

International Commission for  the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

Serial No. 5085
(A.b.26)

ICNAF Comm.Doc. 77/VI/6

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1977

Administrative report for the year ending 30 June 1977
(as at 1 May 1977)

by

the Executive Secretary
ICNAF

1. The Future of ICNAF

At the Annual Meeting of the Commission in June 1976, the delegations of Canada and USA announced their decision to extend jurisdiction over fisheries to 200 miles offshore effective 1 January 1977 and 1 March 1977, respectively. As a consequence, the Commission designated a Group of Experts who met from 5 to 7 October 1976 and formulated suggestions regarding future multilateral cooperation in fisheries in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean (*Comm.Doc. 76/XII/64*).

In view of the impending jurisdictional changes and the Commission's procedure which allows Member States to lodge objection to measures agreed by the Commission, Canada and USA, in accordance with Convention Article XVI, served notice on 29 June 1976 and 22 June 1976, respectively, of their intent to withdraw from membership in the Commission on 31 December 1976. Canada revoked her intention on 28 December 1976. The US withdrawal became effective 31 December 1976, thereby reducing the membership in the Commission to seventeen.

At the Ninth Special Meeting of the Commission in December 1976, the Commission, recognizing the pending extension of fisheries jurisdiction to 200 miles offshore, adopted amendments to the Convention which would provide an interim solution pending further consideration of future multilateral cooperation and recommended that action be taken as soon as possible in the first half of 1977 to pursue the development of a framework for such future cooperation, including appropriate institutional arrangements (*Summ.Doc. 77/VI/2*).

At the invitation of the Government of Canada, delegates of the 17 ICNAF Member Countries, the USA, and the European Economic Community participated in a preparatory conference in March of 1977 (*Summ.Doc. 77/VI/11*) and discussed in detail a draft Convention which had been prepared by Canada in an effort to suggest a firm basis in treaty law for the continuation of multilateral cooperation in North Atlantic fisheries within the framework of the new regime of extended coastal state jurisdiction. The Conference agreed that, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of ICNAF in June 1977, a second preparatory meeting should be held which would give further consideration to the functions, competence and responsibilities of the proposed Fisheries Commission, provisions respecting the financing of the proposed new Organization and arrangements for a smooth transition from the ICNAF regime to the proposed new multilateral arrangements. The Conference received with favour the invitation of the Government of Canada to host a diplomatic conference in Ottawa from 11 to 21 October 1977 to consider the adoption of a new Convention.

2. The Commission's Officers

Chairman of the Commission

- Mr E. Gillett (UK) to December 1976
- Dr D. Booss (Fed.Rep. Germany) from December 1976
- Mr D.H. Wallace (USA) to June 1976
- Dr D. Booss (Fed.Rep. Germany) from June 1976
- Vacant from December 1976

Vice-Chairman of the Commission

- Mr V.M. Kamentsev (USSR)
- Mr W. Kalinowski (Poland)
- Mr R.H. Letaconnoux (France)
- Mr K. Løkkegaard (Denmark)
- Mr Wm.L. Sullivan (Jr) to December 1976
- Dr J.A. Storer (USA) for December 1976
- Vacant from December 1976
- Mr E. Lemche (Denmark)

Chairman of Panel 1

Chairman of Panel 2

Chairman of Panel 3

Chairman of Panel 4

Chairman of Panel 5

Chairman of Panel A (Seals)

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The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission hold office for a two-year period. Dr D. Booss (Fed.Rep. Germany) is completing the term of office, 1975-77, of Mr E. Gillett (UK). The office of Vice-Chairman became vacant when Dr D. Booss became Chairman on Mr Gillett's retirement from the Commission. Elections for both Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission for the period 1977-79 will be held at the Annual Meeting, June 1977.

The chairmanship of Panel 5 became vacant with the withdrawal of USA from the Commission on 31 December 1976. Elections for Chairmen of Panels will be held, as required, at the Annual Meeting, June 1977, with the exception of the Chairman of Panel A (Seals) who completed his two-year term of office in 1978.

- Chairman of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES)
 - Dr M.D. Grosslein (USA) to 31 December 1976
 - Vacant from 1 January 1977
- Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD)
 - Mr E.B. Young (Canada)
- Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulatory Measures (STACREM)
 - Vacant from March 1976
- Chairman of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)
 - Mr W.G. Gordon (USA) to 31 December 1976
 - Vacant from 1 January 1977

3. The Commission's Panel Memberships for 1976/77

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

¹ USA withdrew from membership in the Commission, effective 31 December 1976. Panel memberships total 63, effective 1 January 1977.

4. The Commission's Secretariat

- Executive Secretary - Lewis R. Day
- Assistant Executive Secretary - Vincent M. Hodder
- Bio-Statistician - Scott A. Akenhead (SOS 31 August 1976)
- Administrative Assistant - W. Hartwell Champion
- Senior Secretary - Mrs Vivian C. Kerr
- Finance and Publications Clerk-Steno - Mrs Elizabeth R. Cornford
- Senior Statistical Clerk - Gordon M. Moulton
- Clerk-Duplicator Operator - Ronald A. Myers
- Clerk-Duplicator Operator - Barry T. Crawford
- Statistical Clerk (Surveys and Sampling) - Mrs Pauline A. Lomas
- Documents and Mailing Clerk - Mrs Ferne E. Perry
- Clerk-Typist - Mrs Patricia M. Wadman
- Statistical Clerk (Fishery Statistics) - Forbes D. Keating
- Data Processing Clerk - Miss Gloria H. Langille

Staff activities include:

The Executive Secretary participated in a panel on international fisheries management sponsored by the American Fisheries Society (Dearborn, Michigan, USA, 20 September 1976); participated in meetings of the Group of Experts on the Future of ICNAF (Ottawa, 5-7 October 1976); serviced meetings of Scientific Advisers to Panel A (Seals) and Panel A (Seals) (Copenhagen, 11-14 October 1976); serviced with Messrs Hodder and Moulton, Mrs Kerr and Cornford the Ninth Special Commission Meeting (Tenerife, Canary Islands, 24 November-9 December 1976); discussed proposals from the Ninth Special Commission Meeting with Depository Government (Washington, D.C., 16 December 1976); discussed, at the invitation of the Canadian Government, drafting items for the preparation of new multilateral arrangements for the Northwest Atlantic fisheries (Ottawa, 4 March 1977); participated in and serviced with Mr Hodder and Mrs Cornford the International Preparatory Conference on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (Ottawa, 14-25 March 1977); serviced with the other members of the Secretariat the ICNAF Assessments Subcommittee Meetings (Dartmouth, 19-27 April 1977).

The Assistant Executive Secretary, Mr Hodder, attended the ICES Annual Meeting (Copenhagen, 2-8 October 1976) and participated in meetings of the ICES/ICNAF/IOC Coordinating Group on the North Atlantic (Copenhagen, 2 October 1976).

The Administrative Assistant, Mr Champion, discussed preparations for the 1977 Annual Meeting with Canadian Government officials (Ottawa, 28 March 1976).

5. The Commission's Publications

One of the major responsibilities of the Secretariat is publication of the results of the Commission's work. Serial publications for wide distribution to a mailing list of over 1,000 addresses in 56 countries include the *Annual Report*, the *Statistical Bulletin*, the *Special Publications*, the *Selected Papers*, the *Research Bulletin*, and the *List of Fishing Vessels*. In-house publications include the *Meeting Proceedings*, the *Redbook*, the *Sampling Yearbook*, and the *ICNAF Handbook*, and have a limited distribution to participants, both persons and institutions, in the Commission's scientific and management programs. In addition, the Secretariat produces various document series, the *Commissioners Document (Comm.Doc.)* series, the *Summary Document (Summ.Doc.)* series, the *Research Document (Res.Doc.)* series, and the *Circular Letter (C/L)* series. To implement the Commission's publishing and printing requirements, the Secretariat operates a well-equipped and modern reproduction facility capable of typing, printing, collating, and distributing publications and documents quickly, economically, while at the same time maintaining a high quality finished product.

In the year 1976/77 the Secretariat printed and distributed approximately three million pages of print (1.5 million sheets of paper) including the following:

The *Proceedings of the Seventh Special Meeting (September 1975)*, the *Eighth Special Meeting (January 1976)*, and the *26th Annual Meeting (June 1976)* (304 pages) was distributed in October 1976.

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

The *Annual Report (formerly Annual Proceedings) Vol. 26 for 1975/76* (___ pages), containing the Administrative Report and Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1976, the Reports of the Seventh Special Meeting, September 1975, the Eighth Special Meeting, January 1976, the 26th Annual Meeting, June 1976, and the Summaries of Research and Status of Fisheries for Subareas and Seals, 1975, will be distributed in July 1977.

The *Redbook 1976* (219 pages), containing the Reports of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES) for September 1975, January 1976, May-June 1976, and the Reports of the Scientific Advisers to Panels 1-5 for May-June 1976, to Panel A (Seals) for November 1975 and December 1975, was distributed in August 1976.

The *ICNAF International Inspection Scheme - Translations of Questionnaire and Report of Inspection (Revised 1976)* (101 pages) was distributed in September 1976.

The *Research Bulletin of ICNAF No. 12* (138 pages), containing seven scientific contributions, two review papers, and a note, was distributed in October 1976.

The *Statistical Bulletin Vol. 25 for the year 1975* (234 pages), containing tabular summaries of fish and seal catches 1961-75, and eight tables of catch and effort statistics for fish and seals, 1975, was distributed in February 1977.

The *Selected Papers of ICNAF No. 2* (204 pages), containing 12 scientific papers, was distributed in March 1977.

The Report of the Third Meeting of the ICES/ICNAF/IOC Coordinating Working Group for the North Atlantic, with Representatives of International Marine Research Projects in the North Atlantic, October 1976, (13 pages) was distributed as ICNAF Summ.Doc. 77/VI/21.

The Report of Special Meeting of Panel A (Seals) and Scientific Advisers, October 1976, (15 pages) was distributed as ICNAF Summ.Doc. 76/XII/47.

The Proceedings of the Ninth Special Commission Meeting, December 1976, (110 pages) and the Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (STACRES), December 1976, (28 pages) were distributed as ICNAF Summ.Docs. 77/VI/2 and 77/VI/1, respectively.

The preliminary Report of the Ageing Workshop on Cod, January-February 1977, (54 pages) was distributed as ICNAF Summ.Doc. 77/VI/12.

The Report of the Silver Hake Ageing Workshop, March 1977, (15 pages) was distributed as ICNAF Summ.Doc. 77/VI/13.

The Report of the First International Preparatory Conference on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, March 1977, (58 pages) was distributed as ICNAF Comm.Doc. 77/VI/11.

The Report of the Assessments Subcommittee of STACRES, April 1977, (16 pages) was distributed as ICNAF Summ.Doc. 77/VI/16.

The ICNAF Fishery Regulations, as at February 1977, (63 pages) were issued as ICNAF Comm.Doc. 77/VI/1.

The Status of Commission Proposals for Changes in the Convention and for International Regulation of Fisheries under the Convention, as at May 1977, (28 pages) was issued as ICNAF Comm.Doc. 77/VI/7.

The ICNAF List of Fishing Vessels, 50 GRT and over, 1975, (32 pages) was issued as ICNAF Summ.Doc. 77/VI/4.

The ICNAF List of Sampling Data for 1975 (28 pages) was issued as ICNAF Summ.Doc. 77/VI/5.

The Secretariat's program for reprinting out-of-stock ICNAF publications was continued. One hundred copies of each of the following have been made available to meet the future and growing requests for Commission publications: Redbook 1972, Part I; 1970, Part I; 1969, Part II; 1968, Parts I and III; 1967, Part II; 1963, Parts II and III; 1962, Part I; Sampling Yearbook Vol. 13, Part I; Vol. 10 and Vol. 4.

6. Research and Statistics

Following the adoption by the Commission of Resolution (2) at the 1975 Annual Meeting, the Secretariat in cooperation with the Secretary of the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fisheries Statistics (CWP) modified the STATLANT 21B form to allow for the reporting of detailed catch and effort statistics by 30' x 30' unit areas and twice-monthly time periods. The revised form was approved by STACRES at the 1976 Annual Meeting. Supplies of the new form, with appropriate instructions for its completion, were distributed to Member Countries in early February 1977 for the use of national statistical offices in reporting catch and effort data for the calendar year 1976. Preparatory to instituting the revised STATLANT 21B form, Member Countries were advised by Circular Letter in December 1974 of the proposed reporting requirements so that their statistical offices could plan to collect the statistics in the detail recommended. Member Countries were provided with further information on the proposed detailed reporting requirements at the 1975 Annual Meeting (Summ.Doc. 75/14, 75/21), and Circular Letter 76/75 issued in December 1976 provided advance notice of the adopted changes in the new form to be used for reporting 1976 data. Since the deadline for submitting the new STATLANT 21B returns is 30 June 1977, it is too early to comment on the extent to which Member Countries have implemented the more detailed reporting procedures for 1976 data.

Pending the publication of *Statistical Bulletin Vol. 25*, provisional statistics of 1975 nominal catches in the Northwest Atlantic, as derived from STATLANT 21A returns and other advance reports, were compiled in the format of Tables 1, 2, and 3 of *Statistical Bulletin* and circulated in July 1976. Much of the delay from the 30 June deadline for the receipt of detailed catch and effort data and the actual printing of the *Statistical Bulletin* about six months later continues to be due to the late submission of STATLANT 21B statistics by a few countries. The arrangement of the tabular material in Vol. 25, issued in January 1977, is essentially the same as that used following the major reorganization of the tables in Vol. 22. After the publication of Vol. 25, detailed catch and effort statistics for 1975 were received from Ireland and these are given as a supplement to the *Bulletin* in Summ.Doc. 77/VI/3.

Continuing a program, initiated at the request of STACRES early in 1974, requiring the reporting of preliminary catch statistics and sampling data by month and division for selected species in advance of the April Meeting of the Assessments Subcommittee, the Secretariat made special requests to national scientists to ensure that all biostatistical data relevant to species under catch regulation in 1976 be forwarded to

designated scientists and to the Secretariat well in advance of the April 1977 Meeting. As in 1974, 1975, and 1976, the response to requests for sampling data from research institutes was very encouraging, although there still remain major gaps in the availability of data for certain fish stocks. However, the nominal catch statistics, which are usually compiled in national statistical offices, were, with few exceptions, not available until the April 1977 Meeting was in progress and even then, much of the data were not provided in the format required. Consequently, the designated scientists were hampered in performing their pre-meeting assessment tasks, much of which had to be undertaken during the progress of the meeting. This lack of attention to STACRES requirements continues despite the fact that the Commission has persistently urged Member Countries to provide their national statistical offices and their research institutes with the facilities necessary to collect and report promptly to the Secretariat such detailed data as are required to improve the base for the analytical assessment of all stocks subject to conservation measures.

Following the decision by STACRES to discontinue the publication of detailed sampling data after the issue of *Sampling Yearbook Vol. 17* for the year 1972, subsequent volumes of the Yearbook contain lists of all available length and age data submitted to the Secretariat. In addition, Vol. 19 for 1974 contains a synopsis of the ICNAF Sampling Program outlining the requirements that Member Countries are expected to follow in the collection and submission of sampling data to the Secretariat. Pending the final compilation of sampling data for 1975 for presentation in Vol. 20, the publication of which has been delayed due to the volume of data being prepared for computer processing, a provisional list of 1975 data was issued in *Summ. Doc. 77/VI/5*.

In order to facilitate the rapid retrieval of sampling data for distribution to scientists involved in the Commission's work, a considerable amount of time has been spent during the past two years in setting up a computerized retrieval system and in organizing the large volume of data available for 1973-75. Much work of an exploratory nature was undertaken during 1975/76 in preparing the data in a standard format for computer input and experimenting with various methods of retrieval. During the past year, a concerted effort was made to upgrade the data-processing procedures; nearly all of the 1973-75 data have been punched on computer cards and computer programs prepared for data retrieval. Final editing of the 1973-75 data is expected to be completed in about two months, following which computer printouts or magnetic tapes of the data can be distributed upon request to scientists or research institutes.

At the Special Commission Meeting in January 1975, STACRES reiterated the need for continuing the publication of the List of Fishing Vessels every three years, but further recommended that the List be updated annually and issued as a Summary Document for the intervening years. Consequently, the ICNAF *List of Fishing Vessels for 1974* was published in January 1976, and the updated List for 1975 was issued as *Summ.Doc. 77/VI/4* early in 1977. In February 1977, Member Countries were requested to provide the Secretariat with an updated list of fishing vessels for 1976 with a deadline of 15 April 1977, but only about one-half of the national reports have been received to the present time (May 1977).

Following the publication in 1975 of *Special Publication No. 11*, containing an index and list of titles of papers from Annual Proceedings, Research Bulletin, Redbook and Special Publication series, considerable progress has been made on the compilation of a similar index for the Meeting Document Series covering the period 1950-1975. It is anticipated that this index will be completed in 1978.

Other research and statistical activities during the year 1976/77 include:

- (a) editing of the Proceedings of STACRES Meetings in September 1975, January 1976, and May-June 1976 for publication in *ICNAF Redbook 1976*;
- (b) editing of papers selected by STACRES from documents presented to the 1976 Annual Meeting, and their publication in *Selected Papers No. 2*;
- (c) updating of historical catches (1966-75) by country for all TAC stocks proposed for regulation at the 1977 Annual Meeting;
- (d) documentation of various biostatistical material required for scientific meetings at Tenerife, Spain, in December 1976, and at Dartmouth, Canada, in April 1977;
- (e) preparation of several documents for the 1977 Annual Meeting, including provisional catch statistics for 1976 by species, country, and area; seal catch and effort data for 1976 by species, country, and area; summary of information on discards for 1975; summary of data on trawl materials and mesh size sampling in 1976; summary of available information on tagging activities by Member Countries in 1976; analysis of sampling data for 1975 in relation to the minimum sampling requirements of the Commission.

The installation of a remote job entry terminal in early 1976, providing the Secretariat with direct access to an IBM 370/155 computer and to a CDC 6400 computer, proved to be invaluable to the small Secretariat staff in providing support to STACRES and its Subcommittees and Working Groups, especially during the Mid-term meetings of the Assessments Subcommittee which have been held at ICNAF Headquarters in April of 1976 and 1977. However, the data-processing capabilities at the Secretariat has been hampered somewhat by the resignation of Mr Scott Akenhead, Biostatistician, in August 1976, to assume a scientific position at the Biological Station, St. John's, Newfoundland.

7. Mid-Term Meetings

The *Group of Experts on the Future of ICNAF* met in Ottawa, 5-7 October 1976, under the chairmanship of Dr A.W.H. Needler (Canada), to examine and formulate suggestions regarding future multilateral cooperation in the field of fisheries in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean and regarding the procedure and timing to be followed in pursuing the matter (Comm.Doc. 76/XII/64). The Group generally agreed that a single multilateral convention should provide for management of the fisheries outside national fisheries jurisdiction and the coordination of measures taken outside national fisheries jurisdiction with those taken inside national fisheries jurisdiction by the coastal state(s) concerned. Some experts advocated the establishment of a single commission structure similar to ICNAF, others advocated separate scientific and management bodies. The Group suggested alternate procedures for consideration by the Commission at its Ninth Special Meeting, December 1976. These were negotiation of a new Convention by a meeting of Plenipotentiaries or amend the present ICNAF Convention. The Group suggested that, as an interim measure, Convention Article VIII be amended to require the affirmative vote of the coastal state for recommendations made within national fisheries jurisdiction.

A *Special Meeting of Panel A (Seals)* was convened at Copenhagen on 14 October 1976, under the chairmanship of Mr E. Lemche (Denmark), to consider the report of the Scientific Advisers who met, under the chairmanship of Dr A.W. Mansfield (Canada) on 11 and 12 October 1976 to consider the relationship between seal and fish populations and conservation requirements for harp and hooded seals for 1977 (Summ.Doc. 76/XII/47). The Panel agreed to defer a decision on final TACs and allocations and other measures to be taken to the next meeting on 1 December 1976 in conjunction with the Ninth Special Commission Meeting.

The *Ninth Special Commission Meeting* was convened at Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, Canary Islands, from 1 to 9 December 1976 (Summ.Doc. 77/VI/2). STACRES met from 24 to 1 December 1976 and provided advice for management on the shrimp stocks in Subarea 1, silver hake stock in Subarea 4, and mackerel stocks in Subareas 3 to 5 and Statistical Area 6 (Summ.Doc. 77/VI/1). Based on a review of the fishing patterns and practices of the fleets of various Member Countries by an *ad hoc* working group, the Commission agreed to a regime of open areas and seasons for herring, mackerel, silver and red hakes, and squids with bottom trawl restrictions in certain areas and periods. TACs and allocations were set for 15 stocks of shrimp and cod in Subarea 1, silver hake and flounders in Div. 4VWX, herring in parts of Subareas 4 and 5 and Statistical Area 6, butterfish, river herring, other finfish, and all finfish and squids in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6. A meeting of Panel A recommended conservation measures for 1977 for harp and hooded seals. In view of the extension of national fisheries jurisdiction by the coastal states in 1977, the Commission agreed to amendments to the Convention to provide for the continued functioning of the Commission pending further consideration of future multilateral cooperation, and resolved that action be taken early in 1977 to develop a framework for such future cooperation, including institutional arrangements.

The *Ageing Workshops on Cod and Silver Hake* were convened by Mr R. Wells (Canada) at St. John's, Newfoundland, from 31 January to 5 February 1977 (Summ.Doc. 77/VI/12) and by Mr J.J. Hunt (Canada) at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, from 14 to 18 March 1977 (Summ.Doc. 77/VI/13), respectively. On the basis of the cod material examined from Div. 2J-3KL, a set of guidelines for ageing cod from this area will be published.

Meetings of the Assessments Subcommittee (Summ.Doc. 77/VI/16) of STACRES were convened at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, from 19 to 27 April 1977 and prepared advice for 1978 at the request of Canada on 18 stocks which lie within or partly within Canada's 200-mile fisheries management zone in Subareas 2 to 4 and three stocks which overlap the Canadian and Danish fisheries zones in Statistical Area 0 and Subarea 1. The scientists also provided advice on the cod stock in Subarea 1 at the request of Denmark and the three stocks which lie completely outside of the 200-mile fishery limit in Div. 3M.

The *Working Group of the Environmental Subcommittee* will meet, under Mr E.J. Sandeman (Canada), at PINRO, Murmansk, USSR, from 16 to 19 May 1977 to review the possibility of setting up a program of research on the Flemish Cap Bank which would provide information on the production of good and bad year-classes of cod.

8. Status of Commission Proposals

(a) For changes in the Convention (Comm.Doc. 77/VI/7, Tabulation I)

The *1973 Protocol Relating to Basic Payment by Contracting Governments* was circulated to Contracting Governments on 21 May 1975. To date (1 May 1977), only Canada, Cuba, France, Fed.Rep. Germany, German Dem. Rep., and Norway have notified their approval. In accordance with amended Article XVII, this Protocol will take effect for all Contracting Governments 120 days following the date on the notification by the Depository Government of receipt of written notification of approval of three-quarters (14) of all Contracting Governments, unless objected to within 90 days.

The *1976 Protocol Relating to Continued Functioning of the Commission* was adopted by the Commission on 8 December 1976, forwarded to Depository Government on 15 December 1976, and circulated to Contracting Governments on 20 December 1976. To date (1 May 1977), only Canada, Cuba, Denmark, German Dem.Rep., Iceland, Norway, and USSR have notified their approval.

(b) For international regulation of the fisheries (Comm.Doc. 77/VI/7, Tabulation II)

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

January 1976 proposals (1) for amendment to the Scheme of Joint Enforcement, (2) for amendment to the management of international quota regulations, (7) for herring catch quota in Div. 4VWX, (8) for herring size limit and exemption in Subareas 4 and 5, and (9) for mackerel size limit and exemption in Subareas 3, 4, and 5, became effective on 26 August 1976, under the normal six-month waiting procedure.

December 1976 proposals (1) to (10) were adopted by the Commission on 6 December 1976, transmitted to Depository Government on 15 December 1976, and transmitted to Contracting Governments on 17 December 1976. Proposals were as follows: (1) for harp and hooded seal conservation on the "Front" and in the "Gulf" in the Convention Area; (2) for mesh size regulation of northern deepwater prawn in Subarea 1; (3) for small-mesh bottom-trawl fisheries in Div. 4VWX; (4) for area and period restrictions for silver and red hakes in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6; (5) for herring catch quota, area and period restrictions in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6; (6) for squid (*Loligo* and *Illex*) area and period restrictions in Div. 5Z and Statistical Area 6; (7) for mackerel catch quota, area and period restrictions in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6; (8) for repeal of fishing gear regulation in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6 (proposal (2) from September 1975 Special Meeting, effective 1 January 1977); (9) for squid (*Loligo* and *Illex*) re-allocation commitment for 1977 in Subarea 5 and Statistical Area 6; and (10) for first- and second-tier catch quota regulations in the Convention Area and Statistical Area 6. Resolution (3), adopted by the June 1976 Annual Meeting, expected Contracting Governments to notify the Executive Secretary by 31 December 1976 that, subject to a similar undertaking by all other Members of the respective Panel or Panels, they would implement such proposals for the entire year 1977 and would not invoke paragraph 7(b) of Article VIII of the Convention as amended. The Executive Secretary was notified before 31 December 1976 of agreement by Bulgaria, Denmark, Fed.Rep. Germany, Japan, and Norway (except for northern deepwater prawn in Subarea 1); after 31 December 1976 by Canada, France, German Dem.Rep., Iceland, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Spain, and UK; notifications were not received from Cuba, Poland, or USSR. Under the normal six-month waiting procedure, the proposals, provided no objections were received, would become effective 17 June 1977.

9. The Commission's Conservation Program

(a) Catch quota reporting

In accordance with a resolution relating to the provision of monthly catch statistics adopted by the Commission on 14 June 1974, the Secretariat has received monthly catch statistics from Member Countries for each of 60 stocks under catch quota limitation as determined for 1976 at the June 1975, the September 1975, and the January 1976 Commission Meetings (Comm.Doc. 76/VI/18). The reports were collated and distributed to all Member Countries through the ICNAF Circular Letter series within six weeks of each month in which the catches were made. Member Countries were informed by cable immediately 1) when, where, and how much the Member Countries without specific quotas intended to fish from the "Others" catch allocations for the various stocks, 2) when catch allocations for "Others" were reached and closure of the fishery required, and 3) when Member Countries with specific quotas advised that their quotas had been reached and their fleets had ceased fishing.

With regard to monthly catch reporting against the catch quotas set for 65 stocks at the 1976 Annual and December 1976 Special Commission Meetings (Comm.Doc. 77/VI/11), the Secretariat has continued to collate and distribute the monthly data as required by the June 1974 resolution.

(b) Effort limitation reporting (Comm.Doc. 76/VI/18)

With the adoption of fishing effort regulation for 1976 for groundfish in Subareas 2, 3, and 4 by the Commission at its January 1976 Special Meeting, the Secretariat, in accordance with resolution (2) from the September 1975 Special Meeting, collated and reported within six weeks of the month in which the effort was expended, provisional monthly listings of days fished by vessel tonnage and gear category against national allocations for groundfish species in the five stock areas, Subarea 2 + Div. 3K, Div. 3LNO, Div. 3M, Div. 3P, and Div. 4VWX.

Effort limitation regulations were not adopted for 1977.

10. The Commission's Enforcement Program

All Contracting Governments have indicated readiness to have their vessels inspected under the ICNAF Scheme of Joint Enforcement. During 1976 Canada, Cuba, Denmark, France, Fed.Rep. Germany, Portugal, and UK applied the Scheme in Statistical Area 6 on a voluntary basis pending domestic legislation.

The status of implementation of the Scheme and changes in inspection officers and vessels were reported

by the Secretariat to Contracting Governments regularly throughout 1976 in the ICNAF Circular Letter series. All Contracting Governments, except Denmark and Iceland, designated Flag State authorities to receive immediate notice of and respond to apparent reported infringements under the Scheme. The most recent (1 June 1977) report on status of implementation, inspection officers and vessels, and designated authorities will be distributed as *Comm.Doc. 77/VI/8*.

Reports of inspections by ICNAF inspectors were submitted from Canada and USA for the year 1976. Reports from Contracting Governments on national and international inspections, and infringements and their disposition for 1976, were collated and will be distributed in *Comm.Doc. 77/VI/9*.

In accordance with proposal (1) from the June 1975 Annual Meeting, each Contracting Government was required to submit to the Secretariat notification of the permanent and temporary fisheries research vessels it operates in the Convention Area and Statistical Areas 0 and 6, with pertinent information regarding each vessel's characteristics and program of research. Notifications were received from Canada, Cuba, Fed.Rep. Germany, German Dem.Rep., Japan, Poland, USSR, and USA in 1976 (*Comm.Doc. 77/VI/10, Appendix I*).

With the adoption by the Commission at the September 1975 Meeting of proposal (3) regarding national registration of vessels engaged in fishing or in the treatment of sea fish in the Convention Area or Statistical Areas 0 and 6, as a means of improving compliance with the Commission's complex system of quota regulations, the Secretariat received reports of registrations for 1976 from all Member Countries, except Canada (Maritimes and Quebec), Denmark (Faroes), Iceland, and Portugal. The national vessel registration lists for 1976 were distributed as *Comm.Doc. 77/VI/10, Appendix II*.

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

In accordance with Convention Article X, the Secretariat, on behalf of the Commission, has sought to establish and maintain working arrangements with other public international organizations which have related objectives, particularly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), to ensure effective collaboration and coordination with respect to their work and, in the case of ICES, the avoidance of duplication of scientific investigations.

Repeated efforts have been made to obtain the cooperation of non-member Countries in providing details of their fishing activities in the Convention Area. Israel, the Republic of Korea, Greece, Ireland, and Nigeria have fished in the Area in 1976.

12. Financial Statements

The administration of the Commission's finances from 1 July 1976 to 30 April 1977, with estimates to the end of the fiscal year 30 June 1977, is presented in the attached three statements and an appendix.

Statement 1 shows that the estimated total obligations of \$361,027 for the fiscal year was \$7,473 less than the amount of \$368,500 appropriated by the Commission at its Annual Meeting in 1976.

A Statement of the Cash Flow through the General Fund is included at Appendix I.

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



L.R. Day
Executive Secretary

Office of the Secretariat
16 May 1977

STATEMENT 1

Budget Appropriations. Obligations Incurred and Unobligated Balances of Appropriations
For the Year Ending 30 June 1977
(Estimated from 30 April 1977)

	Appropriated by Commission at Annual Meeting 1976	Obligations Incurred and Liquidated to 30 April 1977	Expenses Estimated for Remainder of Fiscal Year	Total Obligations for Fiscal Year	Unobligated Balance of Appropriations (Estimated)
Personal Services:					
a. Salaries	\$197,000	\$153,731	\$30,226	\$183,957	\$13,043
b. Superannuation and Canada Pension Plan	12,000	4,168	8,670	12,838	< 838 >
c. Additional Help	2,000	10,000	-	10,000	< 8,000 >
d. Group Medical and Insurance Plans	2,500	1,370	400	1,770	730
e. Contingencies	17,000	14,778	10,952	25,730	< 8,730 >
Travel	5,500	4,188	500	4,688	812
Transportation of Things	1,500	430	120	550	950
Communication Services	20,000	16,901	2,689	19,590	410
Publications	22,000	6,945	2,650	9,595	12,405
Other Contractual Services	20,000	18,030	1,305	19,335	665
Supplies and Materials	9,000	9,452	669	10,121	< 1,121 >
Equipment	5,000	2,250	1,530	3,780	1,220
Annual and Mid-Term Meetings	20,000	13,617	21,708	35,325	< 15,325 >
Computer Services	25,000	19,528	4,220	23,748	1,252
Contingencies	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Total Ordinary Budget	\$368,500	\$275,388	\$85,639	\$361,027	\$ 7,473

STATEMENT 2

Statement of Income and Expenditure
For the Year Ended 30 June 1977
(Estimated from 30 April 1977)

Income:

Members' contributions assessed:

Bulgaria	\$14,347	
Canada	23,582	
Cuba	18,965	
Denmark	18,965	
France	23,582	
Federal Republic of Germany	18,965	
German Democratic Republic	14,347	
Iceland	9,729	
Italy	5,112	
Japan	14,347	
Norway	18,965	
Poland	23,582	
Portugal	18,965	
Romania	14,347	
Spain	23,582	
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	23,582	
United Kingdom	14,347	
United States of America	<u>14,347</u>	\$313,658
Add: Transfer From Miscellaneous Fund		<u>54,842</u>
Total Ordinary Budget		368,500
Obligations incurred - Statement 1		<u>361,027</u>
Balance of Appropriations transferred to Working Capital Fund		<u>\$ 7,473</u>

STATEMENT 3

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
as at 30 June 1977
(Estimated from 30 April 1977)

GENERAL FUND

Assets

Cash on hand and in bank
Accounts receivable
Due from Member Governments

\$38,349
357
56,924
\$95,630

Liabilities

Unliquidated obligations - 30 April 1977 \$ 1,207
Estimated (Statement 1) 85,639
Advance on 1977-78 contributions

8,784
\$95,630

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

Cash on Deposit
Certificates of Deposit
Accounts receivable - publications

\$22,788
20,000
200
\$42,988

Principal of Fund (Appendix I)

\$42,988
\$42,988

MISCELLANEOUS FUND

Cash on Deposit

\$40,629

Principal of Fund (Appendix I)

\$40,629

APPENDIX I

(Estimated from 30 April 1977)

Working Capital Fund

Balance 30 June 1976		\$ 27,244
Add: Balances of 1976-77 appropriations (Statement 1)	\$ 7,473	
Sales of Publications	757	
Bank Interest	5,852	
Interest on Certificates of Deposit	<u>1,662</u>	<u>15,744</u>
Balance 30 June 1977		<u>\$ 42,988</u>

Miscellaneous Fund

Balance 30 June 1976		\$ 54,842
Deduct: Applied to 1976-77 appropriations		<u>54,842</u>
		Nil
Add: 1976-77 Staff Assessment	\$ 30,193	
Provincial <u>Ex gratia</u> Grant - 1975	10,338	
Over-estimate 1975 Income Tax refund	<u>98</u>	<u>40,629</u>
Balance 30 June 1977		<u>\$ 40,629</u>

GENERAL FUND - CASH FLOW

Year Ended 30 June 1977
(Estimated from 30 April 1977)

Bank Overdraft 30 June 1976		<\$ 26,136>
Add: Member Governments:		
Assessments 1976-77	\$313,658	
Advance payments 1977-78	<u>8,784</u>	
	322,442	
Less: Advance payments 1976-77	<u>9,037</u>	
	313,405	
Decrease in accounts receivable	<u>745</u>	314,150
Funds from Miscellaneous Fund for 1976-77 appropriations		<u>54,842</u>
		342,856
Deduct:		
Obligations incurred 1976-77	361,027	
Less: Unliquidated 30 June 1977	<u>86,846</u>	
	274,181	
Add: Unliquidated 30 June 1976	<u>15,704</u>	
	289,885	
Balances 1976-77 appropriations to Working Capital Fund	<u>7,473</u>	
	297,358	
Increase in amounts due from Member Governments	<u>7,149</u>	<u>304,507</u>
Cash on hand and in bank, 30 June 1977		<u>\$ 38,349</u>