility of welcoming ICNAF to Rome again for the Mid-Term Meeting.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.