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International Council for  
the Exploration of the Sea

C.M. 1975/B:6  
GEAR AND BEHAVIOUR COMMITTEE

GENERAL REPORT ON MEETING OF ALL GEAR AND BEHAVIOUR WORKING GROUPS

OSTENDE, BELGIUM, 21-25 APRIL 1975

1. In appreciation: - The meeting recognized the contribution of Mr. J. G. deWit to the Gear and Behaviour Committee as its chairman for the past three years. Mr. P. Hovart, Mr. J. G. DeWit and Mr. G. Vanden Broucke were thanked for their efforts in preparation for the meeting. Mr. P. Hovart, Mr. Vandromme and the secretariat were thanked for smoothing transactions. The government of Belgium and the city of Ostende were thanked for their hospitality while hosting the meeting.
2. Communications:- The participants were asked to use airmail for trans-Atlantic correspondence and to recognize that even by airmail 3 weeks are normally required for a reply.
3. Agenda:- The general program in Appendix I was adopted. Individual working group agendas are in the respective reports.
4. Co-ordinated meeting experiment:- In most respects the meeting of all Gear and Behaviour working groups during the same period and in the same venue was successful. Interchange between participants of different disciplines and interests was enhanced and the opportunity for participants to attend sessions of unfamiliar working groups was often educational. However, the total attendance was less than to separate working group meetings, the need for concurrent sessions reduced participation somewhat, and the Sound and Vibrations Working Group was forced to meet at an inconvenient time.
5. Future modus operandi:- It was agreed that:
  - a. The "Engineering" and "Fish Reaction" working groups should continue to meet at the same place and during the same week for maximum interchange between the "gear" and the "behaviour" aspects of Committee activities.
  - b. These two working groups are each dual purpose, viz., to undertake special-purpose assignments and to provide forums for the interchange of information, reporting of recent developments and discussions of future plans (including cooperative projects) between practicing scientists and engineers.

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- c. The discussion of any particular subject of mutual interest to these two working groups may be allocated to a special joint session or sessions with one agenda including both "gear" and "behaviour" aspects and chaired by either or both of the working group chairman by mutual consent. Subjects suitable for discussion by joint sessions include electrical fishing, methods for fishing effort measurement, and fish finding.
  - d. When treatment of such a major subject is oriented toward an objective, formation of a special working group for this objective should be considered.
  - e. The "Data Collection", "Comparative Fishing" and "Sound and Vibrations" working groups are each special-purpose and objective-oriented. They will be discontinued as soon as their present assignments are complete. Such ad hoc working groups should remain free to recommend meeting times and places best suited to their purpose.
  - f. Papers may be submitted for presentation either at working group meetings or at the Committee meeting. Working group papers, after benefit of discussion, may be referred to the Committee for the full benefit of ICES, and papers presented at Committee meetings may be drawn to the attention of working group participants or used in subsequent working group action.
6. Next co-ordinated meetings of the working groups:- It was recommended that these meetings should occur during the week immediately prior to or following the 1976 mid-term meeting of the Liaison Committee, but not during Easter week and on the understanding that this would be during the first half of April. It was further agreed that these meetings should be convened in Hull, England, on invitation from the White Fish Authority.

Appendix I - General Program

Room	213/4	216
Monday (21 April)		
09.30	General Assembly Chairman: P.J.G. CARROTHERS	
10.00	Engineering Chairman: J.G.DE WIT	Sound and Vibrations Chairman: K. OLSEN
11.45	Reception	
14.30	Engineering	Sound and Vibrations
Tuesday (22 April)		
09.30-13.00	Engineering	Sound and Vibrations
14.30-16.00	Engineering	
Wednesday (23 April)		
09.30	Electrical Fishing joint sessions Chairman: G. VANDEN BROUCKE	Comparative Fishing Chairman: J.A. POPE
14.30	"	Comparative Fishing
19.30	Buffet	
Thursday (24 April)		
09.30	Fish Reaction Chairman: Dr. C.S. WARDLE	Comparative Fishing
14.30	Fish Reaction	Data Collection Chairman: J.J. FOSTER
Friday (25 April)		
09.30	General Assembly	
10.00	Fish Reaction and Aquaria	Data Collection
14.30	Fish Reaction	Data Collection
Note:	Refreshment breaks	11.00-11.30 16.00-16.30
	Dinner break	13.00-14.30
	Adjourn	18.00