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International Council for the
Exploration of the Sea

C.M.1974/B:19
Gear and Behaviour Committee



Cooperation with the International Standardization
Organization (ISO), Technical Committee: Textiles

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1. The Council has for some years maintained liaison with the International Standardization Organization (ISO), Technical Committee: Textiles, Subcommittees on "Ropes and Cordage" and "Textile products for fishing nets".

This has meant that the Secretariat has automatically received all Draft Standards and all Agreed Standards. At meetings of the Subcommittees, or at least at meetings of the Subcommittee on "Textile products for fishing nets", there have usually been national representatives, who also participate in the meetings of the Council's Gear and Behaviour Committee. They have then kept the Council informed.

It is probably this latter personal contact that has been of value for both parts. The Council as such has not contributed directly to the work of ISO, at least not in recent years. The Subcommittee has been invited to participate by observer(s) in the Statutory Meetings, but have not appointed an observer in recent years.

2. ISO has now established a new system of liaison with collaborating organisations, which have been divided into two categories, A and B.
3. Organizations in Category A are those international organizations which make an effective contribution to the work of the Technical Committee or Subcommittee concerned. They will be invited to all meetings of the Technical Committee or Subcommittee, and will when appropriate, be invited to nominate an expert to participate in the work of pertinent Working Groups. These organizations may submit papers for consideration by the Technical Committee or Subcommittee, and their observers may participate in discussions, but have not a right to vote.

These organizations will automatically receive all working documents for the Technical Committee, Subcommittee or Working Group concerned, as well as all Draft International Standards and Draft Technical Reports for examination and observations.

^{*}) ICES,
Charlottenlund Slot,
2920 Charlottenlund,
Denmark.

4. Organizations in Category B are those which have indicated a wish to be kept informed of the work of the Technical Committee or Subcommittee, but which make no contribution to the work of that Technical Committee or Subcommittee. They will not be invited to attend meetings unless they make a specific request to that effect, and they will only receive such documents as they request. The same is the case with Draft International Standards and Draft Technical Reports.
5. The ISO Secretariat has listed ICES as an organization in Liaison Category B for both Subcommittees mentioned above, and the General Secretary, assuming that member countries would prefer to make their contributions to the work of these Subcommittees directly and not via the Council, has provisionally accepted this, and has at the same time informed the ISO Secretariat that the question will be placed before the Statutory Meeting this year.
6. The Gear and Behaviour Committee may wish to comment and advise the Council.