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International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

Serial No. 3699
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Proceedings No. 2

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Ceremonial Opening

Monday, 22 September, 1000 hrs

The Opening Session of the Seventh Special Meeting of the Commission was convened in the Windsor Hotel in Montreal, Canada, at 1000 hrs, on 22 September 1975.

The Chairman of the Commission, Mr Eric Gillett, Fisheries Secretary for Scotland, opened the Meeting and expressed pleasure to introduce the Honourable Roméo Leblanc, Minister of State for Fisheries, who addressed the Meeting on behalf of the Government of Canada as follows:

"Ladies and Gentlemen:

"On behalf of the Government of Canada, I would like to welcome you to this Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries. I hope you enjoy your stay in Montreal and that your deliberations will be productive.

"I need not tell you the importance which the Government of Canada places on the outcome of this Meeting. Our concern has been expressed in direct talks with representatives of some Governments and in diplomatic communications to all Members of ICNAF. We - Canada, and all other ICNAF nations, singly and collectively - have reached a crossroad. Which fork of the road we take in the future depends, in large measure, on what happens here in Montreal over the next seven days (and, according to our delegation, the nights as well).

"The stocks are in a tragic state of decline. Canada, through proposals first submitted last June in Edinburgh and being reconsidered here this week, is asking for your cooperation to halt this decline and begin the vital rebuilding process. It will not be long before Canada, in line with the consensus developing within the Law of the Sea Conference, will extend its fisheries jurisdiction, bringing about a fundamental change in the management regime in waters off the Canadian coast. These facts are the background for the choice of our future path.

"We in Canada see two alternatives. First, ICNAF Member Countries can cooperate with Canada now, to reach agreements which will effectively halt stock declines and begin to meet coastal state needs. Such cooperation by others now can provide the basis for Canada's cooperation in the future, when, with improved conservation, Canada would be prepared to facilitate rather than impede the operations of foreign fleets fishing for stocks surplus to Canadian fishermen's needs. This future has a place for an international organization, along ICNAF lines, to work with Canada in the implementation of the new management system based on Canadian regulation and control.

"The second alternative is less attractive. Failure of this Meeting to develop adequate conservation measures for the 1976 season will further aggravate the crisis of the fisheries. It will force Canada to search for solutions outside ICNAF and will heighten the Canadian people's deep sense of frustration concerning present international management approaches off the Canadian coast. Such an atmosphere would make it difficult for the Government to be forthcoming with regard to the facilitation of foreign fleet activities when Canada extends its fisheries jurisdiction. Liberalization of port use and other forms of cooperation would be hard to justify to a people who would have seen no cooperation on the part of others now. Nor would the Canadian people then see much reason to perpetuate anything like the present ICNAF consultative system, a system which, in their eyes, had failed them in the time of need. I wish each one of you could have accompanied me on visits I have made to Canada's Atlantic provinces this summer. You could have sensed for yourselves the depth of feeling of all our Atlantic population - not only the fishermen - concerning the state of the stocks and the consequent effects on our coastal communities. If you had come with me, you would realize that what I am saying here is a genuine reflection of the feelings of the Canadian people, on the Atlantic coast and indeed throughout Canada.

"The first path is obviously the one which would provide the firmest base for the future - a future I am convinced can be bright for all of us. In the future regime, fishermen of other nations will have

access to the Canadian zone to take fish surplus to Canadian needs. It is the size of that surplus that will be determined by the actions you take here over the next week. Sound conservation now will assure maximum surpluses later; poor conservation now will leave little for others after coastal state needs are met.

"I urge you in all sincerity to follow this path and to take the first steps along it by supporting the proposals Canada is making to you. Delay in taking these steps will serve no country's interests. Ultimately, the necessary conservation and management measures will be implemented in any event. Now is the best time to adopt such measures and ensure their early effectiveness; here is the best opportunity to do so and ensure consideration for all interests. I know that you are facing difficult decisions, but it is in meeting the challenge of the present that we can all find the best promise for the future.

"I would like nothing better than to be able to report to the Canadian people that Canada has received the cooperation it requested, and that we have embarked in concert with you on a new era of improved management that will alleviate the plight of our hard-pressed coastal communities, while at the same time assuring fishermen of your countries that they too have a future here on our side of the Atlantic. I would like to be able to say that we have begun at this Meeting new forms of cooperation we all want for the years to come.

"In conclusion, let me welcome you again in Montreal, to the Province of Quebec, and to Canada. I hope to be able to welcome you and your organization to this country on other occasions in future. That, in summary, is really the message I wish to leave with you today."

The Chairman thanked the Minister for his important remarks and expressed the hope that the Commission would report satisfactory agreement at the end of the Meeting. He then announced that the US delegation had expressed a wish that Mr Carlyle E. Maw, Under Secretary of State for Security Assistance, Special Representative of the President and Chief of the United States Delegation to the Third United Nations Conference on Law of the Sea, address the Meeting. With the agreement of the delegates, Under Secretary of State Maw addressed the Meeting as follows:

"Mr Chairman, Minister Leblanc, Distinguished Commissioners and Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"It is a great pleasure for me to be in Montreal again, enjoying as always the very warm Canadian hospitality. I had the privilege of being here just a few weeks ago when Secretary Kissinger spoke at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association. And, now the great city of Montreal is host to this seventeen-nation assembly of one of the largest and oldest international fisheries commissions.

"I am here today, and have asked for this opportunity to speak briefly with you, because of the very great importance of the outcome of this Special Meeting to the people of North America and to the future of the fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean.

"I am especially privileged to bring to you this morning the greetings of the President of the United States of America.

"President Ford has asked me to convey a special message to the Commission as a measure of his great concern for world fisheries and especially for the fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic. It reads as follows:

""This Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries takes up the most difficult problem in the Commission's twenty-five year history. I send my warmest greetings and good wishes to the participants.

""It is imperative that the Commission succeed in establishing adequate conservation measures and enforcement procedures to rebuild the important fishery stocks of the Northwest Atlantic. If agreement cannot be reached on reasonable conservation and enforcement measures, the ability of the Commission to fulfill its stated purposes will be called into question. For our part, I pledge the full support of the United States to sound fisheries management and conservation practices, based on scientific evidence and implemented within the framework of internationally-negotiated agreements.

""I am strongly opposed to unilateral claims by nations to jurisdiction on the high seas. However, pressures for unilateral measures do exist, and will continue to mount, if international arrangements do not prove to be effective.

""It is my earnest hope that the Commission will vindicate the trust we place in it and fully justify our mutual efforts to find cooperative approaches to fisheries conservation and management for the benefit of all mankind. In this spirit, I send you best wishes for a productive and rewarding session.""

"Mr Chairman, in the quarter-century since the establishment of this Commission, the United States has indeed placed its trust in the ability of the Commission's Member States to sit down together and mutually resolve the complex and difficult fisheries issues of the Convention Area. Over the years, this Commission has set the standard for others to follow in achieving international solutions to high seas fishery problems.

"But it is clear beyond doubt that the deliberations you begin here today, and the decisions you must reach in the coming week, are the most critical in the Commission's history.

"Your decisions in this extraordinary meeting will not only heavily influence the proceedings of other international fishery bodies, but your decisions here this week will likely determine whether or not international fishery commissions can remain viable decision-making bodies in the regulation of coastal fisheries around the world.

"If ICNAF cannot do it, with its experience and its demonstrated ability to work together for the mutually satisfactory solution of common problems, then it is unlikely that any Commission can.

"In Washington, this past Friday, I testified before a committee of the US Congress on proposed legislation which could unilaterally extend the fisheries zone of the United States to 200 miles from our shores.

"I conveyed the strong opposition of the Executive Branch to that legislation. As you have noted in President Ford's message, he strongly opposes unilateral action and supports negotiated solutions.

"On Wednesday of this week, I shall again be testifying before another US Congressional Committee in opposition to the 200-mile fisheries legislation.

"We have in recent months conducted a complete re-evaluation of our policy on fisheries in view of our disappointment at the slowness with which the Law of the Sea Conference has been proceeding.

"As Secretary Kissinger stated last month here in Montreal before the American Bar Association, we plan to begin immediately to negotiate interim agreements as a transition to a 200-mile fisheries zone off the coasts of the United States. We intend to do this through bilateral agreements, and wherever possible, within the existing framework of international commissions.

"We intend, during these negotiations, to establish the philosophical underpinnings of our plan and to accomplish through phased negotiations, rather than by unilateral action, the objectives of a 200-mile fisheries zone, which is the emerging consensus in the Law of the Sea Conference.

"Our plan is to negotiate agreements which will accomplish the following objectives within 200 miles of our coasts:

- establishment of an effective conservation regime based on the best available scientific evidence;
- creation of preferential harvesting rights for US fishermen to the full limits of our harvesting capacity, with the surplus allocated among foreign fishermen;
- implementation of a standardized system for collection of fisheries data with information contributed by both foreign and domestic fishermen;
- introduction of more effective enforcement procedures; and
- implementation of satisfactory arrangements to resolve gear conflicts and ensure adequate foreign compensation to US fishermen in case of negligence by foreign fishermen.

"I should add here that we support these same objectives for coastal fisheries within 200 miles of the coasts of other nations. And, we would hope that these principles will before long be embodied in a comprehensive treaty on the Law of the Sea.

"Mr Chairman, Commissioners, this Special Meeting is the first new test of our strong faith in negotiated solutions. I appreciate fully the magnitude and difficulty of your tasks, and I am confident that you will be able to take the very tough decisions, based on scientific evidence, which you must make. I have every expectation that, by the end of this week, we will be able to conclude that the fisheries stocks will be conserved, that the livelihood of our coastal fishermen will be protected, and that enforcement procedures, including onboard observers, will be strengthened.

"Mr Chairman, I want to thank you very much for the opportunity to appear here today. Also, I wish to express our hope and expectation that we will be able to report back to President Ford that this Special Meeting has been successful. Thank you very much."

The Chairman thanked Under Secretary of State Maw for his frank statement and the presentation of the letter from President Gerald Ford of the United States.

The Chairman then declared the Seventh Special Meeting of the Commission recessed until 1130 hrs when it would reconvene in the First Plenary Session to hear the Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES).



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Proceedings No. 3

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of First Plenary Session

Monday, 22 September, 1130 hrs

1. Opening. The First Plenary Session of the Seventh Special Meeting of the Commission was called to order by the Chairman, Mr Eric Gillett (UK). Delegates from 13 of the 17 Member Countries, and Observers from the Government of Cuba and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) were present (Appendix I).
2. Agenda. The Agenda (Appendix II) and Meeting Schedule were adopted without change.
3. Rapporteur. The Executive Secretary was appointed Rapporteur.
4. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES). The Chairman of STACRES, Dr A.W. May (Canada), presented a summary of the Provisional Report of STACRES. He reviewed briefly the deliberations on the implication of possible alternative objectives for fisheries management, the status of certain stocks in Subareas 3 and 4, and the estimates of potential yield of the groundfish resources in Subareas 2-4. He pointed out that an item of finfish and squid within the second-tier overall TAC in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 had not been completed and that advice on this item would be presented to Panel 5 at its first meeting on 23 September. The Plenary Session took note of the Provisional Report and looked forward to its completion and consideration for approval in the Final Plenary Session.
5. The First Plenary Session adjourned at 1200 hrs to enable delegates to study the scientific advice presented in the STACRES Report.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975List of Participants

(Head of Delegation underlined>

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SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975Plenary SessionsAgenda

1. Opening: Chairman of the Commission, Mr E. Gillett (UK)
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Appointment of Rapporteur
4. Report of STACRES

Note: Results of the deliberations of STACRES and its Assessments Subcommittee during the period 17-20 September 1975 will be presented by the STACRES Chairman, Dr A.W. May.

5. Further consideration of fishing effort reduction on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3 and 4

Note: A Canadian proposal (*Comm.Doc. 75/8*) for reduction of fishing effort on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3 and 4 was discussed at the 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 5, 13 and 17*) and deferred for further consideration to the September 1975 Special Meeting. An elaboration of the Canadian proposal is available as *Comm.Doc. 75/IX/40* for study.

6. Further consideration of vessel gear and area restrictions on Georges Bank in Subarea 5

Note: The US proposal for amendment of the ICNAF haddock regulations for Subarea 5 (*Comm.Doc. 75/30*) dealing with a closed area on Georges Bank has been referred to the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting by action of the June 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 11*). This item will allow further discussion of modifications to the US proposal with a view to adopting it.

7. Further consideration of conservation of all finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6

Note: The USA has advised Depository Government of their formal objection to the Proposal (11) for the conservation of finfish and squids in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 adopted at the 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 19, Appendix I*). Accordingly the USA has requested that the Commission reconsider the TAC and national allocations and the exclusion of squid (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 11*). The USA has proposed that the TAC for 1976 be set at 550,000 metric tons, including squids.

8. Further consideration of the Scheme of Joint Enforcement: fishing vessel licensing

Note: The USA has requested further consideration of this matter from the 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 4*) with a view to adopting a proposal on fishing vessel licensing (*Comm.Doc. 75/22, Revised*).

9. Further consideration of exemption clauses in trawl regulations in Subareas 3, 4 and 5

Note: The USA has requested further consideration of this matter from the 1975 Annual Meeting (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 13*) with a view to adopting further modifications in exemption clauses in trawl regulations in Subareas 3, 4 and 5 (*Comm.Doc. 75/15*). The USA will present an elaboration on its proposal.

10. Consideration of 1976 catch limitation requirements for the following particular stocks referred from the June 1975 Annual Meeting:

- (a) Div. 3NO cod
- (b) Subdiv. 3Ps cod
- (c) Div. 4T-Subdiv. 4Vn(Jan-Apr) cod
- (d) Subdiv. 4Vs-Div. 4W cod
- (e) Div. 4X(offshore) cod
- (f) Div. 4X haddock
- (g) Div. 3P redfish
- (h) Div. 4VWX redfish
- (i) Div. 3LNO American plaice

11. Consideration of Danish request to have Member Countries transfer "unwanted" portion of 1975 catch quotas for cod in Subarea 1 to Denmark.

Note: This item was introduced in the Meeting of Panel 1 (*June 1975 Meeting Proceedings 7*) at the 1975 Annual Meeting and referred for further consideration to the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting.

12. Consideration of Statement of Government of Cuba

Note: *Comm.Doc. 75/IX/39* contains an analysis of the results of the 1975 Annual Meeting in relation to the minimum needs of Cuba in their intended fishing operations in the Convention Area in 1976. The statement has been forwarded for circulation to Member Governments so that due consideration may be given it at the September Special Commission Meeting.

13. Other Business

14. Adjournment



Serial No. 3701
(B.e.75)

Proceedings No. 4

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of Joint Meetings of Panels 2, 3, and 4

Monday, 22 September, 1445 hrs
Friday, 26 September, 1125 hrs
Saturday, 27 September, 1110 hrs
Sunday, 28 September, 1130 hrs

1. The Chairman of the Commission, Mr E. Gillett (UK), was elected Chairman of the Joint Meeting of Panels 2, 3, and 4. All countries, except Bulgaria, Iceland (represented at meetings of 26, 27, and 28 September), and Romania (represented at meetings on 28 September), were represented. Observers from the Government of Cuba and ICES were also present.
2. Rapporteur. The Executive Secretary was appointed Rapporteur.
3. Under Plenary Agenda Item 5, Fishing Effort Reduction on Groundfish Stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, the Chairman drew attention to the Canadian proposal (Comm.Doc. 75/8) introduced at the June 1975 Annual Meeting and to the elaboration of the proposal (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/40) as a basis for its further consideration. The delegate of Canada, in re-opening the discussion of the proposal, referred to the poor state of the groundfish stocks and the need for reduction of effort to restore them to greater productivity. Cod catches were still declining in spite of increased effort, pointing to a clear case of overfishing. He noted that STACRES recorded lower TACs than Canada had suggested at the June 1975 Meeting. He said that if effort stays high the stocks will decrease still further. There was no certainty that TACs would reduce effort. The STACRES Report on the remit given to it at the June 1975 Meeting to look at levels of reduction indicated that the Canadian proposal for 40% effort reduction from that in 1973 was correct. He requested comments and modifications which would not weaken the proposal but would make it more acceptable to all. He pointed out that the new Canadian proposal (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/40) for fishing effort reduction for 1976 applies to only five geographic areas in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, and further suggests a 45% reduction from the 1972-73 average. This could be subject to some change. Further elaboration includes a table giving the data for the 1972-73 average with the exemption level at 200 fishing days. The measure was designed to benefit all countries and the stocks. The delegate of Denmark said he could give modifications to the Canadian proposal tomorrow. The delegate of France reviewed the history of French fishing in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 in recent years which showed continuous decline in catch per day. France understood the Canadian concern and favoured any reasonable conservation measure based on scientific advice. The decrease in French fishing effort showed her concern and responsibility. It was suggested that those not responsible for the present situation should not be given the same reduction as those who had been. The delegate of Portugal said he understood the problem and Canadian concern but that Portugal had greatly reduced effort and felt she was not responsible for the decline. He requested more detailed information on what the proposal was asking of countries and, particularly, if the proposal was based on 1973 or 1972-73 data. The delegate of Canada stated that Canada was flexible and was prepared to let countries choose 40% from 1973 or 45% from 1972-73. He said that the Canadian fleet size was now frozen by a licensing system. Canadian fishermen had suffered greater declines in catches than most other countries and in the inshore fishery, in spite of greater effort, catches had declined one-half. The delegate of the USA noted that the situation in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 groundfish stocks was a repeat of the Subarea 5-Statistical Area 6 situation where there had been overfishing and ultimate stock decline. Total allowable catches were not being attained. All countries were responsible for the declines in the stocks and must come to grips with the problem now. The delegate of the USSR agreed that the responsibility must be shared by all. He understood the Canadian proposal but considered that the use of days fished or days on ground were not a sound basis for effort limitation since they did not reflect the fishing capacity of the fishing vessel and gear. He pointed out that the June and October 1973 Meetings attempted effort limitation using days fished but had to settle for the two-tier catch quota system. He noted that the USSR was having difficulties with the Canadian proposal because of bilateral relations. The delegate of the FRG believed that effort limitation was a good measure for conservation and enforceable management. The Canadian proposal was sound, and he was ready to accept it to a certain extent. The FRG fishery fluctuated but had not increased for ten years or more. He felt that, in order to avoid unfairness in relation to the vessel size categories when fleet composition changes, he would like Canada to consider converting fishing days of vessels smaller than 2,000-ton vessels to fishing days of greater units. The delegate of Spain agreed there was a critical situation and understood the need for protection of the stocks. However, the Canadian proposal provided a great hardship for Spain. He requested details of the Canadian proposal which he favoured in general. The delegate of Norway

understood the Canadian proposal and agreed that a reduction in fishing effort would give a more reliable guarantee of conservation. The delegate of Poland said that the proposal should be based on scientific advice and that further study such as was conducted for the Subarea 5-Statistical Area 6 effort limitation proposal was necessary. In the meantime, he felt it would be helpful to reduce TACs. The delegate of Japan pointed out that his country was dependent for food on its distant-water fisheries and that the spirit of compromise was necessary in settling different national interests. He felt that days fished and days on ground could not be used as a yardstick for different vessels and countries but was willing to participate in measures to attempt conservation objectives. The delegate of the UK appreciated the gravity of the problem leading to the Canadian proposal. He was convinced some such action was needed and that drawbacks in the proposal were not great enough to cause objection and, therefore, supported the Canadian proposal. He felt that even with the proposal there would still be a by-catch problem and, in some cases, in high proportions since the effort limitation would not change methods of fishing. He noted that there might be a need to return to methods and techniques of fishing to give best conservation results. This would also apply to the enforcement problem. He stated he would like to see details of the proposal. The delegate of Canada was grateful for the comments and proposed to provide detailed calculations for each country in a supplementary paper by Friday. He invited technical comments for consideration for incorporation.

4. Under Plenary Agenda Item 12, Catch Quota Requirements for Cuba in 1976, the Chairman asked the Observer from Cuba to introduce his document (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/39) which was a result of a re-assessment of the Cuban catch quota requirements following the setting of catch quotas by the Commission at the June 1975 Annual Meeting. The Observer from Cuba explained that all Cuba's stated requirements had taken into consideration the by-catch in directed fisheries. He indicated that in the Div. 2J-3KL cod fishery he could further reduce his requirement to 6,000 tons and in the witch fishery in Div. 3NO, he could accept 100 tons but expected the by-catch to amount to 500 tons. He pointed out that the Cuban vessels will have fishmeal and oil plants and will have no discards. He inquired what effect reduction in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 would have on Cuba's quotas as Cuba has no fishing days. He was sympathetic with the Canadian effort limitation proposal but had doubts regarding its practicality. He felt that catch allocation was a more sound conservation measure and pointed out that the Cuban by-catch considerations had taken into account what Canada had said was needed from effort control. The delegate of Japan noted the similarity between the Cuban and GDR experiences with the only difference being GDR's historic performance. He noted that allocating 6,000 tons to Cuba from the "Others" category for the Div. 2J-3KL cod stock would leave nothing in this category. The delegate of the UK felt that the Cuban case was fair and he would like to accommodate their request. He said it was wrong to have nothing left in the "Others" category. It was difficult for countries with a long history in a fishery to see countries with no historic performance obtain catch quotas. He suggested including 10,000 tons in the "Others" category by adding 4,000 tons to the TAC. The delegate of Portugal thought the quotas should stay as allocated at the June 1975 Meeting and the Commission should take note of the amount required by Cuba as fair and well considered. The delegate of Japan felt that the Cuban request and the Portuguese suggestion were reasonable. The delegate of Spain agreed in principle but expressed concern about possible future changes to the "Others" category. The delegate of the FRG considered it wise to have Cuba in the Commission structure and he felt it was reasonable for Cuba to know what her quotas would be when bound as a member. He suggested using an asterisk after "Others" and a footnote saying Cuba stated her intention to take 6,000 tons. The delegate of Portugal believed that the Cuban request for silver hake in Subarea 4 was the crux of the Cuban problem as Cuba had indicated this fishery was important to her and she could not reduce the amount requested. The Observer from Cuba said her catch figures were indicative of the Cuban fishing capabilities. Cuba was ready to take legal steps to join ICNAF. Cuba was in favour of conservation and needed the quotas as a member in 1976. The delegate of Portugal suggested that a Commission resolution might say that Cuba was not bound by the quotas for 1976 but by the Cuban figures. The delegate of Canada saw no difficulty in a Cuban allocation for cod in Div. 2J-3KL but he did in other stocks. He did not like the idea of exceeding the TAC and noted that the GDR received allocations before it became a member of the Commission. He stated that Canada would give 1,000 tons to the "Others" category in Div. 2J-3KL cod, making a total of 7,000 tons and allowing 6,000 tons to Cuba with 1,000 tons left in the "Others" category.

In consideration of a Cuban allocation in the Subarea 2-Div. 3K redfish fishery for 1976, the delegate of Canada suggested that Cuba be allocated 1,000 tons leaving 3,750 tons for "Others". In the Div. 3M cod fishery, the delegate of Canada suggested that Cuba reduce its request to 1,800 tons in order to leave 200 tons for "Others". The Chairman said that discussions should be considered as preliminary and any figures stated would be provisional.

5. The Joint Meeting of Panels 2, 3, and 4 agreed to recess at 1830 hrs, Monday, 22 September, and refer the Cuban allocation of silver hake in Div. 4VWX to Panel 4 and allocation of other stocks in various Divisions to their appropriate Panel or Panels.

6. The Joint Meeting of Panels 2, 3, and 4 reconvened at 1125 hrs, Friday, 26 September.

7. The Chairman returned to consideration of Plenary Agenda Item 5, Fishing Effort Reduction for Groundfish Stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, and drew attention to a further Canadian paper (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/49) giving additional details of the Canadian proposal for fishing effort reduction on groundfish stocks in Subarea

3, and 4 in 1976. The delegate of Canada introduced the proposal, noting that it had additional statistical information provided by Denmark, Norway, and the UK. He pointed out that Member Countries could use effort reduction figures of 45% from the 1972-73 average or 40% from the 1973 effort, that longliners would be exempt from effort reduction, that consideration would be given to limited transfer of effort between tonnage categories of vessels, and that Member Country effort would be reported during the season on a basis similar to that for the monthly reporting of catch data.

The delegate of the UK noted that it seemed logical that Canada, in accepting 45% reduction from 1972-73 or 40% reduction from 1973, might be prepared to accept 50% of 1972 effort. He suggested that there might be some provision for lateral transfer of effort into other areas to allow smaller Member Countries a better opportunity to catch their quotas. He asked if Canada might consider raising the 200 days fishing exemption to 300 days fishing.

The delegate of Portugal said there was no scientific basis for reduction. Poor statistics and limited research over the years provided little information on the state of the gradually diminishing stocks. With improved data there had been a steady reduction of TACs in an effort to stop decline and restore the stocks. The proposal had difficult aspects as witnessed in the effort reduction study for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 and the fact that effort may be assigned in areas where vessels cannot fish due, for example, to ice. He proposed that attempts be made to solve individual country problems bilaterally and raised the point that the statistics used might not be reliable or correct.

The delegate of Spain agreed in principle with the Canadian proposal but reserved the right to revise statistics. He had difficulty with the definition of days fished and days on grounds. The main difficulty was having excess fishing days and no quota or vice-versa.

The delegate of Iceland thanked the Chairman for his welcome and hoped his late arrival had not caused any inconvenience. He stated that, although Iceland had sought other solutions to her problems, she did not wish to stand in the way of Canada's efforts to seek effective conservation of the fish stocks round her coasts. Iceland was not fishing much in the ICNAF Area but this may be only temporary. Iceland favours the Canadian proposal as it is in the best interests of everyone.

The Chairman pointed out that the table in Comm.Doc. 75/IX/49 did not include provision for "Others".

The delegate of the USSR agreed that effort limitation was one means of regulating but found that it did not reflect actual fishing effort. He noted that some delegations favour catch quotas and that TACs have been sharply reduced (60% for USSR) since 1972. He believed the by-catch problem was best solved by two-tier quotas by Subareas, and stated that the figures included in the Canadian proposal for USSR require clarification as fishing conditions have changed since these figures were raised. He suggested that such figures should be subject to bilateral review.

The delegate of the USA supported the Canadian proposal as it considered all needs, e.g. 1) directed effort at conservation, 2) protected Canadian fishermen, 3) allowed foreign fleets to participate, 4) easier system to control than two-tier system, and stated that prompt action was needed.

The delegate of the GDR said the GDR will support all sensible and scientifically-based proposals for stock regulation. One measure for regulating stock is proposed in the Canadian document by adopting an effort limitation. In dealing with the Canadian proposal, the GDR is guided by the fact that the regulation of stocks must be improved; that the by-catch problem can be tackled in a better manner; that the control of adherence to the Commission's decisions can be improved in the interest of all Member Countries. He said that GDR advocates the principle that, for the purpose of his people's nutrition, a sensible scientifically-founded fishery is based on the admissible MSY. The GDR is fishing only for her needs and has a clear, directed fishery with only small by-catches. He noted that the TACs for the important stocks were drastically reduced at the Woods Hole and Edinburgh Meetings in order to secure a long-term stable fishery with the highest admissible catch level and the recovery of stocks. The decisions were taken at the Edinburgh Meeting in a very responsible manner and were fully supported by the GDR. The GDR is of the opinion that the Commission can, on principle, agree with the Canadian proposal. However, there are a number of proposals which still have to be discussed and solved. One is the correct definition of fishing days on the basis of a clear definition of the fishing effort. In the Canadian proposal the tonnage class is given as a measure. However, we know that vessels of the same tonnage class have very differing performances depending on their horse power, fishing gear, crew, etc., so that the proposed measure does not guarantee a just, equitable treatment of all Member Countries. Another problem is that the definition of fishing days in the proposal envisages the division into fishing areas and vessel classes. This constitutes a serious interference with national regulations and planning of Member Countries and at the same time, makes control much more complicated. The GDR also shares the opinion of the delegate of the UK that a transfer of effort between vessel classes and areas could be carried out. By so doing, countries could select the economically best fleet structure without exceeding the quotas or the fishing effort. Taking into consideration such possibilities, the GDR regards the application of the Canadian proposal as acceptable.

The delegate of France supported the Canadian proposal as it is the best way to deal with by-catch and ensures effective regulation.

The delegate of the FRG said that the FRG was at a disadvantage because it had a small coast with a large population to feed and, therefore, must cooperate with coastal states to ensure supply of fish as food. He stated that the FRG favoured an effort regulation along the lines of the Canadian proposal which would balance the deficiencies of the present quota system and its implementation. He agreed with others regarding the use of a 1972 data basis, lateral transfer between areas, and transfer between vessel categories when the composition of a fleet changed. He believed that effort limitation should be reduced if a particular stock increases, e.g. the cod stock in Div. 2J-3KL.

The delegate of Japan believed that effort should be reduced in accordance with scientific advice and stated that the reduction rate seemed too sharp. He said that practical and technical difficulties could be overcome by study.

The delegate of Canada expressed gratitude for the support given by the delegates and felt that most of the technical modifications suggested could be accommodated. He urged all Member Countries to provide technical difficulties and modifications to Canada, in writing, for analysis and incorporation by Canadian experts in a further paper on details of the Canadian proposal.

8. The Joint Panels agreed to meet at 1100 hrs, Saturday, 27 September, to consider such a paper. It was further agreed that those attending the meeting should include two delegates, including the head of delegation from each Member Country of the Panels.

9. The Joint Meeting of Panels 2, 3, and 4 recessed at 1320 hrs, Friday, 26 September.

10. The Joint Meeting of Panels 2, 3, and 4 reconvened at 1110 hrs, Saturday, 27 September, to continue consideration of Plenary Agenda Item 5, Fishing Effort Reduction on Groundfish Stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4. The delegate of Canada requested that Dr R.G. Halliday (Canada) review the technical changes embodied in the Canadian proposal (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/49 Revised). Attention was directed to five major changes: 1) base period is now 1972-73 - 45%, 1973 - 40%, or 1972 - 50%; 2) Div. 3M and 3P have been combined with Div. 3LNO to give only three areas for management; 3) base effort level has been raised to 300 days fishing from 200 days fishing; 4) revised statistics received from the GDR and Japan have now been included in the calculations; and 5) conversions of effort between tonnage categories have been incorporated in footnotes to the table.

The delegates of Denmark and Portugal expressed a preference for use of 1973 as a base period. The delegate of the USSR preferred the "swept volume method" instead of "days fished" as a measure of effort. He noted that the basic year used was incorrect in some cases and requested consideration for use of the year of best effort. He also requested that effort expended at a depth of 500-600 m and deeper, e.g. for roundnose grenadier, should be excluded.

The delegate of Portugal presented five difficulties for his country. In Div. 3M there was no need for effort reduction as the cod stock was stabilized and TAC regulation would be sufficient. Div. 3M was outside the 200-mile zone and he could not accept a reduction in effort in Div. 3M. Another problem was the fact that the areas, into which the effort was contained, did not coincide with the areas through which single stocks extend and consequently, it might be necessary while fishing for one stock to transfer effort from one effort area to another. A factor of flexibility in this transfer of effort should be introduced or else the limitation of effort should not be sub-divided by areas but apply to the sum total of the Subareas considered. He felt there was a need for a definition of days fished. Effort limitation, in his opinion, was more difficult to control than catch quota. Minor points included difficulties with effort for gillnetters, dory vessels and midwater trawls.

The delegate of the UK felt the smaller nations needed an element of flexibility and requested that there be a provision for transfer of fishing days from area to area and vessel to vessel expressed in general terms. The delegate of Denmark supported the UK. The delegate of the GDR could agree to effort limitation or the two-tier quota system but it must be scientifically based. Any regulation should allow best and most economical use of vessels. Regulation must be fair and give all countries an opportunity to fish their quotas. He agreed that roundnose grenadier should not be included in the reduction scheme as it was found in deep water and the stock was in good state.

The delegate of Iceland said Iceland has not accepted allocation of quotas as a regulatory measure. One hundred days for "Others" in each geographic area was not a realistic amount and he suggested the amount should be up to or at the level for Cuba. Choice of base period has introduced strong inequity for Iceland which had considerable fishing in earlier years but none now. He was instructed to vote for the Canadian proposal but against quota allocation.

The delegate of Poland said no account had been taken of the fishing pattern changes in 1973 in the Polish fisheries. Like other countries, Poland had an example of an allocation of fishing effort with no quota.

The delegate of Norway felt there was a need for more flexibility, and requested that Norway be allowed transfer between gear categories. The delegate of the USSR supported the need for more flexibility. In reply, the delegate of Canada noted that he had already said there was no objection to the transfer of days fishing between vessel categories on the basis of the relative effectiveness of the vessels as demonstrated by the Member Countries. He explained that the years 1972 and 1973 had been chosen as a reference point because they had the best published statistics. The definition of days fished was included in the ICNAF Statistical Bulletin. Also, there was a reference to it in paragraph A of the proposal. Regarding the proposed omission of Div. 3M, he said there was no relevance of the 200-mile zone to this proposal. The groundfish stocks should not be exempt from the benefit of the Canadian proposal. In response to a question from the delegate of the USSR, he felt there was a precedent for treating USA as a coastal state in the southwestern part of Subarea 4, and Canada in Subarea 5 as well as France in Subarea 4.

Following further consideration of the difficulties countries had expressed regarding the proposal, the delegate of Canada reported that Canada could agree to 1) the 1972-73, 1973, and 1972 base periods with 45%, 40%, and 50% effort reduction, respectively, based on ICNAF Statistical Bulletin data, 2) transfer of effort between vessel categories with conversion factor based on catch per day fished reported in the ICNAF Statistical Bulletins, 3) limited transfer of effort from one of the three areas to another and a suggested 15% or 50 days fished limit, whichever was larger, with application against the area from which the effort was taken, 4) allow 45 days for countries to send corrections or missing figures and information on transfers planned for 1976 to the Executive Secretary, 5) immediate reporting of transfers between areas as soon as known during the year, 6) need for more information on roundnose grenadier effort and by-catch, 7) include Div. 3M in the scheme, 8) some increase for "Others", perhaps 150 days fished instead of 100, but not large, 9) transfer between any gear categories but conversion factors must be based on data on days fished reported in the ICNAF Statistical Bulletin, 10) transfer of effort (15% or 50 days fished) to other areas by countries in the "Others" category, and 11) transferability could take care of situations where quotas extend over two areas, e.g. quota in Div. 2J-3KL difficult to divide in Subarea-Div. 3K and Div. 3LNO - some stocks are found in Div. 2J-3KL, others in Div. 3LNO. The delegate of Canada felt Canada could not entertain the USSR proposal to base effort reduction on various years, whichever was most favourable, as it would have a rather large effect on the scheme.

In summarizing further Canadian views, the delegate of Canada pointed out that Member Countries must send within 45 days information on the reference year they wish to use, any corrections to the statistics, and where countries wish to use their effort in the five previously-named areas in 1976. Canada would agree that countries could increase their effort by 10% (not 15% as previously agreed) or 50 days fished by transfer from any one of the five areas during the year. Canada expected that the results of the compilations by the Executive Secretary would be reviewed at the January 1976 Special Meeting of the Commission in Rome.

In response to further questioning regarding the proposal, the delegate of Canada felt more information was needed on midwater trawls used by the various Member Countries. The difficulty raised by Portugal regarding gillnetter and longliner effort should be analyzed and reported.

The Chairman, noting that Portugal would vote against the proposal if Div. 3M was left in, reminded the Panel Members that the Canadian proposal for management of the effort regulation allowed members to vote on any line entry in the proposal rather than on the whole proposal.

11. The Joint Meeting of Panels 2, 3, and 4 recessed at 1730 hrs, 27 September.

12. The Joint Panels reconvened at 1130 hrs, 28 September, to consider a further modification of the Canadian proposal for effort reduction on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/49 - 2nd Revision).

13. The Panels accepted the Chairman's proposal for procedure that Canada should first present the modifications, then the Panels would take a decision on any suggested amendments and finally take a decision on the proposal as a whole. The delegate of Canada referred to Comm.Doc. 75/IX/49 - 2nd Revision and requested the following insertions to which the Panels agreed:

- (1) page 2, paragraph 1(e), line 5: for "statistical data" read "relative catch rates (catch per day fished)"
- (2) page 2: delete last sentence of paragraph 1(e) and replace it with the following new sentence which will replace paragraph 4 on page 3: "During the 1976 fishing season, further transfers involving the movement of fishing effort from area to area shall be limited to 10% of the total number of fishing days for the Contracting Governments allocated for the 197-fishing season in the area to which the transfer is made or 50 fishing days, whichever is the greater."

14. The delegate of Portugal suggested that "large pelagics" in paragraph 1 of page 1 be changed to read "and all other pelagics". This was agreed by the Panels. A further suggestion to change "for the years 1971, 1972 and 1973" in lines 7 and 8 of paragraph 1(e) on page 2 was, with Panels' agreement, changed to "for the last

three years for which such data are available". He further noted that "...to which the transfer is made...." in new paragraph 4 on page 3 had read in previous drafts "...from which the transfer is made....". The Panels agreed to retain the present wording and to reconsider the matter at the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting when more basic information would be available. His further suggestion that "within 45 days from 29 September 1975" in line 1 of paragraph 2 on page 2 be changed to read "within 60 days from 29 September 1975" resulted in Panel agreement to alter the phrase to read "by 30 November 1975".

15. At the request of the delegate of the USSR, the Panels agreed that the vessel categories, 1000-1999.9 tons, should be shown for the USSR in the table at Attachment 2. In dealing with the USSR suggestion that roundnose grenadier be left out of the effort limitation scheme, the Panels noted that this was a deep-water species and fished at great depths and agreed that USSR information on by-catch would form the basis for further discussion at the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting.

16. The Panels agreed to suggestions that "illustrative" be added before "table" in line 6 of paragraph 1(a) on page 1 and that "for the categories indicated in the attached illustrative table and other categories as necessary" should replace "in the attached table and as may be amended" in line 3 of paragraph 3 on page 3.

17. The delegate of Canada could not accept a Polish proposal that paragraph 1(a) on page 1 should be amended to show that Contracting Governments should reduce their effort to a level which would allow them to fulfill their national quotas for 1976 based on appropriate catch rates. The delegate of Canada, strongly supported by the delegate of the USA, rejected a Polish proposal to substitute a second-tier quota scheme for the effort reduction scheme, and a Romanian proposal to include in paragraph 1(a) on page 1 the suggestion that reduction should not affect Contracting Governments which fish less than 10,000 tons and have a developing fishery.

18. The delegate of Portugal pointed out that it would be impossible for his country to report monthly effort statistics as required by a proposed Canadian resolution (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/49, Attachment 3). The delegate of Canada, supported by the delegate of the UK, pointed out that statistics had been a long-time requirement of the Member Countries. The flow of information must be improved. Both were essential to the control of fishery operations in the ICNAF Area.

19. The Chairman noted that specific amendments had been discussed and decisions taken and proposed to take a formal or indicative vote on the proposal as a whole and as amended. The results of an agreed indicative vote were 14 'yes' with a reservation by Portugal regarding the inclusion of Div. 3M as one of the areas for limiting effort and 1 absent (Bulgaria). Therefore, Panels 2, 3, and 4, in joint session,

agreed to accept the vote as formal and to recommend

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, proposal (1) for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area (Appendix I).

20. Following discussion and amendment of the Canadian proposal for early implementation of the proposal for effort limitation for groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, Panels 2, 3, and 4, in joint session,

agreed to recommend

that the Commission adopt Resolution (1) Relating to the Implementation of the Proposal (1) for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area (Appendix II).

21. The Joint Meetings of Panels 2, 3, and 4 adjourned at 1300 hrs, 28 September.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975(1) Proposal for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area

Panels 2, 3, and 4, in joint session, recommend that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government the following proposal for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

"1. That Contracting Governments other than the coastal states take appropriate action in 1976 to limit fishing effort for groundfish, i.e., all finfish except herring, mackerel, capelin, and all other pelagics, billfishes, and sharks, by persons under their jurisdiction in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area in accordance with the following:

- (a) Each Contracting Government in 1976 shall reduce the number of days fishing for groundfish by 40% based on the number of fishing days reported in 1973, or 45% based on the average number of fishing days reported in 1972-73, or 50% based on the number of fishing days reported in 1972, for each of the tonnage, gear and area categories listed in the attached regulation and illustrative table. Each Contracting Government shall have the option of choosing the base period to be applied to its fleet, provided that the base period selected shall be the same for all tonnage, gear and area categories;
- (b) For each Contracting Government having vessels under its flag using longline gear, the number of days fished by such vessels shall not be reduced but shall be limited to the number of days fished during the selected base period;
- (c) Contracting Governments with less than 300 days fished in a particular tonnage, gear and area category during the selected base period shall not be required to reduce the number of days fished for that tonnage, gear and area category, but shall be required to limit the number of days fished in that tonnage, gear and area category to the number of days fished during the selected base period;
- (d) Contracting Governments with the number of days fished during the selected base period for a particular tonnage, gear and area category in excess of 300 shall not in any event be required to reduce the number of days fished in 1976 to less than 300;
- (e) Contracting Governments shall be permitted, in establishing their effort allocations for 1976, to transfer effort between tonnage, gear and area categories for all vessels under their flag. Conversion factors used for transfers between vessel tonnage and gear categories shall be based upon averages of relative catch rates (catch per day fished) for that Contracting Government reported to the Commission for all of Subareas 2, 3, and 4 for the last three years for which such data are available.

"2. That Contracting Governments, by 30 November 1975, shall submit to the Executive Secretary a list of the number of fishing days to apply in 1976 for each tonnage, gear and area category, in accordance with the requirements stated in paragraph 1 above. Such information shall include:

- (a) The single base period which each Contracting Government intends to use in applying the regulation of fishing effort for groundfish by all vessels under its flag;
- (b) Proposed amendments, if any, a Contracting Government wishes to make in the statistical data as reported to the Commission for the years 1972 and 1973 upon which the regulation of fishing effort for groundfish is to be applied and an explanation for any such adjustments;
- (c) A description of any redistribution of fishing effort for groundfish among the various vessel tonnage, gear and area categories for 1976 that a Contracting Government wishes to make for vessels fishing under its flag.

"3. That the Commission, at the Eighth Special Commission Meeting in January 1976, shall review the data supplied pursuant to paragraph 2 above and confirm national allocations for fishing effort for the categories indicated in the attached illustrative table and other categories as necessary, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 above.

"4. During the 1976 fishing season, further transfers involving the movement of fishing effort from area to area shall be limited to 10% of the total number of fishing days for the Contracting Government allocated for the 1976 fishing season in the area to which the transfer is made or 50 fishing days, whichever is greater."

Regulation - Integral part of Proposal (1) for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 28 September 1975

"1. That each national allocation of effort in the attached table is an integral part of this regulation.

"2. That, for any effort allocation for a particular vessel tonnage, gear and area:

(a) Each Contracting Government shall limit the number of days fished for groundfish (24-hour periods, reckoned from midnight to midnight, during which any fishing took place) by persons under its jurisdiction in the areas referred to in the table to the number of fishing days listed for that Contracting Government or, in the case of Contracting Governments not listed by name, to the amount listed under "Others";

(b) Each Contracting Government mentioned by name in the table shall prohibit fishing for groundfish by persons under its jurisdiction on the date on which

accumulated reported number of days fished,
estimated unreported number of days fished, and
the number of fishing days estimated to be expended before closure could be introduced,

equal 100 percent of the allowable number of fishing days. Each Contracting Government mentioned by name in the table shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary of the date on which such prohibition has been put into effect. The Executive Secretary shall promptly inform all Contracting Governments of such notification.

(c) Each Contracting Government not mentioned by name in the table shall notify the Executive Secretary in advance if persons under its jurisdiction intend to engage in a fishery to which this regulation applies, together if possible with an estimate of the number of fishing days to be expended; and it shall also promptly report the number of days fished for groundfish by persons under its jurisdiction in the areas mentioned in the table in increments of 25 days. The Executive Secretary shall notify all Contracting Governments of the date on which

accumulated reported number of days fished,
estimated unreported number of days fished, and
the number of fishing days estimated to be expended before closure could be introduced,

by persons under the jurisdiction of Contracting Governments not mentioned by name in the table equal 100 percent of the allowable number of fishing days designated for "Others" in the table. Within 10 days of the receipt of such notification from the Executive Secretary, each Contracting Government not mentioned by name in the attached table shall prohibit fishing by persons under its jurisdiction using vessels of the particular tonnage and gear category in the areas mentioned in the regulation.

Recording of Effort

"3. That all Contracting Governments take appropriate action to ensure that all vessels under their jurisdiction which fish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area record their fishing effort on a daily basis according to position, date, and type of gear.*

Other

"4. That, with regard to any effort allocation, each linear and columnar entry in the table shall be considered a separate proposal under Article VIII of the Convention as amended. Further, sub-paragraph 2(c) shall apply to each Contracting Government without a specific effort allocation in any linear and columnar entry in the table notwithstanding that sub-paragraph 2(b) may apply to each such Government with respect to another linear and columnar entry in the table.

"5. That the effort allocations in the table are without prejudice to future allocations."

* This paragraph of the regulation is not intended to lessen in any way the obligation of Member Countries to report all other data on fishing effort, such as hours fished, in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area and all data on fishing effort in Subareas 1 and 5 of the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6.

Illustrative Table - Integral part of Proposal (1) for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 28 September 1975

Country	Base period	Vessel tonnage	Gear	DAYS FISHED FOR GROUNDFISH						NATIONAL ALLOCATIONS OF FISHING EFFORT (DAYS FISHING) FOR 1976						
				Base Data						Area						
				SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX	SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX			
Bulgaria	72-73	>2000 >2000	OT MWT	2	19	-	-	-	-	-	2	19	-	-	-	-
Canada ¹	72-73	150-499.9 150-499.9 150-499.9 500-999.9 500-999.9	OT MWT LL OT MWT	-	1,330	-	1,436	5,222	-	-	-	1,600	-	2,200	5,100	100
				-	140	-	44	76	-	-	-	150	-	50	200	200
				63	5,880	7	1,053	2,439	-	-	1,200	7,100	500	1,500	2,400	100
				11	2	4	103	102	-	-	-	-	-	100	100	100
Denmark	73	150-499.9 150-499.9 500-999.9 500-999.9	OT LL OT MWT	15	9	-	-	-	-	-	15	9	-	-	-	-
				150	-	2,115	-	-	-	-	150	-	2,115	-	-	-
				322	76	-	-	303	-	-	300	76	-	-	300	300
				-	-	-	7	43	-	-	-	-	-	7	43	43
France ¹	72-73	150-499.9 1000-1999.9	OT OT	411	108	-	288	102	-	-	411	108	-	288	102	102
				243	269	105	109	492	-	-	411	269	105	109	492	492
FRG	73	1000-1999.9 >2000	OT OT	1,090	13	6	-	-	-	-	839	81	-	-	-	5
				2	71	33	-	5	-	-	-	-	38	-	-	5
GDR	72-73	500-999.9 1000-1999.9 1000-1999.9 >2000 >2000	OT OT MWT OT MWT	914	76	-	1	69	-	-	504	76	-	1	69	3
				6	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	-
				224	10	-	-	-	-	-	224	10	-	-	-	-
				4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Japan	73	1000-1999.9 >2000	OT OT	-	1	-	1	9	-	-	-	1	-	1	9	9
				-	78	-	31	170	-	-	-	78	-	31	170	170

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Illustrative Table - continued

Country	Base period	Vessel tonnage	Gear	DAYS FISHED FOR GROUND FISH Base Data				NATIONAL ALLOCATIONS OF FISHING EFFORT (DAYS FISHING) FOR 1976							
				Area		Area		Area		Area					
				SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX	SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX		
Norway	72-73	150-499.9	OT	58	-	7	-	-	-	-	58	-	7	-	-
		150-499.9	LL	377	35	111	313	56	-	377	35	111	313	56	-
		500-999.9	OT	82	-	3	-	-	-	82	-	3	-	-	-
		500-999.9	LL	77	-	-	-	-	-	77	-	-	-	-	-
	1000-1999.9	OT	37	-	-	-	-	-	37	-	-	-	-	-	
Poland	73	1000-1999.9	OT	-	-	-	-	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		>2000	OT	2,101	448	68	10	8	-	1,261	300	68	10	40	-
Portugal	73	500-999.9	DV	-	200	-	116	7	-	-	200	-	116	7	-
		500-999.9	GN	-	359	-	-	-	-	-	300	-	-	-	-
		1000-1999.9	OT	1,778	1,942	592	165	217	-	1,066	1,165	355	165	217	-
		1000-1999.9	DV	-	52	-	27	7	-	-	52	-	27	7	-
		1000-1999.9	GN	-	584	-	17	2	-	-	350	-	17	2	-
	>2000	OT	817	752	266	34	119	-	490	451	266	34	119	-	
Romania	72-73	>2000	OT	175	33	10	2	-	-	175	33	10	2	-	-
Spain ²	72-73	150-499.9	PT	47	5,240	13	1,118	1,459	-	47	2,882	13	615	802	-
		500-999.9	PT	42	1,852	8	237	740	-	42	1,019	8	237	407	-
		1000-1999.9	OT	245	386	233	128	257	-	245	300	233	128	257	-
		1000-1999.9	PT	3	291	-	57	120	-	3	291	-	57	120	-
USSR	72-73	150-499.9	OT	-	1,024	23	1,902	53	-	-	563	23	1,046	53	-
		500-999.9	OT	14	94	7	6	108	-	14	94	7	6	108	-
		1000-1999.9	OT	5,046	2,947	1,304	154	6,827	-	2,775	1,621	717	154	3,755	-
UK	72	500-999.9	OT	60	43	97	-	-	-	60	43	97	-	-	-
		1000-1999.9	OT	684	504	520	-	85	-	342	300	300	-	85	-

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Illustrative Table - continued

Country	Base period	Vessel tonnage	Gear	DAYS FISHED FOR GROUND FISH						NATIONAL ALLOCATIONS OF FISHING EFFORT (DAYS FISHING) FOR 1976					
				Base Data						Area					
				SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX	SA2+3K	3LNO	3M	3P	4VWX		
USA ¹	72-73	150-499.9 150-499.9	OT MWT	-	-	-	-	-	607 4	-	-	-	-	-	700 30
Cuba	-	>2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	300	400	225	-	-	810
Others ³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	100	100	100	100	100

1 Estimated number of days fished only, not national allocations of fishing effort.

2 Figures for the PT gear categories are for days fishing by pairs of trawlers.

3 Others allocation = 100 days fished per effort management area, irrespective of vessel tonnage or gear used.

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE TABLE

A number of countries have indicated a preference for one of the three base periods. The preferred base period is included in the above table. For countries that did not indicate a preference, the base period of 1972-73 has been used. A number of countries have provided adjusted statistics on effort and have suggested conversions between tonnage/gear categories as follows:

- a) Days fished for FRC in tonnage category 1,000-1,999.9 g.t. has been converted to days fished in tonnage category >2,000 g.t., using a conversion factor of 0.76.
- b) Data provided by JDR has allowed revision of days fished in Div. 4VWX. Days fished in tonnage category 500-999.9 g.t. has been converted to days fished in tonnage category 1,000-1,999.9 g.t., using a conversion factor of 1.0.
- c) Data provided by Japan has allowed revision of days fished in the >2,000 g.t. tonnage category.
- d) Days fished by Poland in tonnage category 1,000-1,999.9 g.t. has been converted to tonnage category >2,000 g.t., using a conversion factor of 0.87.
- e) Data provided by UK has allowed revision of days fished.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

- (1) Resolution Relating to the Implementation of the Proposal for International Regulation of Fishing Effort for Groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area

The Commission

Recognizing that proposals designed to achieve the conservation and optimum utilization of groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 of the Convention Area throughout 1976 through the limitation of fishing effort for groundfish have been adopted at the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting and subject to review at the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting;

Taking into Account that under Article VIII of the Convention, as amended, this proposal 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 April 1976 at the earliest;

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 completely achieved unless the proposal referred to above is applied throughout 1976;

Recognizing that, in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of the Convention, fishing activity in the area must be conducted in accordance with this proposal throughout 1976;

1. Invites the attention of Governments to the above matters;
2. Stipulates that the proposal referred to above should apply throughout 1976;
3. Requests Governments whose vessels conduct fishing operations in the areas to implement the proposal, subject to any modification that may be unanimously agreed by the Delegations present and voting at the January 1976 Special Meeting of the Commission, beginning on 1 January 1976;
4. Expects that all Members of the Commission will conduct their fishing operations in accordance with the proposal beginning on 1 January 1976 unless any of the Members of Panels 2, 3, and 4 notifies an objection to the Depositary Government prior to that date.



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Proceedings No. 5

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of Meetings of Panel 5

Tuesday, 23 September, 0900 hrs
Wednesday, 24 September, 0900 hrs
Friday, 26 September, 1645 hrs

1. The Meeting of Panel 5 was convened by the Chairman, Mr Wm.L. Sullivan Jr (USA). All Members of Panel 5, except Bulgaria and Romania, were present. Representatives from Denmark, Norway, and the UK, and Observers from Cuba attended.
2. Mr T.R. McHugh (USA) was appointed Rapporteur.
3. The Agenda, to include Plenary Items 4, Report of STACRES, 6, Further Consideration of Vessel, Gear and Area Restrictions on Georges Bank in Subarea 5, 7, Further Consideration of All Finfish and Squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, and 12, Consideration of Statement of the Government of Cuba, from the Plenary Agenda, was adopted.
4. The Report of STACRES (Proc. 1), relating to the consideration of finfish and squid within the second-tier overall TAC in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, was presented by the Chairman of STACRES, Dr A.W. May (Canada). The delegate of the USA pointed out that Item 5 of Addendum 1 to the Report stated that "consideration of this item was not as complete as would have been desirable since not all Member Countries were represented by experts in this field (in some cases, discussion of this item had not been anticipated)." As the USA had filed an objection to the second-tier quota and had asked that the item be placed on the agenda more than 60 days in advance of the Special Meeting, and further had asked each country to consider the matter in preparation for the Special Meeting, it was difficult to reconcile the requirement in Rule 6 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure that STACRES provide sound scientific advice on which the Commission could base its decisions with the failure of some of the Member Countries of the Panel to contribute to the formulation of that scientific advice. The Chairman of STACRES felt that the absence of some of the members did not constrain those who were present from analyzing the data, and that the Report, with additional observations contained in Addendum 1, had been accepted as it stands by all present at the STACRES Meeting. There were no further comments on the Report.
5. The delegate of the USA opened discussion of the Plenary Agenda Items by stating that the proposals for vessel, gear, and area restrictions on Georges Bank in Subarea 5 (Item 6), and further consideration of conservation of all finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (Item 7) had to be linked together as an initial step in obtaining adequate protection for the stocks of fish off the US coast. As had been pointed out, the USA intended to act now through negotiations to obtain such protection. There was a comprehensive set of issues to be dealt with. The resolution of these issues was extremely important because the USA's two branches of Government were opposed on the course of action to be taken. As an illustration of the views in the Congress, the delegate of the USA quoted from a highly critical assessment of the 1975 Annual Meeting delivered by Senator Magnuson during hearings on 19 September 1975. The delegate of the USA continued that the House of Representatives Committee responsible for fisheries had voted 36 to 3 in favour of a 200-mile limit bill. The President was opposed to unilateral extension of jurisdiction, but Congress would not be satisfied if no agreement was reached to conserve the fish stocks.

The USA objected to the second-tier quota set at the 1975 Annual Meeting because it was too high to meet US conservation goals. The USA had proposed that the quota be set at a level of 550,000 tons including squid, a level that still requires at least five years for recovery to MSY, with only a 90% probability that recovery will begin in 1976. STACRES saw no reason to exclude squid from the overall quota. This quota level represents a rational approach to the conservation problem but, if it is not adopted, the probability is that the goal of restoring the fish stocks will not be met in a reasonable time. Temporary short-term economic dislocations may be felt by the distant-water fishermen, however, US and Canadian fishermen have been feeling such a dislocation for a period of time and this burden should be shared by others.

With regard to the US proposed vessel, gear, and area restriction on Georges Bank (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/47), the mixed species populations and the effect of directed fisheries for certain species on other species have caused damage to important commercial stocks. The closure in effect off New England and the Middle Atlantic States, also established to control bottom fishing, has resulted in some indications of recovery for the

flounder stocks as reported by US fishermen. The proposal extends the closure out onto Georges Bank to remove bottom-fishing pressure from the important haddock and yellowtail flounder stocks.

The delegate of the USA said that both items are matters of major importance to the USA, and are critical to the future of ICNAF. The USA, disturbed by the rejection of adequate conservation measures by ICNAF, would have to re-evaluate its position if no agreement is reached on these items. The USA had not filed an objection to a fundamental conservation proposal before in an international fisheries organization. International fisheries commissions were on trial here. If this Meeting was not successful, the USA would have to take a second look at its position. The alternatives to working out solutions through negotiation were not desirable.

6. Consideration of Vessel, Gear, and Area Restrictions on Georges Bank in Subarea 5 (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/47). The delegate of Japan expressed appreciation for the modifications made in the proposal, introduced at the Annual Meeting, to accommodate the squid and argentine fishermen, and stated that he would meet informally with the USA to discuss further alterations. The delegate of the USSR noted that the closure to bottom fishing was aimed at eliminating the haddock by-catch problem, but would affect the USSR's ability to take its TACs allocated in other fisheries, namely, cod, redfish, silver and red hake, and certain of the flatfishes. Under the terms of the proposal, it would be impossible to continue in the fishery for hakes, the most important fisheries in the area for the USSR, with allocations of some 74,000 tons. The species are caught between 80 and 300 m on the southern part of Georges Bank and between 50 and 150 m on the northeast slope during the last half of the second quarter and the third quarter of the year. The Corsair Canyon hake fishery is very important during the period between June and August each year. Argentine and redfish are taken between 150 and 250 m on the northern slope of Georges Bank. In some areas, the closure extends to 200, even 250 m, making it impossible to take many of the quotas allocated to the USSR. The losses would range up to 60-70% of the allocations. Other regulations, such as mesh size, quotas, by-catch restrictions, and the closure of the spawning grounds, already provide protection for the haddock stocks. The delegates of the USSR and Spain advised that they would discuss the matter informally with the USA.

7. Consideration of the Conservation of Finfish and Squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. The delegate of the USA opened the discussion by reiterating that there was no more important issue for the USA. He requested that all members consider this item a declaration of intent to deal with the conservation problems in a reasonable time. The Report of STACRES (Proc. 1) re-affirmed the US position with regard to including squid in the second-tier quota. It is in the best interest of all countries fishing in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 to restore the stocks to the maximum level in the shortest period of time. The delegate of Spain noted that Spain had also filed an objection to the second-tier quota. Copies of the objection (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/48) would be distributed to outline Spain's position in further discussion. The delegate of Japan reviewed the history of Japan's allocations, both for squid and the second-tier quota, and remarked that the Commission might not be able legally to re-open the question of the quota allocation and the exclusion of squid as these matters had been decided at the 1975 Annual Meeting and had not yet come into effect. He noted that the squid and the second-tier quotas for Japan were the same in 1974 (24,300 tons), while for 1975 the squid allocation was left unchanged, and the second-tier quota was reduced to 21,250 tons. He pointed out that the condition of the squid stock does not show any decline and the quota has been set at the same level. Japanese fishing activity, which concentrates on squid, is less responsible for the overall depletion of the biomass than some others. At the 1975 Annual Meeting, STACRES recommended a level of 650,000 tons for the second-tier quota. STACRES also reviewed the status of the squid stocks and separated *Loligo* and *Illex*, while leaving the aggregate quota for squid at the same level as 1974. Japan expected special consideration in the second-tier allocation, although it was seen that the Japanese second-tier quota would be reduced sharply because the coastal states would ask for the same or higher share of the available biomass. Spain had asked at the 1975 Annual Meeting that squid be separated from the second-tier quota; Japan had supported this because the stocks had not suffered a serious decline, and the separation was biologically justified because the squid had such a short-life cycle. Refraining from squid fishing would not appreciably contribute to the rebuilding of the total biomass. There is, therefore, no reason to reduce the squid catch. Because of the second-tier allocation, the Chairman reminded the delegates that an established TAC and allocation had been revised in the similar case of herring when that species was discussed at the November 1974 Special Commission Meeting. The delegate of Spain expressed support for the Japanese position. The delegate of Canada stated that Canada had been opposed to the exclusion of squid from the second-tier quota at the 1975 Annual Meeting and that position had not changed. The delegate of the USA considered that the Japanese and Spanish position, which was the basis of the US objection to the proposal, appeared to be unchanged from that at the 1975 Annual Meeting. The second-tier quota, if excluding squid, was not a quota for rapid recovery as it was effectively a 724,000-ton quota. There was also a by-catch problem related to the squid fishery, which Spain would deal with as part of a second-tier quota. Neither Spain nor Japan has a second-tier quota. The USA would remain unequivocally opposed to an effective 724,000-ton quota. The delegate of Spain said that squid should be excluded from the second-tier quota, but that Spain was addressing that problem, not the size of the TAC. He pointed out paragraph 3 of Addendum 1 to the Report of STACRES, which indicated that the effect of excluding squid from the TAC on the recovery of the total biomass was as yet unknown; species such as menhaden were also excluded from the second-tier quota although they are a part of the biomass.

The delegate of Japan stated that it was his position that the allocations of the second-tier quota had been disadvantageous to Japan whose fisheries were primarily for squid. He noted that the Spanish objection argued for a second-tier allocation of 5,790 tons for Spain and inquired if Spain intended to fish that amount. The delegate of the USA pointed out that the figures presented in the discussion did not take into consideration the high by-catches in the squid fishery which often ranged up to more than 50% of the catch. Assuming a 50%

by-catch, the by-catch in the squid fishery would amount to 37,000 tons, a level that was not provided for either in the allocations for "Other Finfish" or for the second-tier quota. In the "Other Finfish" category, only 15,000 tons was allocated to "Others". The by-catch necessary in the squid fishery would not even allow for Cuba's needs. The delegate of Japan explained that Japan did not have a second-tier quota because squid had been excluded from that quota and Japan intended to report by-catch under "Others" in that quota. Although squid was the usual target species, butterfish had been taken by Japanese fishermen and recorded under "Others" in the "Other Finfish" category. Future butterfish catches would also be reported under "Others" in the "Other Finfish" category. The percentages of by-catch usually were not as high as mentioned by the US delegate. The delegate of the USA replied that even if the by-catch was only 25%, 18,500 tons would have to be allocated to "Others" for the "Other Finfish" TAC. As the total in the "Others" category is only 15,000 tons, squid fishing would have to stop when the by-catch reached 15,000 tons. The USA is still opposed to the procedures attempted here and at the 1975 Annual Meeting, as they do not meet the needs of the total biomass which, to be effective, requires protection of all species. The delegate of Spain reported that the by-catches were not as large as the USA had indicated, and that new gear would be used in 1976 to ensure that the by-catch problem in the squid fishery would be reduced.

The delegate of Canada pointed out that the Report of STACRES indicated that a 750,000-ton quota, effectively the size of the current 650,000-ton quota which excluded squid, would result in a period of 11 years to recovery to MSY with only a 67% chance that the recovery would start in 1976. This was not considered good enough. Previous US statements clearly indicated that the US Congress would take action, as they did in the House Committee vote taken earlier, to extend the jurisdiction of the USA; Canada could not be restrained from following that lead shortly after such action was taken. Canada would prefer negotiated solutions, but the Commission could bring about the situation that would cause the US Congress to extend jurisdiction and pressure for unilateral extension in Canada would follow. ICNAF's credibility would be diminished. ICNAF or some similar organization might not survive unilateral extension of jurisdiction. He felt that the discussion was proceeding on two points: firstly, whether squid should be included in the second-tier quota, and secondly, what the level of that quota should be. His delegation remained of the opinion that the decisions made at the 1975 Annual Meeting do not meet today's conservation requirements. Such issues have been reconsidered by the Commission in the past after agreement was reached at earlier meetings.

The Chairman suggested bringing the question of inclusion or exclusion of squid to a vote. The delegate of Spain suggested discussing the TAC level for the second-tier quota before any vote was taken. The delegate of the FRG suggested an indicative vote be taken on a quota of 650,000 tons including squid, and if that vote were passed, then vote on the allocations for that level. The delegate of the USA felt that a vote might polarize the Meeting, and suggested that a vote be taken on the US proposal for a quota of 550,000 tons including squid.

8. Further informal discussion was considered appropriate, and the Meeting recessed at 1230 hrs, 23 September.

9. Panel 5 reconvened at 1430 hrs, 23 September.

10. The Chairman noted that there were two questions currently before the Panel, first the second-tier quota set at the 1975 Annual Meeting which had been objected to by the USA and Spain, and second, the US proposal for a quota of 550,000 tons including squid. The delegate of Italy suggested that a first step might be to separate the squid from the overall quota and find levels for each quota. The delegate of France stated that the French fishery was small. France favoured including squid in the second-tier quota as a means of solving the by-catch problem.

The delegate of the USA reminded the participants that there were two questions to be addressed. First was the protection of certain species on Georges Bank through the proposal concerning gear and area restrictions, and second, the question of the two-tier quota. Not to be lost in the US emphasis on these two issues was its concern for the reconciliation of Canada's proposal concerning effort limitation off the Canadian coast, another important factor in ICNAF's success. The USA had proposed a second-tier quota of 550,000 tons including squid but was determined to work out a solution acceptable to the countries present. The USA would be interested in other proposals and would entertain any proposal that excluded squid if the TACs were set at low enough levels. Despite the emphasis on the second-tier quota, the USA still had not abandoned its desire for greater protection on Georges Bank. The delegate of the USA suggested that a vote be taken on the US proposal.

The delegate of Japan stated that he understood the political implications of such a vote and was prepared to discuss the matter further. The USA was, however, the only country that wished to have the subject reopened. An indicative vote, rather than a binding vote, might be more suitable for evaluation of the countries' positions with regard to this question. Such a vote should be taken on whether or not the decision taken at the 1975 Annual Meeting should be reconsidered.

The delegate of Italy suggested that the solution be worked out privately and further recommended that the

Meeting be recessed to facilitate such compromise. The delegate of Canada advised that a failure by the Panel to change the 1975 Annual Meeting decision was unacceptable to Canada, and if that decision were left unchanged, his Government would file an objection. It may be possible, he continued, to work out some type of compromise, suggesting that the figure of 550,000 tons, excluding squid, be set as the second-tier quota. The delegate of the FRG noted that his delegation could not accept the compromise suggested by Canada as it would be at the expense of countries that did not fish for squid. At the 1975 Annual Meeting, the FRG had voted for the 650,000-ton quota including squid, but the majority had decided against including squid. Since the 1975 Annual Meeting, two countries had objected to the decision taken at that time to exclude squid. The scientists had not changed their position since the 1975 Annual Meeting. The delegate of the GDR reported that the GDR would support any measures that would lead to greater stocks of fish, but noted that the GDR had taken the following position at the 1975 Annual Meeting. First, the GDR believed that the scientists' estimate that a TAC of 650,000 tons would lead to recovery, and that a higher TAC was possible without significant effect; second, that the second-tier quota was aimed at the by-catch problem in 1973, and that through steps the GDR had reduced her by-catch coefficient from 3.1% to 0.4%; third, that the GDR squid fishery, amounting to 900 tons in 1974, had revealed a low by-catch. The GDR did not think that separating the squid from the second-tier quota was contrary to the STACRES recommendation, but suggested that all countries take a proportional reduction in their second-tier quota.

Discussion followed concerning the absence of two Members of the Panel (Bulgaria and Romania) and whether it would still require eight affirmative votes for the Panel to adopt a proposal. Although it was possible to conduct a poll by telephone or telex if necessary, the Chairman indicated that it appeared doubtful that any measure could be adopted unless it received eight or more affirmative votes in the Panel. An indicative vote on whether the 1975 Annual Meeting decision to exclude squid from the TAC should be changed resulted in 4 'yes', 3 'no', 3 'abstain', and 2 'absent'.

The delegate of Japan noted that, even if it were possible to reach agreement on a second-tier quota, much work remained to be done to allocate such a quota among the Panel Members. The delegate of the USA expressed his chagrin at the results of the indicative vote. The only conclusion he could draw was that the other Members of Panel 5 did not believe that the USA was serious about the need for conservation. There seemed to be little point in proceeding with the discussion unless specific proposals were forthcoming that would begin to meet the US requirements. There would be sacrifices to be made by all the participants. The USA was serious about its position, but was now faced with immediate drastic decisions. Based on the indicative vote just taken, it was possible that the USA would remove itself from further substantive discussions. It was possible for the USA only to express its greatest concern over the matter.

The delegate of Japan noted that he had requested the indicative vote to show what the attitudes of the other participating Governments were. Japan, he reported, was fully prepared to move forward to reach a solution to the problems. The delegate of Spain also reported being ready to move toward a solution.

The delegate of Canada stated that the indicative vote may have been a signal to the US Congress to extend jurisdiction. It was not the case that Member Governments were relieved of responsibility for their actions by participating in an indicative vote; if indicative votes were a means of exploration, it may be appropriate to see which of the suggested courses of action might lead to a resolution of the difficulties. The delegate of the USA, having given a fresh appraisal of the political realities, suggested that those interested in an agreement might give an indication of where compromise might lie. Two delegations who voted 'no' to the question of whether the decision made during the 1975 Annual Meeting should be reconsidered had already indicated a willingness to take a new look. The delegate of Canada suggested voting on the proposals which had been made to see which might lead to an area of compromise. The delegate of the GDR supported this suggestion.

The first vote, taken on the FRG's suggestion that the second-tier quota be set, as was done originally at the 1975 Annual Meeting at 650,000 tons including squid, resulted in an indicative vote of 5 'yes', 3 'no', 2 'abstain', and 2 'absent'. The second vote, the Canadian compromise suggestion that the second-tier quota be set at 550,000 tons excluding squid, resulted in an indicative vote of 4 'yes', 2 'no', 4 'abstain', and 2 'absent'. The final vote on the US proposal that the second-tier quota be set at 550,000 tons including squid resulted in a vote of 2 'yes', 5 'no', 3 'abstain', and 2 'absent'.

Following the votings, the delegate of the USA noted that the result of the first vote regarding the reconsideration of the second-tier quota excluding squid told the story. The further votings almost constituted a charade, as it appeared that the minds of the delegates were already made up. The failure of ICNAF to come to grips with this problem would have profound effects on US policy. The failure of ICNAF to seek appropriate solutions would add to the already serious pressures being brought to bear on this matter.

The delegate of Canada, quoting Shakespeare, remarked "Perseverance keeps honour bright". The historical doctrine of the freedom of the seas has been modified either by international agreements and regulations, or extensions of jurisdiction. Freedom of the seas may become more destructive through the application of advanced technology in the fisheries. Extension of jurisdiction implies the responsibility of the coastal state to maintain the stocks and see that any surpluses are fully utilized by others. It had been an integral part of the Canadian position that there was a need for an international body such as ICNAF to manage the fisheries. If the members persist in taking no action, a call for extension of jurisdiction by the coastal states would follow at an early date. The delegate of Canada suggested a meeting of the heads of delegations at the earliest

possible time to discuss the fundamental underlying problems, such a meeting to have priority over the other Agenda Items now before the Commission.

The Chairman of the Commission noted that the questions to be faced were very broad, and that the sincerity of the Canadian delegation should not be underestimated. The issues at stake at this session of the Commission raised serious questions for any type of international fisheries management scheme. With the attendant Law of the Sea problems also at stake, there should be a meeting of the heads of delegations as soon as possible. The delegate of the UK, noting that the UK was not a Member of Panel 5, suggested that the Members of Panel 5 could decide the fate of the Commission and that those Member Governments not Members of Panel 5 should have some share in the decision. Commenting on the dispute at hand, without reference to the particulars of the scientific information, he considered that the action of the Members of the Panel at the 1975 Annual Meeting in removing species from a quota already decided without making a reduction in the overall TAC itself amounted to sharp practice and constituted the worst sort of basis for making a decision. The delegate of Denmark supported the position taken by the UK delegate, stating that decisions which affect the wider membership of the Commission should be taken by the entire membership of the Commission. He noted that the indicative vote had been taken not to complicate the issues, but to remove the problems inherent in a final vote.

11. The Meeting of Panel 5 was recessed at 1600 hrs, 23 September.

12. The Panel reconvened at 0900 hrs, 24 September, with the heads of the Panel Member delegations, the heads of the Danish, Norwegian, Portuguese, and the UK delegations, and the Observer from Cuba present.

13. The Chairman called for further discussion of the conservation of all finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, and reviewed the status of attempts during meetings of the Panel on 23 September to resolve Panel Members' differences regarding the TAC and national allocation for all finfish and squid and the exclusion of squid from the second-tier quota. He reviewed the history and purpose of the two-tier quota system for the benefit of heads of the non-Panel member delegations present.

A lengthy discussion followed during which the participants repeated the views they had expressed during the earlier Panel session on how the two-tier quota system should be applied in the circumstances. Italy, Japan, and Spain, those countries interested primarily in the squid fishery, maintained that the unique biological characteristics of the squid should be taken into consideration. Its short-life cycle set it apart from the other species under regulation, and the scientific evidence indicated that the squid stocks were not in the same danger of depletion as some of the other species included in the second-tier quota. Therefore, substantial fishing should be allowed to prevent the loss of a valuable resource. If squid were included in the second tier, the countries which fished for squid would suffer such reductions in their second-tier quota that they would not be able to take all the available squid after by-catch was considered. The delegate of Spain suggested that a TAC of 576,000 tons, excluding squid, was an appropriate level, both to separate the squid and keep the TAC under 650,000 tons.

The alternate position, taken by those countries whose fisheries do not rely primarily on squid, was that the conservation requirements necessary now and the removal of the squid from the TAC reduced their potential allocations to the point where the sacrifice necessary to meet the conservation ends of the Commission would not be shared equally. The delegate of the USA pointed out that it was necessary to allow for the excessive unreported by-catch noted by US inspectors by reducing the second-tier TAC to 550,000 tons even if squid were excluded. The delegate of the GDR reminded the delegates that countries fishing for herring and mackerel could pose the question of removing those species from the second-tier TAC. The delegate of the USA stated that such an erosion would threaten the entire ICNAF management system.

Delegates suggested various compromise overall TACs and allocations during the course of the discussion. The first compromise noted that the middle ground between the decision taken at the 1975 Annual Meeting for a 650,000-ton quota excluding squid, and the current US position of 550,000 tons including squid, was 600,000 tons excluding squid. A second compromise called for including the squid fisheries with the highest by-catch in the second-tier TAC and removing those with the cleaner fisheries. Although allocations were calculated removing *Illex* from the TAC, the Panel decided that the scientific evidence available did not support such a separation, as pointed out in Addendum 1 to the Report of STACRES.

Lengthy discussion centered on two points: first, that 650,000 tons would be the ceiling figure for the second-tier TAC; and, second, whether squid would be included in that TAC. The delegate of Canada noted that Canada's second-tier allocation would more accurately reflect Canada's needs if set at 18,000 tons, and offered the 4,000-ton difference between that and the 22,000-ton allocation set for Canada at the 1975 Annual Meeting to help balance the needs of the others who fish in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

14. The Meeting of Panel 5 recessed at 1305 hrs, 24 September.

15. The Meeting of Panel 5 reconvened at 2115 hrs, 24 September, to consider five proposals for the allocation of second-tier TACs of 650,000 tons including squid and 576,000 tons excluding squid. After lengthy consideration of these possibilities, and further modifications, the delegate of Japan, seconded by the delegate of the USA, moved that the Panel vote on the following allocation of a 576,000-ton quota which excluded squid:

Bulgaria	13,750 tons
Canada	18,000 "
France	2,950 "
Federal Republic of Germany	13,750 "
German Democratic Republic	47,500 "
Italy	1,750 "
Poland	68,000 "
Romania	3,850 "
USSR	169,000 "
USA	213,000 "
Others	24,450 "

576,000 tons

The motion was defeated by a vote of 5 'yes', 3 'no', 2 'abstain', and 2 'absent' (Romania and Bulgaria). The delegate of Spain, seconded by the delegate of the USA, then moved that the Panel adopt the following allocations, based on a 650,000-ton TAC including squid:

Bulgaria	14,400 tons
Canada	18,000 "
France	2,950 "
Federal Republic of Germany	14,900 "
German Democratic Republic	48,750 "
Italy	6,800 "
Japan	18,000 "
Poland	76,500 "
Romania	3,850 "
Spain	16,000 "
USSR	177,250 "
USA	230,000 "
Cuba	21,000 "
Others	1,600 "

650,000 tons

These allocations were adopted by Panel 5 by a vote of 10 'yes' and 2 'absent', noting that Cuba intends to take 21,000 tons in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. Therefore, Panel 5

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 second-tier TAC and allocation of finfish and squid, as adopted at the 1975 Annual Meeting of the Commission, be amended to read as shown in Table 1.

16. The Meeting of Panel 5 recessed at 0115 hrs, 25 September.

17. Panel 5 reconvened at 1645 hrs, 26 September, for further consideration of vessel, gear, and area restrictions on Georges Bank in Subarea 5. The delegate of the USA introduced Commissioner's Document 75/IX/47 (Revised) which showed a smaller area than that originally proposed for the gear restriction on Georges Bank. The delegate of the USSR added that the revisions in the proposal were the result of lengthy and difficult discussions and although the USSR was greatly affected by the proposal, and had opposed it, the USSR delegation considered themselves co-authors of the revised proposal and were prepared to accept it. The delegate of Japan, who had expressed difficulties with the original proposal, stated that he was prepared to accept the revised proposal. The delegate of the GDR noted that the proposal would not affect the large GDR pelagic fisheries in the area, and stated that his delegation was in favour of it. The delegate of Poland stated that his delegation was prepared to accept the proposal.

The delegate of Spain stated that he had expressed his opposition to the proposal at two earlier meetings of the Commission. As some parts of the northeast portion of the closed area were areas of importance for the Spanish cod fishery, he could not accept the proposal and would vote against it.

The Panel, by a vote of 9 'yes', 1 'no', and 2 'absent',

agreed to recommend to the Commission

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 of the Convention Area and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 (Appendix I).

18. Consideration of the Statement of the Government of Cuba (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/39). The Observer from Cuba pointed out, in the course of discussing revision of the 1975 Annual Meeting allocation of "Others" quotas to take into account the request of Cuba for quotas in certain stocks for 1976 that Cuba's directed fisheries in the Subareas would be for mackerel and hakes, and that the other requests were primarily intended to cover the calculated by-catch in those fisheries. It was noted that the Cuban request for an allocation of herring would be considered at a Special Meeting to be held in January 1976. After some revision of the original Cuban proposal, the Panel

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the "Others" allocations as determined at the 1975 Annual Meeting for 1976 for certain stocks of finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 be amended as shown in Table 1.

The delegate of Italy declared that mackerel was an important part of Italy's fishery program, but that he could agree to a 2,000-ton allocation for the "Others" category in which Italy would fish in 1976. He stated that Italy intended to take 1,800 tons of mackerel in 1976, and possibly would seek an allocation of that species at some time in the future.

19. There being no further business, the Meeting of Panel 5 adjourned at 1800 hrs, 26 September.

Table 1. Summary of revised 1976 allocations for certain stocks in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

	Cod	Mackerel	Silver hake		Red hake		Other finfish ¹	Squid <i>Loligo</i>	All finfish ² + squid
	5Z	5+6	5Ze	5Zw+6	5Ze	5Zw+6	SA 5+6	SA 5+6	SA 5+6
TAC recommended by Scientific Advisers	35,000	254,000	50,000	43,000	26,000	16,000	150,000	44,000	650,000
Bulgaria	-	16,300	600	-	-	-	4,000	-	14,400
Canada	4,519	4,400	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,000
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,950
FRG	-	1,200	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	14,900
GDR	-	48,900	-	-	-	-	3,000	-	48,750
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,300	6,800
Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,700	18,000
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	457	78,300	-	-	-	-	10,000	1,700	76,500
Portugal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Romania	-	3,200	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,850
Spain	6,645	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,800	16,000
USSR	2,314	88,000	36,400	30,000	19,000	9,000	50,000	2,000	177,250
UK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
USA	20,000	4,700	8,500	9,000	1,000	6,000	68,000	8,500	230,000
Cuba	400	7,000	4,250	3,750	1,400	900	3,000	1,000	21,000
Others	665	2,000	250	250	4,600	100	12,000	2,000	1,600
Total allocated catches	35,000	254,000	50,000	43,000	26,000	16,000	150,000	44,000	650,000
Estimated catch outside Convention Area									

¹ Excluding TAC species and also menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

² Excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

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

That Proposal (1) for International Regulation of Fishing Gear Employed in Subarea 5 and in Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6, adopted at the November 1974 Fifth Special Commission Meeting (November 1974 Meeting Proceedings, pages 26-27) and entered into force on 27 July 1975, be replaced by the following:

"1. That each Contracting Government take appropriate action to prohibit the taking of fish, other than crustacea, from vessels over 130 feet (39.6 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), in the area adjacent to the United States coast within that part of Subarea 5 (Southern New England and Gulf of Maine) and the adjacent waters to the west and south which lies north of 39°00'N and north of straight lines connecting 39°00'N, 73°30'W; 40°20'N, 72°33'W and 40°20'N, 68°15'W, and south and west of a straight line drawn between the points: 40°20'N, 68°15'W and 43°17'N, 70°00'W (Area I).

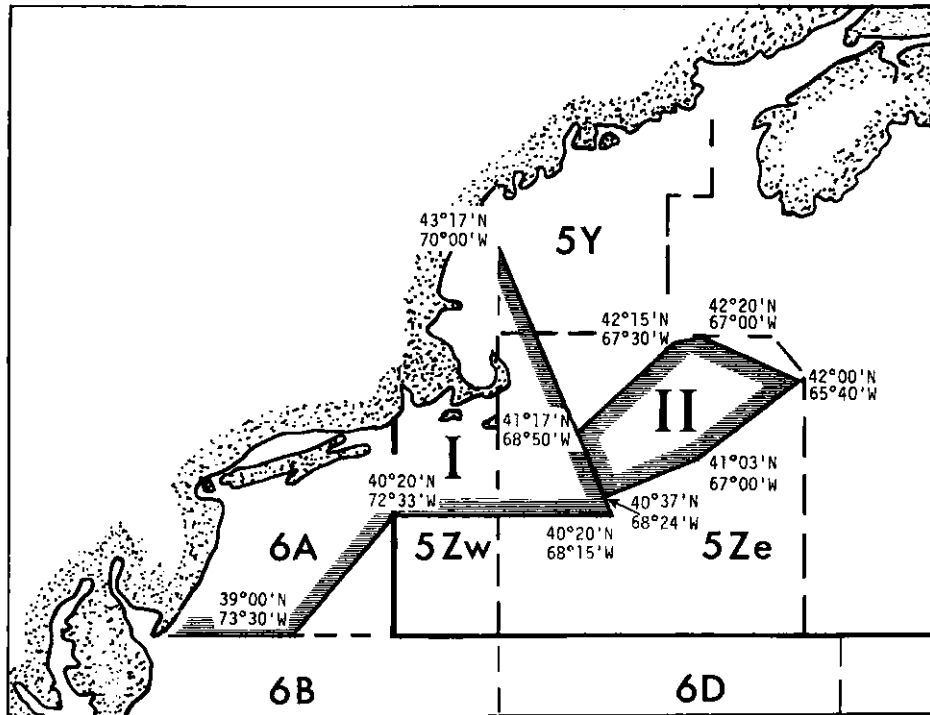
"2. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to prohibit the taking of fish other than crustacea and scallops, by vessels over 155 feet (47.2 m) in length by persons under their jurisdiction with fishing gear other than pelagic fishing gear (purse seines, or true midwater trawls, using midwater trawl doors incapable of being fished on the bottom), in the area of Subarea 5 bounded by straight lines connecting 42°20'N, 67°00'W; 42°00'N, 65°40'W; 41°03'N, 67°00'W; 40°37'N, 68°24'W; 41°17'N, 68°50'W; and 42°15'N, 67°30'W (Area II).

"3. That Contracting Governments prohibit any person to whom paragraphs 1 and 2 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 areas described in paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

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

NOTE: Attached is a chart illustrating the Areas I and II affected by this proposal.

Chart illustrating Areas I and II affected by Proposal (2) for International Regulation of Fishing Gear Employed in the Fisheries in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6



International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

Serial No. 3703
(B.u.75)

Proceedings No. 6

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of Meeting of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)

Wednesday, 24 September, 1430 hrs

1. Opening. The Meeting of STACTIC was called to order by the Chairman, Mr W.G. Gordon (USA).
2. Participants. Representatives were present from the following Member Countries: Canada, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Italy, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, USSR, UK, and USA.
3. Rapporteur. Capt C.F. Juechter (USA) was appointed Rapporteur.
4. Plenary Agenda Item 8, Further Consideration of the Scheme of Joint Enforcement: Fishing Vessel Licensing. The Chairman reviewed the discussions held at the Special Meeting of STACTIC held 4-7 March 1975 in Leningrad, USSR (Summ.Doc. 75/9) relating to a US proposal for a system of vessel registration for Member Governments as a means of improving compliance with the Commission's complex system of quota regulations. He pointed out that further consideration had been given the US proposal at the Commission's Annual Meeting in June 1975 (June 1975 Meeting Proceedings No. 4) and called upon the USA to present its new proposal. The delegate of the USA presented the US proposal (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/45) explaining that it took into account the discussions and suggestions made at the 1975 Annual Meeting and thus had been modified accordingly. The delegate of Canada endorsed the US proposal but suggested certain changes and additions be made to it with a view to strengthening the registration scheme proposed. The delegate of the USSR stated that he wished to reserve opinion on this proposal until the matter of Canadian port closures was resolved.

After considerable discussion concerning substantive and editorial changes, STACTIC

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, a proposal (3) for national registration of vessels engaged in fishing or in the treatment of sea fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 (Appendix I).

5. The Meeting of STACTIC adjourned at 1600 hrs.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

(3) Proposal for National Registration of Vessels Engaged in Fishing or in the Treatment of Sea Fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6

STACTIC recommends that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government the following proposal for joint action by the Contracting Governments:

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 over 50 gross tons engaged in fishing or in the treatment of 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 or charterer of vessel,
- (e) Certification that master has been provided with the regulations in force for the area or areas where the vessel will be engaged in fishing for sea fish,
- (f) Principal target species of the vessel while engaged in fishing for sea fish while in the Convention Area or Statistical Areas 0 and 6,
- (g) Subareas where the vessel will be expected to fish.

"3. A document of registration of the vessel in a form prescribed by the national legislation shall be maintained aboard the vessel and shall be made available to any authorized inspector conducting an inspection under the provisions of the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement.

"4. If the activities or purposes of any properly registered vessel as stated on the registration form are changed, endorsements with the changes noted shall be submitted to the ICNAF Secretariat as soon as possible after the date of the change but in any event no later than 30 days after the date of the change, and message endorsements may be appended to the registration form aboard the vessel to reflect the Flag State's acknowledgement of such changes.

"5. The ICNAF Secretariat will provide to Member Governments requesting such information monthly listings of all vessels registered to fish in the Convention Area or Statistical Areas 0 and 6, including the activities the vessels are authorized to conduct."



Serial No. 3704
(B.e.75)

Proceedings No. 7

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of Joint Meetings of Panels 3, 4, and 5

Wednesday, 24 September, 1630 hrs

Sunday, 28 September, 1015 hrs

1. A Joint Meeting of Panels 3, 4, and 5 was convened by Mr E. Gillett (UK).
 2. Mr V.M. Hodder (ICNAF) was appointed Rapporteur.
 3. The Panels met to consider Plenary Agenda Item 9, Further Consideration of Exemption Clauses in Trawl Regulations in Subareas 3, 4, and 5. The delegate of the USA introduced a draft proposal for the simplification of the trawl regulations relevant to the exemption clauses for certain species when fishing is conducted for other species with small-meshed gear. He indicated that it was necessary to prepare the text of the amendment for each of Subareas 3, 4, and 5 separately to take account of the different species that would be affected. There was general agreement to the proposed amendments, but most delegates felt the need to examine the text of the amendments before agreeing to the proposal.
 4. The Joint Meeting of Panels 3, 4, and 5 recessed at 1700 hrs, 24 September.
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5. The Joint Meeting of Panels 3, 4, and 5 reconvened at 1015 hrs, Sunday, 28 September.
 6. The draft text of the amendments to the mesh regulations for Subareas 3, 4, and 5 was considered, and Panels 3, 4, and 5, in joint session,

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, Proposal (4) for mesh regulation of the trawl fishery in Subarea 3 (Appendix I), Proposal (5) for mesh regulation of the trawl fishery in Subarea 4 (Appendix II), and Proposal (6) for mesh regulation of the trawl fishery in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (Appendix III).
 7. The Joint Meeting of Panels 3, 4, and 5 adjourned at 1025 hrs, 28 September.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

- (4) Proposal for International Mesh Regulation of the Trawl Fishery for Cod, Haddock, Redfish, Halibut, Witch, Yellowtail Flounder, American Plaice, Greenland Halibut, Pollock, and White Hake in Subarea 3 of the Convention Area

Panel 3, in joint session with Panels 4 and 5, recommends that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government the following proposal for joint action by Contracting Governments:

That paragraph 3(i) of the Trawl Regulations for Subarea 3, adopted at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report, Vol. 24, 1973/74, page 92) and entered into force on 11 January 1975, be replaced by the following:

- "3. (i) In order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for other species and which take small quantities of cod, haddock, and other regulated species incidentally, except as provided for in paragraph 3(ii), the Contracting Governments permit persons under their jurisdiction to take cod, haddock, and other regulated species with nets having a mesh size less than that specified in the preceding paragraph, so long as such persons do not have in possession (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species which has been fishing in the Convention Area or in Statistical Area 6, cod, haddock, and other regulated species mentioned in paragraph 1 above taken together in amounts in excess of 2,500 kg (5,510 lbs) for each or 10% by weight for each, of all fish on board such vessel, whichever is greater."

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

(5) Proposal for International Mesh Regulation of the Trawl Fishery for Cod, Haddock, and Flounders in Subarea 4 of the Convention Area

Panel 4, in joint session with Panels 3 and 5, recommends that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government the following proposal for joint action by Contracting Governments:

That paragraph 2(i) of the Trawl Regulations for Subarea 4, adopted at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report, Vol. 24, 1973/74, page 93) and entered into force on 11 January 1975, be replaced by the following:

- "2. (i) In order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for other species and which take small quantities of cod, haddock, and flounders incidentally, except as provided for in paragraph 2(ii), the Contracting Governments permit persons under their jurisdiction to take cod, haddock, and flounders with nets having a mesh size less than that specified in the preceding paragraph, so long as such persons do not have in possession (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species which has been fishing in the Convention Area or Statistical Area 6, cod, haddock, and flounders in amounts in excess of 2,500 kg (5,510 lbs) for each or 10% by weight for each, of all fish on board such vessel, whichever is greater."

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

- (6) Proposal for International Mesh Regulation of the Trawl Fishery for Cod, Haddock, and Yellowtail Flounder in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area, and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6

Panel 5, in joint session with Panels 3 and 4, recommends that the Commission transmit to the Depositary Government the following proposal for joint action by Contracting Governments:

That paragraph 2(i) of the Trawl Regulations for Subarea 5, adopted at the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting (Annual Report, Vol. 24, 1973/74, page 94) and entered into force on 11 January 1975, be replaced by the following:

- "2. (i) In order to avoid impairment of fisheries conducted primarily for other speices and which take small quantities of cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder incidentally, except as provided for in paragraph 2(ii), the Contracting Governments permit persons under their jurisdiction to take cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder with nets having a mesh size less than that specified in the preceding paragraph, so long as such persons do not have in possession (either at sea or at the time of off-loading) on board a vessel fishing primarily for other species which has been fishing in the Convention Area or in Statistical Area 6, cod, haddock, or yellowtail flounder in amounts in excess of 2,500 kg (5,510 lbs) for each or 10% by weight for each, of all fish on board such vessel, whichever is greater."

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

Serial No. 3705
(B.e.75)

Proceedings No. 8

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of Meetings of Panel 3

Thursday, 25 September, 0915 hrs
Thursday, 25 September, 1700 hrs
Friday, 26 September, 1500 hrs

1. The Meeting of Panel 3 was opened by the Chairman, Mr R.H. Letaconnoux (France).
2. Mr J.S. Beckett (Canada) was appointed Rapporteur.
3. The Agenda, Consideration of Items 10 and 12 from the Plenary Agenda, was adopted.
4. All members of the Panel, except Bulgaria and Romania, were present. A representative of the FRG, and Observers from Cuba were in attendance.
5. Conservation Requirements. The Chairman of the Scientific Advisers to Panel 3, Mr B.B. Parrish (UK), reported on the recommendations of STACRES with regard to each stock as it was considered; and drew attention to Table 1 of Addendum 1 to the Report of STACRES (Proc. 1) which set out the long-term results of controlling fishing intensities at F_{max} and at lower levels.

(a) Div. 3NO cod. The delegate of Canada drew attention to the fact that the new recommendation of STACRES (43,000 tons at F_{max}) was in fact below Canada's call for a lower TAC (60,000 tons) than that (85,000 tons) recommended by STACRES prior to the 1975 Annual Meeting. He emphasized, through clarification by the Chairman of the Scientific Advisers, the benefits, in terms of the speed with which the stock would recover, of fishing below F_{max} .

The delegate of Canada expressed the strong conviction that the TAC should be below that necessary to achieve F_{max} , but agreed to accept a TAC of 43,000 tons since this was less than half the TAC for 1975.

The Panel

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 TAC for Div. 3NO cod be as shown in Table 1.

(b) Subdiv. 3Ps cod. The delegate of Canada noted that this stock was very important to Canadian fishermen and called for a TAC lower than the 48,000 tons estimated by STACRES as being necessary to achieve F_{max} .

The Panel

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 TAC for Subdiv. 3Ps cod be as shown in Table 1.

(c) Div. 3P redfish. The delegate of Canada stated that, while it was desirable to fish below F_{max} since the status of this particular stock was close to the MSY level and since good recruitment was anticipated, he would agree to the TAC being set at the F_{max} level.

The Panel

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 TAC for Div. 3P redfish be as shown in Table 1.

6. National Allocations

(a) Div. 3NO cod. The Observer from Cuba drew attention to Comm.Doc. 75/IX/39 which contained an

assessment of Cuba's quota requirements for various stocks, including 2,500 tons of Div. 3NO cod.

After some discussion on the method of accommodating the Cuban request, the Panel agreed to recommend a specific national allocation for Cuba rather than to make some provision within the "Others" category.

The delegate of Norway stated that his country would be prepared to carry out no fishing for cod in Div. 3NO provided a satisfactory amount of cod was allocated in Subdiv. 3Ps.

The delegates of Canada, France, and Spain requested allocations of 8,000, 500, and 21,000 tons, respectively. The Panel, by a vote of 11 in favour, 1 against (Spain), and 2 absent,

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 allocations of Div. 3NO cod be as shown in Table 1,

provided that Norway's request could be satisfied in Subdiv. 3Ps (see paragraph 10(a) below).

(b) Subdiv. 3Ps cod. The delegates of Canada, France, Norway, and Spain requested allocations of 15,000 tons (plus 15,000 tons estimated outside the Convention Area), 4,400 tons (plus 1,000 tons estimated outside the Convention Area), 1,400 tons, and 13,500 tons, respectively.

The Panel considered the results of pro-rated reductions in the quotas and the delegate of Spain stated that his Government would have great difficulty in accepting an allocation as small as that (6,415 tons) which would result from straight pro-rating.

Following some debate, the Panel decided to leave discussion of this stock for the time being.

(c) Div. 3LNO American plaice. The TAC for this stock was set at the 1975 Annual Meeting.

The delegate of Canada stressed the importance of this stock to Canadian fishermen and suggested the national allocations set out in Table 1. He noted that these suggestions represented major reductions for the USSR and Poland and offered 3,000 tons of the Canadian allocation of the Subarea 2-Div. 3K redfish stock to the USSR and 700 tons of Div. 3M cod to Poland. Both these offers were accepted by the respective delegates.

The delegate of Portugal expressed his opposition to the principle of a country, particularly a coastal state with a preferential allocation, giving away part of its quota after this had been determined by the Commission. Panel 3

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the Commission approve the quota transfers proposed by Canada.

The delegate of Denmark expressed his reluctant acquiescence to this action. The Panel by unanimous vote of those present

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 national allocations of Div. 3LNO American plaice be as shown in Table 1.

7. The Meeting of Panel 3 recessed at 1245 hrs.

8. The second Meeting of Panel 3 was held with Mr E. Gillett (UK), the Chairman of the Commission, in the chair, on Thursday, 25 September, at 1700 hrs, to consider specific allocations to Cuba from the "Others" category in a number of stocks. The Panel

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the following allocations be assigned to Cuba and "Others" for 1976:

<u>Stock</u>	<u>Cuba</u>	<u>"Others"</u>
Div. 3M cod	1,900 tons	100 tons
Div. 3M redfish	2,200 "	200 "
Div. 3LN redfish	2,700 "	200 "
Div. 3O redfish	1,000 "	200 "

Div. 3LNO yellowtail. Cuba withdrew her request for a specific allocation, but the Panel noted tha

Cuba expected to catch 300 tons as by-catch in 1976.

Div. 3NO witch. Cuba withdrew her request for a specific allocation, but the Panel noted that Cuba expected to catch 500 tons as by-catch in 1976.

9. The Meeting of Panel 3 recessed at 1815 hrs, Thursday, 25 September.

10. The third Meeting of Panel 3 was reconvened at 1500 hrs, Friday, 26 September, to further consider national allocations for the two outstanding stocks, Subdiv. 3Ps cod and Div. 3P redfish.

(a) Subdiv. 3Ps cod. The Panel, by unanimous vote of those present, agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 allocations of Subdiv. 3Ps cod be as shown in Table 1.

The delegate of Norway confirmed that the allocation of Subdiv. 3Ps cod was satisfactory to his delegation and that he could withdraw the proviso attached to the Div. 3NO cod allocations.

(b) Div. 3P redfish. The Panel, by unanimous vote of those present, agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 allocations of Div. 3P redfish be as shown in Table 1.

11. The Meeting of Panel 3 adjourned at 1525 hrs, Friday, 26 September.

Table 1. Summary of 1976 revised TACs and allocations for certain stocks in Subarea 3.

	Cod			Redfish				American plaice
	3M	3NO	3Ps	3M	3LN	3O	3P	3LNO
TAC recommended by Scientific Advisers	40,000	43,000	48,000	16,000	20,000	16,000	18,000	47,000
Bulgaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	2,100	8,000	14,000	1,000	1,300	500	12,500	43,000
Denmark	6,840	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	6,650	500	4,400	-	-	-	1,500	700
FRG	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GDR	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	-	-
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norway	1,330	-	1,400	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	1,460	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal	10,000	2,600	-	-	1,000	-	-	-
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spain	2,090	18,400	9,250	-	-	-	-	-
USSR	4,940	10,200	950	12,600	13,800	14,300	3,800	3,000
UK	2,090	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
USA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cuba	1,900	2,000	-	2,200	2,700	1,000	-	-
Others	100	1,300	1,500	200	200	200	200	300
Total Allocated Catches	40,000	43,000	31,500	16,000	20,000	16,000	18,000	47,000
Estimated catch outside Convention Area			15,000 (CAN) 1,000 (FRA)					



Serial No. 3706
(B.e.75)

Proceedings No. 9

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of Meetings of Panel 4

Thursday, 25 September, 1400 hrs
Friday, 26 September, 1515 hrs

1. Opening. The meeting was convened by the Chairman, Mr K. Løkkegaard (Denmark). All Panel members, except Bulgaria, were represented, as well as Observers from Cuba.
2. Rapporteur. Mr V.M. Hodder (ICNAF) was appointed Rapporteur.
3. Agenda. The Panel agreed to consider Plenary Agenda Items 10 and 12 insofar as they pertained to Panel 4.
4. Report of Scientific Advisers. Mr R.C. Hennemuth (USA), Chairman of Scientific Advisers to Panel 4, reviewed those sections of the Report of STACRES (Proc. 1) relevant to Panel 4. He noted that STACRES considered the TACs for three stocks and provided advice not only on the TAC levels at F_{max} but also, for two cod stocks, on catch levels corresponding to F-values lower than F_{max} (Proc. 1, Appendix I, Table 1). He observed that the lower the TAC is set below the level corresponding to F_{max} , the quicker will be the recovery of the stocks to their long-term equilibrium levels. It was also noted that, for haddock in Div. 4X, there was no change in the advice provided by Scientific Advisers at the 1975 Annual Meeting (Redbook 1975, page 35).
5. Conservation Requirements

(a) Haddock in Div. 4X. The Panel noted that the Scientific Advisers at the 1975 Annual Meeting had advised that there should be no directed fishery on this stock but that a by-catch of haddock in fisheries for other species in the area would be about 15,000 tons. The delegate of Canada indicated the desirability of setting a TAC for the by-catch of haddock and of allocating the TAC as was done for 1975. The Panel accordingly

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 TAC for haddock in Div. 4X be 15,000 metric tons with the allocations as set out in Table 1.

(b) Cod in Div. 4X (offshore). The Panel noted that it had agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting to a 1976 TAC of 4,000 tons in accordance with the advice of the Scientific Advisers at that Meeting, but that the allocation of this TAC was deferred to this Special Meeting. The Panel accordingly

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the allocation of the 1976 TAC of 4,000 metric tons of cod in Div. 4X (offshore) be as set out in Table 1.

(c) Cod in Subdiv. 4Vs and Div. 4W. The Panel took note of the advice of STACRES at this Meeting that the TAC at F_{max} should not exceed 30,000 metric tons for 1976. The delegate of Canada suggested that the TAC should be set at 29,000 tons, a level slightly lower than that at F_{max} , but reluctantly agreed to 30,000 tons, after several delegates indicated the severity of the reduction from the 1975 TAC of 60,000 tons. The Observer from Cuba indicated his desire for an allocation of 2,800 tons from this stock but noted that the drastic reduction in the TAC from the 1975 level would necessarily have an effect on Cuba's requirement. While the delegate of Canada had initially requested an allocation of 18,000 tons from this stock for 1976, he agreed to reduce the request to 17,500 tons in favour of providing an allocation for Cuba and leaving a small amount for "Others". The Panel, by unanimous vote of the members present (Bulgaria absent)

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 TAC for cod in Subdiv. 4Vs and Div. 4W be 30,000 metric tons with the allocations as set out in Table 1.

(d) Cod in Div. 4T (Jan-Dec) and Subdiv. 4Vn (Jan-Apr). The Panel took note of the advice of STACRES at this Meeting that the TAC at F_{max} should not exceed 30,000 tons for 1976, and also that this represented a reduction from the 1975 TAC of 50,000 tons. The delegate of Canada, in requesting an allocation of 23,000 tons (of which 4,000 tons would be taken outside the Convention Area), suggested a set of figures as a basis for allocation. The Panel accordingly

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 TAC for cod in Div. 4T (Jan-Dec) and Subdiv. 4Vn (Jan-Apr) be 30,000 metric tons with the allocations as set out in Table 1.

(e) Redfish in Div. 4VWX. The Panel took note of the advice of STACRES at this Meeting that the TAC at F_{max} should not exceed 20,000 tons in 1976, and also that this represented a reduction from the 1975 TAC of 30,000 tons. At the request of the delegate of Canada, consideration of this stock was deferred to a later session.

6. Consideration of Request by Cuba for Allocations from Certain Stocks in Subarea 4 (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/39)

(a) Silver hake in Div. 4VWX. The Panel noted that Cuba's request for 15,000 tons exceeded the allocation of 11,000 tons for "Others" agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting. The Observer from Cuba indicated that it would be extremely difficult for him to modify his request for 15,000 tons from this stock and hoped that the Panel could modify the allocations agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting to meet his request. Several delegates pointed out that, even if the additional 4,000 tons were found for CUba, a small allocation of 500 tons should be provided for "Others". The delegate of the USSR agreed to provide 2,000 tons and the delegate of Canada agreed to provide 2,500 tons from their respective allocations agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting. The Panel accordingly

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 allocations for silver hake in Div. 4VWX, as agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting, be amended to those set out in Table 1.

(b) Flounders in Div. 4VWX. The Panel noted that Cuba's request for 2,800 tons from this stock exceeded the allocation of 1,500 tons for "Others" agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting. The Observer from Cuba agreed to reduce his request to 1,300 tons which would leave 200 tons for "Others". The Panel accordingly

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 allocations for flounders (American plaice, witch, and yellowtail) in Div. 4VWX, as agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting, be amended to those set out in Table 1.

(c) Argentine in Div. 4VWX. The Panel noted that Cuba's request for 2,500 tons would completely deplete the allocation for "Others" agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting. In order to meet the Cuban request and also provide an amount for "Others", the delegate of Japan agreed to reduce his country's allocation from 6,000 to 5,500 tons. The Panel accordingly

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 allocations for argentine in Div. 4VWX, as agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting, be amended to those set out in Table 1.

(d) Herring in Div. 4XWb. The Panel noted that further consideration of the TAC and allocations for this stock would take place at a Special Commission Meeting to be held in January 1976, and agreed to defer the Cuban request for an allocation to that Meeting.

(e) Pollock in Div. 4VWX and Subarea 5. The Panel noted that the Cuban request for an allocation from this stock would be considered in a joint meeting of Panels 4 and 5.

7. The Meeting of Panel 4 recessed at 1700 hrs, Thursday, 25 September.

8. The Meeting of Panel 4 reconvened at 1515 hrs, Friday, 26 September.

9. Conservation Requirements (continued)

(a) Redfish in Div. 4VWX. The Panel took note of the advice of STACRES at this Meeting that the TAC for 1976 should not exceed 20,000 tons, the level corresponding to F_{max} , and also that this represented a reduction from the 1975 TAC of 30,000 tons. The Observer from Cuba noted that his request for 850 tons was intended

cover the by-catch of redfish in the silver hake fishery but, considering that the TAC had now been reduced, he would not press for a specific allocation. The Panel accordingly

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 TAC for redfish in Div. 4VWX be set at 20,000 metric tons with the allocations as set out in Table 1.

10. Adjournment. The Meeting of Panel 4 adjourned at 1530 hrs, Friday, 26 September.

Table 1. Summary of 1976 revised TACs and allocations for certain stocks in Subarea 4.

	Cod		Haddock	Redfish	Flounders ¹	Silver hake	Argentine
	4T(Jan-Dec)+ 4Vn(Jan-Apr)	4Vsw 4X (offshore)					
TAC recommended by Scientific Advisers	30,000	4,000	0 ²	20,000	28,000	100,000	25,000
Bulgaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	19,000	3,700	13,300	12,000	17,000	2,500	-
Denmark	650	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	4,000	-	-	250	250	-	-
FRC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GDR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,500
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal	375	-	-	-	-	-	-
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spain	1,725	-	-	-	-	-	-
USSR	-	900	-	1,000	8,900	82,000	16,500
UK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
USA	-	200	1,500	6,000	350	-	-
Cuba	-	-	-	-	1,300	15,000	2,500
Others	250	100	200	750	200	500	500
Total Allocated Catches	26,000	4,000	15,000	20,000	28,000	100,000	25,000
Estimated catch outside Convention Area	4,000 (CAN)	-	-	-	-	-	-

1 American plaice, witch and yellowtail combined.
 2 Recommendation by Scientific Advisers pertains to zero TAC for directed fishery.



Serial No. 3707
(B.e.75)

Proceedings No. 10

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of Joint Meetings of Panels 2 and 3

Thursday, 25 September, 1215 hrs
Friday, 26 September, 1600 hrs

1. A Joint Meeting of Panels 2 and 3 was convened by Mr R.H. Letaconnoux (France) on 25 September, with Mr J.S. Beckett (Canada) as Rapporteur. All members of the Panels, except Bulgaria and Romania, were represented.
2. Redfish in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K. The delegate of Canada requested the Panels to consider the transfer of 3,000 tons of redfish in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K from Canada to the USSR. The Panels also noted the Cuban request for an allocation of 1,000 tons from this stock (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/39). The Observer from Cuba indicated his wish for 2,000 tons to compensate in part for reductions in allocations from other stocks, but finally agreed to an allocation of 1,500 tons, leaving 3,250 tons as the allocation for "Others". The Panels agreed to recommend to the Commission that the 1976 allocations for redfish in Subarea 2 and Div. 3K be as set out in Table 1.
3. The Joint Meeting of Panels 2 and 3 recessed at 1220 hrs, Thursday.
4. The Joint Meeting of Panels 2 and 3 was reconvened at 1600 hrs, Friday, 26 September, with Mr E. Gillett (UK) as Chairman, and Mr J.C. Price (USA) as Rapporteur. All members of the Panels, except Bulgaria and Romania, were represented.
5. Cod in Div. 2J, 3K, and 3L. The delegate of Canada proposed that the Panels consider modifications in the allocations of cod in Div. 2J+3KL relating to the transfer of 4,000 tons from Canada to the USSR, and 1,000 tons from Canada to Spain. Noting the earlier Cuban request for an allocation from this stock, he also requested the Panels to approve the transfer of 1,000 tons from Canada to the allocation for "Others", raising it to 7,000 tons, from which 5,000 tons would be allocated to Cuba.

The delegate of Portugal expressed serious concern over such a procedure. He noted that Canada had been given the full amount of their initial allocation in the belief that this was required to fulfill a genuine need. He stated that this did not now appear to be the case since part of this allocation was simply being used to bargain for gains in other areas. The delegate of Canada called attention to the fact that Canada's catch history, even over the last ten years, showed higher catches of this stock than Portugal. He stated that this was a pertinent point since Canada had held hopes of restoring this fishery to its former levels. He stated that this now no longer appeared possible due to repeated reductions in the TACs for this stock. He added that conditions having changed earlier plans, the subject re-allocations were being made to compensate for earlier sacrifices by the countries concerned.

The delegate of the USSR noted that three months of fishing remained in 1975, and reminded the Panels that the Div. 2J-3KL capelin quota as established at the January 1975 Sixth Special Commission Meeting did not provide for a specific overall TAC, but in addition to the USSR quota specified additional maximum allocations of 10,000 tons for other participants in the fishery. He stated his desire to raise in a preliminary fashion the question of transferring allocations assigned to members who did not plan to fish this capelin stock during the remainder of the year. He emphasized that, while the USSR desired to utilize allocations of others that would otherwise not be fished during 1975, his intention at the present time was only to seek the general advice and views of the Panels on this matter. The delegate of Norway stated that he was not prepared at the present time to respond to this question, but could attempt to do so later in the Meeting.

The delegate of Canada stated that this was a difficult and sensitive issue, particularly as the capelin-cod relationship was viewed as a particularly close one by Canadian fishermen. He concluded that the question

was not necessarily insoluble, but that Canada was not prepared to support the suggestion at the present time. The delegate of the FRG noted that such transfers of allocations had been conducted on a bilateral basis in the past, and that it might now be useful for the Commission to address the general issue of the transferability of such allocations. However, he further noted that in the specific case of Div. 2J-3KL capelin the allocations had been made on the assumption that all the amounts would not be taken, and thus the Panels could not consider that these amounts were available for transfer. The delegate of Denmark supported the observation of the delegate of the FRG on the unavailability of such amounts for transfer in the present situation, but stated the view that sufficient time was not available to begin a discussion of the general issue of quota transfers. The delegate of the USSR agreed that there was not time to begin a discussion of the general issue of quota transfers, but that this might be addressed at a later time. He re-emphasized that his only intention in raising the question in the case of capelin was to determine the general view of the Panels on the issue, including the question of its legality.

The delegate of Portugal, referring to the previous discussion on Div. 2J+3KL cod, re-emphasized his view that such changes in previously agreed allocations were undesirable, as well as dangerous since one negative vote could upset the entire allocation. He noted that it was not Portugal's intention to object to the present re-allocation since their concern was with the conservation of this stock, but only to stress their view that this was a highly undesirable procedure.

The Panels finally

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 allocations for cod in Div. 2J+3KL be as set out in Table 1.

6. There being no further business, the Joint Meeting of Panels 2 and 3 adjourned at 1630 hrs, Friday, 26 September.

Table 1. Revised 1976 allocations for stocks overlapping Subareas 2 and 3.

	Cod	Redfish
	2J+3KL	2+3K
TAC recommended by Scientific Advisers	300,000	30,000
Bulgaria	-	-
Canada	24,000	500
Denmark	4,200	-
France	14,000	-
FRG	20,000	-
GDR	12,500	2,500
Iceland	-	-
Italy	-	-
Japan	-	-
Norway	4,000	-
Poland	18,500	4,000
Portugal	52,500	2,500
Romania	-	-
Spain	41,000	-
USSR	49,000	15,000
UK	3,300	-
USA	-	750
Cuba	5,000	1,500
Others	2,000	3,250
Total Allocated Catches	250,000	30,000
Estimated catch outside Convention Area	50,000 (CAN)	-



Serial No. 3709
(B.e.75)

Proceedings No. 11

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of Joint Meeting of Panels 4 and 5

Friday, 26 September, 1630 hrs

1. The Joint Meeting of Panels 4 and 5 was convened by the Chairman of the Commission, Mr E. Gillett (UK). All members of the Panels, except Bulgaria and Romania, were present.

2. Mr J.C. Price (USA) was appointed Rapporteur.

3. The Joint Meeting of Panels 4 and 5 was convened to consider the re-allocation of the "Others" quota for the stock of pollock in Subareas 4 and 5 as requested by the Observer from Cuba. The Panels noted the request for a 1,200-ton allocation for Cuba and 400 tons for "Others", and

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that the 1976 allocations for pollock in Subareas 4 and 5 be as set out in Table 1.

4. The delegate of Spain drew attention to the difficulties arising in negotiating the second-tier TAC for Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, due to the pollock stock assessment covering Subareas 4 and 5. Panels 4 and 5 accordingly

agreed to recommend to the Commission

that STACRES be requested to provide separate assessments for the pollock stocks in Subareas 4 and 5 for the 1976 Annual Meeting.

5. There being no further business, the Joint Meeting of Panels 4 and 5 adjourned at 1645 hrs.

Table 1. Summary of 1976 revised allocations for the pollock stock overlapping Subareas 4 and 5.

	Pollock
	4VWX+5
TAC recommended by Scientific Advisers	55,000
Bulgaria	-
Canada	33,500
Denmark	-
France	-
FRG	1,600
GDR	3,500
Iceland	-
Italy	-
Japan	-
Norway	-
Poland	-
Portugal	-
Romania	-
Spain	1,200
USSR	2,100
UK	-
USA	11,500
Cuba	1,200
Others	400
Total Allocated Catches	55,000
Estimated catch outside Convention Area	-

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

Serial No. 3711
(B.e.75)

Proceedings No. 12

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of Joint Meeting of Panels 3 and 4

Friday, 26 September, 1645 hrs

1. The Joint Meeting of Panels 3 and 4 was convened by Mr E. Gillett (UK), with the Executive Secretary as Rapporteur. All Panel members, except Bulgaria and Romania, were represented.
2. The primary purpose of the Joint Meeting was to consider the Cuban request for an allocation of mackerel from the stock in Subareas 3 and 4. The Panels agreed to an allocation of 2,000 tons for Cuba in 1976, leaving 500 tons as the allocation for "Others", and accordingly
agreed to recommend to the Commission
that the 1976 allocations for mackerel in Subareas 3 and 4 be as set out in Table 1.
3. The Joint Meeting of Panels 3 and 4 adjourned at 1650 hrs.

Table 1. Summary of 1976 revised TACs and allocations for certain stocks overlapping Subareas 3 and 4.

	Mackerel
	3+4
TAC recommended by Scientific Advisers	56,000
Bulgaria	-
Canada	15,300
Denmark	-
France	-
FRG	-
GDR	-
Iceland	-
Italy	-
Japan	-
Norway	-
Poland	-
Portugal	-
Romania	-
Spain	-
USSR	17,700
UK	-
USA	500
Cuba	2,000
Others	500
Total Allocated Catches	36,000
Estimated catch outside Convention Area	20,000 (CAN)



Serial No. 3712
(B.z.2)

Proceedings No. 13

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

Report of the Final Plenary Session

Sunday, 28 September, 0945 hrs

1. The Chairman, Mr E. Gillett (UK), opened the Meeting. Representatives of all Member Countries, except Bulgaria, were present. The Republic of Cuba, FAO and ICES were represented by Observers.
 2. The Report of STACRES (Proc. 1 with Appendices and Addendum) was adopted. The delegate of Canada congratulated the scientists for their progressive and realistic report.
 3. The Reports of the Ceremonial Opening (Proc. 2) and the First Plenary Session (Proc. 3) were adopted.
 4. The Report of Panel 5 (Proc. 5) with catch quota recommendations and Proposal (2) regulating fishing gear on Georges Bank in Subarea 5 (Proc. 5, Appendix I) were adopted.
 5. The Report of STACTIC (Proc. 6) with Proposal (3) for national registration of vessels fishing or treating sea fish in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6 (Proc. 6, Appendix I) were adopted.
 6. The Plenary recessed at 1015 hrs, 28 September, to allow a Joint Meeting of Panels 3, 4, and 5 to adopt proposals for amendment of the exemption clauses to the mesh regulations in Subareas 3, 4, and 5 (Proc. 7).
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7. The Plenary Session reconvened at 1020 hrs, 28 September.
 8. The Report of Panel 3 (Proc. 8) with catch quota recommendations was adopted.
 9. The Report of Panel 4 (Proc. 9) with catch quota recommendations was adopted.
 10. The Report of Joint Meetings of Panels 2 and 3 (Proc. 10) with catch quota recommendations was adopted.
 11. The Report of Joint Meetings of Panels 4 and 5 (Proc. 11) with catch quota recommendations was adopted.
 12. The Report of Joint Meetings of Panels 3 and 4 (Proc. 12) with catch quota recommendations was adopted.
 13. The Plenary Session recessed at 1045 hrs, 28 September, to allow for a Joint Meeting of Panels 2, 3, and 4 to consider the revised Canadian proposal for effort limitation on groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4.
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14. The Plenary Session reconvened at 1510 hrs, 28 September.
 15. The Report of Joint Meetings of Panels 2, 3, and 4 (Proc. 4) was reviewed and Proposal (1) for regulation of fishing effort on groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 in 1976 (Proc. 4, Appendix I) was adopted with the addition of "and columnar" after "linear" in paragraph 4 of Attachment 1, and the insertion of all vessel tonnage categories used in the Table forming Attachment 2 to the Proposal. Resolution (1) for early implementation of Proposal (1) for regulation of fishing effort on groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 in 1976 (Proc. 4, Appendix II) with amendments providing for early implementation including any modifications which might be made as a result of a review of the Proposal at a Special Commission Meeting to be held at FAO, Rome, in January 1976 was adopted.
 16. The Report of Joint Meetings of Panels 3, 4, and 5 (Proc. 7) with Proposals (4), (5), and (6) for exemption clauses in mesh regulations in trawl fisheries in Subareas 3 (Proc. 7, Appendix I), 4 (Proc. 7, Appendix II), and 5 (Proc. 7, Appendix III) were adopted.

17. The Plenary considered a Canadian proposal requiring the reporting of monthly effort statistics beginning 1 January 1976 to the Secretariat for collation and circulation to Member Governments. The delegate of Canada explained that the requirement was to develop mutual confidence in the ICNAF effort regulation scheme as provided in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, and to facilitate the planning of enforcement activities by Member Governments. The Plenary agreed to adopt Resolution (2) relating to the provision of monthly catch statistics (Appendix I).

18. The Plenary then considered a resolution relating to the Commission's decisions regarding 1976 catch allocations to the Republic of Cuba in Subareas 2, 3, 4, and 5 and Statistical Area 6. The Resolution (3) (Appendix II) was adopted, with the addition of the paragraph, "Agrees that, if the Republic of Cuba becomes a Member of the Commission before the end of 1975, she will not be bound by the quota regulations of 1975" after the paragraph, "Recognizing.....force". The Observer from Cuba said that his Government was prepared to abide by the other Commission regulations for the remainder of 1975 which would be considered as a period of learning about the Commission's requirements.

19. The Observer from Cuba expressed his grateful pleasure at the adoption of Resolution (3) allocating the Government of Cuba catch quotas for 1976. He thanked all delegations and participants for their warm welcome and consideration of the Cuban request. He announced that the Government of Cuba would take the necessary steps immediately after the Meeting to become a Member of the Commission. He also extended an invitation, on behalf of the Government of Cuba, to the Commission to hold its 1976 Annual Meeting in Cuba. The Plenary unanimously agreed to accept the invitation to hold its 1976 Annual Meeting from 8 to 23 June 1976 in Cuba, and expressed its pleasure and gratitude to the Government of Cuba as hosts.

20. The Chairman drew attention to the table at Appendix III which contained TACs and allocations for 29 fish stocks or species recommended by the Panels and adopted by the Plenary for 1976. He pointed out that the TACs and allocations were for nine stocks deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting (Proposal (11)), revised allocations for 19 stocks agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting (Proposal (11)), and revised TAC and national allocation for 1976 of the whole group of stocks or species (collectively) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. The Plenary agreed

that the Commission transmit to the Depository Government, for joint action by the Contracting Governments, Proposal (7) for international quota regulation of the fisheries in the Convention Area and in Statistical Area 6 (Appendix III).

The delegate of Iceland, in explaining his vote, said that it is the view of the Government of Iceland that the coastal state has sovereign rights over the exploitation of the living resources within a zone of up to 200 miles. Moreover, the Icelandic Government has reservations with regard to the establishment of a quota system and allocations under it as contained in the Canadian proposal. With these reservations, and in view of the overriding necessity to reduce the fishing effort for adequate conservation of the stocks in the areas concerned, Iceland has voted in favour of the Canadian proposal.

At the request of the delegate of the FRG, the Executive Secretary agreed to prepare an up-to-date table of TACs and allocations for 1976 for circulation to Member Countries.

21. The Plenary, at the request of the delegate of the FRG, agreed that a resolution regarding entry into force on 1 January 1976 of the Proposal (7) catch quota measures adopted at this meeting, adopted Resolution (4) drafted by the Executive Secretary to this effect (Appendix IV).

22. The Chairman drew attention to the note by the US Commissioners (Comm.Doc. 75/IX/50) regarding the US intention to place amendments to the Scheme of Joint International Enforcement on the Commission's agenda for the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting. These items would provide authority to temporarily detain vessels in violation, to temporarily withdraw a vessel's registration to fish upon violation, and to penalize Member Countries when a national or "Others" quota has been exceeded. The delegate of Denmark supported by the delegate of the UK felt that it was desirable, as far as possible, not to overload the agenda of special meetings with items which are ordinarily dealt with at Annual Meetings. The danger exists of having too little time to give full consideration to extra items. The delegate of the USA noted that the Commission has grown to be a big, sophisticated organization with a very complex task and, since there are many items to consider, the Commission as a responsible organization must allocate time. He pointed out that the members of STACTIC would be attending the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting and hoped the proposed amendments to the Enforcement Scheme could be considered at a meeting of STACTIC to be held in the early days of the Commission Meeting. He further pointed out that it had been agreed at the June 1975 Annual Meeting that STACTIC could meet during the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting and that Comm.Doc. 75/IX/50 only alerts the Member Countries to proposals which would come from the US Commissioners 60 days in advance of that meeting. The delegate of Canada agreed that it was proper for any Member Government to propose items for the agenda of any meeting of the Commission. Early circulation of a provisional agenda allows for comment on items well before any meeting. The delegate of Denmark said he had no legal objection but was only suggesting that the meeting of STACTIC be postponed to the time of the 1976 Annual Meeting. The delegate of the FRG requested that there be no concurrent meetings of STACTIC and the Panels or Committees. The Plenary agreed that a meeting of STACTIC would be held in conjunction with the January 1976 Special Commission Meeting.

23. The Chairman recognized the delegate of Canada who expressed his delegation's appreciation to the M

Governments for their good will in accepting the Canadian proposal for effort limitation on groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4. He felt that the Commission's accomplishments at this meeting made it obvious that she can be a very effective body and hoped that the credibility of international fisheries management had been vastly improved as a result of this meeting.

24. In response to a question from the delegate of Japan, the delegate of the USA said that his Government would give full consideration to withdrawal of objection to the Proposal (11) for the conservation of finfish and squid in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, adopted at the 1975 Annual Meeting, since his Governments's concern had now been reconciled. The delegate of Spain said that, as far as he knew, Spain would be withdrawing its reservation. His delegation would be presenting a paper containing a proposal for allocation of the second-tier TAC in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6.

25. The Executive Secretary drew attention to the Draft Proceedings of the 25th Annual Meeting of the Commission which was circulated to Member Governments as Circular Letter 75/45 and requested approval. There being no comments, the Plenary accepted the Proceedings.

26. The Chairman recognized the Observer from ICES who thanked the Commission for its continued cooperation and for invitations to the June 1975 and September 1975 Meetings of the Commission. He extended an invitation to any of the delegates to attend the ICES Statutory Meeting which was being held in Montreal beginning 29 September 1975. The Observer from FAO expressed his thanks for the opportunity to attend this most important meeting which would have important reflections elsewhere.

27. Adjournment. The Chairman thanked the meeting participants, host Government and the Commission Secretariat for their contributions to a most successful and historic meeting. There being no other business, the Seventh Special Commission Meeting was adjourned at 1715 hrs, 28 September. A press notice covering the Proceedings of the Meeting is at Appendix V.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

(2) Resolution Relating to the Provision of Monthly Effort Statistics

The Commission

Noting Article VI, paragraphs 1 and 3 of the 1949 International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries;

Recognizing the need to develop mutual confidence in the ICNAF effort regulation scheme and to facilitate the planning of enforcement activities by Member Governments;

Resolves

1. That Member Governments shall from 1 January 1976 report to the Secretariat provisional monthly listings of days fished by vessel tonnage and gear category and ICNAF Division or Subdivision, whether or not the Governments concerned have effort allocations for the tonnage and gear category in that area;
2. That the aforementioned effort statistics shall be reported to the Secretariat within 30 days following the calendar month in which the effort was expended; and
3. That the Secretariat shall, within 10 days following the monthly deadlines for receipt of the provisional effort statistics, collate the information received and circulate it to Member Governments.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

(3) Resolution Relating to the Commission's Decisions Regarding 1976 Catch Allocations to the Republic of Cuba

The Commission

Having Been Informed of the desire of the Republic of Cuba to become a Member of the Commission as soon as possible;

Desiring to clarify any matters which would expedite such membership;

Recalling that the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commission had received a request from the Republic of Cuba for specified catch allocations from certain stocks in Subareas 2, 3, 4, and 5 and Statistical Area 6 for 1976;

Recognizing that the Republic of Cuba would be without a specific quota applicable to it in 1976 with respect of allocations for 1976 made during the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting in June 1975, which allocations are pending entry into force;

Agrees that, if the Republic of Cuba becomes a Member of the Commission before the end of 1975, she will not be bound by the quota regulations for 1975;

Affirms that allocations for the Republic of Cuba and "Others" in the proposals of the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting should be considered to read as in the attached Table;

Requests all Member Governments to so consider the above-mentioned allocations for 1976;

Requests Further that the Depositary Government circulate this Resolution to all Member Governments.

Table - Integral part of Resolution (3) Relating to the Commission's Decisions Regarding 1976 Catch Allocations to the Republic of Cuba, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 28 September 1975

Species or species group	Stock area	1976 Allocations (metric tons)	
		Cuba	Others
Cod	2J+3KL	5,000	2,000
	3M	1,900	100
	3NO	2,000	1,300
	4VsW	600	200
	5Z	400	665
Redfish	2+3K	1,500	3,250
	3M	2,200	200
	3LN	2,700	200
	3O	1,000	200
Silver hake	4VWX	15,000	500
	5Ze	4,250	250
	5Zw+6	3,750	250
Red hake	5Ze	1,400	4,600
	5Zw+6	900	100
Pollock	4VWX+5	1,200	400
Flounders ¹	4VWX	1,300	200
Argentine	4VWX	2,500	500
Mackerel	3+4	2,000	500
	5+6	7,000	2,000
Other finfish ²	5+6	3,000	12,000
Squid (<i>Loligo</i>)	5+6	1,000	2,000
All finfish ³ and squids	5+6	21,000	1,600

¹ American plaice, witch, and yellowtail combined.

² Excluding all TAC species and also menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

³ Excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

(7) Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in the Convention Area and in Statistical Area 6, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 28 September 1975

- That (a) the national quota allocations for 1976 of nine stocks deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting (Proposal 11) and the revised quota allocations of 19 stocks agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting (Proposal 11), and
- (b) the revised national quota allocations for 1976 of the whole group of stocks or species (collectively) in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 (excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish),

shall be in accordance with the following table:

Table - Integral part of Proposal (7) for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in the Convention Area and in Statistical Area 6, adopted by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries in Plenary Session on 28 September 1975.

(a) National allocations (in metric tons) for 1976 of particular stocks or species in the Convention Area and in Statistical Area 6. Quantities in parentheses are estimated catches outside the Convention Area. (Total = Total Allowable Catches (TAC)).

Country	Cod										Haddock				Redfish			
	2J+3KL	3M	3NO	3Ps	4TVn ¹	4Vsw	4X(off-shore) ²	5Z	4X ³	2+3K	3M	3LN	3O	3P	4VWX			
Bulgaria	24,000	2,100	8,000	14,000	19,000	17,500	3,700	4,519	13,300	500	1,000	1,300	500	12,500	12,000			
Canada	(50,000)			(15,000)	(4,000)													
Denmark	4,200	6,840		650		350												
France	14,000	6,650	500	4,400	4,000	700								1,500	250			
Federal Republic of Germany	20,000	500																
German Democratic Republic	12,500								2,500		1,000							
Iceland																		
Italy																		
Japan																		
Norway	4,000	1,330		1,400														
Poland	18,500	1,460																
Portugal	52,500	10,000	2,600		375	150		457			1,000							
Romania																		
Spain	41,000	2,090	18,400	9,250	1,725	9,600		6,645										
USSR	49,000	4,940	10,200	950		900		2,314						3,800	1,000			
UK	3,300	2,090																
USA																		
Cuba	5,000	1,900	2,000			600		1,500	750						6,000			
Others	2,000	100	1,300	1,500	250	200	100	200	3,250	200	200	200	200	200	750			
Total	300,000	40,000	43,000	47,500	30,000	30,000	4,000	35,000	15,000	30,000	20,000	16,000	16,000	18,000	20,000			

¹ Div. 4T(Jan-Dec) and Subdiv. 4Vn(Jan-Apr).

² Div. 4X(offshore) in that part of Div. 4X south and east of the straight lines joining coordinates in order listed: 44°20'N, 63°20'W; 43°00'N, 65°40'W; 43°00'N, 67°40'W.

³ TAC and allocations pertain to by-catch only with no directed fishery.

Table (a) continued

Country	Red hake		Silver hake		American plaice	Flounders ⁴	Pollock	Argentine	Mackerel		Other finfish ⁵	Squid
	5Ze	5Zw+6	4VWX	5Ze					5Zw+6	3+4		
Bulgaria	-	-	-	600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	-	-	2,500	-	43,000	17,000	33,500	-	15,300 (20,000)	16,300 4,400	4,000	-
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	-	-	-	-	700	250	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal Republic of Germany	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,600	-	-	1,200	-	1,000
German Democratic Republic	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,500	-	-	48,900	3,000	-
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,300
Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,500	-	-	-	15,700
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	78,300	10,000	1,700
Portugal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,200	-	-
Spain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,800
USSR	19,000	9,000	82,000	36,400	3,000	8,900	2,100	16,500	17,700	88,000	50,000	2,000
UK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
USA	1,000	6,000	-	8,500	-	350	11,500	-	500	4,700	68,000	8,500
Cuba	1,400	900	15,000	4,250	-	1,300	1,200	2,500	2,000	7,000	3,000	1,000
Others	4,600	100	500	250	300	200	400	500	500	2,000	12,000	2,000
Total	26,000	16,000	100,000	50,000	47,000	28,000	55,000	25,000	56,000	254,000	150,000	44,000

⁴ Flounders in Div. 4VWX pertain to American plaice, witch and yellowtail.

⁵ Excluding TAC species and also menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

NOTE: In addition to the 1976 allocations for Cuba listed in the above Table, their by-catch of witch in Div. 3NO is expected to be 500 tons, and the by-catch of yellowtail in Div. 3LNO is expected to be 300 tons.

Table (b) National allocations for 1976 of stocks or species (collectively) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish).

Country	All finfish ⁶ + squid 5+6
Bulgaria	14,400
Canada	18,000
Denmark	-
France	2,950
Federal Republic of Germany	14,900
German Democratic Republic	48,750
Iceland	-
Italy	6,800
Japan	18,000
Norway	-
Poland	76,500
Portugal	-
Romania	3,850
Spain	16,000
USSR	177,250
UK	-
USA	230,000
Cuba	21,000
Others	1,600
Total	650,000

⁶ Excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975

- (4) Resolution Relating to the Implementation of the Proposal for International Quota Regulation of the Fisheries in the Convention Area and in the Adjacent Waters to the West and South within Statistical Area 6

The Commission

Recognizing that a proposal designed to achieve the conservation and optimum utilization of stocks of fish in the Convention Area and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 through catch quota regulation has been adopted at the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting;

Taking into Account that under Article VIII of the Convention, as amended, this proposal 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 April 1976 at the earliest;

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 completely achieved unless the proposal referred to above is applied throughout 1976;

Recognizing that, in order to achieve the purposes and objectives of the Convention, fishing activity in the area must be conducted in accordance with this proposal throughout 1976;

1. Invites the attention of Governments to the above matters;
2. Stipulates that the proposal referred to above should apply throughout 1976;
3. Requests Governments whose vessels conduct fishing operations in the area to implement the proposal beginning on 1 January 1976;
4. Expects that all Members of the Commission will conduct their fishing operations in accordance with the proposal beginning on 1 January 1976 unless any of the Members of the Panels to which the proposal refers notifies an objection to the Depositary Government prior to that date.

SEVENTH SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1975Press Notice

1. The Seventh Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) was held at Montreal, Canada, during 22-28 September 1975, under the Chairmanship of Mr E. Gillett (UK). About 135 representatives attended from 16 of the 17 Member Countries (Bulgaria absent) as follows: Canada, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, and United States of America. Observers were present from Cuba, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

2. Subjects covered

The main purpose of the meeting was (a) to establish national quotas for 1976 for nine of the stocks in Subareas 3 and 4 which were deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting, (b) to further consider the conservation of all finfish and squids in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, (c) to further consider the Canadian proposal for reduction of fishing effort on groundfish stocks in Subareas 2, 3, and 4, (d) to consider a scheme for registering fishing vessels and further conservation regulations about control of by-catch and closed areas, and (e) to consider Cuba's request for allocations from certain stocks.

3. Scientific advice

The Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) met at Montreal, Canada, during 17-20 September 1975, to review the state of certain stocks in Subareas 3 and 4 and the overall finfish and squid resource in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, and submitted a comprehensive report on these matters.

4. TACs and national allocations

The Commission agreed to total allowable catches (TACs) for 1976 in respect of the nine stocks in Subareas 3 and 4 for which decisions were deferred to this Special Commission Meeting (Table 1). In considering the national allocation of catches for the nine stocks, the Commission noted the request of Cuba for allocations for 1976 from a number of stocks whose TACs and national allocations were agreed at the 1975 Annual Meeting. Therefore, in addition to the allocation of the catches for the nine stocks, the Commission agreed to revised quota allocations for 19 other stocks, all of which are listed in Table 2(a).

The Commission further considered the implications of excluding squids from the overall second-tier TAC of 650,000 tons in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6, as decided at the 1975 Annual Meeting, and agreed to amend that decision by setting the 1976 TAC at 650,000 metric tons for finfish and squids. The revised allocations are given in Table 2(b).

5. Effort reduction in Subareas 2, 3, and 4

The Commission agreed to recommend to Member Governments that fishing effort in Subareas 2, 3 and 4 should be reduced by countries other than the coastal states by approximately 40% of the average number of fishing days in 1972-73. Member Countries will notify the Commission by 30 November of the disposition of the reduced effort in the different areas and by different vessel categories, and may also vary these amounts to a limited extent during 1976. Further consideration will be given to details of the scheme at the January 1976 Meeting.

6. Improvements to fishery regulations

The Commission, in considering the need for further conservation measures to reduce the by-catch of certain groundfish species on Georges Bank, agreed to establish an area on Georges Bank in which the use of fishing gear other than pelagic fishing gear is prohibited for vessels greater than 155 feet (47.2 m) in length.

The Commission also reviewed the ICNAF trawl regulations and agreed to simplify the clauses regarding the permitted by-catch of protected species in fisheries conducted with small-mesh nets.

The Commission further considered the need to improve international enforcement by providing for the licensing of vessels over 50 gross registered tons, engaged in fishing or in processing of fish in the

Convention Area, and agreed that all such vessels be registered by the Flag State and that a report of such registration be filed with the ICNAF Secretariat prior to 1 January of each year, the report to include for each vessel the principal target species and the Subareas where fishing is expected to take place.

7. The Commission agreed on the allocation of stocks to be available to Cuba in Subareas 2-5 and Statistical Area 6 in 1976 in anticipation of Cuba's joining the Commission. The Cuban representative stated that this would enable his Government to adhere to the Convention in 1975. In expectation of the Cuban membership, the Commission accepted with pleasure the invitation of the Government of Cuba to hold its 26th Annual Meeting in Havana, Cuba, from 8 to 23 June 1976.

8. Special meeting

The Eighth Special Meeting of the Commission will be held at FAO in Rome, Italy, in January 1976 to consider the conservation of herring stocks in Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6, further details of the scheme of limitation of fishing effort, and other matters.

9 October 1975

Office of the Secretariat
Dartmouth, N.S., Canada

Table 1. Nominal catches for 1972-74 and total allowable catches (TACs) for 1974-76 for nine stocks deferred from the 1975 Annual Meeting.

Species	Stock area	Catches (000 tons)			TACs (000 tons)		
		1972	1973	1974	1974	1975	1976
Cod	3NO	103	80	73	101	88	43
	3Ps	44	53	46	70	62	47.5
	4Vn (Jan-Apr) + 4T	68	50	49	63	50	30
	4VsW	62	54	44	60	60	30
	4X (offshore)	7	7	6	-	5	4
Haddock	4X	13	13	13	0	15	15
Redfish	3P	26	18	22	25	25	18
	4VWX	50	40	33	40	30	20
American plaice	3LNO	59	53	46	60	60	47

Table 2(a). National allocations (in metric tons) for 1976 of particular stocks or species in the Convention Area and in Statistical Area 6. Quantities in parentheses are estimated catches outside the Convention Area. (Total = Total Allowable Catches (TAC)).

Country	Cod										Haddock				Redfish			
	2J+3KL	3M	3NO	3Ps	4TVn ¹	4VSW	4X(off-shore) ²	5Z	4X ³	2+3K	3M	3LN	30	3P	4VNX			
Bulgaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Canada	24,000 (50,000)	2,100	8,000	14,000 (15,000)	19,000 (4,000)	17,500	3,700	4,519	13,300	500	1,000	1,300	500	12,500	12,000			
Denmark	4,200	6,840	-	-	650	350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
France	14,000	6,650	500	4,400 (1,000)	4,000	700	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,500	250			
Federal Republic of Germany	20,000	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
German Democratic Republic	12,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,500	-	1,000	-	-	-			
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Norway	4,000	1,330	-	1,400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Poland	18,500	1,460	-	-	-	-	-	457	-	4,000	-	-	-	-	-			
Portugal	52,500	10,000	2,600	-	375	150	-	-	-	2,500	-	1,000	-	-	-			
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Spain	41,000	2,050	18,400	9,250	1,725	9,600	-	6,645	-	-	-	-	-	3,800	1,000			
USSR	49,000	4,940	10,200	950	-	900	-	2,314	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
UK	3,300	2,090	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
USA	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	20,000	1,500	750	-	-	-	-	6,000			
Cuba	5,000	1,900	2,000	-	-	600	400	-	-	1,500	2,200	2,700	1,000	-	-			
Others	2,000	100	1,300	1,500	250	200	100	665	200	3,250	200	200	200	200	750			
Total	300,000	40,000	43,000	47,500	30,000	30,000	4,000	35,000	15,000	30,000	16,000	20,000	16,000	18,000	20,000			

1 Div. 4T(Jan-Dec) and Subdiv. 4Vn(Jan-Apr).

2 Div. 4X(offshore) in that part of Div. 4X south and east of the straight lines joining coordinates in order listed: 44°20'N, 63°20'W; 43°00'N, 65°40'W; 43°00'N, 67°40'W.

3 TAC and allocations pertain to by-catch only with no directed fishery.

Table 2(a) continued

Country	Red hake		Silver hake		American plaice	Flounders ⁴	Pollock	Argentine	Mackerel		Other finfish ⁵	Squid
	5Ze	5Zw+6	4VWX	5Ze					3LN0	4VWX		
Bulgaria	-	-	-	600	-	-	-	-	-	16,300	4,000	-
Canada	-	-	2,500	-	43,000	17,000	33,500	-	-	15,300	-	-
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(20,000)	-	-
France	-	-	-	-	700	250	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal Republic of Germany	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,600	-	-	-	-	-
German Democratic Republic	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,500	-	-	1,200	-	1,000
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48,900	3,000	-
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,300
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,500	-	-	-	15,700
Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	78,300	10,000	1,700
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,200	-	-
USSR	19,000	9,000	82,000	36,400	3,000	8,900	1,200	-	-	17,700	88,000	8,800
USA	1,000	6,000	-	8,500	-	350	2,100	16,500	-	500	4,700	8,500
Cuba	1,400	900	15,000	4,250	-	1,300	1,200	2,500	-	2,000	7,000	1,000
Others	4,600	100	500	250	300	200	400	500	-	500	2,000	2,000
Total	26,000	16,000	100,000	50,000	47,000	28,000	55,000	25,000	56,000	254,000	150,000	44,000

⁴ Flounders in Div. 4VWX pertain to American plaice, witch and yellowtail.

⁵ Excluding TAC species and also menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.

NOTE: In addition to the 1976 allocations for Cuba listed in the above Table, their by-catch of witch in Div. 3NO is expected to be 500 tons, and the by-catch of yellowtail in Div. 3LN0 is expected to be 300 tons.

Table 2(b). National allocations for 1976 of stocks or species (collectively) in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish).

Country	All finfish ⁶ + squid 5+6
Bulgaria	14,400
Canada	18,000
Denmark	-
France	2,950
Federal Republic of Germany	14,900
German Democratic Republic	48,750
Iceland	-
Italy	6,800
Japan	18,000
Norway	-
Poland	76,500
Portugal	-
Romania	3,850
Spain	16,000
USSR	177,250
UK	-
USA	230,000
Cuba	21,000
Others	1,600
Total	650,000

⁶ Excluding menhaden, tunas, billfishes, and large sharks other than dogfish.