

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Dr. C.E. Lucas

The Committee held a short meeting on Monday 28th September, when minor adjustments were made to the programme and certain tasks arising from previous activities and from the proceedings of the Bureau were allocated to appropriate committees and working groups. The report of the Committee's Working Group on the Statistical News Letters was presented to the Statistical and other relevant committees for consideration. Noting the resignation of Dr. J.N. Carruthers, arrangements were made for the supervision of the North Sea Synopsis to be the responsibility of the relevant committee chairmen under the coordinating chairmanship of Professor I. Hela.

On the request of the Bureau:

(a) The attention of the relevant committees was drawn to the letter from the Executive Secretary of ICNAF, for subsequent report.

(b) The Scobriform Fish and Statistical Committees were requested to provide their comments on certain aspects of the "Report of the First Session of the FAO Working Party for the Rational Utilization of the Tuna Resources", received from the Director General of FAO.

(c) Arrangements were made for the proposals of the Chairmen of the Atlantic, Scobriform and Sardine Committees, concerning a Symposium on research in the waters between the Equator and Gibraltar, to be considered by a Special Group comprising these three Chairmen and those of the Hydrographic, Plankton, Statistical, Shellfish and Comparative Fishing Committees, together with one or two representatives from each committee and under the chairmanship of Dr. C.E. Lucas.

The reports of these various groups and those of the standing committees were considered at subsequent meetings on 3rd and 5th October, together with the Secretary General's Report. Except for verbal changes, and as indicated specifically below, these reports and their recommendations were adopted for submission to the Bureau along with the Consultative Committee's own recommendations. Those concerning financial expenditure, including some concerning the proceedings of the Liaison Committee in the service of the North-Eastern Atlantic Fisheries Commission, together with others requiring special action or approval by the Council, are summarized later in the report. The report also includes a section dealing with matters on which advice was specifically requested by the Bureau.

Adjustments made by the Consultative Committee to the
Recommendations of the Various Committees

(1) Comité Atlantique

That, in view of the later recommendation of the Special Group on the "Equatorial Project" and the subsequent recommendation of the Consultative Committee (below), the recommendation of the Atlantic Committee on this subject should be withdrawn from the "A" series.

(2) Sardine Committee

In expressing its appreciation of the initiative of the Sardine Committee, and of Dr. Lindquist's initiative in particular, in compiling a draft Bibliography on the Sprat, the Consultative Committee is of the view that it would be premature to contemplate publishing this, or similar bibliographies of Sardinella, Sardina, Alosa and Engraulis species subsequently, without ensuring that there are no other means of achieving the desired ends, and that there are no risks of undesirable overlap in effort. The Committee recommends therefore that the draft bibliography on the sprat be duplicated for circulation to the Sardine Committee as prepared (with additional copies for others who may find them useful), while consultation is made with FAO by the Chairman of the Sardine Committee and Secretary General both as regards FAO bibliographic activity in this field and that of select synopses, and the possibilities of automatic data retrieval. Meanwhile activity on the Sardine Committee's proposal C(1) might reasonably be diminished or deferred; Recommendation A(1) as modified here should be regarded as in the "B" category.

(3) Scobriform Fish Committee

In relation to the more specific recommendation on sampling, submitted by the Comparative Fishing Committee (and also that concerning the ICNAF request), this Committee's Recommendation A(1) should be transferred to the "B" category. As with

the corresponding proposal of the Atlantic Committee, the Recommendation of this Committee concerning the "Equatorial Project" should be withdrawn from the "A" category.

(4) Hydrographical Committee

While endorsing in principle the present A(3) Recommendation of this Committee, the Consultative Committee felt unable to request the Council for the amount of D.Kr. 7,000 requested for a meeting of the Sub-committee for Telegraphic Communication of Oceanographic Observations. It is its view that this sub-committee should meet at national expense and accordingly the Recommendation should be withdrawn from the "A" category.

(5) Hydrographical Committee

In endorsing this Committee's Recommendation A(1), the Committee suggests that the expenditure under (b) in publishing the Report of the Overflow Expedition, could be spread over two years.

(6) Hydrographical Committee

Similarly, in endorsing the Committee's Recommendation A(2) concerning publication of the IGY Atlas in the Polar Front Survey, the Committee suggests that the expenditure could be spread over two years, i.e. D.Kr. 25,000 for 1964-65. In acknowledging the possibility of valuable receipts from sales of this Atlas, the Consultative Committee proposes that these be enhanced by providing only two free copies for each member country, together with one for each Institute participating in the original ICES survey under the IGY. (It is hoped that in this way well over one-half and perhaps three-quarters of the printing costs be recovered.)

(7) Herring Committee

By analogy with the Consultative Committee's decision as regards the Scombriform Fish Committee's recommendation mentioned above, the Consultative Committee felt unable to approve Recommendation B(1) of this Committee. It proposes, therefore, that the Chairman of the Herring Committee should joint the Chairman of the Sardine Committee and the Secretary General in consultation with FAO as regards herring publications as well as those for sprats etc..

(8) Herring Committee

In approving Recommendation B(8) of this Committee, the Consultative Committee recommends that the Symposium should be held in 1967, and that the organizers should consider the possibility of widening its scope, in so far as its results might contribute to understanding recruitment processes in other fishes.

(9) Statistical Committee

The Consultative Committee recommends that in the interest of economy, Recommendation A(2) be modified to mention only the Chairman of the Statistical Committee on this occasion, while maintaining the principle agreed last year that the Secretary General and the Chairman of the Statistical Committee should both represent the Council at meetings of the joint FAO/ICES/ICNAF, Continuing Working Party.

A. Recommendations involving expenditure in financial year 1964/1965

The following recommendations involving expenditure on the part of the Council in the next financial year were approved, bearing in mind the Council's present need for maximum economy, namely:-

Liaison Committee's Proceedings on behalf of NEAFC

1. That in order to answer the Commission's question concerning the North Sea and Atlanto-Scandian Herring Fisheries:-

- (a) A Herring Group be appointed (comprising Dr. Cushing, Mr. Fedorov, Dr. Hempel (Convener), Dr. Höglund, Mr. Jakobsson, Mr. Popp Madsen, Mr. Nédélec, Mr. Parrish, Dr. Popiel, Mr. Østvedt, Mr. Zijlstra, and the Committee's Secretary) to meet for three days during the first week of January 1965 in Hamburg, in order to finalize and approve a report for submission to the Liaison Committee.
- (b) In order to facilitate the work of the whole group, a drafting panel comprising Mr. Zijlstra and Mr. Popp Madsen for the North Sea and Mr. Østvedt and Mr. Jakobsson for the northern fisheries, with Dr. Popiel as coordinator be requested to meet for three days, together with the Secretary for one day, immediately prior to the main meeting mentioned above.

2. That in order to answer the Commission's questions concerning the North-Eastern Arctic Fisheries:-

The Arctic Fisheries Working Group be reconstituted with Mr. Hylan as Convener and with approved representatives from the USSR, Norway, Germany and the United Kingdom together with the Committee's Secretary meet from January 18-23 in Hamburg, in order to prepare and approve a report for submission to the Liaison Committee.

3. That, bearing in mind the Council's need for every economy, all the meetings mentioned above be held at national expense except that the expenses of the Committee's Secretary and Dr. Popiel (the coordinator under 1(b)) for these purposes be met by the Council. (D.Kr. 3,000).

4. That in order to finalize and approve for the Commission a report on these and other matters, the Liaison Committee, coopted members and Mr. Hylan (Chairman of the Arctic Fisheries Working Group) meet, if necessary, in Copenhagen during March 22-23, 1965, and at the expense of the Council: the coopted members to be enabled to meet for two days previously if required. (D.Kr. 17,000).

5. That Mr. Gulland be appointed Secretary to succeed Mr. Boorema.

Editorial Committee (proposal to increase cost of Journal)

6. Following a discussion of the present price of the Journal du Conseil in relation to costs of printing, etc., it is recommended that the price of the Journal to the public be increased to D.Kr. 60.00 per annum.

Gadoid Fish Committee

7. That the Report of the Coalfish Working Group should be edited for publication in the Cooperative Research Report (D.Kr. 2,000).

Hydrographical Committee

8. The Hydrographical Committee

Appreciating the extensive work carried out by the Sub-Committee for the Investigation of Sub-Arctic Deep-Water Overflow across the Iceland-Faroe Ridge, and even more so by the numerous scientists personally involved,

Referring to the 1962 Recommendation A(3) of the Hydrographical Committee according to which a sum of D.Kr. 4,200 was supposed to be used for a meeting of the said Sub-Committee in Copenhagen which sum, however, was never used,

Taking into account that it is of great importance to have the Report, on the Investigation of Sub-Arctic Deep-Water Overflow across the Iceland-Faroe Ridge, published without any further delay,

Noting that a sum of D.Kr. 50,000 has already been provisionally earmarked for this publication

Recommends

- (a) That in addition to D.Kr. 4,200 already allocated, ICES allows the further sum of D.Kr. 1,300 for a meeting of the Sub-Committee for Sub-Arctic Deep-Water Overflow across the Iceland-Faroe Ridge, to be held in Copenhagen for three days at a date in 1965, to be chosen by the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, in order to discuss the final details, of the Report on the Overflow Expedition of 1960,
- (b) That in addition to D.Kr. 50,000 already allocated, ICES further allows D.Kr. 10,000 for the publication of the Report on the Overflow Expedition of 1960, to be spread over two years,
- (c) That the chapters of the final Report on the Overflow Expedition of 1960, which will be completed by 15th January, 1965, should be published without waiting for the completion of the remaining chapters.

9. The Hydrographical Committee

Being informed that the extensive work on the preparation of the IGY Atlas "Polar Front Survey in the Northern North Atlantic", which survey was carried out as a joint undertaking of the member countries of ICES during the International Geophysical Year 1957-58, has now been finished,

Referring to the 1960 Recommendation A(1) of the Hydrographical Committee where it was estimated that an eventual sum of D.Kr. 40,000 would be needed to cover the expenses for preparing and printing the Atlas,

Taking into account that only about D.Kr. 5,000 of this amount have been used hitherto

Recommends

- (a) That the IGY Atlas "Polar Front Survey in the Northern North Atlantic" be published by ICES,
- (b) That ICES allocates the sum of D.Kr. 50,000 over two years (i.e. D.Kr. 25,000 for 1964-65) for the final drawing of the Atlas and its printing in the United Kingdom in 1965, it being understood that at least a part of the sum should be recovered by ICES from the sale of the Atlas.

Plankton Committee

10. The International Council has, following its special Zooplankton Meeting in 1961, supported proposals for instituting a review of present methods etc., with a view to standardization of methods of zooplankton sampling and the intercalibration of zooplankton results, in collaboration with other bodies interested in the same objectives.

At the 1963 meeting in Madrid, Dr. Fraser was nominated to represent the Council on a proposed sub-committee set up for these purposes, to include representatives from SCOR and NASCO. Details of negotiations during the course of the year are given by Dr. J.H. Fraser in his report C.M. 1964 No. 26, leading to the proposal that collaboration should be undertaken with SCOR and UNESCO. It is given to understand that SCOR and UNESCO are also anxious to collaborate with ICES in this way and are each prepared to contribute an equal share up to 4,000 Dollars over two years for the expenses of meetings of any necessary working parties, on condition that ICES is prepared to contribute equally.

The Plankton Committee strongly recommends:-

- (1) That the Council approves the extension of the proposed collaboration to include UNESCO as well as SCOR, and
- (2) That the Council should undertake to contribute, up to a total not exceeding 4,000 Dollars over two years, one-third of the expenses of any necessary meetings of relevant working parties set up under this joint authority (D.Kr. 14,000 for 1964-65).

Comparative Fishing Committee

11. That the review of methods used by Member Countries to measure Fishing Effort and Catch per Unit Effort (C.M. 1963, Symposium Document No. 31) with some additions and minor amendments be published in the Statistical News Letters Series (D.Kr. 1,000).

Herring Committee

12. The Committee recommended unanimously to continue the appraisal of the possibility of the Herring Research Scheme for at least one more year.

The Committee appreciates the effort - both financial and in manpower - provided by the Institute for Marine Research in Bergen. The programme for the forthcoming year including the netting of a bay of Fjellspollen, and tagging and transfer of herring as recommended by the Working Group would involve a considerable increase in costs. The Norwegian member of the Herring Committee therefore asked, whether the Council would be willing to contribute to the increasing costs of the appraisal by providing a sum of D.Kr. 1,500 for technical assistance. This contribution would be taken as a sign of keen interest by the Council in this decisive phase of the appraisal. Only in this way will it be possible to conclude the appraisal according to the programme recommended.

The Committee further recommends a meeting of the Working Group in Bergen next March for two weeks to make an appraisal of the recent data and to conduct the transfer of herring into the artificially closed bay of Fjellspollen and in the tagging of herring inside and outside the Fjellspollen. The Working Group should also investigate the possibilities of estimating the exchange of herring through the narrow entrance of the pollen.

Statistical Committee

13. That funds be made available for the General Secretary to attend the next meeting in Brussels of the Working Party on Fisheries Statistics, of the Statistical Office of the European Communities. (D.Kr. 1,400).

14. That in accordance with decisions reached at the 1963 Annual Meeting concerning the Council's representatives on the joint FAO/ICES/ICNAF Continuing Working Party funds be made available for the General Secretary and the Chairman of the Statistical Committee to attend the next meeting of the Working Party, to be held in Rome early in 1965. (D.Kr. ~~5,500~~
1,600).

15. That the document "ICES Statistical Programme for the 1960's", suitably edited and brought up to date in the light of decisions taken at this Annual Meeting, should be published as an Appendix to a forthcoming volume of the Bulletin Statistique, together with the revised list of scientific and common names of fish and shellfish species. (D.Kr. 2,000).

Class "B" Recommendations, and advice requested by the Bureau

The Consultative Committee concurs with the following recommendations:-

Symposium on the Ecology of Arctic Pelagic Species in 1966

The Consultative Committee renewed its endorsement of the proposal to hold such a Symposium in 1966, as set out in Recommendation B(1) of the Distant Northern Seas Committee set out below and endorsed by Recommendation B(1) of the Gadoid Fish Committee, noting that Dr. E.M. Poulsen will be the Convener and that there will be final discussion of the program during the 1965 meeting in Rome. It is confirmed that the Symposium should be held on the Friday and Saturday before the Annual Meeting in 1966.

Distant Northern Seas Committee

The Committee renewed its recommendation about holding in 1966 in advance of the Annual Meeting a Symposium of two days' duration on the Ecology of Pelagic Fish in Arctic Waters (principally capelin, silver smelt, smelt and small gadoids).

The Committee further recommended that in addition to the official information provided by the Council, all members of the Committee should assist by informing relevant scientific bodies in their respective countries of the objectives of the Symposium. Presentation of contributions by scientists of Canada and U.S.A. will be welcomed.

Dr. Erik M. Poulsen was nominated Convener of the Symposium. The Chairman of the Distant Northern Seas and the Gadoid Fish Committees, together with Dr. Poulsen will constitute a Steering Committee.

The main lines of the Symposium were drawn, as follows:-

- (a) The significance of the pelagic fish within the food chain in the Arctic and the role of these species as food for the most important commercial fishes.
- (b) Migration and distribution of the pelagic fish in Arctic waters and their relationship with distribution and movements of the main commercial fishes.
- (c) The biological basis for fishery of pelagic fish in the Arctic.

Paper No. 119 (on capelin biology) submitted by Mr. S. Olsen for the 1964 meeting and paper No. 96 by A. Baranenkova and collaborators, dealing with Arctic cod were found adequate to incorporate in an enlarged form in the contributions for the Symposium.

Gadoid Fish Committee

The Committee endorses the recommendation of the Distant Northern Seas Committee to hold a Symposium on the Ecology of Pelagic Fish Species in Arctic and Adjacent Waters in 1966. It is planned that two of the main items for the Symposium will be the importance of pelagic and semi-pelagic Arctic species as links in the food chain and their effect on the distribution and availability of commercially important fish, and the Committee, therefore, expresses their interest in participating in the Symposium.

Working Group on the Bluefin Tunny

The Committee endorses the Scombriform Fish Committee's Recommendation as follows:-

Rec. B(1). Pour compléter son rapport le Groupe de Travail sur le Thon Rouge recommande que des renseignements et des statistiques sur les captures et l'effort de pêche, depuis au moins 1950, soient fournis par chaque pays.

(In order to complete its report, the Working Group in the Bluefin Tunny recommends that information and statistics of the catch and effort, at least since 1950, should be submitted by each country).

Collaboration with EIFAC

The Committee endorses the following recommendation of the Salmon & Trout Committee, on the understanding that the proposed arrangements for collaboration will be submitted to the Council at its next meeting:-

Rec. B(1). That the Committee offers to collaborate with EIFAC in the compilation of a synopsis on the Atlantic salmon and that, with the approval of the Council, the Chairman of the Committee should make such arrangements as may seem desirable to achieve this end.

Hydrographical Matters

All the relevant recommendations of the Hydrographical Committee were approved as follows:-

B(1) The Hydrographical Committee

Considering that the preparations by its Sub-Committee for the speedy telegraphic communication of oceanographic observations to supply the fisheries with appropriate information on the changing oceanic conditions have advanced now to such a stage that an international Pilot Programme can be realized,

Recommends

- (a) That invitations to participate in the said Pilot Programme, to be carried out during January-March 1965 in the North Sea, Skagerrak and parts of the Norwegian Sea, as practicable, be sent out by the Chairman of the Sub-Committee to the members representing Denmark, Iceland, Norway, United Kingdom, and USSR, and also to Sweden, Germany, and the Netherlands,
- (b) That these invitations include definite preliminary proposals with specifications on
 - (i) the starting and finishing dates for the Pilot Programme,
 - (ii) the areas for which data are required,
 - (iii) how frequently observations should be made,
 - (iv) how often cabled messages are necessaryas to enable participating countries to estimate the additional expenditure involved, which they will be expected to bear themselves,
- (c) That a meeting for two days of the Sub-Committee for Telegraphic Communication of Oceanographic Observations be held in Bergen at national expense in the beginning of June 1965 in order to evaluate the gained experiences on the most practical ways of gathering the material, making the analyses, distributing the results, etc.

B(2) The Hydrographical Committee

Noticing that the observations collected in connection with the synoptic investigations of the Baltic in August 1964, into which eleven research vessels took part, complemented with several anchored buoys, will be published by the Service Hydrographique,

Recommends

That all the said data, as soon as made available be published in one volume,

That ICES apply to UNESCO for financial support for the treatment and publication of the said data.

B(3) The Hydrographical Committee

Being aware of the action taken by the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to implement the resolution dealing with Standard Sections in the North Atlantic, passed at the Second Session of IOC in September 1962,

Observing

- (i) that the international programme of monitoring is based on a network of standard sections in the North Atlantic proposed on behalf of IOC by Prof. Kort, who also visited several countries around the North Atlantic to find out the reaction of their marine scientists,
- (ii) that in the Halifax meeting of North American oceanographers with Prof. Kort it was resolved that an analysis be made of data collected along standard sections in the past in order to ascertain the usefulness of such section and that a section between Scotland and Iceland should be worked intensively for one year with the highest possible frequency,

- (iii) that the Secretary of IOC expressed a desire to cooperate closely with ICES in implementing the proposals in (i) and (ii)

Recommends

- (a) That the position of certain of the standard sections proposed by Prof. Kort be amended and other sections added, as suggested by the Sub-Committee, in order to suit the needs of ICES member countries and that these changes be sent by the General Secretary of ICES to the Secretary of IOC as soon as possible,
- (b) That the member countries of ICES endeavour to work each of these standard sections whenever they have a ship engaged in research in its neighbourhood,
- (c) That the member countries of ICES try to develop automatic oceanographic stations which can eventually be moored along these sections,
- (d) That the General Secretary of ICES keeps permanent contact with the Secretary of IOC with respect to any further action which may arise from the implementation of the resolution on Standard Sections in the North Atlantic passed at the Second Session of IOC.

B(4) The Hydrographical Committee

Taking into account the importance of the diffusion processes in the sea in relation to

- (i) oceanography and marine biology: distribution of chemical elements, especially trace elements, distribution of suspended matter and plankton including fish eggs etc.
- (ii) all the kinds of pollution which are increasing around the coast of many member countries of ICES,

Recommends

That the study of diffusion processes, both on a large and small scale, be intensified on a national basis

- (a) by searching in all possible institutions, hydrographic and otherwise, for such material as already exist which will allow study of diffusion processes, e.g. series of synoptic and quasi-synoptic observations of the horizontal and vertical distribution of diffusion substance (suspended matter, yellow substance, biological indicators, tracer material, etc.),
- (b) by making observations of naturally occurring stationary and non-stationary diffusion processes and by means of artificial tracers, especially Rhodamine B,

Recommends furthermore

That studies be carried out on an international basis by multi-ship investigations using tracers on a large scale in different sea areas and under different hydrographical and meteorological conditions, starting with a joint investigation with Rhodamine B in the North Sea in summer 1965, and possibly followed by a similar investigation in the Baltic Sea where the conditions are different,

Recommends finally

That in order to carry out the proposed experiment in the North Sea in 1965 a Working Group be set up by the Hydrographical Committee to be responsible for deciding the time and place of the investigation and to meet in Hamburg at national expense in order to discuss technical details, especially in the calibration of instruments.

ICES/ICNAF Sampling Meeting

Noting also its general advice to the Bureau, on requests made to the Council by ICNAF, the Consultative Committee endorses Recommendation B(1) of the Comparative Fishing Committee, as set out below and recommends that the meeting might take place on Friday and Saturday, October 1 and 2, before the Annual Meeting in Rome.

- B(1) (a) That the Council supports the proposal of the Statistical News Letter Working Group concerning the need for a joint meeting of ICES and ICNAF scientists for the purpose firstly of
- (i) considering and agreeing on ways and means of achieving a greater degree of uniformity throughout the North Atlantic in all aspects of biological sampling and presentation of data, with special

reference to fish measuring. All fish and shellfish species at present reported in the Statistical News Letters, or likely to be so in a foreseeable future, will be included.

- (ii) discussing the scientific basis of sampling, in theory and practice, having regard to the advances which have been made in recent years (e.g. the development of statistical techniques and automatic data processing methods);
- (b) That approximately two days would be required for this meeting, divided roughly equally between these two aspects of the subject.
- (c) That, in order to achieve a definitive result of objective (i) above, all member countries be urged to send representatives to this meeting who are not only experts in the subject, but who also are empowered to make and implement decisions of methods and procedures on behalf of their country.
- (d) That the Consultative Committee be requested to give urgent consideration to allocating a time for this meeting in the near future, bearing in mind that the reorganization of the Statistical News Letters being undertaken by the Statistical Committee depends crucially, in a number of respects, on the outcome of decisions concerning sampling methods and data presentation.
- (e) That the Chairman of the Comparative Fishing Committee, in consultation with the Convener and Rapporteur and such other members of the Working Group as may be required, and also with ICNAF, should prepare a detailed programme for the meeting and circulate this to all member countries as soon as possible.
- (f) That the decision of the Council on this Recommendation be conveyed to ICNAF as soon as possible.

Statistical Matters

Recommendations B(1) - (6) of the Statistical Committee were approved as follows:-

B(1) That statistics of salmon and trout and other anadromous fish species should continue to be published in Bulletin Statistique, and that the statistics submitted by countries through the STANA reporting system should include the catches taken in freshwater systems running into the sea, but should exclude the catches of these species in wholly land-locked waters and impoundments, within the national territories. It further recommends that the statistical area to which the catches taken in fresh water should refer, should be that into which the river system runs.

B(2) The Statistical Committee, noting that catches of between 10,000 - 15,000 tons of fish, are taken annually by Portugal in the undesignated western part of the ICES Statistical Area (North), recommends that the statistics for the southern part of this area should in future be published in the Bulletin Statistique. It further recommends that this area should be divided into southern (Azores Grounds) and northern Sub-areas respectively, as defined in Section 6 of this report.

B(3) The Statistical Committee recommends that the changes in the boundaries of certain of the statistical Areas in ICES Statistical Area (North), as defined in Section 4 of this Report be incorporated in requests to countries for statistical data for 1965 and subsequent years through the STANA reporting system, and it requests the Secretary of the Continuing Working Party to inform countries of these proposed changes at an early date. It further recommends that a footnote be added to the Table 4 of the Bulletin Statistique for 1965, notifying the changes in these boundaries.

B(4) The Statistical Committee, noting with interest the joint proposals of the Atlantic, Sardine and Scombriform Committees of the need for the extension and intensification of scientific work in the eastern part of the Central Atlantic and that a Symposium on the results of investigations in this area should be held in 1965, and, recognizing the need for improving the fishery statistics coverage for this area recommends that the appraisal of the available fishery statistics for the area and the consideration of possible ways of estimating and improving them should be on the Agenda for the Symposium should it be held.

B(5) The Statistical Committee recommends that the Council urge countries to comply with the prescribed deadlines of May 31 and August 31 in submitting their statistics on STANA forms 2 and 1 E respectively.

B(6) The Statistical Committee recommends that (i) the publication in Bulletin Statistique of inventory fleet statistics by gross tonnage and horse-power classes

should be continued. (ii) That the statistics should be collected in accordance with the tonnage categories specified in para. 7.6 of Doc. No. 17 (C.M. 1964), but that in publishing them classes (1) - (3) should be combined. (iii) That attention should be given by the Continuing Working Party at its next meeting to the practicability of preparing a list of fishing vessels over 50 GRT, comparable with that recently published by ICNAF, and its findings be reported to the next meeting of the Statistical Committee. (iv) The Continuing Working Party should also examine the national classifications of fishing craft and gear, for reporting fishing effort data in the light of the tonnage classification used for inventory fleet statistics.

Advice

The following recommendations concern matters on which the Committee's advice was specially requested by the Bureau:-

(1) Requests made on behalf of his Commission by the Executive Secretary of ICNAF

Noting with pleasure that the Secretary General had already provided facilities for meetings of the NORWESTLANT representatives immediately prior to the Council meetings and convinced of the strong community of interest between the scientific programmes of ICNAF and ICES, the Committee recommends that the Council should welcome the ICNAF requests, both for collaboration in discussion of the scientific basis of sampling techniques and for facilities for mid-year meetings of ICNAF Sub-committees or working groups, and do all it can further to encourage collaboration in research across the North Atlantic Ocean.

(2) Requests from the Director General of the FAO for the Council's Comments on the Report of the Organization's Working Party for Rational Utilization of Tuna Resources in the Atlantic Ocean

Following considerable discussion the Committee recommends that advice might be given along the following lines:-

Although, as informed by the Scombriform Fish Committee, so far particular importance has not been attached by the Council to these regions, yet work has been undertaken there by some of its countries. The Council deems it important to develop such work and has at its disposal several specialized committees on which to draw. Efforts are being made at present to increase the available biological and statistical information. In accordance with general policy which is confirmed in the new Convention, the Council will gladly cooperate with any relevant international body that may be established in the Atlantic Ocean.

(3) Concerning the "Equatorial Project" proposed by the Chairmen of the Atlantic, Scombriform Fish and Sardine Committees

Following a very full discussion the special group of eight chairmen and their committee colleagues unanimously reported as follows:-

The Special Group unanimously agrees on the principle of organizing the meeting proposed by the Chairmen of the Atlantic, the Scombriform, and the Sardine Committees.

It requests the Consultative Committee to advise as to the date, place, duration and programme of this meeting.

After further detailed discussions in the Consultative Committee, the Committee decided to recommend as follows:-

1. That this Committee approves the proposal of the Chairmen of the Atlantic, Scombriform Fish and Sardine Committees that a Symposium should be held on the environment, living resources and fisheries of the southern part of the Council's area. The purpose of the Symposium would be both to review the present stage of knowledge of this area, and to plan a future programme of research in it.
2. That the Symposium should be of one week's duration and should be held in Santa Cruz during April 1966.
3. That invitations to attend and contribute to the Symposium be sent to those non-member countries who have fisheries or who have conductive research in the area.
4. That a Steering Committee, consisting of the Chairmen of the Atlantic, Scombriform Fish, Sardine, Hydrographical, Plankton, Shellfish, and Statistical Committees, together with such other experts as they may require, meet during the 1965 Council Meeting to prepare the detailed programme of the Symposium. M. Letaconnoux will be responsible for liaison with the ICES Secretariat on behalf of this Steering Committee.

5. That, meanwhile, all Member Countries be requested to prepare their material and titles of projected contributions falling within the scope of the Symposium, and to prepare lists and synopsis of it for submission to M. Letaconnoux by April 1, 1965. Member Countries are asked at the same time to indicate their special interests in the area and to suggest topics for later consideration by the Steering Committee at the Rome Meeting.
6. That recognizing the important results relevant to this Symposium which are likely to come from the GTS and ICITA Surveys, the Council requests IOC to enable the Council to participate in the meeting planned for the end of 1965, when the results of these two surveys will be reviewed.

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Other Matters

1. Finance

The Consultative Committee views with alarm the lack of financial means available to the Council to carry out many of its essential projects. It feels that ICES must continue to hold its rightful place as an important international body concerned with research in the Sea and on the living resources thereof. If the present obligations of the Council are to be met effectively, to say nothing of the changing pattern of scientific needs, it is essential that appreciably greater funds should be made available.

2. News Letter Working Group

In the light of the comments of the Statistical and other relevant Committees on the report of this Group, the Consultative Committee recommends that:-

With a view to avoiding unnecessary duplication, in the implementation of the recommendations of a number of Area and Species committees, that their members report in writing their comments on the recommendations of the News Letter Working Group, approaches should be made to the institutes in member countries by the Chairman of the Statistical Committee, who is also requested to coordinate the replies and report them to the meetings of these Committees in 1965.

3. North Sea Synopsis

The Committee received with appreciation from Prof. Hela and his colleagues the report concerning the present state and plans to further progress in producing the North Sea Synopsis in conjunction with the Editors of the Atlas of the Marine Environment (published by the American Geographical Society). It is hoped that all concerned will endeavour to complete this project with the maximum speed.

4. FAO Matters

The Committee noted with appreciation the various ways in which the Council and Fisheries Division of FAO are effectively collaborating. Cooperation and assistance in several aspects of the Council's statistical work is especially appreciated.

At several points in its discussions, the Committee's attention was drawn again to the FAO enquiry concerning the possible value of organizing a Symposium on studies of the fish and fish-food phases of production chains in marine communities. In particular, the Plankton and Herring Committees have affirmed their special interests in such studies and the value of such a Symposium in reviewing present knowledge and stimulating further work. Again, ICNAF has offered to cooperate with FAO in cosponsoring such a Symposium. Noting that it would be a logical development from the Symposia already organized by ICES, on primary and secondary productivity, the Consultative Committee recommends:-

That ICES should endorse the recommendation made by ICNAF in this respect, and offer in their turn to cooperate by serving as cosponsors if such a Symposium is proposed by FAO.

5. Meetings of the Committee

In order to assist in facilitating proceedings on the first day of the Annual Meeting, the Committee recommends that:-

A first meeting should be held at 8,30 a.m. on the first Monday of the session unto the time of the General Assembly, to resume again as required after the Meeting of Delegates.

6. Chairman

Dr. C.E. Lucas was unanimously elected Chairman.

7. Other Business

The Committee, in acknowledging the impending retirement of Mr. Beverton, Prof. Cieglewicz, Dr. Lozano and Prof. Schmidt from their offices as Chairmen, expressed sincere appreciation of their services over a number of years. At the same time they welcomed the Chairmen elect, Mr. Olsen, Dr. Lishev, Dr. Vilela and Dr. Jónsson. The assistance of all the members of the Secretariat throughout the year and over the period of the Meeting was acknowledged with appreciation. It was with great regret that the Committee heard that this would be the last Meeting at which Dr. Friðriksson would be working with them, and all members joined the Chairman in thanking him for his services for so many years and wishing him and Mrs. Friðriksson every happiness during his retirement.