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Note by US Commissioners on the  
national registration of vessels engaged in fishing or equipped to fish  
for sea fish in the Convention Area or Statistical Areas 0 and 6

At the Special Meeting of STACTIC held 4-7 March 1975, in Leningrad, USSR (ICNAF Summ.Doc. 75/9), the United States proposed a system of vessel registration for Member Governments as a means of improving compliance with the Commission's complex system of quota regulations. This was reconsidered at the 1975 Annual Meeting but it was not adopted by the Commission. Since the time of the Annual Meeting, further infringements of ICNAF regulations have been noted by US and Canadian enforcement officials. US officials, noting that such infringements are still occurring in the Convention Area, believe that registration of fishing vessels is a vital step toward improving adherence to ICNAF regulations. Taking into consideration discussions by STACTIC at previous meetings and in an attempt to facilitate agreement, the United States proposes that the following modified proposal be further considered by STACTIC for referral to the full Commission at this Special Meeting:

That pursuant to paragraph 5 of Article VIII of the Convention as amended by the 1963 Protocol, the following arrangements for national registration of fishing vessels be made for the purpose of more effectively managing the fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean:

- "1. All vessels engaged in fishing or equipped to fish for sea fish in the Convention Area or Statistical Areas 0 and 6 shall be registered by the Flag State. A report of this registration shall be filed with the ICNAF Secretariat prior to 1 January of each year, when possible, or in a timely manner following departure of the vessel from its home port, or by message within 30 days if the Flag State changes the terms of its registration.
- "2. Such report shall include:
  - (a) Name of vessel, both native and Latin alphabet spelling,
  - (b) Official number of the vessel registered by appropriate authorities of the Flag State,
  - (c) Home port and nationality of vessel,
  - (d) Owner of vessel,
  - (e) Master of vessel,
  - (f) Certification that master has been provided with the regulations in force for the area or areas where the vessel will be engaged fishing for sea fish,

