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Joint United States-Canada proposal for amendment of proposal (14)  
proposal for management of international quota regulation<sup>1</sup>

The recent rapid expansion of the Commission's conservation program has included nationalized catch quotas on virtually all developed and developing fisheries in the Northwest Atlantic region. As a result, there has been generated an urgent need for more and better biological and statistical information as a basis for precise scientific advice to the Commission. Thus, the success of the Commission's conservation programs is related to the degree to which fishermen of member governments adhere to the reporting and regulatory measures developed and adopted by the Commission.

Attempts to develop mutual confidence in the ICNAF quota regulation system have resulted in the present scheme of recording of catch:

"That the governments take appropriate action to ensure that all vessels under their jurisdiction which fish in the Convention Area and in the adjacent waters to the west within statistical Area 0 and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 record their catches during the period 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."

It is the view of the United States and Canada officials that the above provision does not provide opportunity for adequate enforcement of quota regulations due to its failure to require maintenance of catch records over a period sufficient to demonstrate compliance with Commission regulations. We, therefore, propose that at the 1975 Annual Meeting the Commission consider amending existing regulations to provide for a mandatory requirement to maintain on board cumulative catch records by species as well as total catch for each division and sub-division for the quota year.

<sup>1</sup> Adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session 14 June 1974 - Proceedings No. 20, Appendix III.