

Report of the eleventh session of the

**COORDINATING WORKING PARTY  
ON ATLANTIC FISHERY STATISTICS**

Luxembourg, 21-28 July 1982



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE

COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON ATLANTIC FISHERY STATISTICS

Luxembourg (Grand Duchy), 21-28 July 1982

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
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## ABSTRACT

The final formal Report of the Eleventh Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics (CWP) held in Luxembourg (Grand Duchy), 21-28 July 1982, is presented. EUROSTAT, FAO, ICCAT, ICES, ICSEAF, NAFO, OECD were the participating agencies. Major topics considered were: agency programmes and publications presenting Atlantic fishery statistics, discrepancies in statistics held in data bases, fishing areas for statistical purposes, classifications and identifiers of countries, of fishing gear and of fishing effort for statistical purposes, statistics on fishermen and fishing fleets, catch statistics: species identification, catch and landings statistics: nationality issues, landings statistics: quantities and values, conversion factors, statistics on aquaculture, fishing logbooks, a glossary of fishery statistics, the introduction of a STATLANT Newsletter, revision of the format of STATLANT forms, misreporting of catch and landings data, future programme of the CWP.

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## 1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Relevant Documents: CWP-11/1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 30

Relevant Appendices: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

### 1.1 Opening of session

The Secretary of the CWP, Mr. L. P. D. Gertenbach, opened the Eleventh Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics. He introduced Mr. Aage Dornonville de la Cour, Director-General, EUROSTAT, who welcomed, on behalf of the host agency, EUROSTAT, the participants to Luxembourg.

### 1.2 Election of officers

The Secretary, after outlining various general announcements to the participants, invited nominations for the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Mr. H. Lassen was elected Chairman; Mr. B.G. Thompson was elected Vice-Chairman.

### 1.3 Adoption of agenda

The draft agenda was reviewed and adopted with amendments (see Appendix 1). The numbered sections of 1-22 of this Report of the Eleventh Session of the CWP correspond to the numbers of the Agenda Items.

### 1.4 Appointment of rapporteurs

The schedule of work was established and rapporteurs were appointed as follows for the various Agenda Items:

1	L. P. D. Gertenbach
2	Participants from each agency
3	L. P. D. Gertenbach and P. Kolarov
4	D. Cross and E. Akyllz
5	V. Hodder and K. Hoydal
6	T. K. Pitt and F. Fernandez de Santaella
7	K. Sullivan and D. Cross
8	L. P. D. Gertenbach and W. Klawe
9	P. Miyake and E. Cardoso
10	<u>Task Force:</u> B. G. Thompson (Convenor)
11	L. P. D. Gertenbach and B. G. Thompson
12	D. Cross and E. Akyllz
13	P. Miyake and K. Hoydal
14	L. P. D. Gertenbach and D. Cross
15	V. Hodder and D. Cross
16	<u>Task Force:</u> K. Hoydal (Convenor)
17	<u>Task Force:</u> H. Lassen (Convenor)
18	E. Akyllz, V. Hodder, D. Cross
19	L. P. D. Gertenbach
20	L. P. D. Gertenbach
21	L. P. D. Gertenbach
22	H. Lassen

### 1.5 Task forces

The first task force covered the issues relating to the value of landings and related matters: (Agenda Item 10). This group, with Mr. B. G. Thompson as Convenor, consisted of E. Akyllz, D. Cross, L. P. D. Gertenbach, K. Hoydal and K. Sullivan.

The second task force dealt with the revision of STATLANT forms (Agenda Item 16). This group with Mr. K. Hoydal as Convenor, consisted of J. Abrahamse, E. Akyllz, D. Cross, C. de Verdelhan,

V. Hodder, P. Kolarov, T. K. Pitt, F. Santaella and D. Wallage.

The third task force covered the problem of misreporting of catch and landings statistics (Agenda Item 17). This group, with Mr. H. Lassen as Convenor, consisted of C. de Verdelhan, P. Miyake and D. Wallage.

#### 1.6 Documentation and related materials

The full list of documents presented to the Eleventh Session of the CWP is given in Appendix 2. The list of participants is given in Appendix 3. A list of acronyms, relevant to fishery matters, is given as Appendix 4. The Report of the Ad-hoc Inter-Agency Consultation on Atlantic Fishery Statistics, 3 and 4 October 1981, Woods Hole, USA, is reproduced with its relevant Annexes as Appendix 5. In Appendix 6 are listed the dates, places and reports of the first eleven sessions of the CWP, as well as the proposed dates and place of the Twelfth Session of the CWP.

#### 1.7 Recommendations

The recommendations, proposals and suggestions incorporated in this Report of the Eleventh Session, have been extracted and listed as Appendix 8.

## 2. AGENCY PROGRAMMES AND PUBLICATIONS PRESENTING ATLANTIC FISHERY STATISTICS

Relevant Documents: CWP-11/10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 32, 33, 37

#### 2.1 FAO fishery statistical programme, publications and ADP processing

2.1.1 The sub-programme within FAO's programme of work to be carried out by the various modules concerned with statistical activities within FIDI, has an objective to assemble relevant, reliable and timely data and other quantitative information on all aspects of fisheries, and to support planning and development activities in the sector. Specifically, it has the following primary functions:

- to collect, compile, store and disseminate statistics and data, at the national and global levels, on fish resources, fishing activities and commodities. Most of the information is published in the FAO Yearbook of Fishery Statistics and other publications, for member countries, other international and regional organizations and the public
- to provide a range of data support services to fishery activities under the Regular Programme and Field Programmes, which require extensive mechanical data analysis and computerized data operations

2.1.2 In addition, the sub-programme is expected to contribute to the improvement in the quality and the scope of fishery statistical information at the national, regional and global levels. Through its routine operations, it assists in the elaboration of standard definitions, classifications and methods of collection and compilation of fishery statistics throughout the world. A new continuing activity of the Service is to provide assistance to developing countries in improving their national fishery information system, including data collection and analysis.

2.1.3 The statistical activities of FIDI are now organized in the following modules:

- (a) catch and landings;
- (b) fishing vessel; and
- (c) fishery commodities and conversion factors.

2.1.4 Since the Tenth Session of the CWP, the catch statistics unit has been responsible for the publication of Volumes 48 and 50 of the Yearbook of Fishery Statistics. This unit intends to issue Volume 52 ("Catches and Landings, 1981") in November 1982 and Volume 54 in 1983.

- 2.1.5 The module responsible for the fishery commodity statistics and conversion factors, has in recent years issued as "fishery commodity" volumes, Volumes 49 and 51. It is expected to issue in December 1982 Volume 53, and Volume 55 in 1983.
- 2.1.6 The fishing vessel statistics module has compiled and produced a publication presenting by country and type of vessel annual data on fishing fleets.
- 2.1.7 In cooperation with the Marine Resources Service (FIRM) of FAO's Fisheries Department, FIDI has also assisted in the editing and preparation for the publication of Statistical Bulletins for the GFCM area (Major Fishing Area 37) and the CECAF area (Major Fishing Area 34).
- 2.1.8 Activities in the field of fishery statistics require close collaboration of the FIDI staff at Headquarters, the FAO staff in the field and, with the secretariats of all the inter-governmental bodies concerned with fisheries. The two principal coordinating mechanisms for this type of work are the CWP (Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics) and the JWP. Their work covers all standard concepts, standard questionnaires and standard notes for their completion, etc. The CWP and the JWP serve as inter-agency focal-points for the review, further refinement and improvement and final clearance of all these standards.

## 2.2 EUROSTAT statistical programme and publications

- 2.2.1 The EUROSTAT participant, in introducing the report on EUROSTAT's statistical programme (CWP-11/15), said that work since the CWP's Tenth Session had been concentrated on consolidating the development of a computerized data base. This data base on the Office's CRONOS system may be consulted by national authorities having direct links with the EC Commission's computer and by subscribers to the EURONET computer network.
- 2.2.2 Considerable effort has been expended to eliminate discrepancies between the EUROSTAT data base and those of other CWP member organizations (see Section 4).
- 2.2.3 A joint FAO/EUROSTAT questionnaire on fishing fleet statistics has been introduced and satisfactory progress has been made in establishing a statistical register of Community fishing vessels (see Section 7).
- 2.2.4 With the increased availability of the EUROSTAT data base on the EURONET computer network the publication programme is being revised. The current two annual publications will be replaced by a single "Yearbook of Fishery Statistics". The future of the quarterly bulletin on landings of the more important species in the EC ports has still to be decided.

## 2.3 OECD statistical programme and publications

- 2.3.1 For the past fifteen years, the annual "Review of Fisheries in OECD Member Countries" has been published with the objective of describing the major developments and changes in or affecting the commercial fisheries of Member Countries. Although it reviews matters of non-statistical nature, i.e. domestic policy developments in all sectors, international co-operation etc., the statistical coverage provided is equally important.
- 2.3.2 The statistical coverage includes four tables one each on fishing fleet and fishermen, landings and values, utilization of the catch and external trade in fish and fish products. However, as the Review is published in July of the following year to which the statistics pertain, the figures are sometimes provisional and not readily comparable on a country by country basis, especially landings statistics. Generally this should not be an insurmountable handicap to the professional statistician, who has at his disposal the various conversion factors to reconcile these given descriptive statistics. However there are other shortcomings to which a report emphasising the earliest possible publication cannot address itself, e.g. some countries do not provide the extensive coverage provided by others.
- 2.3.3 Beginning with the 1981 Review an attempt has been made to provide more comprehensive data on landings and values especially in upgrading the coverage by species. In the future it would be expected that most countries would provide a detailed list of landings and values by all major species. The standardization of landed weights is however a matter for the national governments themselves, though any efforts undertaken by the CWP could only have a positive effect on the "Review of Fisheries in OECD Member Countries".

2.3.4 It is anticipated that the trade statistics of the Review will be further upgraded. In the 1981 Review detailed foreign trade statistics, i.e. tables by major products, were provided for a number of countries and as there was a positive response to this development a new table will be introduced in time for the 1982 Review. There should be no problem in standardising this data as all OECD countries report on the basis of the Standard International Trade Classification, while values, unless otherwise specified, relate to declared transaction values (imports c.i.f., exports f.o.b.).

#### 2.4 ICCAT statistical programme, publications and ADP processing

2.4.1 The ICCAT Assistant Executive Secretary presented CWP-11/13 and reported briefly on ICCAT activities in the collection of statistics and on ICCAT publications. He reported that ICCAT does not depend on STATLANT forms, since the biology of pelagic fish does not follow the pattern established mostly for ground fish. Instead, actual longitude and latitude is used to report catch and effort and size data.

2.4.2 Besides receiving data from national offices, ICCAT employs people at various Atlantic ports to collect data not covered by the national scientists and to sort out double reporting. The increasing number of vessels which fly flags different from those of the operators is causing a lot of problems for ICCAT.

2.4.3 ICCAT updated three major data bases: (1) total annual catch; (2) detailed catch and effort, and (3) size frequencies. The summary of the bases is published in the "Statistical Bulletin", the "Statistical Series" and the "Data Record", together with the data base catalogues.

2.4.4 Special ICCAT statistical activities carried out in the 1980-81 period include the following:

- documentation of procedures adopted by each national office in collecting statistics and estimating catches
- footnoting of the sources for all catch figures
- compilation and publication of the historical data (1950-69)
- biostatistical review of sampling
- organizing statistical training courses

#### 2.5 ICSEAF statistical programme and publications

2.5.1 The Chairman of the Standing Committee (STAT) of ICSEAF introduced the report on the Commission's statistical activities (CWP-11/14), pointing out that the catch and effort information reported annually by different member countries was stratified by species, ICSEAF division, month, type of vessel and gear, main species sought and effort unit. Fishing effort is reported in three main categories for trawl fisheries i.e., number of hours fished, number of days fished and number of days on ground; the first two of these are most commonly used in stock assessment.

2.5.2 Catch and fishing effort statistics are reported using the STATLANT system. It is estimated that nearly 100 percent of the catches taken in 1980 in the Convention Area were reported to the Commission, while information on the effort associated with about 95 percent of the total catch was received.

2.5.3 The two computer programs designed in 1973 for processing ICSEAF statistical tables from the STATLANT forms are still in use, although several modifications have been introduced to accommodate varying requirements. A total of seven tables, presenting catch, effort and discard data under different combinations of headings - country, species group, subarea, division, month, target species, fishing effort unit, gear and vessel category - is printed out twice annually, once in provisional form for use at the annual meeting and later in a final version as the ICSEAF Statistical Bulletin.

2.5.4 Ten editions of the Bulletin, covering the years 1973-1980, have now been published. Innovations in the latest volume include a new table (Table 7) on discards and an updated listing of the ISSFGG as approved at the Tenth Session of the CWP. ICSEAF has continued to use the ISO three-letter country codes in its statistical tables as well as the vessel classification by tonnage in use since inception, which varies slightly from the classification applied by FAO.

- 2.5.5 By 31 August of each year, member countries report their catch and fishing effort statistics for the first six months of the year in course, for use in stock assessment evaluations performed at the annual December meeting. In 1981 the major fishing countries, which together take from 90-95 percent of the catches in the Convention Area, provided this information.
- 2.5.6 At its 1981 meeting the ICSEAF Scientific Advisory Council approved a proposal to report catch and effort statistics by 30' squares in certain divisions, beginning with the data for 1981 whenever possible. The improvement in the collection of statistical and biological information may lead to the need to reconsider division boundaries within the Convention Area, with a view to adjusting them to actual habitats of commercial species.
- 2.5.7 Though conversion factors are now available for thirteen species, information is still lacking from many fishing countries for some of the major fish categories. The factors reported are routinely circulated for updating and all new information is forwarded to FAO.
- 2.5.8 The monthly catch reporting system introduced in 1979 is still in force for two species and considerable improvements have been made with regard to timely communications of catches.
- 2.5.9 While the amount of biological sampling for length and age has shown a notable increase in the last two years, there are still many time and space strata that remain uncovered. The data reported to the Secretariat are compiled and processed by a system consisting of three computer programs which print out tables on length frequency and length-weight and age-length relationships, published in the Sampling Bulletin. Other biological research is being carried out, though on a less standardized basis, regarding such areas as feeding habits, trophic relationships, plankton, growth rates, spawning and mesh selection.
- 2.5.10 To date the lists of fishing vessels operating in the Convention Area which are provided by member countries at the beginning of each calendar year have included information on home port, registration number and the name of owner or charterer. A special working group has been established and will meet in December 1982 to consider a proposal to expand the list of items reported to include gross register tons, length of vessel, hold capacity, horse power, presence of a fishmeal plant and catch per day.

#### 2.6 ICES fishery statistical programme, publications and ADP processing

- 2.6.1 The ICES FISHDAT System has been expanded and the next step finalized. This is the ICES standard assessment program package and the data files' structure, together with FAD (Fisheries ASSESSMENT Datafile) input forms for the ICES Assessment Working Groups. These programs have partially been, and partially are being, implemented on the NORD-100 computer installed at the ICES headquarters.
- 2.6.2 As was reported at the Tenth Session of the CWP, an undertaking to use the ICES FISHDAT System for the production of all the major tables in the ICES Bulletin Statistique had been fulfilled in Volume 61 released in November 1979. In accordance with the Council's decision at the 1980 Statutory Meeting on savings in the production cost of the Bulletin Statistique, publication of Table 7 (i.e. monthly catch and effort statistics) has been terminated with Volume 63; its deletion from Volumes 63 and 64 (data for 1979) which was released in February 1982, has resulted in the reduction of the publication cost by more than 50 percent. ICES is at the moment taking part in a data study project on database management. This will, eventually, make the STATLANT data, both 27A and 27B, accessible to detailed requests.
- 2.6.3 Only five countries submitted completed returns of ICES Data Form 6 (Fishing Craft and Fishermen) for Table 9 of the Bulletin Statistique for 1979 and 1980. Therefore, and also because FAO intends to publish relevant data in a more detailed form the Council, at its 1981 Statutory Meeting, decided to cease the collection and publication of statistics on fleet and fishermen.
- 2.6.4 In accordance with a recommendation from the Tenth Session of the CWP, FAO, ICES and EUROSTAT studied problems associated with the establishing of statistics on aquaculture. At the 1981 Statutory Meeting of ICES its Mariculture and Statistics Committees at a Joint Session considered the results of the discussion on the subject, which took place during the Statistics Committee Liaison Working Group meeting with the participation of experts on mariculture and the resultant STATLANT AQ Form with Notes for its completion. The Council adopted the recommendation of the Joint Session that the STATLANT AQ Form together with the Notes for Completion should be included in the STATLANT Programme commencing with data for 1981 and the data collected should be published in the Bulletin Statistique. The Statistics Committee

Liaison Working Group was requested to consider an appropriate layout of this table at its 1982 meeting (CWP-11/26 and CWP-11/32).

- 2.6.5 Member countries continue to be more successful in meeting the 1 February deadline for reporting preliminary annual catch statistics than that for STATLANT returns; this hinders the timely publication of the Bulletin Statistique. Procedural problems seem to be of minor importance, the main concern being the ability and will to collect and report correct figures. The large discrepancies between officially reported catches and the catch estimates used in stock assessment clearly show the magnitude of the problem. The only major procedural problem at present seems to be the obtention of information on landings in foreign ports, which delays timely reporting. Action is now planned to solve this problem.
- 2.6.6 The ICES Statistics Committee considered problems experienced with conflicts between stock boundaries and boundaries of statistical areas and the Council established an ad hoc Working Group to analyse the appropriateness of the current boundaries between fishing areas in the FAO Major Fishing Area 27 (CWP-11/20).
- 2.6.7 The Statistics Committee endorsed the recommendation of its Liaison Working Group to seek the advice of the Fish Capture Committee as to the best method of recording fishing effort for mid-water trawls but the advice would only become available after the 1982 Statutory Meeting of ICES.
- 2.6.8 At present England and Wales, Norway, Scotland, Sweden and Iceland are submitting their STATLANT 27B returns to ICES on computer tapes in accordance with the ICES format and codes. This expedites processing of data and eliminates clerical errors.
- 2.6.9 The ACFM Reports submitted to NEAFC and IBSFC and some of the Assessment Working Groups' Reports are published in the Cooperative Research Report Series. Since the Tenth Session of the CWP the following most relevant volumes have been issued: Nos. 96, 102 and 114.
- 2.7 NAFO statistical program, publications and data processing
- 2.7.1 The Assistant Executive Secretary of NAFO, in his review of statistical activities relevant to the Northwest Atlantic (CWP-11/11) noted that STATLANT 21A and 21B reports from national statistical offices continue to form the basis of the NAFO Statistical System, the former providing an initial inventory of nominal catches by species and division for review and use at the June Meeting of the Scientific Council, and the latter providing more detailed catch and effort statistics for assessment purposes and for publication in the NAFO Statistical Bulletin.
- 2.7.2 The publication of Statistical Bulletin Vol.28 for the calendar year 1978 in the autumn of 1980 terminated the ICNAF series. The first NAFO issue Vol.29 for 1979 was published in July 1981, and Vol.30 for 1980 will be published in August 1982. Significant changes in the NAFO series involve the reporting of fishery statistics in accordance with the revised boundary between Subareas 0 and 1 and the modification of Table 5 to better reflect the presentation of detailed catch and effort data.
- 2.7.3 Computer processing of fishery statistics was initiated in 1971 and has continued since then with minor modification, based on input and output programming developed to efficiently utilize the standardized reporting of data on the STATLANT 21B form. A description of the processing system was presented at the 10th Session of the CWP (CWP-10/11).
- 2.7.4 Following the 10th Session of the CWP, the Scientific Council of NAFO approved the use of ISO 3-letter standard country abbreviations, agreed unanimously to the terms of reference for the future structure of the CWP and reaffirmed previous commitments regarding the use of standard classification of fishing gears, 3-alpha species identifiers, standardized STATLANT forms and notes and the allocation of catches by nationality.
- 2.7.5 Recent decisions of the Scientific Council involve a new format for NAFO Statistical Bulletin Table 5, amendments to the NAFO List of Species Items and expressions of grave concern about the reporting of large unspecified catches of finfish and the deterioration in national reporting of statistics.

2.8 CCAMLR statistical programme

- 2.8.1 The CWP Secretary mentioned that the first meetings of CCAMLR (Commission for Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources) and its Scientific Committee were held on 25 May - 11 June 1982, Hobart, Australia. A secretariat is still in the process of being established. It was noted that the CWP agreed at its Tenth Session for the eventual participation of CCAMLR in the Sessions of the CWP.
- 2.8.2 The CWP Secretary submitted CWP-11/37 which contained extracts taken from the Report of the First Session of CCAMLR and its Scientific Committee. The CWP noted that this new body decided to adopt for its statistical programme certain basic standards already used for many years in the STATLANT programme.
- 2.8.3 The CWP agreed that the Secretary should ensure that copies of the reports of the Eleventh and preceding Sessions are provided to the CCAMLR Secretariat and that they are informed of the place and dates of both the coming Inter-agency Consultation in 1983 and the CWP's Twelfth Session in 1984.

3. REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSALS FROM CWP-10 AND PROGRESS

Relevant Documents: CWP-11/8, 9, 18

3.1 Recommendations and proposals from CWP-10 and comments on progress

- 3.1.1 The CWP Secretary presented his report (CWP-11/18) listing the various recommendations and proposals made by the CWP during its Tenth Session, 22-29 July 1980, Madrid. After reviewing each recommendation and proposal he summarized the action taken and the degree to which progress has been made.
- 3.1.2 The CWP noted that many of the recommendations had been acted on and that most of the proposals and suggestions had been carried out. Comments on these are incorporated in other sections of this Report of the Eleventh Session.
- 3.1.3 The CWP, after reviewing the Secretary's report decided that the following should be identified as recommendations, proposals, suggestions, etc. made by it at its preceding Session, but not yet implemented:
- (a) *that, resources permitting, FAO should prepare a technical document containing descriptions and illustrations of fishing vessel types as a guide to the vessel type classification (Section 4.1.3 of the CWP-10 Report);*
  - (b) *that FAO, in consultation with the regional agencies, should consider the feasibility of revising Groups 33 and 34 of its International Standard Statistical Classification of Aquatic Animals and Plants (ISSCAAP) (Section 6.5 of the CWP-10 Report);*
  - (c) *that FAO considers the possibility of producing a technical report or manual, arraying the requirements for planning, designing and implementing logbook systems (Section 16.3 of the CWP-10 Report); and*
  - (d) *that the regional agencies should adopt the 3-alpha country codes established by ISO, when it is necessary to use such 3-letter country abbreviations in tabular presentations (Section 19.1.1 of the CWP-10 Report).*

- 3.1.4 It was decided that the issues listed in 3.1.3 above will be covered again under an appropriate item on the Agenda of the Eleventh Session.

3.2 The Ad-hoc Inter-agency Consultation on Atlantic Fishery Statistics, October 1981

- 3.2.1 The CWP Secretary presented the Report (CWP-11/5) of this Consultation which took place on 3 and 4 October 1981 in Woods Hole, USA, at the time of the 1981 Statutory Meeting of ICES.
- 3.2.2 The CWP confirmed the inclusion of selected parts of this Report as Appendix 5 to the Report of its Eleventh Session.

#### 4. DISCREPANCIES IN STATISTICS HELD IN DATA BASES

Relevant Documents: CWP-11/19

- 4.1 The EUROSTAT participant introduced CWP-11/19 by describing the problems that had been encountered in establishing its data-base from the existing data-bases of other CWP member agencies. An unacceptably large number of discrepancies had been detected in a time-consuming manual examination of a small part of the data-base and, as a result, a method of comparing the data-bases of the various agencies using computer techniques was being developed. This involved converting all the data-bases to a standard format (the CRONOS format) and then running a comparability check on the data. Initial efforts were being concentrated on the data-bases of ICES, FAO and EUROSTAT for which there was the greatest amount of comparable data but, using the experience gained in the initial phase, would subsequently be extended to cover the data-bases of the other agencies.
- 4.2 The CWP acknowledged that these discrepancies exist and that the causes were various (differing deadlines for submission of data, the differing status of submissions, the differing national treatment of data on cooperative ventures etc.) but it was felt that it would be premature to consider these causes and the methods of overcoming them until the study was further advanced and the extent of the problem assessed.
- 4.3 The CWP welcomed EUROSTAT's initiative in this work and recommended that *EUROSTAT continue its activities in creating the necessary computer procedures to compare sets of data to identify discrepancies.*
- 4.4 It was stressed that the detection of the discrepancies was only the first part of the exercise. Their elimination could not be treated mechanically and would require the expert knowledge of the regional agencies and the national offices. It was hoped that regional agencies could eliminate a good proportion of the discrepancies due, for example, to different labelling of items but it would probably be necessary to seek the advice of the national offices for the remainder. The ICES Statistician pointed out that significant changes to data could only be accepted if accompanied by credible explanations of the causes.
- 4.5 With regard to the avoidance in the future of discrepancies in data bases, the CWP proposed that revisions to nationally submitted data made by one member agency should be circulated to all the other agencies involved, preferably by use of the FISHSTATGRAM System established by the CWP. It was also suggested that once EUROSTAT's work in establishing a system to identify discrepancies was finished, a procedure should be established of periodically running computer tapes of the data-bases of the agencies against each other to detect any remaining discrepancies.
- 4.6 The national reporting offices should be kept informed of progress in developing the method of detecting discrepancies and of discrepancies detected in data they had submitted in order that national data-bases can be made consistent.

#### 5. FISHING AREAS FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES

Relevant Documents: CWP-11/18, 20, 37

##### 5.1 Changes in boundaries of Major Fishing Areas

The CWP Secretary, in reviewing actions taken on recommendations and proposals from the 10th Session, noted that the only change in boundaries of the FAO Major Fishing Areas, depicted on the world chart facing page 21 of Volume 50 of the FAO Yearbook of Fishery Statistics was the transfer from Area 48 to Area 49 of the waters of the South Atlantic lying in the quadrangle formed by latitudes 55°S and 60°S and by longitudes 60°W and 50°W. By making this transfer, the boundaries of the three Major Fishing Areas (48, 58 and 88) constituting the Southern Oceans now conform exactly with the boundaries given in the Convention on Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR).

#### 5.2 Criteria for alteration of statistical boundaries

The CWP noted that the ICES ad hoc Working Group on Fishing Area Boundaries had recently discussed the implication of several proposals to change the existing boundaries of ICES sub-areas (CWP-11/20) and drew up a set of working principles which should be satisfied before any changes are adopted. The CWP concurred with these criteria which are as follows:

- (a) changes in the existing system should be considered only when strong reasons for doing so have been clearly demonstrated and documented;
- (b) in addition to the advantages, consideration of changes must take into account the disadvantages which would follow if alterations were to be implemented;
- (c) possible alterations to existing statistical areas could take the form of a change in a boundary or the creation of subdivisions within a statistical area;
- (d) if the need for a change is accepted, the nature and extent of the alteration should be determined principally on the basis of biological considerations, taking into account the distribution of fisheries and possible effect on the existing statistical data series, together with administrative/political considerations; and
- (e) any proposal to alter a statistical area must also be supported by the following documentation:
  - (i) evidence of the distribution of the exploitable phase of the major stocks concerned;
  - (ii) a list of all other stocks occurring within or around the boundary of the fishing area concerned;
  - (iii) information on the movements of these stocks within or across the boundaries;
  - (iv) the distribution of fisheries in and around the area concerned;
  - (v) details of natural marine boundaries such as bottom topography; and
  - (vi) an analysis of how implementation of the proposals would be likely to affect long-term data series.

#### 5.3 Changes in statistical areas to reflect exclusive zones

The CWP acknowledged that the new regime of exclusive zones may be behind some of the proposals for changes in boundaries of statistical areas. Certain groups of users of statistical data show an increasing interest in having data reported by these zones. At present it is impossible to address this problem as there are few, if any, maps showing generally accepted zones. If or when such maps become available each suggestion for a change on this basis will have to be evaluated, as for any other proposed change, by following the established working principles given in the preceding subsection 5.2. Other methods may be applied to catches in these zones without modifying existing statistical grid systems.

#### 5.4 Codification of statistical quadrangles

A question relating to the need for a standard procedure for coding quadrangular areas based on latitude and longitude led to a review of recommendations on this matter from the Seventh and Eighth Sessions of the CWP in 1971 and 1974 respectively. The CWP reaffirmed its agreement with these previous proposals, the relevant sections of which should be incorporated in a paper to be presented to the 1983 Ad-Hoc Inter-Agency Consultation.

6. CLASSIFICATIONS AND IDENTIFIERS OF COUNTRIES, OF FISHING GEAR AND OF FISHING EFFORT FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES

Relevant Documents: CWP-11/8, 21, 31

- 6.1 The Eleventh Session of the CWP noted that the application of the proposal made by its Tenth Session relevant to the use by agencies of the ISO 3-alpha identifiers for countries when abbreviations were needed (Section 19.1 of the Report of the Tenth Session of the CWP), presented several problems:
- (a) the need of a fourth letter added as a hyphenated suffix to the ISO 3-alpha identifier when the reporting unit is smaller than the one established by ISO;
  - (b) the need for identifying aggregations of countries;
  - (c) the requirement from contracting parties of the agencies to use different codes from those established by ISO; and
  - (d) the need for using a multinational unit in some cases for reporting purposes.
- 6.2 The CWP continued to urge the use of the ISO 3-alpha identifiers for countries when needed for abbreviations.
- 6.3 In reviewing CWP-11/31 the meeting expressed its appreciations to Mr. Claude Nédélec for preparing this document which facilitates the identification of various fishing gears. This document is published by FAO, Rome, in 1982, as FAO Fisheries Technical Paper No.222, - Definition and classification of fishing gear categories.
- 6.4 Proposals for changes or additions should include a description of the proposed gear category and be submitted to FAO. The latter, after a study of the proposal, is to submit a report with a suitable recommendation to the following Session of the CWP.

7. STATISTICS ON FISHERMEN AND FISHING FLEETS

Relevant Documents: CWP-11/10 Add.1, 14, 18, 22, 36

- 7.1 The OECD participant introduced CWP-11/22 by commenting on the lack of harmonized concepts for statistics on fishermen which could be internationally applied. The CWP recommended that OECD conduct a survey of its membership to determine the concepts by which fishermen are classified at national level and report back to the CWP on the practicability of the international standardization of data on fishermen.
- 7.2 In consideration of the ISSCFV classification of fishing vessels the CWP found that the presentation of the various classifications contained in Addendum 1 of CWP-11/10 required careful revision and expansion to meet the broad international requirements and recommended that this work be undertaken by FAO in conjunction with the work on definitions and illustrations on fishing vessel types (CWP-11/18).
- 7.3 The CWP noted the FAO publication of fishing fleet statistics for 1970-78 (FAO Fisheries Circular No.731) and commented that it appeared to fulfil most of the basic requirements for these statistics. Changes in the structure of the fishing fleet were unlikely to be very rapid and thus the CWP recommended that FAO should up-date this publication only once every, say, three years, but that the data should continue to be collected annually in order to monitor the situation.
- 7.4 The EUROSTAT participant reported on the progress in the establishing of a statistical register of Community fishing vessels (CWP-11/36). Data on 55,000 fishing vessels from the nine fishing member states of the EC were now available on the register and programs had been written to extract the table contained in the FAO/EUROSTAT questionnaire on fishing fleet statistics. The results were promising, often giving more details than were generally available on the completed questionnaires submitted by the national authorities. EUROSTAT was now studying the possibility of modifying an existing software package to produce working tables to meet the need of urgent ad-hoc requests for statistics from administrators.

- 7.5 The Community register was covered by a strict agreement between EUROSTAT and the Member States on the confidentiality of details relating to individual vessels and EUROSTAT warned other CWP agencies contemplating establishing a register that confidentiality of individual records placed a restriction on the development of the register. Nevertheless, EUROSTAT offered to give ICSEAF the benefit of its experience in the plan to produce listings of fishing vessels operating in the ICSEAF region (CWP-11/14).

#### 8. CATCH STATISTICS: SPECIES IDENTIFICATION

Relevant Documents: CWP-11/18, 33

##### 8.1 Quarterly distributed species items lists

- 8.1.1 The CWP Secretary reported on the currently used procedures to distribute quarterly computer-printed lists providing up-dated versions of the FAO lists. Each of the approximately 800 entries cover:

- FAO English common name
- FAO French common name
- FAO Spanish common name
- Taxonomic code
- Scientific name
- ISSCAAP "Species group" code
- 3-alpha identifier

- 8.1.2 The principal list is accompanied by photocopies of those sheets containing revisions, additions, deletions, corrections, etc.

- 8.1.3 While some CWP participants expressed the wish to receive only the sheets reflecting amendments, others prefer to receive quarterly the complete up-dated printouts together with the amendments sheets. The CWP recommended that FAO continue its current practice to supply quarterly to the participating agencies complete up-dated lists covering all indicators of the species items in the FAO data base.

##### 8.2 Common names in French and Spanish

- 8.2.1 It was pointed out to the CWP that in a few cases in these lists the same French or Spanish common name appears for different species and that the confusion caused by this should be eliminated as soon as possible.

- 8.2.2 The CWP expressed the hope that ICCAT and ICSEAF might be able to ensure the review of Spanish common names, noting that there might arise difficulties in reconciling the names used in Spain with those in various regions of Latin America. It is hoped that OECD might assist with the elimination of ambiguities in the list of French common names. The CWP recommended that FAO arranges for computer printouts of the complete species list arranged in alphabetic order of the English common names, of the French common names and of the Spanish common names and that these lists be supplied to interested participating agencies.

##### 8.3 Revisions in the ISSCAAP groups

- 8.3.1 The CWP noted that FAO made certain revisions in the coverage of the ISSCAAP groups for whales by transferring "sperm whales" from Group 61 to 62 and "minke whales" from Group 62 to 61.

- 8.3.2 The CWP expressed the wish that FAO study as soon as staff resources permit, the possibility of a further breaking down of the two Groups 33 and 34. It is recognized that these two ISSCAAP groups contain large numbers of species items for which only comparatively low catches are reported annually. Nevertheless the rearrangement of the items within Groups 33 and 34 might be accommodated in six to seven groups.

8.4 The OECD Multilingual Dictionary of Fish and Fish Products

The CWP was informed that the OECD intends to issue a revised version of this publication. The CWP in welcoming this initiative expressed the hope that OECD should consider including in the projected revision:

- also the English, French and Spanish common names used in ISSCAAP lists
- the scientific names accepted by the various international agencies
- the taxonomic codes and the 3-alpha identifiers
- national names submitted to the CWP agencies

The additional entries would better meet the users' requirements.

9. CATCH AND LANDINGS STATISTICS: NATIONALITY ISSUES

Relevant Document: CWP-11/23

Relevant Appendix: App. ?

9.1 The CWP at its Ninth Session (FAO Fisheries Report No. 197) discussed the criteria for the assignment of nationality to catch data and recommended that the "flag of the vessel" should be considered as the paramount indication of nationality.

The CWP at its Tenth Session (FAO Fisheries Report No. 242) created a task force to review the various difficulties encountered while trying to apply that principle. While reiterating the recommendations made at the Ninth Session, the CWP clarified the criteria for determining the exceptions to that rule in the light of developments since the previous Session.

9.2 The continued and increasing difficulties that national offices and participating agencies have experienced in the last few years caused the CWP at the present Session to review once again the flag state principle. Most of the difficulties seemed to be associated with one or more of the following cases:

- (a) when a fishing vessel of a certain flag transfers the catch, or part of it, to another vessel (fishing, factory or cargo) of a different flag, either at sea or at a port;
- (b) when a fishing vessel unloads its catch, or part of it, at a foreign port;
- (c) when a fishing vessel flies a flag of convenience, i.e. the country in which the vessel is registered is not the country of the nationality of its proprietor, owner of the enterprise (which may be a single person) that operates the vessel;
- (d) when there is a joint venture, that is, fishing under a formal contract or agreement between two countries, or people of two or more nationalities and generally also including case (a) or case (b) above; and
- (e) when an exclusive zone has been declared and the coastal state assigns to all catches made within the zone its nationality regardless of the flag of the catching vessel.

9.3 It should be noted that "flag country" means the country in which a vessel, which may be a small boat without a flag, is registered.

9.4 Various actual cases in which such difficulties existed were discussed extensively. The CWP recognized that the imposition or non-imposition of customs duties on the fish transferred from a fishing vessel to a foreign vessel or unloaded at a foreign port further confused the issue, sometimes resulting even in import-export statistics coming into conflict with catch statistics. Also in case of joint ventures, assigning to catch data the nationality of the flag of the port in which they are unloaded or of the vessel to which they are transferred, may lead to attributing a catch to a country without a quota or in excess of its quota.

9.5 The CWP also recognized an increasing tendency on the part of coastal states to report all catches made within an exclusive zone as belonging to the corresponding coastal state. This would however lead to recording catches without corresponding effort statistics or economic statistics.

- 9.6 Catch statistics should be related directly to the effort statistics which generally are based on nationality by flag. Also the CWP noted that the principle of assigning to catch data their nationality, in accordance with the flag of the fishing vessel is derived from a decision made in 1954 by the United Nations Statistical Commission (see Appendix 7) and it has been followed ever since by FAO and all other fishery agencies. Any change in that policy would have seriously adverse effects on the continuity in catch data.
- 9.7 The CWP concluded that although there had been some difficulties, the flag of the fishing vessel is the best available criterion for the assignment of nationality to catch and landings data and it should continue to be so in the foreseeable future.
- 9.8 As a result of this review the CWP changed the wording of the recommendations of the Tenth Session in the following manner:
- after the word "vessel" delete "should, for the time being" and substitute this with "catching the fish, should"
  - after the word "nationality" delete "and should only be overridden" and substitute this with "assigned to the catch data and that indication overridden only".
  - after the word "contract" in paragraph (b) delete ", etc." and substitute this with "or similar agreements"
- 9.9 The slightly revised wording now reads as follows:
- *that the flag of the vessel catching the fish, should be considered the paramount indication of the nationality assigned to the catch data and that indication overridden only when one of the following arrangements between a foreign flag vessel and the host country exists:*
    - (a) *the vessel is chartered by the host country to augment its fishing fleet; and*
    - (b) *the vessel fishes for the country by joint venture contract or similar agreements (as opposed to the ad hoc practice of a vessel selling catches to a foreign vessel or landing catches at a foreign port) and the operation of such a vessel is an integral part of the economy of the host country;*
  - *that when governments negotiate joint ventures or other contracts in which vessels of one country land their catches at ports of another country or unload their catches to vessels of another country and the above criteria are applicable, the assignment of nationality to such catches and landings data be specified in the agreements.*
- 9.10 The CWP recommended that participating agencies try to obtain the agreement of their contracting parties through the appropriate channels to follow the above criteria as closely as possible. At the same time the difficulties that are being faced in relation to this problem, the corresponding arguments and the justification for adopting the established principle should be well documented. Such documents should be forwarded also to the United Nations Statistical Commission and the Statistical Office of the EC.
- 9.11 This subject should be kept on the agenda for the next Session.

10. LANDINGS STATISTICS: QUANTITIES AND VALUES

Relevant Document: CWP-11/24

- 10.1 The OECD participant proposed that the values associated with landings statistics be presented in a manner that reduces the possibility of misinterpretation. It was pointed out that attempts are being made to collect landings value statistics from OECD member countries. These data, however, fail to preserve and present values associated with the various end products produced from a wide range of species. Because the prices obtained for a species will vary widely based on utilization, quality, size, etc. important data are lost when the values for all uses are summed and presented as a single number. Also there are other factors hidden in these sums such as national subsidies which lessen the possibility of correctly interpreting the data.
- 10.2 It was concluded in CWP-11/24 that
- (a) landed value statistics should be kept in the national framework;
  - (b) that there continue to be a distinction by major utilization i.e. human consumption versus non-human consumption; and
  - (c) that, otherwise, careful analysis be undertaken before further integrating value statistics.
- 10.3 The various problems associated with obtaining and compiling value of landings data in a meaningful format were subsequently discussed. However, due to its complexity it was generally felt that this problem required further investigation.
- 10.4 The CWP expressed the opinion that
- (a) landings value data are only one of the many issues the CWP must address insofar as the future collection and presentation of socio-economic data is concerned. However, initially, the CWP should restrict itself to the landings value problem and recognize these efforts as a beginning to the study of the many socio-economic elements for which definitions and standards need to be developed; and
  - (b) landings value data may often require detailed breakdown at the species level due to the differing demand for the species on the basis of its future utilization, size, quality, sex, seasonal availability etc.
- 10.5 Recognizing that value data will become increasingly important in regional fisheries management and furthermore, recognizing that it is possible that FAO has found solutions to the agricultural value problem and that these possible solutions, with adjustments, may be applicable to fisheries, the CWP recommended that
- (a) FAO obtain the services of a fishery economics expert to adapt the agricultural research on collecting and compiling value data; and
  - (b) FAO then convene a group of fishery economists from the CWP membership to review these findings with a view to developing definitions and standards for collecting and compiling this landings value data for presentation to the Twelfth Session of the CWP.

11. CONVERSION FACTORS

Relevant Document: CWP-11/25

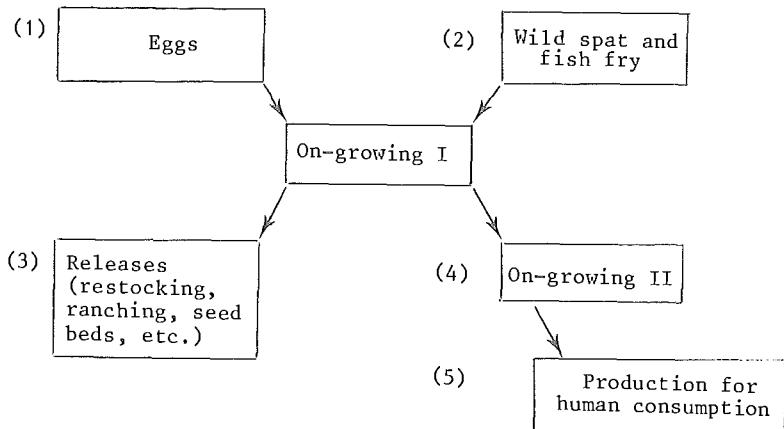
- 11.1 Conversion factors, because of their importance when producing fishery statistics, were discussed at each of the last four Sessions of the CWP. The FAO participant at the Tenth Session of the CWP indicated that FAO envisaged computerizing the conversion factors obtained from national statistics offices. The envisaged system would enable FAO to manage efficiently the information thus collected and publish periodically factors each country uses for each species and product to estimate nominal catches. The purpose of the exercise was to provide national statistics offices with information useful in verifying the accuracy of their factors. There was agreement by the CWP that there is a continuing need for updating the conversion factors FAO had in its data base.

- 11.2 The FAO participant in presenting his progress report stated that FAO can now provide computer printouts showing by country the conversion factors used by species, by the degree of dressing and by type of preservation. It is also possible to provide printouts of these data by any one of the Major Fishing Areas as defined in the Yearbook of Fishery Statistics.
- 11.3 The Form FISHSTAT CF1, and its Notes for Completion, developed by FAO to obtain from the countries revisions to the conversion factor list were reviewed. There was concern that the system for maintaining the conversion factor list, once revisions were made, would eliminate the previous factor in use. A time series of conversion factors is useful in updating historical catch statistics when necessary. The following changes in the NOTES (CWP-11/25) and the form were recommended as a solution to this problem:
- (a) the title of the NOTES should indicate these are conversion factors to convert landed quantities to nominal catches;
  - (b) paragraph 3.6 should be numbered 3.7 and be revised to advise the national statistics offices that the column will be used to note the year they revised an existing or inserted a new factor. A new paragraph 3.6 should be inserted and described as the original factor submitted to FAO;
  - (c) a paragraph 4.4 should be added to instruct offices to insert revisions or new factors in the column described in 3.7 and insert the year of the changes;
  - (d) the title on the computer printout should be changed to indicate "conversion factors for converting landings to nominal catch by species ...."; and
  - (e) in paragraph 4.2 of the NOTES add the words "and add any additional factors that are available as well as expanding the lists covering species, types of dressing and types of preserving".
- 11.4 The CWP decided that conversion factor publications should contain the previous as well as revised conversion factors. It is proposed that FAO revises Appendix 4, Standard tabulation of conversion factors (CWP-11/25) to include additional columns which include a time series of conversion factors for each country, species and product thereof.
- 11.5 The CWP decided that, since conversion factors will probably not change frequently, a three-year updating cycle will be sufficient. It was recommended that FAO initiate a programme to obtain country revisions, update the conversion factor list and publish the conversion factor list as proposed by FAO with recommended amendments every three years.
- 11.6 At the moment some countries have constructed conversion factors that are not included in the FAO list. It is recommended that FAO send a conversion factor request to countries not yet represented in the conversion factor data base.
- 11.7 The CWP noted that in some countries several lists of conversion factors might be used. The CWP recommended that FAO request that national offices use a consolidated list of conversion factors when responding to the FAO request for updating and expansion.

12. STATISTICS ON AQUACULTURE

Relevant Document: CWP-11/26

- 12.1 The ICES Statistician introduced CWP-11/26 which contained the notes for completion of the STATLANT AQ questionnaire. The CWP noted that the statistical concepts of production used in the STATLANT AQ questionnaire were the following:



The production would only be recorded at the stage where the products passed from the aquaculture sector either as releases (to conditions outside the influence of husbandry) or as a product for direct human consumption, i.e. transactions (3) and (5) on the above graph. This would exclude products sold between aquacultural establishments (e.g. fry sold by a hatchery to a growing-on establishment) and products passing from one stage in the life cycle within the same enterprise.

- 12.2 These STATLANT AQ forms would be distributed early 1983 for submission of 1982 data by ICES member states, the only change being an improvement to the description of the concepts applied to final production in paragraph 5.3(b) of the document. The CWP recommended that this questionnaire should be incorporated into the STATLANT system and that copies of the completed questionnaires are to be sent by member states to ICES, FAO and, where appropriate, EUROSTAT.

13. FISHING LOGBOOKS

Relevant Document: CWP-11/27

- 13.1 The CWP reviewed CWP-11/27 which summarized the discussions at the Ninth and Tenth Sessions of the CWP and the outcome from the following two meetings held in 1981:

- (a) an Expert Consultation on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Systems for Fisheries Management, Rome, 27-30 April 1981 convened by FAO; and \*/
- (b) an International Symposium on Fisheries Law Enforcement, Washington D.C., June 1981, sponsored by the US Coast Guard and the US National Marine Fisheries Service. \*\*/

\*/ FAO/Norway Cooperative Programme, Report on an Expert Consultation on monitoring, control and surveillance systems for fisheries management. Rome, Italy, 27-30 April 1981. Rome, FAO, FAO/GCP/INT/344/NOR:115 p. 1981.

\*\*/ U.S. Coast Guard and National Marine Fisheries Service, Summary proceedings of the International Symposium on fisheries law enforcement. Washington, D.C. 8-12 June 1981. Washington D.C., U.S. Coast Guard/NMFS:pag.var.(mimeo) 1981.

The CWP noted that the recommendation made by CWP at its Tenth Session on this subject was not completed due to a lack of funds.

13.2 The CWP once again acknowledged the important role of logbooks as vehicles for data collection. However, it was also recognized that these are to be used by several rather different groups of users. The following distinct major user groups were identified:

- (a) Biologist-economists (fishery activity data, catch and effort data); and
- (b) Enforcement authorities (especially under licensed fisheries schemes).

It was noted that in cases where there were no means to control the logbook responses, there may be a conflict between these two major user groups, e.g. the use of a logbook in enforcement may make it difficult to get reliable reports from the fishing industry. On the other hand some coastal countries require the fishermen fishing within their exclusive zone to submit accurate logbooks and in such a case, the quality of statistical information can be adequate.

13.3 Bearing this in mind the CWP emphasized the need for identifying the requirements for planning, designing and implementing logbook systems. Due consideration should be given to:

- (a) identification of the users of the logbook data, especially eventual conflict between users;
- (b) assessment of what detail can be asked for in a given type of fishery or with given types of vessels;
- (c) assessment of particular detail of processing of the data; and
- (d) identification of necessary minimum requirements to entries, applying for all logbooks, irrespective of the tailoring to different circumstances.

The CWP therefore repeated its recommendation that FAO produces a report or a manual identifying the requirements for planning, designing and implementing logbook systems and that this be completed as early as possible and not later than the Twelfth Session of the CWP.

#### 14. A GLOSSARY OF FISHERY STATISTICS

Relevant Document: CWP-11/28 Addendum 1

14.1 The CWP Secretary described the work that had been done since the last Session on the development of a glossary of fishery statistics (CWP-11/28). Progress had been slower than originally anticipated because it was evident that there was an interest in such a glossary from a wider audience than the national reporting offices.

14.2 The CWP considered that an appropriate presentation would be a section devoted to a detailed presentation of material on a topical or subject basis followed by a detailed index. Opinion as to whether the glossary should be in a loose-leaf or bound form was divided, with a slight preference for the bound version.

14.3 The following broad topics, although not exhaustive, were considered appropriate for inclusion or for referral to in the glossary:

- (a) Basic concepts used in fishery statistics;
- (b) Lists of countries and their arrangements;
- (c) Lists of major fishing regions and their breakdowns;
- (d) Lists of fishing gears;
- (e) Classifications used in fleet statistics and statistics on fishermen;
- (f) Definitions of fishing effort;
- (g) List of aquatic animals and plants;
- (h) Elements of logbooks;
- (i) Classifications of fishing commodities;
- (j) List of participating agencies with information on location, membership, etc.; and
- (k) Bibliography of regional publications and methods of dissemination of fishery statistics.

The CWP recommended that FAO should continue the development of the glossary of fishery statistics and report to an appropriate early meeting of CWP agencies and that at that stage further guidance on the contents and format of the glossary should be sought from the agencies.

- 14.4 The CWP considered a paper (CWP-11/28 Addendum 1) prepared and presented by Mr. W. Klawe of IATTC. It was noted that this diagrammatic exposition of some of the basic concepts to be covered in the glossary of fishery statistics, would be very useful. The CWP proposed that the participating agencies provide Mr. Klawe with suggestions for his further development of this work which should be noted when the glossary is prepared.

#### 15. THE INTRODUCTION OF A STATLANT BULLETIN

Relevant Document: CWP-11/29

Relevant Appendix: 5

- 15.1 At the ad hoc Inter-Agency Consultation in October 1981 (Appendix 5), it was agreed that two issues of a newsletter, named the STATLANT Bulletin, should be produced on a trial basis prior to the Eleventh Session of the CWP. Mr. D. Cross agreed to undertake the task of Editor. The first issue was completed in November 1981 and the second in March 1982.
- 15.2 The initial issues were distributed to about 150 national and international agencies involved in fishery statistics in 52 countries, the mailing list being supplied by member agencies of the CWP. Some unsolicited written and oral comments indicated that the newsletter has been well received at the national level. The Editor noted that about one man-day was involved in the production of each of the trial issues.
- 15.3 The CWP agreed to continue publication of the STATLANT Bulletin twice yearly with spring and autumn issues and Mr. D. Cross agreed to continue as Editor. It was also agreed that future issues would be produced in English only, as this is the working language of the CWP. Because of its informal nature this publication will in future be known as the "STATLANT Newsletter". The Editor of the trial issues observed that the success of the Newsletter will depend greatly on input from regional agencies and secretariat participants of these agencies were urged to support the effort.
- 15.4 The CWP agreed that periodic revision of the mailing list was necessary to avoid rapid expansion of the list and to ensure that the Newsletter reached individuals and national agencies currently involved in fisheries statistics. The Editor should solicit from the member agencies their updated lists on an annual basis.

#### 16. REVISION OF THE FORMAT OF STATLANT FORMS

Relevant Documents: CWP-11/32, 34, 35

- 16.1 On several occasions there has been criticism of the layout of the STATLANT questionnaires. The main criticisms from the national reporting offices have been:
- the size of the form;
  - the general layout of the form (legibility)
  - difficulties when non-English speaking staff are using the form
- From receiving agencies the use of the form as a punch form has been found impractical. Following this there have been communications between FAO, ICES and EUROSTAT in order to try to alleviate these problems. In considering the problems it was taken into account that the forms have a world-wide distribution and that the preparation, checking and distribution of the questionnaires should not strain the limited staff resources available in FAO for this work.
- 16.2 Following the discussions between ICES, EUROSTAT and FAO proposals were made (CWP-11/34 and 35) to revise the format of the STATLANT 27A and 27B Forms. Besides suggestions to improve the legibility the main proposal was to print the forms on A2 paper size and being composed of four A4 paper size tables. By folding the form it would be possible to use it in standard typewriters and photocopying machines.

- 16.3 Proposals had been discussed at the meeting of the ICES Statistics Committee Liaison Working Group and national statistical offices, reporting to ICES, not present at that meeting, had been asked in a letter circulated by the ICES Statistician shortly after to comment on their proposals. The national offices generally favoured the changes and some had comments on the actual layout. But no national offices in these responses indicated major problems using the present forms.
- 16.4 None of the agencies present at the Eleventh Session of the CWP indicated major difficulties in using either the STATLANT A or B forms, although ICES found the STATLANT B forms rather awkward as a punch-form, especially in cases when the numbers of forms submitted were large. Participants from national offices indicated that the species stub and the column area headings in the STATLANT 27A form should be left blank. For most countries this would mean that only one sheet of paper would be necessary for reporting and thus the problem of the size of the form would be removed.
- This was strongly opposed by the agencies. The species and area lists were a checklist, ensuring that the reporting offices stuck to the agreed unit definitions.
- 16.5 One further reason for not going into a major job of revising the forms was the general trend towards using computer techniques which will make forms obsolete, as data are reported on computer-readable media, preferably magnetic tapes. In this context the need for securing the compatibility of codes and formats was stressed so that data submitted in this way should be readily transferrable between agencies.
- 16.6 Because the present STATLANT A and B forms did not pose great problems either to national statistical offices or the agencies receiving them, and in view of the generally expected trend towards reporting statistical data on computer tapes, the CWP agreed not to undertake any major revision of the format of the STATLANT A and B forms at present but to keep the development under continuous review. The CWP requested FAO to look into the possibility of introducing the following amendments:
- (a) printing the matrix of the table and all information not used in data processing in brown;
  - (b) adjusting the spaces between lines to that of standard typewriting spacing; and
  - (c) supplying stubs to be attached to the forms with national species names, where possible.

#### 17. MISREPORTING OF CATCH AND LANDINGS DATA

Relevant Document: CWP-11/32

- 17.1 Misreporting of data, i.e. deliberate reporting of falsified data has become an issue in Atlantic fisheries statistics in recent years. It is, however, difficult if not impossible for the outsider to distinguish the act of misreporting from inadequate statistical programmes. Whatever the cause there has, however, been expressed grave concern, e.g. from biological assessment circles, about the decreasing quality of the catch and landings data.
- 17.2 CWP recognized the seriousness of the situation realizing that such practice of misreporting will corrupt the entire STATLANT programme, invalidate the only coherent time series internationally available on fishing activities and thereby make international analyses of effects on management actions impossible.
- 17.3 This corruption will have an influence in many sectors. Assessments of the state of fish stocks have been prepared, using estimates for non-reported catches. For example ICCAT uses only "scientific best estimates" in its Statistical Bulletin. These corrections are often given without any, even qualitative, margin of error and when such data are included in assessments little is known about the likely precision achieved. The use of uncorrected catch data could result in over- or under-estimates of the stock, depending on which type of corroborating information is available. As well as stock assessments being hampered, analysis of the effects of management strategy will be of little use.

- 17.4 The introduction of restrictive management measures, as has happened in many Atlantic fisheries, will, without the ability or will to control and enforce such measures, inevitably result in under- or misreporting of catches. The CWP, being gravely concerned with the statistical aspect would like to make these causes and effects clear to all authorities involved.
- 17.5 The CWP agreed that no change in the general practice of publishing fishery statistics could be advocated, because the various agencies experience different constraints on the dissemination of such data. The agencies have themselves attempted to deal with this problem on a case to case basis.

#### 18. FUTURE PROGRAMME OF THE CWP

*Relevant Document:* CWP-11/38

18.1 Socio-economic issues

The CWP, in reviewing CWP-11/38 noted that, although much progress has been made in the standardization of various concepts, definitions and classifications related to statistics on fishery operations, little attention has been given to those parameters used in socio-economic assessments of the industry. The increasing importance of social and economic consequences of management measures would require the utilization of concepts and definitions which have not yet been standardized. Such standardization would be particularly helpful to the national administrations in bringing to their attention the kinds of data needed for socio-economic studies. Therefore, the CWP requests that FAO, OECD, ICES, NAFO and EUROSTAT investigate cooperatively the ways and means of standardizing the collection by national agencies of appropriate social and economic data and of improving the reporting of such data to international agencies. The CWP expects a report of this study at its Ad-hoc Inter-agency Consultation in 1983.

18.2 Data exchange

The CWP envisaged that the development of a common data exchange system would be advantageous as it would eliminate the costly duplication of processing data. To make such data exchange between agencies economically feasible, development of a common data exchange format through magnetic media would be highly desirable. The CWP therefore recommended that *EUROSTAT, in close collaboration with FAO, ICES, NAFO and other agencies, study the development of a common exchange mechanism and report to the CWP Ad-hoc Inter-agency Consultation in 1983.*

18.3 Inter-agency interactions

With the changing requirements of the users for fisheries statistics, the CWP finds itself addressing issues which go beyond simple coordination of existing needs of the international agencies. The CWP considers that it would discharge its function better by bringing to the attention of participating agencies the need for programs required to meet the changing demands of users. It was agreed that the CWP provide the proper forum for discussing such issues as they emerge and provide advice to national and international agencies for their consideration and possible action.

19. TIME AND PLACE OF THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE CWP

Relevant Document: CWP-11/6

Relevant Appendix: 6

19.1 Time of the Twelfth Session

The CWP reviewed the time that would be required and considered that most convenient for the Twelfth Session would be the period 25 July - 1 August 1984.

19.2 Place of the Twelfth Session

ICES extended an invitation to the CWP to hold its Twelfth Session at the ICES Headquarters in Copenhagen, Denmark. The CWP unanimously agreed to accept the invitation and expressed its appreciation to ICES for its offer to provide the necessary facilities.

The CWP noted that it might be possible to hold its Thirteenth Session in Rome, Italy.

19.3 1983 Ad-hoc Inter-agency Consultation

19.3.1 The CWP agreed that the CWP Secretary is to arrange with ICES the organization of this Ad-hoc Inter-agency Consultation for two days immediately before the 71st Statutory Meeting of ICES, scheduled for 10-19 October 1983, Gothenburg, Sweden.

19.3.2 The CWP proposed that this 1983 Ad-hoc Inter-agency Consultation divides the provisional list of documents for the Twelfth Session of the CWP which it should prepare, into the following two series:

- (a) a general series (with documents identified by capital alphabetic letters) covering announcements, provisional agenda, provisional lists of documents and of participants, schedule of work and such other items as are usually included as appendices to the CWP Report; and
- (b) the technical series numbered numerically as in the case of the CWP-11 papers.

20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Relevant Document: CWP-11/33 Addendum 1

20.1 Comments on the FAO Yearbook of Fishery Statistics

20.1.1 The Assistant Executive Secretary of ICCAT presented Mr. J. Wise's comments (CWP-11/33 Addendum 1) on certain aspects of the FAO Yearbook of Fishery Statistics (CWP-11/33). The CWP reviewed these and noted that FAO is aware of these difficulties and expects to introduce appropriate editorial changes as soon as its catch data base program is revised.

20.1.2 The CWP was informed of various difficulties encountered by FAO to ensure that all time series are consistent. FAO is not in a position to produce revisions for 1969 and earlier years.

20.1.3 The CWP noted that FAO, when revising its catch data base programs will arrange for the insertion of estimates using standard practices applied also in other international yearbooks within the United Nations System.

21. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE CWP

- 21.1 The Report was adopted subject to minor editorial amendments.
- 21.2 The CWP Secretary should arrange for the publication of the Report of the Eleventh Session of the CWP in the FAO Fisheries Reports series.
- 21.3 The CWP Secretary will ascertain from the secretariats of the participating agencies the number of copies required.

22. CLOSE OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION

- 22.1 The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary of the CWP, Mr. L. P. D. Gertenbach, who was attending his last Session before retirement. Mr. Gertenbach was one of the founding fathers of the CWP and has diligently served as Secretary since its earliest days. He has been a key catalyst in the CWP's successful development: his numerous papers and organization of the Sessions have been major factors in establishing the definitions and concepts now used in reporting and compiling regional and international fishery statistics. In recognition of the services and contribution Mr. Gertenbach has provided the CWP expressed its warmest thanks and appreciation and wished him every success and happiness in his forthcoming retirement.
- 22.2 The Chairman thanked EUROSTAT for providing the accommodation and hospitality for the Eleventh Session of the CWP and asked the EUROSTAT participant to pass the CWP's appreciation to all the staff concerned.
- 22.3 The Chairman then closed the Eleventh Session of the CWP by thanking the participants for their active contributions.

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Agenda: Eleventh Session of the CWP
2. List of documents: Eleventh Session of the CWP
3. List of participants: Eleventh Session of the CWP
4. List of selected acronyms and abbreviations: fisheries and statistics
5. Report of the Ad-hoc Inter-agency Consultation on Atlantic Fishery Statistics, 3 and 4 October 1981, Woods Hole, USA
6. CWP sessions: dates, places and reports
7. Extracts from the 1954 and 1956 Reports of the United Nations Statistical Commission
8. Recommendations and proposals of the Eleventh Session of the CWP

Appendix 1AGENDA: ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE CWPAgenda item

- 1 Procedural matters
- 2 Agency programmes and publications presenting Atlantic fishery statistics
- 3 Review of recommendations and proposals from CWP-10 and progress
- 4 Discrepancies in statistics held in data bases
- 5 Fishing areas for statistical purposes
- 6 Classifications and identifiers of countries, of fishing gear and of fishing effort for statistical purposes
- 7 Statistics on fishermen and fishing fleets
- 8 Catch statistics: species identification
- 9 Catch and landings statistics: nationality issues
- 10 Landings statistics: quantities and values
- 11 Conversion factors
- 12 Statistics on aquaculture
- 13 Fishing logbooks
- 14 A glossary of fishery statistics
- 15 The introduction of a STATLANT Bulletin
- 16 Revision of the format of STATLANT Forms
- 17 Misreporting of catch and landings data
- 18 Future programme of the CWP
- 19 Time and place of Twelfth Session of the CWP
- 20 Any other business
- 21 Adoption of the Report of the Eleventh Session of the CWP
- 22 Close of the Eleventh Session

Appendix 2LIST OF DOCUMENTS: ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE CWP

- CWP-11/1 General announcement
- /2 Provisional agenda: Eleventh Session of the CWP a/
- /3 Provisional annotated agenda: Eleventh Session of the CWP
- /4 Provisional list of documents: Eleventh Session of the CWP a/
- /5 Provisional list of participants: Eleventh Session of the CWP
- /6 Provisional schedule of work: Eleventh Session of the CWP b/
- /7 General information for participants attending the Eleventh Session of the CWP
- /8 Report of the Tenth Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics; Madrid, 22-29 July 1980
- /9 Report of the Ad-hoc Inter-agency Consultation on Atlantic Fishery Statistics, Woods Hole, USA, 3 and 4 October 1981
- /10 Report on the FAO fishery statistical programme and publications in general and specifically for the Atlantic and for WECAFC, CECAF, GFCM and CARPAS b/
- /11 Report on the NAFO statistical program, publications and ADP processing
- /12 Report on the ICES statistical programme, publications and ADP processing
- /13 Report on the ICCAT statistical programme, publications and ADP processing
- /14 Report on the ICSEAF statistical programme, publications and ADP processing
- /15 Report on the EUROSTAT fishery statistical programme, publications and ADP processing
- /16 Report on the OECD fishery statistical programme
- /17 Provisional list of selected acronyms and abbreviations: fisheries and statistics
- /18 Recommendations and proposals from CWP-10 and comments on progress
- /19 Procedures for the identification of discrepancies in catch data reported to CWP agencies
- /20 Fishing areas for statistical purposes
- /21 The use of 3-alpha country identifiers in fishery statistics
- /22 Statistics on fishermen and fishing fleets c/
- /23 Catch and landings: nationality issues
- /24 Landings statistics: quantities and values
- /25 Conversion factors in fishery statistics
- /26 Statistics on aquaculture

Appendix 2 (concluded)

CWP-11/27 Fishing logbooks

- /28 A glossary on fishery statistics b/
- /29 The introduction of a STATLANT Bulletin
- /30 CWP Sessions: dates, places and reports
- /31 Definition and classification of fishing gear categories
- /32 Report of the Statistics Committee Liaison Working Group, ICES, 10-11 June 1982
- /33 FAO Yearbook of Fishery Statistics, Volume 50 b/
- /34 Revisions to the format of the STATLANT 27A Forms
- /35 Revisions to the format of the STATLANT 27B Forms
- /36 EUROSTAT Statistical Register of EC Fishing Vessels
- /37 Extracts from the Report of the First Session of the Committee for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) and its Scientific Committee, 25 May - 11 June 1982, Hobart, Australia
- /38 The future programme of the CWP

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a/ Revision 1 was also issued subsequently

b/ Addendum 1 was also issued

c/ Issued as three separate papers (CWP-11/22, 22b, and 22 Add.1)

### Appendix 3

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Appendix 4LIST OF SELECTED ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS: FISHERIES AND STATISTICS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (United Nations system) (note the ACC's Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities)
ACFM	Advisory Committee on Fishery Management (ICES)
ACMRR	Advisory Committee of Experts on Marine Resources Research (FAO)
ASFIS	Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Information System (UN/FAO/IOC)
BIWS	Bureau of International Whaling Statistics
(BTN)	Brussels Tariff Nomenclature (See CCCN and HS)
CARPAS	Regional Fisheries Advisory Commission for the Southwest Atlantic (FAO)
CCC	Customs Co-operation Council
CCCN	Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature (See also HS)
CCAMLR	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
CECAF	Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (FAO)
(CICAR)	See IOCARIBE
CIFA	Committee for Inland Fisheries of Africa (FAO)
COFI	Committee on Fisheries (FAO)
COPESCAL	Commission for Inland Fisheries of Latin America (FAO)
CWP	Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics
EC	European Communities
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe (UN)
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council (UN)
(EEC)	(See EC)
EIFAC	European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission (FAO)
ESS	Statistics Division, Economic and Social Policy Department (FAO)
EUROSTAT	Statistical Office of the European Communities
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FI	Fisheries Department (FAO)
FIDI	Fishery Information, Data and Statistics Service, Fisheries Department (FAO)
FII	Fishery Industries Division, Fisheries Department (FAO)
FIIT	Fisheries Technology Service, Fisheries Department (FAO)
FIIIU	Fish Utilization and Marketing Service, Fisheries Department (FAO)

Appendix II (continued)

FIO	Operations Service, Fisheries Department (FAO)
FIP	Fishery Policy and Planning Division, Fisheries Department (FAO)
FIPL	International Institutions and Liaison Unit, Fisheries Department (FAO)
FIPP	Development Planning Service, Fisheries Department (FAO)
FIR	Fishery Resources and Environment Division, Fisheries Department (FAO)
FIRI	Inland Water Resources and Aquaculture Service, Fisheries Department (FAO)
FIRM	Marine Resources Service, Fisheries Department (FAO)
GFCM	General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (FAO)
HS	Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (See also CCC, CCCN and BTN)
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IARM	International Association of Fish Meal Manufacturers
IASI	Inter-American Statistical Institute
IATTC	Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
IBP	International Biological Programme
(IBRD)	See World Bank
IBSFC	International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICMM	Interim Committee on Marine Mammals (IUCN - see below)
(ICNAF)	See NAFO
ICSEAF	International Commission for the Southeast Atlantic Fisheries
ICSEM	International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea
ICSPRO	Inter-Secretariat Committee on Scientific Programmes Relating to Oceanography (UN/Unesco/WMO/FAO/IMCO/IOC)
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions
ICZN	International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature
ILO	International Labour Organisation (also International Labour Office)
(IMCO)	Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (See IMO - changed 22 May 1982)
IMO	International Maritime Organization (See IMCO)

Appendix 4 (continued)

INPFC	International North Pacific Fisheries Commission
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IOCARIBE	IOC Association for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
IOFC	Indian Ocean Fishery Commission
IPFC	Indo-Pacific Fishery Commission
IPHIC	International Pacific Halibut Commission
IPSFC	International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission
ISI	International Statistical Institute
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ISSCAAP	International Standard Statistical Classification of Aquatic Animals and Plants (FAO)
ISSCFG	International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear (FAO)
ISSCFC	International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishery Commodities (FAO)
ISSCFV	International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Vessels (FAO)
IWC	International Whaling Commission
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
JWP	Joint Working Party of Experts on Indian Ocean and Western Pacific Fishery Statistics (IPFC/IOFC)
MCBSF	Mixed Commission for Black Sea Fisheries
NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (previously ICNAF - International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries)
NAFO/FC	Fisheries Commission of NAFO
NAFO/SC	Scientific Council of NAFO
NEAFC	North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission
NIMEXE	Nomenclature of goods for the external trade statistics of the Community and statistics of trade between Member States (EC)
NPFC	Northwest Pacific Fisheries Commission
NPFSC	North Pacific Fur Seal Commission
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SAC (ESS)	Statistics Advisory Committee of Experts (FAO)
SAC (ICSEAF)	Scientific Advisory Council (ICSEAF)
SCAR	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research

Appendix 4 (concluded)

SCORRAD	Standing Committee on Resources Research and Development (IPFC)
SEAFDEC	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification - Revisions 1, 2 and 3 (United Nations Statistical Office)
SPC	South Pacific Commission
SPPC	Permanent Commission for the Conference on Use and Conservation of Marine Resources of the South Pacific
STACFIS	Standing Committee on Fisheries Science (of Scientific Council of NAFO)
STACREC	Standing Committee on Research Co-ordination (of Scientific Council of NAFO)
(STANA)	See STATLANT
STAT (ICSEAF)	Standing Committee on Statistics (ICSEAF)
STATLANT	<u>Statistical Programme for Atlantic Fisheries</u> (previously STANA)
UN	United Nations
UNCLOS	United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
Unesco	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
WECAFC	Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (FAO)
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WTO	World Tourism Organization
World Bank	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (previously IBRD)
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

See also:

Landi, G., 1979 Initials and acronyms of bodies, activities and projects concerned with fisheries and aquatic sciences. *Initiales et sigles des organismes, activites et projets lies a la peche et aux sciences aquatiques. Iniciales y siglas de organismos, actividades y proyectos relacionados con la pesca y las ciencias acuaticas.* FAO Fish.Circ., (110)Rev.3:111 p.

Appendix 5

REPORT OF THE AD-HOC INTER-AGENCY CONSULTATION ON ATLANTIC  
FISHERY STATISTICS, 3 AND 4 OCTOBER 1981, WOODS HOLE, USA

1. The meetings of this inter-secretariat ad hoc consultation took place on the 3rd and 4th of October 1981 in the Whitman Building, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA. As CWP Secretary, Mr. L. P. D. Gertenbach, opened the consultation and was elected Chairman.
2. The participants in the meetings are listed in Annex C.
3. The draft agenda was presented and adopted (see Annex A).
4. The list of documents discussed at the consultation is given as Annex B.
5. The EUROSTAT participant reported on the administrative arrangements for the CWP's Eleventh Session contained in the draft document AHIC-AFS/81/4. A revised version of the document will be issued as CWP-11/7 by February 1982.
6. The participants approved the draft (Document AHIC-AFS/81/11) of the proposed first edition of the "STATLANT Bulletin". Certain revisions and additions were suggested. It was decided that two editions should be produced before the Eleventh Session of the CWP (21-28 July 1982), the first around November 1981.
7. It was noted that by now more than the required four participating agencies (secretariats) had approved the future structure of the CWP as formulated in Appendix 12 of the Report of the Tenth Session of the CWP and it was agreed at the Consultation that the Eleventh Session of the CWP in Luxembourg, 21-28 July 1982, would be organized following this new format and organization.
8. Agency-secretariat representation at the Eleventh Session was discussed. Since it might be likely that no expert from an EC member state would be on the secretariat, delegations from any of the regional agencies, the EUROSTAT participant expressed his intention to request the participation of an expert from an EC member State. It was proposed that OECD, through its Committee for Fisheries, should invite the participation of an expert from the USA.
9. The consultation reviewed the proposed draft agenda for the Eleventh Session of the CWP and prepared the "Provisional Agenda" and the accompanying version with annotations. These are shown in Annexes D and E respectively to this Report and will be issued as Document CWP-11/2 and CWP-11/3 before February 1982.
10. The only significant change in the agenda proposals (presented in Document AHIC-AFS/81/7) was the omission of "Statistics on discards" as a topic for consideration during the CWP's Eleventh Session. The participants felt, in view of the enormous difficulties experienced by regional agencies in collecting from national offices, data on discards that the maintenance of tabulations for regular publication would be impossible at this stage.
11. During its review of the annotations under each of the provisional agenda items for the Eleventh Session, the consultation also identified the required documents. The responsibility for the preparation and distribution of each document was allocated among the Secretariats of the participating agencies. These are listed in Annex F which will be distributed as CWP-11/4 by the CWP Secretary as soon as possible together with a note giving details on preparation, format, distribution, etc.
12. The EUROSTAT representative reported on the development of a computerized system for detecting discrepancies in statistics held by secretariat agencies participating in the STATLANT programmes through the CWP (see Documents AHIC-AFS/81/5 and /12). The next stage would be for EUROSTAT to contact FAO, NAFO, ICES, ICSEAF, ICCAT, etc., for details of the format of their data bases.
13. It was found that although all the agencies welcomed the use of a harmonized system of 3-alpha identifiers for country entries in their statistical publications, several secretariats experienced difficulties introducing some of the 3-alpha identifiers designated in the standards formulated by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). It was agreed that the CWP Secretary should continue his search for solutions of these difficulties and to advise the ISO of the current problems in some of the agencies participating in CWP activities.
14. The Consultation reviewed the draft computer-printed tabulations FAO intends to use for the conversion factor programme. It proposed certain additions with regard to local names of products and the insertion of the year in which each factor was nationally updated together with an asterisk against the year indicating the time of the technical examination. It was also recommended that the Major Fishing Area and any relevant sub-area should also appear on the form - FISHSTAT CFI.
15. Progress on the implementation of the proposals and recommendations (see Appendix 13 of the Report of the Tenth Session of the CWP) was reviewed. Although in general good progress has been made the participants regretted that FAO has decided not to produce the technical document containing descriptions and illustrations of fishing vessel types as a guide to the vessel-type classification. There is a demand for such a publication from national bodies and the participants hoped that FAO would reconsider its decision and produce this valuable document before the Eleventh Session of the CWP.

Appendix 5 (continued)Annex AAGENDA

- 1 Procedural arrangements
- 2 Administrative arrangements for CWP-11
- 3 Progress reports on the implementation of CWP-10 proposals and recommendations
- 4 The introduction of a periodically published STATLANT Bulletin
- 5 Agency representation at CWP-11
- 6 The provisional agenda for CWP-11 with annotations
- 7 Allocation, preparation and distribution of CWP-11 documents
- 8 Any other business

Annex BLIST OF DOCUMENTS

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| AHIC-AFS/81/1 | General announcement  |
| /2            | Provisional agenda  |
| /3            | List of documents   |
| /4            | Preliminary general information for participants attending the Eleventh Session of the CWP                            |
| /5            | Elimination of discrepancies in catch data reported to CWP member agencies  |
| /6            | Proposed provisional agenda for the CWP-11  |
| /7            | Proposed provisional agenda for the CWP-11 with annotations   |
| /8            | Allocation, preparation and distribution of CWP-11 documents  |
| /9            | Future programme of the CWP: proposals made by the OECD Secretariat   |
| /10           | Report of the Tenth Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery Statistics, Madrid, 22-29 July 1980 |
| /11           | Proposals for a "STATLANT Bulletin"   |
| /12           | Comparison of catch data held by international organizations: a function analysis                                     |

Appendix 5 (concluded)Annex CLIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Annex DPROVISIONAL AGENDA: ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE CWP

Reproduced as Document CWP-11/2  
 See also Appendix 1 to this Report

Annex EPROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA: ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE CWP

Reproduced as Document CWP-11/3

Annex FPROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS: ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE CWP

Reproduced as Document CWP-11/4  
 See also Appendix 2 to this Report

Appendix 6CWP SESSIONS: DATES, PLACES AND REPORTS

CONTINUING WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC AREA				<u>FAO Fisheries Report No.</u>
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1st Session	25-26 May 1960	BERGEN	Norway	a/
2nd Session	6-8 June 1961	WASHINGTON D.C.	U.S.A.	b/
3rd Session	18-21 March 1963	ROME	Italy	No. 7
4th Session	9-12 March 1965	ROME	Italy	No. 21
5th Session	10-14 April 1967	ABERDEEN	Scotland	No. 45

## COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON ATLANTIC FISHERY STATISTICS

6th Session	3-7 February 1969	COPENHAGEN	Denmark	No. 70
7th Session	10-16 November 1971	ROME	Italy	No. 121
8th Session	12-20 September 1974	PARIS	France	No. 156
9th Session	17-23 August 1977	DARTMOUTH	Canada	No. 197
10th Session	22-29 July 1980	MADRID	Spain	No. 242
11th Session	21-28 July 1982	LUXEMBOURG	Grand Duchy of Luxembourg	No. 274
c/ 12th Session	25 July-1 August 1984	COPENHAGEN	Denmark	

a/ Annexe J of FAO Fisheries Report No.3b/ Annexe K of FAO Fisheries Report No.3

c/ Proposals for the 12th Session as made by the CWP (11th Session)

Appendix 7EXTRACTS FROM THE 1954 AND 1956 REPORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS STATISTICAL COMMISSION

- A. Report of the United Nations Statistical Commission to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), on the Eighth Session of the Commission, Geneva, 5-22 April 1954, (Doc.E/CN.3/192) page 3:

2/  
13. Fish landed from the original fishing craft is at present treated differently in the statistics of different countries, but, since the countries having important trade of this kind wished it to be included in the statistics and since the representative from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization felt that such an inclusion would be useful in compiling trade and production figures for fish,

"The Statistical Commission

"Recommends that, wherever the size of landings is of importance and wherever it is possible to do so, countries should include in their import statistics fish landed directly from foreign fishing craft and include in their export statistics fish landed abroad by domestic fishing craft."

It was the opinion of the Commission that the attribution of provenance by flag of fishing craft would usually produce figures reasonably equivalent to country of provenance.

2/ It was pointed out that the definition of fish and fishing craft would require further consideration by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization.

Bibliographic Reference:

United Nations, Statistical Commission  
1954 Report to the Economic and Social Council  
on the eighth session of the Commission,  
held in Geneva, from 5 to 22 April 1954.  
New York, United Nations, E/CN.3/192: 18p.

- B. Report of the United Nations Statistical Commission to the Economic Social Council (ECOSOC), on the Ninth Session of the Commission, New York, 16 April - 2 May 1956, (Doc.E/CN.3/225), page 7:

39. At its eighth session the Commission had recommended that wherever the size of fish landings was of importance and wherever it was possible to do so, countries should include in their import statistics fish landed directly from foreign fishing craft and include in their export statistics fish landed abroad by domestic fishing craft, and had asked that a proposal be formulated to extend the recommendation to other marine products.

40. The Commission adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 5 (IX)The Statistical Commission

Endorses the proposals of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations that:

(a) Wherever they are important, marine products of all kinds be included in national import statistics when landed directly from a foreign fishing, hunting or gathering craft and be included in national export statistics when landed abroad directly from a domestic fishing, hunting or gathering craft; 4/

(b) The same treatment be accorded, wherever they are important, to the result of processing marine products on board ships at (or en route from) the fishing, hunting or gathering grounds whether the process takes place on the original fishing, hunting or gathering craft or in another craft to which the goods were transferred at sea.

4/ The description of craft should, where appropriate, be taken to include mother-ships and other vessels which take part in the fish catching, fish processing and fish transportation and related operations.

Appendix 7 (concluded)Bibliographic Reference:

United Nations, Statistical Commission,  
1956 Report of the Commission to the  
Economic and Social Council on its  
ninth session, held in New York from  
16 April to 2 May 1956. New York,  
United Nations, E/CN.3/225: 30p.

C. Notes by CWP Secretary

1. The Statistical Commission (1954) mentioned the flag to identify the country.
2. These Reports of the United Nations Statistical Commission refer specifically to international trade statistics (imports, exports and re-exports). However, it is clear that quantities that are treated as imports should not be included in the domestic output (catch, landings, and production) statistics; similarly, quantities treated as exports should be shown as part of the national output data, i.e. part of the statistics on national catches and landings and the national production of processed commodities.

Appendix 8RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE CWP

2.8.3 The CWP decided that the Secretary should ensure that copies of the reports of the Eleventh and preceding Sessions are provided to the CCAMLR Secretariat and that they are informed of the place and dates of both the coming inter-agency consultation in 1983 and the CWP's Twelfth Session in 1984.

4.3 The CWP recommended that EUROSTAT continue its activities in creating the necessary computer procedures to compare sets of data to identify discrepancies.

4.5 The CWP proposed that revisions to nationally submitted data made by one member agency should be circulated to all the other agencies involved, preferably by use of the Fishstatgram system established by the CWP.

7.1 The CWP recommended that OECD conduct a survey of its membership to determine the concepts by which fishermen are classified at national level and report back to the CWP on the practicability of the international standardization of data on fishermen.

7.2 The CWP recommended that the revision and expansion of ISSCFV classification of fishing vessels be undertaken by FAO in conjunction with the work on definitions and illustrations on fishing vessel types.

7.3 The CWP recommended that FAO should up-date its publication on fishing fleet statistics only once every, say, three years, but that the data should continue to be collected annually in order to monitor the situation.

8.1.3 The CWP recommended that FAO continue its current practice to supply quarterly to the participating agencies complete up-dated lists covering all indicators of the species items in the FAO data base.

8.2.2 The CWP recommended that FAO arranges for computer print-outs of the complete species list arranged in alphabetic order of the English common names, of the French common names and of the Spanish common names and that these lists be supplied to interested participating agencies.

9.9/10 The CWP recommended that participating agencies try to obtain the agreement of their contracting parties, through the appropriate channels, to follow as closely as possible the following criteria:

- that the flag of the vessel catching the fish, should be considered the paramount indication of the nationality assigned to the catch data and that indication overridden only when one of the following arrangements between a foreign flag vessel and the host country exists:
  - (a) the vessel is chartered by the host country to augment its fishing fleet; and
  - (b) the vessel fishes for the country by joint venture contract or similar agreements (as opposed to the ad hoc practice of a vessel selling catches to a foreign vessel or landing catches at a foreign port) and the operation of such a vessel is an integral part of the economy of the host country.
- that when governments negotiate joint ventures or other contracts in which vessels of one country land their catches at ports of another country or unload their catches to vessels of another country and the above criteria are applicable, the assignment of nationality to such catches and landings data be specified in the agreements.

10.5 The CWP recommended that:

- (a) FAO obtain the services of a fishery economics expert to adapt the agricultural research on collecting and compiling value data; and
- (b) FAO then convene a group of fishery economists from the CWP membership to review these findings with a view to developing definitions and standards for collecting and compiling this landings value data for presentation to the Twelfth Session of the CWP.

11.4 The CWP proposed that FAO revise Appendix 4 of CWP-11/25, Standard tabulation of conversion factors, to include additional columns which include a time series of conversion factors for each country, species and product thereof.

Appendix 8 (concluded)

11.5 The CWP recommended that FAO initiate a programme to obtain country revisions, update the conversion factors, and publish the conversion factors list as proposed by FAO with recommended amendments, every three years.

11.6 The CWP recommended that FAO send a conversion factor request to countries not represented on the conversion factor list.

11.7 The CWP recommended that FAO request national offices to use a consolidated list of conversion factors when responding to the FAO request for up-dating and expansion.

12.2 The CWP recommended the incorporation of the STATLANT AQ questionnaire into the STATLANT system.

13.3 The CWP therefore repeats its recommendation that FAO produces a report or a manual identifying the requirements for planning, designing and implementing logbook systems and that this be completed as early as possible and not later than the Twelfth Session of the CWP.

14.3 The CWP recommended that FAO should continue the development of the glossary of fishery statistics and report to an appropriate early meeting of CWP agencies and that at that stage further guidance on the contents and format of the glossary should be sought from the agencies.

14.4 The CWP proposed that the participating agencies provide Mr. Klawe with suggestions for his further development of the diagrammatic exposition of basic concepts.

18.2 The CWP therefore recommended that EUROSTAT, in close collaboration with FAO, ICES, NAFO and other agencies, study the development of a common mechanism for data transfer and report to the CWP inter-agency consultation in 1983.

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