

## International Commission for



## the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

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ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1976

Administrative report for the year ending 30 June 1976  
(as at 1 May 1976)

by

the Executive Secretary  
ICNAF

1. Cuba Becomes 18th Member of the Commission

The Government of the Republic of Cuba became the 18th Member of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries on 28 November 1975 upon notifying the Department of State of the United States of America, as Depositary Government for the Commission, of her adherence to the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries. Representatives of the Government of Cuba have been attending the Commission's meetings in an observer capacity since June 1971. Cuban fishing vessels have been fishing in the Convention Area since 1967.

Application by Cuba for membership in Panels 2, 3, 4, and 5 to be effective 1 January 1976 was approved by telegraphic vote of the Commissioners of the Governments which participate in the Panels in accordance with Panel Rules of Procedure 2.3.

The Chairman of the Commission welcomed the delegation from the Government of Cuba sitting for the first time as Members of the Commission to the Eighth Special Commission Meeting in January 1976 at FAO, Rome, Italy.

2. The Commission's Officers

Chairman of the Commission	- Mr E. Gillett (UK)
Vice-Chairman of the Commission	- Mr D.H. Wallace (USA)
Chairman, Panel 1	- Mr V.M. Kamentsev (USSR)
Chairman, Panel 2	- Mr W. Kalinowski (Poland)
Chairman, Panel 3	- Mr R.H. Letaconnoux (France)
Chairman, Panel 4	- Mr K. L�kkegaard (Denmark)
Chairman, Panel 5	- Mr Wm.L. Sullivan Jr (USA)
Chairman, Panel A (Seals)	- Mr K. Vartdal (Norway)

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission have been elected for the 1975/76 and 1976/77 periods. The Chairmen of the Panels with one exception will serve for the 1976/77 and 1977/78 periods. The Chairman of Panel A (Seals) completed his term of office at the 1976 Annual Meeting.

Chairman of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES)	- Dr A.W. May (Canada)
Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD)	- Mr E.B. Young (Canada)
Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulatory Measures (STACREM)	- Mr J. Graham (UK)
Chairman of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)	- Mr W.G. Gordon (USA)

3. Panel Memberships for 1975/76

Country	Panel						Total
	1	2	3	4	5	A	
Bulgaria	-	-	1974	1975	1973	-	3
Canada	-	1952	1951	1951	1951	1966	5
Cuba	-	1976 <sup>1</sup>	1976 <sup>1</sup>	1976 <sup>1</sup>	1976 <sup>1</sup>	-	4
Denmark	1951	-	1969	1974	-	1966	4
France	1953	1953	1953	1953	1974	-	5
Federal Republic of Germany	1957	1960	-	1970	1971	-	4
German Democratic Republic	-	1974	1974	-	1974	-	3
Iceland	-	1974	1976 <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	2
Italy	-	-	-	-	1974	-	1
Japan	-	-	1971	1971	1971	-	3
Norway	1952	1970	1968	-	-	1966	4
Poland	1962	1962	1962	1968	1968	-	5
Portugal	1953	1953	1953	1953	-	-	4
Romania	-	1970	1970	-	1967	-	3
Spain	1952	1954	1952	1952	1972	-	5
USSR	1958	1958	1958	1962	1962	-	5
UK	1951	1960	1951	-	-	-	3
USA	-	-	1952	1951	1951	-	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>66</b>

<sup>1</sup> effective 1 January 1976

4. The Commission's Secretariat

Executive Secretary	- L.R. Day
Assistant Executive Secretary	- V.M. Hodder
Bio-Statistician	- S.A. Akenhead (TOS 1 July 1975)
Administrative Assistant	- W.H. Champion
Senior Secretary	- Mrs Vivian C. Kerr
Finance and Publications Clerk-Steno	- Mrs Elizabeth R. Cornford
Senior Statistical Clerk	- G.M. Moulton
Clerk-Duplicator Operator	- R.A. Myers
Clerk-Duplicator Operator	- B.T. Crawford
Statistical Clerk (Surveys and Sampling)	- Mrs Pauline A. Lomas
Documents and Mailing Clerk	- Mrs Ferne E. Perry
Clerk-Typist	- Mrs Winnifred A. Wallingford (SOS 19 March 1976)
	- Mrs Patricia M. Wadman (TOS 2 April 1976)
Statistical Clerk (Fishery Statistics)	- F.D. Keating
Data Processing Clerk	- Miss Gloria Langille (TOS 16 October 1975)

Activities of the staff include:

The Executive Secretary discussed proposals from the 1975 Annual Meeting with Depositary Government (Washington, D.C., 11 July 1975); serviced, with Messrs Hodder, Akenhead and Champion, Mrs Kerr and Cornford, the Seventh Special Commission Meeting (Montreal, 17-28 September 1975); discussed proposals from the Seventh Special Commission Meeting with Depositary Government (Washington, D.C., 8-9 October 1975); serviced, with Mrs Kerr, a special meeting of seal experts (Ottawa, 17-19 November 1975) and a special meeting of Panel A (Seals) (Bergen, 9-12 December 1975); serviced with Messrs Hodder and Champion, Mrs Kerr and Perry, the Eighth Special Commission Meeting (FAO, Rome, 12-26 January 1976); discussed proposals from the Eighth Special Commission Meeting with Depositary Government (Washington, D.C., 2 February 1976); attended an informal FAO sponsored meeting of the staffs of regional fisheries bodies (Lisbon, 5 and 6 March 1976) and a meeting of the Subcommittee of the FAO Committee on Fisheries on Development of Cooperation with International Organizations Concerned with Fisheries (Fourth Session) (Lisbon, 8-12 March 1976).

The Bio-Statistician, Mr Akenhead, attended ICES meetings (Montreal, 27 September-3 October 1975), held discussions with scientists (St. Andrews, 22-24 October 1975) (Woods Hole, 3-7 November 1975) (St. John's, 4-8 February 1975) and presented a paper to the Canadian Committee on Freshwater Fisheries Resources (Ottawa, 5-7 January 1976).

The Administrative Assistant, Mr Champion, discussed preparations for the 1976 Annual Meeting at the invitation of the Cuban Government (Havana, 18-29 February 1976).

5. The Commission's Publications

The Proceedings of the Fifth Special Meeting (November 1974), Sixth Special Meeting (January 1975), Joint ICNAF/NEAFC Meeting on Joint International Enforcement (March 1975), and the 25th Annual Meeting (June 1975) (286 p.) was distributed in December 1975.

The Annual Report (formerly Annual Proceedings) Vol. 25 for 1974/75 (116 p.) containing the Administrative Report and Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1975, the Reports of the Fifth Special Meeting, November 1974, the Sixth Special Meeting, January 1975, the Joint ICNAF/NEAFC Meeting on Joint International Enforcement, March 1975, the 25th Annual Meeting, June 1975, and the Summaries of Research and Status of Fisheries for Subareas and Seals 1974 will be distributed in May 1976.

The Redbook 1975 (127 p.) was distributed in August 1975. It contained the proceedings of the January 1975 and May-June meetings of the STACRES and its Subcommittees and Working Groups.

The Statistical Bulletin Vol. 24 for the year 1974 (255 p.) containing statistics on the catch and effort for the finfish and harp and hood seal fisheries in the Convention and Statistical Areas of the Commission in 1974 was distributed in February 1976.

The Research Bulletin of ICNAF No. 11 (162 p.) containing 13 scientific contributions was distributed in November 1975.

The Sampling Yearbook Vol. 19 for 1974 (50 p.) containing information on the ICNAF Sampling Program, sampling techniques used by Member Governments and notes on and lists of length and age sampling data contributed by reporting countries in 1974 was distributed in February 1976.

The Special Publication of ICNAF No. 9 (51 p.) contains four papers presented by ice experts to the ICNAF Environmental Subcommittee in May 1973 on ice conditions and forecasting techniques and was distributed in March 1976.

The Special Publication of ICNAF No. 10 (136 p.) contains 12 contributions to an ICNAF Symposium on Environmental Conditions in the Newfoundland Grand Banks Area, 1972 and their Effects on Fishery Trends, held in May 1974. It was distributed in November 1975.

The Special Publication of ICNAF No. 11 (125 p.) is an index and list of titles of papers contained in the Commission's Annual Report (formerly Annual Proceedings), Research Bulletin, Special Publication and Redbook prepared by V.M. Hodder, the Assistant Executive Secretary of the Commission. It was distributed in July 1975.

The Selected Papers of ICNAF No. 1 (193 p.) containing 15 scientific contributions was distributed in April 1976. This issue of Selected Papers is the first in a new series to be published annually or more frequently, depending on the number of contributions. Papers for publication in this series are selected from papers presented to scientific meetings of ICNAF and contain information which is considered worthy of wider circulation than is normal for meeting documents.

The List of Fishing Vessels, 1974 (69 p.) contains Tabular Summaries of Fishing Vessel Statistics, 1974 and Lists of Fishing Vessels 50 GRT and over, 1974, fishing in the ICNAF Convention Area. It was distributed in March 1976.

The ICNAF International Inspection Scheme - Translations of Questionnaire (Revised 1976) is in preparation.

The Proceedings of the Seventh Special Commission Meeting, September 1975 (72 p.) and the Report of STACRES, September 1975 (14 p.) were distributed in November 1975 (Summ.Docs. 76/VI/2 and 76/I/1, respectively).

The Proceedings of the Eighth Special Commission Meeting, January 1976 (78 p.) and the Report of STACRES, January 1976 (32 p.) were distributed in March 1976 (Summ.Docs. 76/VI/6 and 76/VI/5, respectively).

The Report of Special Meeting of Panel A (Seals), December 1975 (16 p.) was distributed in January 1976 (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/3).

The Report of the ICNAF Assessments Subcommittee of STACRES, April 1976 (53 p.) was distributed in April 1976 (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/22).

The Report of the Ageing Workshop, October-November 1975 (42 p.) plus Addendum (32 p.) was distributed in March 1976 (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/13).

6. The Commission's Research and Statistics Program

(a) Reporting of detailed catch and effort statistics

At the 1974 Annual Meeting, the Commission adopted, in principle, the recommendations by STACRES that Member Countries provide within their national research and statistical offices the facilities necessary to collect and report promptly to the Secretariat such detailed data as are required to improve the base for the analytical assessment of all stocks in the ICNAF Area subject to conservation measures, and that the STATLANT system be modified to provide for the reporting of catch and effort data by 30' x 30' unit areas and by twice-monthly time periods. Proposals for a modified STATLANT 21B form were accepted in principle by the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics (CWP) at its Eighth Session in September 1974 and adopted for use by the Commission at the 1975 Annual Meeting. Member Countries were advised by circular letter in December 1974 of the proposed reporting requirements, so that their statistical offices could plan to collect the statistics in the detail recommended. At the 1975 Annual Meeting the Commission adopted Resolution (2) to the effect that the reporting of detailed catch and effort statistics will commence with the submission of STATLANT 21B data for 1976.

(b) Statistical Bulletin, Vol. 24 for 1974

Pending the publication of Statistical Bulletin Vol. 24, provisional statistics of 1974 nominal catches in the Northwest Atlantic, as derived from STATLANT 21A returns of Member Countries, were compiled in the format of Tables 1, 2, and 3 of Statistical Bulletin and circulated in July 1975. Much of the time lag between the 30 June deadline for the receipt of detailed catch and effort statistics and the actual printing of the Statistical Bulletin in late December 1975 and early January 1976 was due to the late submission of STATLANT 21B statistics from several countries, the last not having been received until early December 1975. The arrangement of the tabular material in Parts I to III of Vol. 24 is the same as that used following a major reorganization of the Tables in Vol. 22.

(c) Advance statistics

A program, initiated at the request of STACRES early in 1974 requiring the advance reporting of preliminary catch statistics and sampling data by month and division for selected species in time for scientists to carry out preliminary work on stock assessments prior to the Assessments Subcommittee Meeting, was again pursued late in 1975 with a special request to Member Countries that 1975 data be available by February 1976. As in 1974 and again in 1975, the response to requests for sampling data from research institutes was very encouraging, but the nominal catch statistics, which are usually compiled in national statistical offices were, with a few exceptions, not available until the April 1975 Assessments Meeting was in progress and even then much of the data were not provided in the form required. Consequently, the scientists were hampered in performing their pre-meeting assessment tasks, much of which had to be undertaken during the course of the meeting.

(d) Sampling Yearbook, Vol. 19 for 1974

Continuing the procedure recommended by STACRES at the 1974 Annual Meeting, Sampling Yearbook Vol. 19 contained lists of all available 1974 sampling data together with notes on sampling techniques for those countries which contributed sampling data. A noteworthy addition to this issue of the Yearbook is a synopsis of the ICNAF Sampling Program outlining the requirements that Member Countries are expected to follow in the collection and preparation of sampling data for submission to the Secretariat.

(e) Computerized Sampling Data Base

During the year considerable progress was made in the establishment of a computerized data base, involving the processing of sampling data for storage on magnetic tape files and the development of auditing and retrieval programs. This computerized system is intended to fill the void created when STACRES agreed in 1974 to discontinuing the publication of detailed length and age data in Sampling Yearbook following the issue of Vol. 17 for 1972. Input to the system is generally based on data submitted by Member Countries on standardized sampling forms, but research institutes in Canada and USA have already initiated the submission of data on magnetic tapes. All available data for 1973 and 1974 have been processed, and computerized printouts are available upon request for the use of scientists and/or institutes engaged in the Commission's work.

(f) List of vessels

Late in 1974, Member Countries were requested to submit by 31 January 1975 their updated lists of fishing vessels operating in the Northwest Atlantic in 1974, with a view to possible publication of the 1974 List of Vessels prior to the 1975 Annual Meeting. However, the updated list of vessels for USSR did not arrive at the Secretariat until January 1976. Consequently, the ICNAF List of Fishing Vessels for 1974 was issued in February 1976, nearly a year behind schedule.

(g) Special projects

Further to the need for more refined biostatistical data by the Assessments Subcommittee, STACRES initiated two pilot studies in 1973 and 1974. The Subdiv. 5Ze Pilot Study involved the national submission of detailed catch and effort data in order to test the feasibility of establishing a statistical reporting system based on 30' x 30' unit areas and twice-monthly time periods. The Special Sampling Project involved the reporting of individual length and age samples for cod, mackerel, and silver hake for specific areas in order to examine the degree of variability associated with sampling those species over large management areas. The available data have been computerized and forwarded to the designated scientists for study. With the installation of inhouse computer facilities, the Secretariat is now becoming involved in a pilot study to allow the step by step development of a computer-processing system for handling research survey data at the request of the Biological Surveys Subcommittee.

(h) Other activities

Other research and statistical activities during the year 1975/76 involved:

- i) editing of the proceedings of STACRES meetings in January 1975 and May-June 1975 and their publication in Redbook 1975;
- ii) compilation of available stock record data for many of the TAC species and their collation in a Summary Document for the April 1976 Assessments Subcommittee Meeting;
- iii) collaboration with the Secretary of the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fisheries Statistics (CWP) on the updating of the ICNAF List of Species and the preparation of a new STATLANT 21B form to accommodate ICNAF's requirement for the reporting of detailed catch and effort statistics;
- iv) collaboration with scientists of several Member Countries regarding the development of the ICNAF data base and the exchange of computer-readable data files;
- v) updating of historical catches (1965-74) by country for all TAC stocks proposed for regulation at the 1976 Annual Meeting;
- vi) updating of historical catches (1965-74) of the individual finfish species and squids in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6;
- vii) documentation of various biostatistical material required for scientific meetings at Montreal, Canada in September 1975, at Rome, Italy in January 1976, and at Dartmouth, Canada in April 1976;
- viii) preparation of several documents for the 1976 Annual Meeting: preliminary compilation of catch statistics for 1976 by division, country and species from STATLANT 21A returns; compilation of seal catches and effort for 1975; summary of data on trawl materials and mesh size sampling in 1975; summary of information on discards for 1974; summary of reported tag releases in the ICNAF Area in 1975; compilation of available information on the breakdown of squid catches by *Illex* and *Loligo* separately; synopsis of ICNAF Sampling Program.

(i) New computing facilities

The installation of a remote job entry (RJE) terminal was completed in January 1976, providing the Secretariat with direct access to an IBM 370/155 computer, operated by Maritime Computers Limited of Halifax, and to a CDC 6400 computer, operated by Dalhousie University also of Halifax. The Secretariat facilities also include a small "Decwriter II" conversational terminal providing direct access to a sophisticated interactive statistics package, and an IBM 129 Card Data Recorder. Besides the Secretariat's work involving programming for the compilation of sampling data and catch and effort statistics, a variety of fishery assessment routines were prepared for the use of scientists attending the April 1976 Meeting of the Assessments Subcommittee. Work is continuing on the development of a library of fisheries analysis routines.

(j) New staff

Two new staff members were added in 1975 to strengthen the research and statistical activities of the Secretariat. Mr Scott Akenhead, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of British Columbia with experience in computing, statistics and aquatic biology, joined the staff as Bio-Statistician, and Ms Gloria Langille, with training in computer-processing at the Dartmouth Vocational Training School, joined the staff as Data-Processing Clerk. Mrs. Patricia Wadman replaced Mrs. Wallingford as clerk-typist 2 April.

7. The Commission's Mid-Term Meetings

The Seventh Special Commission Meeting (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/2) was convened at Montreal, Canada from 22 to 28 September 1975 under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). STACRES met under the chairmanship of Dr A.W. May (Canada) from 17 to 20 September to provide advice to the Commission on the state of certain stocks in Subareas 3 and 4 and the overall finfish and squid resource in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (Summ. Doc. 76/I/1). The Commission, on the advice of Panels, agreed to total allowable catches and national allocations for 1976 in respect of 9 stocks in Subareas 3 and 4 for which decisions had been deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting and revised the quota allocations for 19 other stocks at the request of Cuba. The

decision taken at the 1975 Annual Meeting to exclude squids from the 1976 overall second-tier TAC of 650,000 tons for 1976 was amended to include squids. A scheme to reduce fishing effort in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 by countries other than the coastal states by approximately 40% of the average number of fishing days in 1972-1973 was agreed with details of the scheme to be finalized at the Eighth Special Commission Meeting in January. Improvements, recommended by STACTIC, to international enforcement provided for the registration by each Flag State of all vessels over 50 gross registered tons engaged in fishing or in processing of fish in the Convention Area with the Secretariat prior to 1 January of each year. The Commission agreed to establish an area on Georges Bank in which the use of fishing gear other than pelagic would be prohibited for vessels greater than 155 feet in length. Trawl regulations were simplified to permit by-catch of protected species in fisheries conducted with small-mesh nets. In expectation of Cuba becoming a Member, the Commission accepted the invitation of the Cuban Government to hold its 26th Annual Meeting in Havana, Cuba.

A special meeting of Panel A (Seals) was convened in Bergen, Norway on 12 December 1975, under the chairmanship of Mr K. Vartdal (Norway) (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/3). Reports of meetings of Scientific Advisers to Panel A held in Ottawa, Canada from 17 to 19 November 1975 and in Bergen, Norway on 9 and 10 December 1975 were reviewed. With the Panel members, Canada and Norway, unable to form a common view regarding TACs and national allocations, the Panel agreed to postpone a decision on both harp and hooded seal conservation requirements to a special meeting of the Panel during the time of the Eighth Special Commission Meeting in January.

The Eighth Special Commission Meeting (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/6) was convened at FAO, Rome, from 21 to 26 January 1976 under the chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). Meetings of STACRES were held from 12 to 16 January (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/5) and of STACTIC on 19 and 20 January (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/6). STACRES provided advice to the Commission on implementation of the effort reduction scheme proposed at the Seventh Special Commission Meeting and on conservation measures for herring and mackerel in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6. STACTIC made recommendations to improve the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement by requiring Member Countries having 15 or more fishing vessels in the ICNAF Area to designate authorities to receive and respond to notices of infringements, by requiring immediate action in case of infringements, by requiring full reporting on infringements and by study of the possibility of withdrawal of ICNAF registrations for vessels infringing the regulations. The Commission agreed to adjustments to be made in national allocations in cases of over-fishing of catch quotas. Recommendations were made by Panel A with regard to TACs and national allocation for harp and hooded seals in the "Front" Area and for harp seals in the "Gulf" Area.

The STACRES Ageing Workshop met in Vigo, Spain from 20 to 25 October 1975 (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/13 plus Addendum) and again in Dartmouth, Canada from 1 to 3 April 1976 (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/21) to ascertain if there were differences between ages estimated by scientists from different countries and if so, if these differences were important to the analytical assessments of fish stocks. Cod and silver hake were the species examined. Many of the problems could not be resolved although preliminary results acknowledge possible biases. Further studies were planned for the autumn of 1976.

The Assessments Subcommittee of STACRES met in Dartmouth, Canada from 31 March to 10 April 1976 under the chairmanship of Mr A.T. Pinhorn (Canada) (Summ.Doc. 76/VI/22) to review the state of the marine resources in the ICNAF Area, to recommend TAC levels for about 65 fish stocks for 1977 and to advise on the scientific aspects of proposals to be considered at the 1976 Annual Meeting in Havana, Cuba. Working groups on groundfish stocks in Subareas 1, 2, and 3 including Statistical Area 0, on groundfish stocks in Subareas 4 and 5 including Statistical Area 6, and on pelagic fish stocks (capelin, herring and mackerel) throughout the ICNAF Area were chaired by Mr Sv.Aa. Horsted (Denmark), Mr R.C. Hennemuth (USA) and Mr Ø. Ulltang (Norway). The Subcommittee, where possible, recommended TACs for 1977 with the aim of controlling the fishing mortality at a level less than  $F_{max}$ , in most cases at  $F_{0.1}$  or at TACs which will control fishing effort at a level less than that associated with  $F_{MSY}$ . In other cases, the aim is to rebuild to spawning biomass at an appropriate rate and is not necessarily associated with  $F_{0.1}$  or any other specified level of fishing mortality.

The Biological Surveys Subcommittee of STACRES also met in Dartmouth, Canada from 31 March to 10 April 1976 under the chairmanship of Dr J. Messtorff (FRG) to review survey (groundfish, hydroacoustic and larval and juvenile herring) activities in 1975 and plans for 1976/77. An *ad hoc* working group was set up to look into the question of submitting survey data to the Secretariat for computer processing. The Subcommittee agreed to meet again at the time of the 1976 Annual Meeting in Havana and complete its agenda and report.

#### 8. Status of Commission Proposals (Comm.Doc. 76/VI/16)

##### (a) For changes in the Convention

The 1973 Protocol Relating to Basic Payment for Contracting Governments was circulated to Contracting Governments on 21 May 1975. In accordance with Article XVII, paragraph 3, as amended by the 1970 Protocol, this Protocol shall take effect for all Contracting Governments 120 days following the date on the notification by the Depositary Government of receipt of written notification of approval by three-fourths (14) of all Contracting Governments. To date (1 May 1976), only FRG, Canada, Cuba and GDR have notified this approval.

(b) For international regulation of the fisheries

June 1969 proposal (1) for regulation of Atlantic salmon fishing on the high seas in the Convention Area became effective for Norway on 31 December 1975, leaving only Denmark and the Federal Republic of Germany who have not yet accepted the proposal.

November 1974 proposals (1) for fishing gear and area restrictions in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, (3) for 1975 catch quota for yellowtail flounder in Subarea 5 east of 69° west, (4) for 1975 catch quota for herring in Div. 5Y, and (7) for haddock by-catch exemption for "Others" in Div. 4X became effective 27 July 1975 under the normal six-month waiting procedure. Proposals (2) for 1975 catch quota for yellowtail flounder in Subarea 5 west of 69° west, (6) for haddock exemption in Div. 4VW, and (8) paragraph 3 for haddock exemption in Subarea 5 became effective 27 January 1975 under June 1974 commitments. Paragraphs 1, 2, and 5 of proposal (8) dealing with catch limitations for haddock in Subarea 5 became effective on 27 July 1975 under the normal six-month waiting procedure. Proposal (5) for gear, area, and season restrictions for haddock in Div. 4X became operative on 1 February 1975 in accordance with a January 1975 resolution.

January 1975 proposal (1) for catch and area limitation for capelin stocks in Subareas 2 and 3, in accordance with a June 1974 commitment, became operative on 14 April 1975. However, following an objection by Iceland on 23 September 1975, this added 60 days from 14 October 1975 under the normal six-month waiting procedure and the proposal became effective for all except Iceland on 14 December 1975.

June 1975 proposals (1) to (11) were adopted by the Commission on 20 June, transmitted to Depository Government 10 July and transmitted by Depository Government to Contracting Governments 16 July. Proposals (1) re notification of fishing research vessels operating in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6, (2) re cumulative catch reporting in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6, (3) re haddock by-catch in Div. 4VW, (4) re cod and haddock by-catch, season, and area limitations in Div. 4X, (5) re herring catch quota in Div. 4VWX, (6) re herring catch quota in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6, (7) re herring catch quota in Div. 5Y, (8) re haddock by-catch, gear, season, and area limitations in Subarea 5, (9) re harp and hooded seals, fishing season in "Front" in Convention Area, and (10) re mackerel size limit and exemption in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 came into force on 16 January 1976. Proposal (11) for international quota regulation of fisheries (first and second tiers) in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 had paragraph (b) objected to by USA on 18 August 1975 and by Spain on 19 September 1975. These objections were withdrawn on 13 November 1975 and 17 December 1975, respectively, and paragraph (b) came into effect on 16 January 1976 under the normal six-month waiting procedure for all Contracting Governments and paragraph (a) on the same date for all stocks except capelin, due to an objection by Iceland on 13 January 1976 rendering the capelin proposal in paragraph (a) in effect for all except Iceland on 16 March 1976.

September 1975 proposals (1) to (7) were adopted by the Commission on 28 September 1975, transmitted to Depository Government on 8 October 1975, and transmitted by Depository Government to Contracting Governments on 14 October 1975. Proposal (1) for limitation of fishing effort for groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 and (7) for international quota regulation of the fisheries in the Convention Area and Statistical Area 6 had resolutions requesting implementation on 1 January 1976. Proposals (2) for fishing gear in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, (3) for national registration of fishing vessels in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6, (4), (5), and (6) for mesh regulation exemptions in Subareas 3, 4, and 5, respectively, became effective on 14 April 1976 under the normal six-month waiting procedure.

January 1976 proposals (1) to (9) were adopted by the Commission on 26 January 1976, transmitted to Depository Government on 30 January 1976, and transmitted by Depository Government to Contracting Governments on 26 February 1976. Proposals (1) for amendment to Scheme of Joint Enforcement, (2) for amendment to management of international quota regulations, (7) for herring catch quota in Div. 4VWX, (8) for herring size limit and exemption in Subareas 4 and 5, and (9) for mackerel size limit and exemption in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 should, under the normal six-month waiting procedure, come into effect on 26 August 1976, unless otherwise agreed. Proposal (3) for fishing effort limitation on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, in accordance with Proposal (1) and Resolution (1) from the September 1975 Meeting, became effective 14 April 1976. Proposal (4) for harp and hooded seal conservation on the "Front" and in the "Gulf" in the Convention Area was effected by resolution on 12 March 1976. Proposals (5) for half-year catch quota and commitment for remainder of year, and an exemption clause for herring in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6 and (6) for herring catch quota in Div. 5Y, in accordance with Proposals (6) and (7) from the June 1975 Annual Meeting, became effective 26 February 1976.

9. The Commission's Conservation Program

(a) Catch quota reporting

As required, the Secretariat received monthly catch statistics from Contracting Governments for each of the stocks (61) under catch quota regulation as determined for 1975 at the June 1974, November 1974, and January 1975 Commission Meetings (Comm.Doc. 75/6, p. 14-17). The submissions were collated and circulated in the ICNAF Circular Letter series within six weeks of each month in which the catches were made. All Contracting Governments were advised by cable (1) when, where and how much countries intended to fish from the "Others" allocations for various stocks, (2) when catch quotas for "Others" were reached and closure of the fishery required, and (3) when nationals advised their quotas had been reached and they had ceased fishing.

Similarly, the Secretariat prepared and circulated the monthly catches made by each Contracting Government in 1976 against the quotas for each stock (61) set at the June 1975, September 1975 and January 1976 Commission Meetings (Comm.Doc. 76/VI/18, p. 15-20).

(b) Effort limitation reporting

In accordance with the requirements of Proposal (3) from the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting, the Secretariat has received, collated, and distributed to Contracting Governments monthly reports of days fished against agreed national allocations for 1976 in the groundfish stocks in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K, Div. 3LNO, Div. 3N, Div. 3P, and Div. 4VWX (Comm.Doc. 76/VI/18, p. 32-36).

10. The Commission's Enforcement Scheme

All Contracting Governments were ready to be inspected under the ICNAF Scheme of Joint Enforcement. Canada, Cuba, Denmark, France, FRG, Portugal, and UK are applying the Scheme in Statistical Area 6 on a voluntary basis pending domestic legislation.

Circular letters were prepared and distributed to Contracting Governments regularly updating the status of implementation and reporting changes in inspection officers and vessels. All Contracting Governments, except Cuba, Denmark, and Iceland, have designated Flag State authorities to receive immediate notice of and respond to apparent reported infringements under the Scheme.

Reports of Inspections carried out were received from Canada and USA for the year 1975. Commissioners' Document 76/VI/17 contains the reports from Contracting Governments on national and international inspections and infringements and their disposition for 1975.

Data required by the Commission from its September 1975 Meeting for national registration of vessels engaged in fishing or in the treatment of sea fish is being submitted by the Contracting Governments. In future years, reports of registration will be filed with the Secretariat and aboard each registered vessel prior to 1 January of each year.

In accordance with a proposal adopted at the June 1975 Annual Meeting, Contracting Governments are supplying data on fisheries research vessels and their planned activities in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6. The information transmitted to the Secretariat is also carried aboard each research vessel.

The revised (June 1975) Inspection Questionnaire and form for Report of Inspection have been included in a new edition of the ICNAF Scheme's Translations Handbook.

11. Cooperation with Other International Organizations and with Non-Member Countries

The Secretariat has continued to maintain close working arrangements with other international organizations such as the FAO Department of Fisheries, ICES, IOC, NEAFC, ICSEAF, and ICCAT which have related objectives. Close collaboration with FAO in fish stock assessment and fishery statistics and with ICES and NEAFC in cod stock assessments and salmon management in the North Atlantic has been fruitful.

Exchange of programs and scientific and management reports with other international organizations were initiated or continued. Invitations to participate in scientific meetings were again extended to non-member countries and other international organizations. Observers were invited to mid-term and annual meetings of ICNAF. The generous offer of meeting facilities at FAO in Rome for the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting provided an opportunity for exchange of views between the Commission and FAO officials from the Department of Fisheries. An informal meeting convened by FAO of the staffs of regional fishery bodies discussed ways of improving the efficiency of regional bodies through better coordination of efforts in Lisbon on 5 and 6 March 1976.

Repeated efforts are being made to obtain the cooperation of non-member countries which are fishing in the Convention Area in providing details of their catch and fishing activities.

12. Financial Matters

The Executive Secretary has been informed that the International Fisheries Commissions Pension Society (IFCPS) at its last Annual Meeting has decided to recommend an early retirement benefit based on the attainment of age 60 and with 20 years of service. The Society considers introduction of this benefit to be a reasonable first step in reaching full comparability with the Canadian and US Government plans. The Society hopes that approval can be gained from the Commission in time to begin implementation of the benefit in October 1976. Cost to the Commission is minimal.

The Sun Life Insurance Company has provided the IFCPS with the calculations showing the single premium required at 1 October 1976 for upgrading the annuity credits for the Commission employees to the 1973



earnings level. The cost at 1 October 1976 to increase credits earned to 1 October 1973 to the 1973 earnings class would be \$7,554.20.

At the 1973 Annual Meeting, consideration was given for the need for a Termination, Severance or Retirement Benefit for Commission employees. The matter was tabled. The Canadian Government and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) policies require the payment of one week's salary for each year of service up to a 28 week maximum. The US Government and the Halibut Commission credit unused sick leave to years of service on the retirement plan. The ICNAF Secretariat is proposing that the Commission adopt the Canadian and FAO policy of termination benefits.

13. Financial Statements


The financial administration of the Commission from 1 July 1975 to 30 April 1976, with estimates to the end of the fiscal year, 30 June 1976, is presented in the following statements with an appendix.

Statement 1 shows that the estimated total obligations for the fiscal year, \$323,628, was \$13,628 more than the total of \$310,000 appropriated by the Commission at its 1975 Annual Meeting. Over-expenditures have been greatest in the Communications and Meeting primaries. They were due principally to the extra and unanticipated costs of arranging for and servicing two Special Commission and four Panel and Committee Meetings from the 1975/76 budget appropriations.

A Cash Flow Statement of the General Fund is also presented.

I certify that, in my opinion, these financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Commission's Financial Regulations as amended to 1 July 1969 and with the books and records of the Commission.

Office of the Secretariat  
26 May 1976

  
L.R. Day  
Executive Secretary

STATEMENT 1

Budget Appropriations. Obligations Incurred and Unobligated Balances of Appropriations  
For the Year Ending 30 June 1976  
(Estimated from 30 April 1976)

	Appropriated by Commission at Annual Meeting 1975	Obligations Incurred and Liquidated to 30 April 1976	Expenses Estimated for Remainder of Fiscal Year	Total Obligations for Fiscal Year	Unobligated Balance of Appropriations (Estimated)
Personal Services:					
a. Salaries	\$179,100	\$147,222	\$29,833	\$177,055	\$ 2,045
b. Superannuation and Canada Pension Plan	6,900	5,756	698	6,454	446
c. Additional Help	2,000	373	-	373	1,627
d. Group Medical and Insurance Plans	2,000	1,551	362	1,913	87
e. Retroactive Salary Estimates	-	-	-	-	-
f. Forecast Salary Estimates	-	-	-	-	-
g. Contingencies	10,000	8,408	1,667	10,075	< 75 >
Travel	5,000	3,668	500	4,168	832
Transportation of Things	1,000	761	100	861	139
Communication Services	12,000	15,201	3,201	18,402	< 6,402 >
Publications	24,000	12,819	10,797	23,616	384
Other Contractual Services	19,000	16,072	2,137	18,209	791
Supplies and Materials	9,000	8,911	623	9,534	< 534 >
Equipment	5,000	3,798	-	3,798	1,202
Annual and Mid-term Meetings	15,000	22,974	13,890	36,864	< 21,864 >
Computer Services	12,500	5,690	6,616	12,306	194
Contingencies	7,500	-	-	-	7,500
Total Ordinary Budget	\$310,000	\$253,204	\$70,424	\$323,628	< \$13,628 >

STATEMENT 2

Statement of Income and Expenditure  
For the Year Ended 30 June 1976  
(Estimated from 30 April 1976)

Income:

Members' contributions assessed:

Bulgaria	\$13,592	
Canada	22,307	
Denmark	17,950	
France	22,307	
Federal Republic of Germany	17,950	
German Democratic Republic	13,592	
Iceland	9,234	
Italy	4,876	
Japan	13,592	
Norway	17,950	
Poland	22,307	
Portugal	17,950	
Romania	13,592	
Spain	22,307	
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	22,307	
United Kingdom	13,592	
United States of America	<u>13,592</u>	\$278,997
Add: Transfer from Miscellaneous Fund		<u>31,003</u>
Total Ordinary Budget		310,000
Obligations incurred - Statement 1		<u>323,628</u>
Balance of Appropriations transferred to Working Capital Fund		< <u>\$ 13,628</u> >

STATEMENT 3

Statement of Assets and Liabilities  
as at 30 June 1976  
(Estimated from 30 April 1976)

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>		<u>Liabilities</u>	
<u>Assets</u>			
Cash on hand and in bank	\$79,544	Unliquidated obligations - 30 April 1976 Estimated (Statement I)	\$ 769 <u>70,424</u>
Accounts receivable	<u>686</u>	Advance on 1976-77 contributions	<u>9,037</u>
	<u>\$80,230</u>		<u>\$80,230</u>
<u>WORKING CAPITAL FUND</u>			
Cash on Deposit	\$15,360		
Certificates of Deposit	20,000	Principal of Fund (Appendix I)	<u>\$36,214</u>
Accounts receivable - publications	<u>854</u>		<u>\$36,214</u>
	<u>\$36,214</u>		
<u>MISCELLANEOUS FUND</u>			
Cash on Deposit	<u>\$54,721</u>	Principal of Fund (Appendix I)	<u>\$54,721</u>

APPENDIX I

(Estimated from 30 April 1976)

Working Capital Fund

Balance 30 June 1975		\$28,606
Add: Balances of 1975-76 appropriations (Statement 1)	Nil	
Sales of Publications	\$1,433	
Bank Interest	3,629	
Interest on Certificates of Deposit	1,546	
New Member Country - Cuba	<u>1,000</u>	<u>7,608</u>
Balance 30 June 1976		<u>\$36,214</u>

Miscellaneous Fund

Balance 30 June 1975		\$31,003
Deduct: Applied to 1975-76 appropriations		<u>31,003</u>
		Nil
Add: 1975-76 Staff Assessment	\$27,892	
Provincial <u>Ex gratia</u> grant - 1974	8,879	
New Member Country - Cuba	<u>17,950</u>	<u>54,721</u>
Balance 30 June 1976		<u>\$54,721</u>

GENERAL FUND - CASH FLOW

Year Ended 30 June 1976  
(Estimated from 30 April 1976)

Cash on hand and in bank, 30 June 1975		\$ 5,859
Add: Member Governments:		
Assessments 1975-76	\$278,997	
Advance payments 1976-77	<u>9,037</u>	
	288,034	
Less: Advance payments 1975-76	<u>6,582</u>	
	281,452	
Decrease in amount due from Member Government	<u>10,253</u>	
	291,705	
Decrease in accounts receivable	<u>620</u>	292,325
Funds from Miscellaneous Fund for 1975-76 appropriations		<u>31,003</u>
		329,187
Deduct:		
Obligations incurred 1975-76	323,628	
Less: Unliquidated 30 June 1976	<u>71,193</u>	
	252,435	
Add: Unliquidated 30 June 1975	<u>10,836</u>	
	263,271	
Balances 1975-76 appropriations to Working Capital Fund	<u>&lt; 13,628 &gt;</u>	<u>249,643</u>
Cash on hand and in bank, 30 June 1976		<u>\$ 79,544</u>

