

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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Amendment of the Convention

Memorandum by the Government of the United States of America

During the 1974 Annual Meeting a number of amendments to the ICNAF Convention proposed by the United States (Comm.Doc. 74/9 and Addendum) were discussed. While some matters could be agreed in substance, others could not. Further study and evaluation was requested on these matters, and it was envisaged that a revised document would be presented to the 1975 Annual Meeting.

After giving due consideration to this subject, the United States has concluded that no further documents will be presented at this time. Nor is it requested that the matter be considered by the 1975 Annual Meeting.

When the amendments were proposed in 1974, it was envisaged that these amendments would be the first step in a two-step process to transform ICNAF into an appropriate body to function under the new international legal regime for coastal fisheries which is under consideration in the Law of the Sea forum. The second step could not be taken until the details of the new legal regime are certain.

Considering that the first step was not taken in 1974, the USA considers that it would be appropriate to take up the entire question at one time once the details of the new legal regime are known.