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Institut für Seefischerei
Hamburg

ICCS - CH - 1955 - Consultative Committee - E

International Council for the
Exploration of the Sea

C.M. 1955



Recommendations of the Consultative Committee
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I. General Reports of Committees.

The reports of committees were accepted after some minor corrections.

II. Organization.

1. The Chairman of the Distant Northern Seas Committee informed the members that it had been decided to dissolve the Sub-Committee on the Faroe Question, in existence since 1938. It had been stated, by recent statistics, that there was less cause for anxiety about the stocks of haddock and cod than had been felt earlier and it was not possible to report any significant relationship between the numbers of recruits to the commercial stocks and the size of the stocks spawning there.

It was furthermore decided that the Chairman prepare a short report to be inserted in the Rapports et Procès-Verbaux.

2. Another Sub-Committee of the I.C.E.S. was also dissolved, viz. the Sub-Committee on the Standardization of Zooplankton Methods.

III. Publications.

1. It was recommended that the Administrative Reports should be continued as before and that they should be brief, concise and give, when necessary, cross references. It was also recommended that the General Secretary should be authorized to edit the material sent to the Council through the Chairmen of Committees.

2. It was agreed that the provision of Synoptic Charts to members be continued free of charge and that the possibility of extending the area covered by the charts be considered by the Hydrographical Committee.

IV. Special Scientific Meeting.

It was decided to hold a Special Scientific Meeting on Herring "Races", commencing on Thursday 27th September before the Council Meeting and allowing for three working days for the proceedings. Convener: Prof. Bückmann, Rapporteur: Mr. B.B. Parrish.

V. Co-operation with F.A.O.

At the meeting of the Distant Northern Seas Committee Dr. G.L. Kesteven presented a note on the Fisheries Resources of the I.C.E.S. Area by F.A.O. of the U.N. The Committee received the information on the subject with great interest and recommends that all relevant information of the kind indicated should be given whenever possible, though it was emphasized that our knowledge as to the size of the living aquatic resources, even in the much explored North East Atlantic is very fragmentary and that a collaboration must unavoidably be of a long-term nature. It is considered that a survey of fisheries resources would be much helped if F.A.O. could implement the Recommendation of the Consultative Committee at the 1954 Meeting on the desirability of setting up a world fishery bibliographic and abstracting service.

VI. Action for the Bureau.

In consequence of the lecture by Prof. Fontaine on "The Necessity to protect the Oceans against the Dangers of radio-active Pollution" the following recommendation was submitted to the Bureau for transmission, through the usual diplomatic channels to the member states:-

The I.C.E.S. urge that the deposition in marine waters of waste products from atomic industries should be a matter for international study. The Council strongly recommend that any commission or commissions attending to the disposal of the atomic waste products should comprise scientists engaged in the study of the physics, chemistry and biology of the sea, as well as in sub-marine geology.

VII. Papers submitted to the Council Meeting.

In view of the great demand this year for copies of papers submitted to the various committees it was decided that all papers delivered next year should be duplicated in at least 150 copies. All Senior Delegates and all Chairmen of Committees should be entitled to one whole set of papers, and it was thought desirable that a whole set of papers should be available for each member attending the Council Meeting.

On the proposal of Dr. Tåning it was agreed that each paper should contain a synopsis of no more than 1700 words to be read at the meetings. Papers distributed in advance of the Council Meeting should not be read at the meetings.

Recommendations involving Expenditure.

1. The Committee approved of Recommendations 1a and c of the Hydrographical Committee that:-

a) The collection of surface data held by the Service Hydrographique be recorded on punched cards. As a result of the generous offer made by the German Hydrographic Institute in this connexion, the expenses to be borne by the Council would be about 9,000 kr.

b) That a sum of kr. 1,000 be allocated for travelling expenses in connexion with this work during the current year.

2. The Committee also approved of the Recommendation of the Statistical Committee that 1,500 kr. be allocated to meet the cost of marginal punch cards for filing statistical data relating to the effort and yield and facilitating their subsequent examination.

Mr. R.S. Wimpenny was re-elected Chairman.