

Report of the Second Session of the

**COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES** 

Rome, 24-29 April 1967

REPORT

of the

SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Rome, 24 - 29 April 1967

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Mr. Maurice Gemayel Président Indépendant du Conseil

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith the Report of the Second Session of the Committee on Fisheries which was held in Rome from 24 to 29 April 1967.

Yours faithfully,

A.W.H. Needler Chairman Committee on Fisheries

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#### INTRODUCTION

- 1. The Committee on Fisheries (COFI) held its Second Session from 24-29 April 1967 at FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy. The Session was attended by the representatives of 27 mations, members of the Committee, 23 observer nations and 12 international organizations. A list of participants is given in Appendix A to this Report.
- 2. Before the Committee considered its Agenda, Dr. W.M. Chapman, at the invitation of the Director-General, delivered an address entitled "The State of Ocean Use Management," The text of this address is reproduced separately as Appendix G to this Report.
- 3. The Committee adopted the Agenda shown in Appendix B to this Report; the documents which were before the Committee are listed in Appendix C to this Report.
- 4. The Committee adjusted its timetable by bringing forward Items 4, 5 and 6 of its Agenda for earlier discussion, in order to enable the Committee's report on these items to be made available to the Program and Finance Committees by 28 April, those Committees being in session simultaneously with the Committee on Fisheries.
- 5. The Committee noted the recommendation in paragraph 19 of the Report of its Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations Concerned with Fisheries (COFI/67/5), that the Committee establish at the beginning of its Second Session an ad hoc Working Party to consider what action would be advisable on measures for improving rational fishery exploitation in the South East Pacific. The Committee accordingly adopted the resolution, attached as Appendix D, establishing such an ad hoc Working Party (see para. 86 below).

#### MATTERS OF HIGH PRIORITY IN THE PROGRAM OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

6. Four of the five sub-items under this heading were identified by the Committee at its First Session as of great importance to fishery development (Report, First Session, paragraphs 48-53).

#### Education and training in the field of fisheries

- 7. The Committee reiterated and re-emphasized the importance of education and training in the field of fisheries, and noted the summary of the relevant current activities of the Department of Fisheries in document COFI/67/10. The Committee felt that further action in at least three aspects would be necessary, namely identifying current needs in education and training; advising on ways and means of meeting those needs and then promoting the necessary activities toward the desired ends.
- 8. Accordingly, the Committee decided to establish a Sub-Committee on Education and Training in the Field of Fisheries, and asked its Steering Committee to draft terms of reference and suggest membership. Participation by concerned international agencies and other appropriate bodies should be invited, for instance UNESCO and ILO (see para. 87 below).

#### Utilization of fishery resources

- The Committee had before it Secretariat Document COFI/67/11, and noted that substantial increases in landings could be expected mainly from the fuller exploitation of species not at present heavily fished, and that low trophic organisms of the ocean might possibly be a large source of edible protein. This led to a discussion of the need for new technologies, and inter alia of the role which might be played by fish protein concentrates for human consumption. The importance was emphasized of developing markets for new products including fish protein concentrates, and reference was made to the work of the FAO Panel of Experts on Fish Protein Concentrates for Human Consumption, which had been established by the Director-General after consideration of the question by the Thirty-sixth Session of the Council under Article VI-4 of the Constitution. The Committee decided that since the problems are complex and interrelated and since fish protein concentrate is only one way of utilizing fishery resources for human food, the terms of reference of this Panel should be revised and extended, in order to provide a suitable forum for the consideration of the best ways and means for promoting the wider utilization of fishery resources. The Committee requested the Director-General to place the reports of the Panel before the Committee. The Committee recommended the exclusion from the terms of reference of this Panel of the technologies of fish capture, but to include marketing considerations.
- 10. The Committee therefore recommended that this Panel should be renamed FAO Panel of Experts on Fish Utilization and recommended to the FAO Council that the Director-General should be asked to change its terms of reference to read as follows:

"to consider and advise on the nature of the technological, economic and marketing studies which should be undertaken in relation to problems associated with increasing the utilization of fishery resources, particularly those which are presently not used or under-utilized, as a source of protein for human consumption and to promote new technologies to meet these objectives."

#### Economic aspects of fishery management

- The Committee noted with interest the recent developments outlined in COFI/67/12, that have taken place in the study of the economic aspects of fishery management. This was brought up to date by an oral report by the Secretariat on the meetings of the ICNAF Working Group on Joint Biological and Economic Assessment of Conservation Actions, which had taken place very recently in London. Stated very briefly, it was the common conclusion, after a study of three different stocks of demersal fish which are heavily fished in the North Atlantic area, that a substantial cut in mortality would lead after a transitional period of from four to six years, to the same or a larger catch being caught by a reduced (by say 20 percent) fishing effort. ICES, ICNAF, NEAFC, OECD and FAO were continuing these studies with a view to evolving proposals for developing appropriate management measures.
- 12. The Committee noted these developments in the study of the economic aspects of Rishery management, and recommended to the Director-General that the Department of Fisheries should continue these studies in collaboration with appropriate international and national agencies.

#### World Appraisal of Fishery Resources

13. The Committee reaffirmed its opinion that the World Appraisal of Fishery Resources should be accorded a high priority in the Department's program. It took note of the progress report in the Secretarizt document CCFI/67/13 from the three aspects: appraisal of existing knowledge about the resources, their distribution and potential yield; review of existing research programs; and promotion of further research. It observed that little real progress was being made with respect to the second aspect, despite the creation of the nucleus of a Fishery Data Centre.

14. The Committee urged the Department, where possible, to work, as proposed, through groups of nations and regional bodies interested in fisheries. While existing international funds, as from UNDP, should be utilized wherever opportunity offered, other means to the desired and should also be explored. These could include cooperation with bilateral programs and possibly the planning and implementation of international cooperative fishing investigations on the pattern successfully used by the IOC in respect of oceanographic research. The Secretariat should draw up specific proposals bearing in mind that the success of such cooperative investigations will depend on the initiative and full collaboration of interested countries. The need to give prior attention to the appraisal of resources for which there already existed a technology of catching and processing was noted.

### Marine Pollution

- The Committee took note of the account of relevant international activities outlined in Secretariat document COFI/67/14 and 14 Sup. 1. During the discussion there were a number of references to the recent disaster which resulted in the release of large quantities of crude oil in the western approaches to the English Channel. Attention was called to the problems raised by such pollution in relation to marine and freshwater life and the Committee requested the Director-General immediately to bring to the attention of other interested international bodies, including IMCO, the necessity of supplementing the International Convention of 1954 on the Pollution of the Sea by Oil, with measures to deal with pollution arising from accidents to tankers. of establishing procedures for compensation for damage caused by such accidents. of intensifying the control over discharge of hydro-carbons in the sea, and of determining legal liability and responsibility, including damage to fisheries, oysters and shell fish. The Committee further requested interested nations to communicate to the FAO the results of their research on the efficiency and effects of procedures for neutralizing layers of hydro-carbons on the high seas and coastal waters and thrown up on the shore. This would assist FAO to respond effectively to the request for such information which had been received from IMCO.
- 16. It was pointed out that due consideration must be given also to the indirect effects of pollution on fisheries, for example the effects on the market for marine products.
- 17. The Committee urged Member Nations to intensify scientific, socio-economic and legal studies, including research on the effects of emulsifiers on marine life; and other urgent problems of marine and fresh water pollution. In this context the proposed World Scientific and Technical Conference on Marine Pollution and its Effects on Fishery Resources and Fishing (Rome 1969) was considered to be important and timely.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE FAO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES RESEARCH

- 18. The Committee was especially appreciative of the contribution which this Advisory Committee of able and independent scientists is making to the furtherance of marine science and its applications, and expressed the hope that the ACMRR would be able to continue to give valuable advice on the scientific and technical aspects of an increasing number and variety of fishery problems.
- 19. The Committee took note of the matters drawn to their attention in Secretariat Documents COFT/67/15 and 15 Sup. 1. However since most of the matters there described would arise under other items of the Committee's agenda, a detailed consideration of those items was deferred for discussion at the appropriate times. One matter not so covered was the actions by the ACMRR and the Department in furthering cooperation with the WMO in connection with the World Weather Watch (WWW), the plans of which have now been completed and adopted. The Committee was informed, in this connection,

that advice was required from national fishery administrations and industries on the meteorological information, both in the nature of forecasts and of climatological data, required for the safe and efficient conduct of fishing operations. It is noted that for the effective functionning of the WWW, a substantial increase in the number of meteorological observations from oceanic areas was required, and that, together with the Global Atmospheric Research Programme, the WWW promised to lead to substantial improvements in the quality and range of forecasts of weather, state of sea and other meteorological parameters over oceanic areas; it would also lead to a development and a refinement of the marine climatological data. The Committee therefore agreed that the Secretariat should consult its members, by correspondence, to obtain their views on these matters and on the basis of these to formulate advice to WMO to extend that already provided by the ACMRR which dealt mainly with the research aspects.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES DURING 1968/69

#### Introduction

20. Since "the review of the Programs of Work of the Organization in the field of fisheries and their implementation" is one of the two major elements in its terms of reference, the Committee gave some thought to its own working methods in this regard. It recalled that it had had the opportunity during its First Session (in a non-Conference year) of examining a tentative Program of Work placed before it by the Director-General, when his proposals for the Organization as a whole, as well as for the Department of Fisheries, were at a formative stage. At that time the Committee had recommended areas of work and priorities which the Director-General had since been able to take into account in formulating the Program of Work and Budget for 1968/69 which he would lay before the 14th Session of the Conference. The Committee had before it at its present, second, Session (in a Conference year) an advance copy of these more definitive proposals of the Director-General, as they concerned the Department of Fisheries.

However, this document "Extract from the Director-General's Program of Work and Budget for 1968/69; Chapter relating to the Department of Fisheries" (COFI/67/Inf.1), and also the related "Program of Work of the Department of Fisheries (By Functions)" (COFI/67/16) had not been distributed far enough in advance of the Session to enable delegates to examine it properly, complete consultations within their own countries and take specialist advice upon it, before departure from home. Delegates therefore were in no position to make any detailed recommendations. The Committee emphasized this point and expressed the strong desire that more adequate arrangements for the timely issue of the Program documents would be made in future. In the circumstances the Committee examined the Director-General's proposals mainly with regard to their adequacy in achieving program objectives, the extent to which they reflected the recommendations of the Committee's First Session and their balance as between subject matters, as between Headquarters and field activities, and as between Regular Program and other programs, such as UNDP. The Committee noted that the Program and related budgetary questions would be examined by the Technical Committee on Fisheries prior to the Conference's 14th Session, when delegates from all Member Nations would have the opportunity of scrutinizing the fishery proposals in detail and in relation to other sectors of the work of the Organization. The Committee could therefore address itself now to major program objectives, and a general review of the direction in which the Department is moving.

#### Documentation

22. The Committee noted that the Program of Work was presented in two versions with differing format; namely the conventional one (COFI/67/Inf. 1) used for the preparation of the Program of Work for the Conference, and, secondly a re-arrangement of the program, prepared at the Committee's suggestion (COFI/67/16), in a form which was intended to relate the proposed activities of the Department of Fisheries to specific urgent problems in the development of world fisheries, presented in order of priority. Members of the Committee found both types of presentation valuable, although some Delegations found the conventional form preferable once they became familiar with it. The Committee felt, however, that the alternative presentation could be further developed, especially by displaying more realistically the total activities and total objectives of the Department under the Regular Program, the UNDP and other sources of funds. It would perhaps take the form of an index to the conventional document. As regards arrangements by priorities, the Committee felt that while widely different subject matter fields were difficult to compare one with another, priorities could and should be established between major program objectives.

## Review of Programs

- 23. Turning to the Regular Program proposals for the biennium 1968/69 before them, the Committee was agreed that they adequately reflected the priorities recommended at its First Session; these recommendations remained unchanged.
- 24. The Committee noted that there had had to be some reduction from the Director-General's tentative Regular Program proposals put forward last year; and it expressed some anxiety that with additional demands being made on the Department without corresponding increases in staff, the staff, now fully extended, might become overextended with loss in effectiveness. The growing field programs could not be operated efficiently unless supported strongly by Headquarters staff, which needed strengthening especially at middle management level.
- 25. The Committee was advised that the proposed increase in resources of about 17 percent in terms comparable with the current biennium, nett of mandatory increases, was the maximum possible; some Delegations thought them not unreasonable; but others had hoped that the greater rate of increase visualized by the Conference at its Thirteenth Session could have been maintained. The Committee therefore urged that all extra-budgetary sources of funds be explored. These might include funds-in-trust (which in certain cases are already supplementing UNDP field projects or supporting FFHC projects); the possibility of obtaining UNDP-SF support for special projects of broad scope, for example regional cooperative surveys of resources and the means to exploit them; and also the possibility of using the powers, not hitherto exercised, of Article XIV Councils to assess their Member Nations to defray operational costs.
- 26. The Committee felt that, within existing budgetary limitations, the Regular Program proposals were well considered and generally in balance.
- 27. The Committee reiterated its view that special emphasis should be placed on education and training in the field of fisheries, and urged that the Sub-committee established by Resolution CCFI/2/2 (Appendix E to this Report) be fully supported by technical competence from within the Department. It specifically endorsed the creation of a Fishery Education and Services Branch within the Fishery Economics and Products Division. The Committee noted that new training schemes were being launched in several countries, in response to the need for training in the new technologies in fish capture and processing, and the higher level of education which the use of many of these technologies would necessitate among fishermen

- 28. The progress of the Fishery Intelligence and Reports Office in the Office of the Assistant Director-General attracted favorable comment, and it was hoped that this Office would develop services of wide utility to Meuber Nations.
- 29. There was some comment from Delegates on the proposals concerning the Department's Regular Program regional activities, but it was recognized that no major change would be possible until the review of the Organization's structure, currently being carried out at the request of the Conference, was completed. The Vice Chairman of the ACMRR called attention to the special nature of the oceanic problems involved in the development of the world fisheries, which differ in their nature from problems encountered in other sectors of the Organization, and suggested that a special study be made of the relationship of Headquarters staff and program to field staff and program needed for the efficient overall prosecution of the Organization's program of work in fisheries.
- 30. The Committee was assured that budgetary cover was included under the Office of the Assistant Director-General to enable the convening of three sessions of new fishery bodies within the framework of the Organization, proposals for which were presented elsewhere in this report; moderate increases were also proposed in order to more adequately support the activities of existing regional fishery bodies.
- 31. The Committee noted with satisfaction the continued growth in field activities, and felt that it was important to maintain, so far as possible under programming procedures outside the control of the Organization, a reasonable balance in the regional distribution of field project activities.
- 32. The Committee noted that there were diminishing opportunities under the UNDP-TA Regional Program for holding training centres, study tours and group fellowships, there being little margin for those within the 15 percent limitation laid down by the UNDP for regional projects. The Committee requested the Director-General to endeavor to improve this situation.

MATTERS CONSIDERED BY THE 47TH SESSION OF THE FAO COUNCIL

# The rôle of the Technical Committee on Fisheries of the Conference and the Committee on Fisheries

- 33. Noting that the two bodies differ fundamentally in structure in that the Committee on Fisheries is a permanent body of limited membership reporting to the Council whereas the Technical Committee is a body set up each biennium by the Conference itself and without limitation on its membership, the Committee also recognized certain differences in function between the two bodies.
- The Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare for its Third Session a comparative study of the two bodies. In this study, attention should be paid to the desirability of defining clearly the different rôles the Committee on Fisheries might be expected to play in non-conference and conference years. The Committee expressed the view that it should concern itself essentially with matters of general policy in relation to both world fisheries and the Department of Fisheries, examine and discuss problems presented to it and participate actively in the early drafting of the Department of Fisheries Program of Work in a non-conference year. At sessions held in conference years, it might usefully undertake a review of progress in the various areas of the approved program, in both regular program and field activities, but direct its attention especially to international problems. It also noted that discussion of detailed technical matters should be avoided in order to permit it to concentrate on the broader issues.

### Adoption of Amended Rules of Procedure

35. The Committee had before it the proposals from the Council for the amendment, for purposes of clarification, of Rule VI-1 of its Rules of Procedure to read as follows, the words underlined being added:

"At each session, the Committee shall approve a report to the Council embodying its views, recommendations and decisions including when requested a statement of minority views. Any recommendations adopted by the Committee which affect the program or finances of the Organization shall be reported to the Council with the comments of the appropriate subsidiary committees of the Council."

The Committee noted that the proposed amendments were in fact in accord with its Statutes.

36. In accordance with the provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization, and of Rules V-2 and IX of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee, the question was put to the vote by roll call. The result of the vote was as follows:

Yes	Yes	No	Absent
Australia Brazil Canada Chile Ecuador France Germany, Fed.Rep. of Iceland India Iran Italy Japan Korea	Madagascar Mexico Worway Pakistan Peru Poland Spain Sudan Thailand United Arab Republi United Kingdom United States of Am (25)		Argentina Ethiopia Ghana Morocco Senegal (5)

The amendment was accordingly adopted.

#### Membership in the Committee on Fisheries

37. The Committee had before it an extract from the Provisional Report of the 47th Session of the Council, para 141 (COFI/67/2 paras. 9-11) and related documents. It did not however consider that at this stage it was in a position to propose changes in the existing provisions relating to its membership.

#### INTERNATIONAL COCPERATION IN FISHERIES

38. The Committee gave serious attention to the problem of providing adequate mechanisms for international cooperation in laying the basis for the rational utilization of fishery resources and preventing their depletion. It noted that the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session had recognized the special nature of marine fishery problems and indicated that it might be preferable to constitute regional fishery bodies in relation to the fisheries of a sea region and to open memberhsip in such bodies to all nations having significant fishing interests in the area or the species of fish concerned. It had before it the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries that the

Committee consider recommending to the Council a suitable amendment to the FAO Constitution which would allow the creation of regional fishery bodies on the basis of sea areas and making these bodies open to non-Member Nations of FAO which are members of the United Nations. The Committee stressed the urgent need to prevent the over-exploitation of fisheries in areas not now adequately served by regional bodies, but in which the fishery resources are important, and to assure the maintenance of these resources. The Committee noted that there was danger, in some instances, that resources might be depleted even before developing nations in the area were able to achieve the technical competence to use the resources at their doors.

39. After a thorough debate most members of the Committee favoured recommending to the Council that it consider formulating an amendment to Article VI-1 of the Constitution and, as necessary, amendments to related rules principles and procedures so as to provide for the expeditious establishment of regional commissions concerned with fisheries having certain characteristics.

39a. As regards the proposed amendments, the characteristics envisaged were the following:

- a) the regions could be defined in relation to sea areas;
- b) each commission would be open to all Member Nations and Associate Members having coasts of the sea areas concerned, or belonging to the same geographical area, and to Member Nations and Associate Members outside the geographical area that have an interest in the fisheries in the sea area covered by the regional commission and wish to cooperate in laying the basis for their rational exploitation;
- c) each commission would also be open to such non-Member Nations of the Organization as are members of the United Nations that have an interest in the fisheries in the sea area covered by the regional commission, wish to cooperate in laying the basis for their rational exploitation, and are admitted to membership by the Council;
- d) Non-Member Nations that become members of such regional commissions would ordinarily be required to contribute towards the expenses incurred by the Organization with respect to the activities of these commissions.

39b. The opinion of a minority, in opposition to the above, was expressed by the delegates of Chile, Ecuador and Peru as follows;

- These delegates considered that the Constitution of FAO now in force was an international treaty studied, discussed and finally ratified by sovereign nations and according to the Preamble thereto, "the Nations accepting thes Constitution..." did so "being determined to promote the common welfare by furthering separate and collective action on their part for the purpose of: raising levels of nutrition and standards of living of the the peoples under their respective jurisdictions". Regional commissions, were, in the view of these Delegates, accordingly intended solely to meet the needs of countries "whose territories are situated wholly or in part in one or more regions". These commissions, being set up on the basis of territorial areas were vested with authority to "advise on the formulation and implementation of policy and to occidinate the implementation of policy", and the Delegates were of the opinion that the countries adhering to the aforementioned international agreement had done so with the conviction that they were thereby
- The statement between " " was made orally at the time of the adoption of the Committee's Report. Its inclusion in the text of the Report was agreed by the Committee.

guaranteeing the formulation of measures safeguarding their own interests. The Delegates thought that any change in Article VI, para. 1. of the Constitution in the sense of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries might cause the aspirations of the emerging countries throughout the world to be thwarted and the original concept of FAO to be exceeded. It was the view of the Delegates that under the terms of the FAO Constitution any proposals for amendments to the latter must emanate from either the Conference, the Council or a Member Nation and that the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters was the competent body to study proposals for amendment. The Delegates pointed out that the concrete cases which had given rise to concern on such matters on the part of the Committee had already been settled by the Committee without resort to an amendment of the FAO Constitution and, in the light of evidence now before the Committee no such amendment of Article VI, para 1 as had been tabled seemed justifiable to the Delegates. Assuming that the Council might nevertheless deem it advisable to consider an amendment to Article VI, para 1 of the FAO Constitution, the Delegates felt that the only appropriate amendment would be one couched in the following terms, to be inserted in Article VI-1 after the first full stop. "Regional commissions established pursuant to the foregoing may request of the Council the admission to them of such Member Nations or Associate Members as are concerned with fisheries in the areas falling within their purview and are desirous of cooperating in laying the foundations for the rational exploitation of fishery resources in those areas. These regional commissions may also request the Council to admit states that, although not members of the Organization, are members of the United Nations and are interested in sea fisheries in the areas falling within the purview of the said commissions". \*

# Report of Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries

40. The Committee accepted the report of the Sub-Committee's First Session (COFI/67/5), the subject matter of which is dealt with in the following sections of this Report. The Committee wished to put on record its high appreciation of the work and competence of the Sub-Committee, and decided that the Sub-Committee should continue in existence.

# i) Analytical Compendium of International Fishery Bodies and of Other International Organizations Concerned with Fisheries

41. The Committee endorsed the guide lines proposed by the Sub-Committee for the preparation of the analytical compendium envisaged in Resolution COFI/1/1. It noted with satisfaction the progress already made by the Secretariat in this regard; and requested the Director-General to cooperate as fully as possible with Member Nations and interested international bodies particularly the IOC in this task.

<sup>\*</sup> The statement between \* \* was made orally at the time of the adoption of the Committee's Report. Its inclusion in the text of the Report was agreed by the Committee.

# ii) Rational Utilization of the Fishery Resources of the Middle and Southeast Atlantic

- The Committee considered the recommendation of the Sub-Committee (COFI/67/5 paragraph 13) that as a matter of urgency an international body or bodies be established under the aegis of FAO to collect information (including data of catch and effort), atimulate and coordinate research, analyze the information obtained and made recommendations for the rational utilization of the fishery resources of the middle and southeast Atlantic in the interest of the fullest possible economic development. It also had before it a document COFI/67/18 (reproduced as Appendix F to this Report) supplied by the Secretariat in response to the Sub-Committee's request to prepare concrete and specific proposals for the establishment of the international body or bodies envisaged. The Committee further noted that the ACMRR had established a Working Party to study the resource problems of the middle and south-eastern Atlantic, and expected that this would facilitate the provision of further expert advice pertinent to these matters.
- The Committee accepted and endorsed the proposals in document Appendix F to this Report, and, as regards the Eastern Middle Atlantic Area, as defined in that document, recommended to the Council that it authorize the Director-General to establish, as an interim measure, a Committee of selected Member Nations under Article VI-2 of the Constitution. The terms of reference of this Committee might be derived from those of the Regional Fishery Commission for Western Africa, but might exclude inland fisheries. The Committee further recommended that the Director-Genraal, when selecting members of the propsed Committee, should invite participation of African States of the region and also of those FAO Member Nations and Associate Members fishing or carrying out research in the sea rea concerned, whose contribution to the work of the Committee he deemed essential or desirable.
- 44. The Committee noted that the Director-General was convening a Technical Conference on the Fisheries of West African Countries to be held at Dakar, Senegal, from 31 July 4 August 1967 and hoped that this would provide an opportunity for many of the African States concerned to indicate their views with regard to the Committee to be established.
- 45. The Director-General would, the Committee hoped, also take advantage of other opportunities for consultation with all the governments concerned.
- 46. The Committee felt that the action outlined above should be taken as quickly as possible as an interim measure, although some other appropriate action could be considered at a later stage.
- 47. The Committee also specifically endorsed the suggestion in paragraph 19 of Appendix F, that in addition to setting up the Committee referred to above, the Director-General should convene from time to time Ad Hoc meetings, similar to the Technical Conference referred to earlier, to enable representatives of the West African countries (coastal and inland) to meet to discuss their own fishery problems and jointly to develop their fishery policies.
- With regard to the Southeast Atlantic area, as defined in Appendix F, the Committee, again in accordance with the proposals in that document, decided, in view of the urgent need for management of the fishery resources in that area, to request the Secretariat to prepare a draft convention providing for a fishery body for the Southeast Atlantic, of a similar type to that established under the Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas. The Committee considered it desirable that the Director-General circulate the draft convention for comments to all Nations concerned, including both FAC Members and Non-Member Nations which are Members of the United Nations or of other Specialized Agencies. When those comments were received, the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Fisheries,

might decide whether or not to take steps for the establishment of a Working Party to review the draft convention further prior to the convening of a conference of plenipotentiaries for the purpose of discussing, amending as necessary, and adopting it.

49. The Director-General would no doubt wish to consult with interested governments at the appropriate time about the procedure to be followed to convene such a conference or to take such other measures as he might deem appropriate.

# iii) Revision of the Statutes of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Commission for the South West Atlantic (CARPAS)

- 50. The Committee considered peragraphs 14 17 of the Report of 1ts Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations (COFI/67/5) and document COFI/67/19 prepared by the Secretariat. It endorsed the views and recommendations of the Sub-Committee and, because of the necessity for taking immediate action, decided to request the Council to amend the Statutes of CARPAS in order to transform it from a regional commission set up under Article VI-1 of the Constitution into a commission, still under Article VI-1, open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO.
- 51. While this action would not allow CARPAS to undertake joint projects and programs as it had requested, it would meet the request from CARPAS for a revision of its Statutes which would make Bolivia and Braguay eligible for membership and would allow the Commission to obtain the active cooperation of countries whose fishing fleets frequent the CARPAS statistical area, or who undertake fishery research in that area.
- 52. The Committee therefore decided to submit to the Council for its consideration the following draft resolution:

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION

#### THE COUNCIL

Considering that the FAO Regional Fisheries Advisory Commission for the South West Atlantic (CARPAS) recommended at its Third Session, in April 1966 a revision of its Statutes with a view to (1) enabling Bolivia and Paraguay to become oligible for membership, (2) obtaining the active cooperation of all countries whose fising fleets frequent the CARPAS statistical area or undertake fishery research in that area, and (3) enabling CARPAS to undertake joint projects or programs,

Noting that the Sub-Committee of the Committee on Fisheries on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries recommended at its First Session in January 1967 that, as a first step, CARPAS be transformed from a regional Commission into a Commission still under Article VI-1 of the FAO Constitution but open to all interested Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO,

Noting further that the Sub-Committee's recommendations were endorsed by the Committee on Fisheries at its Second Session in April 1967,

<u>Decides</u> that membership in CARPAS be henceforth open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization, and

Authorizes the Director-General to amend the Statutes of CARPAS accordingly.

53. The Committee expressed the hope that requests from regional fishery bodies desirous of extending elegibility for membership would be complied with as expeditiously as possible.

# iv) Consideration of Measures for improving the rational fishery exploitation in the Southeast Pacific

- The Committee established (by Resolution CCFI/2/1 reproduced in Appendix D to this Report) an ad hoc Working Party to examine the recommendations of the Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Crganizations concerned with Fisheries, having to to with problems of the Southeast Pacific (COFI/67/5, paras. 18-28). The Working Party consisted of the Delegates of Chile, Ecuador, Japan, Peru and the United States. The Committee elected Mr. Orlando Concha, Delegate of Chile, as Chairman and at the Working Party's request Mr. E. García-Sayán Secretary-General of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, and that body's Coserver to the Committee on Fisheries, was also invited to attend in an observer capacity.
- The Chairman of the Working Party reported that the manner in which the Permanent Commission carried out its work as it concerned Chile, Ecuador and Peru, and also its relations with FAO were clarified. The Working Party felt that existing relations between FAO, the three countries mentioned and the Permanent Commission should be strenghtened.
- In accordance with corresponding recommendations of the Working Party, the Committee decided to recommend that discussions be held between FAO and the three Governments, concerned, with a view to strengthening consultation and coordination between FAO, the three Governments concerned, and the Permanent Commission, to the end that the activities of FAO in the area be enhanced; noted that it would not be necessary to set up any type of arrangement other than that provided for in the recommendation above; and further noted that it had not been possible to consider the contents of paragraph 21 of document COFI/67/5 because of their complexity and because of time limitations.

# W) Measures for Furthering Cooperation for the Rational Utilization of the Fishery Resources of International Inland Waters in Africa

- 57. The Committee considered paragraphs 24-28 of the Report of the First Session of its Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations Concerned with Fisheries (CCFI/67/5). It noted that a large proportion of the catch from the inland waters of Africa derived from waters shared by more than one nation; and that in many cases the same stocks of fish are to be found under more than one national jurisdiction. There was also need for international cooperation on growing problems of pollution in international inland waters in Africa. The Committee endorsed the Sub-Committee's view that the following would be appropriate steps towards the solution of these problems:
  - the technical and scientific staffs of fishery department responsible for each international inland water could meet informally to outline their fishery programs and problems;
  - 2) having elucidated the problems, the next step would be to decide which problems should be solved jointly and how this could be implemented;
  - 3) the third step might require administrative action based on governmental policy and perhaps official international agreements for action.

- 58. Attention was also drawn in this connection to Appendix C to the Report of the Sub-Committee.
- 59. The Delegates of Canada and the United States referred to the cooperation between them in respect to the fisheries of inland waters, and agreed to provide Member Nations in Africa with information on their experience in this type of international cooperation. The Committee also noted that inland fishery problems would be discussed at the Technical Conference on Fisheries of West African Countries to be held in Dakar from 31 July 4 August 1967.

# vi) Coordination and Cooperation Among International Fishery Bodies and with FAO

60. The Committee noted the findings of its Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations Concerned with Fisheries in paragraphs 29-32 of the Sub-Committee's report of its First Session (COFI/67/5). The Committee endorsed these findings, and requested the Sub-Committee to keep this matter continuously under review so as to develop improved procedures to facilitate the flow of cooperation between international fishery bodies.

# Rational Utilization of the Fishery Resources of the Indian Ocean

- 61. The Committee had before it the Report of the First Session of the Working Party on the Rational Utilization of the Fishery Resources of the Indian Ocean (COFI/67/6). It accepted the Working Party's analysis of the nature and scope of investigations that needed to be carried out.
- 62. There followed a thorough debate concerning the kind of international body or bodies needed to carry out such investigations and to promote the rational utilization of the fishery resources of the Indian Ocean.
- 63. The main concern of the Committee was the urgency of taking effective action in this matter, and the Committee concluded that a new fishery body was necessary; and that, on balance of advantages, it would be undesirable to divide responsibility for consideration of the fishery problems of the Indian Ocean between more than one body. The Committee recognized that the maintenance of the offshore resources in the face of increasingly intensive fisheries presented an urgent problem common to the whole Indian Ocean.
- 64. The Committee therefore decided that a single fishery body for the Indian Ocean was needed and recommended that it be established under Article VI-1 of the Constitution, with powers to establish subsidiary bodies to deal with sub-divisions of the area or with special problems. In this connection the Committee noted the breakdown of sub-areas of the Indian Ocean and the definition of the Indian Ocean and its adjacent waters as indicated in paras. 9-10 of the Working Party's report.
- 65. The Committee therefore requested the Director-General to place before the Council, as expeditiously as possible, the draft of a resolution which would have the effect of establishing an Indian Ocean Fishery Commission along the lines indicated in paragraph 25 of COFI/67/6, providing for the following general objectives:

- 1) to promote, assist and coordinate national programs over the entire field of fishery development and conservation
- 2) to promote investigational and developmental activities through international means, notably through aid programs:
- to begin the examination of management problems, more particularly and urgently with regard to the offshore resources.
- 66. The Committee expressed the hope that all Members Nations and Associate Members having coasts on the Indian Ocean and its adjacent waters and such others as fish or carry out research there would cooperate actively in the Commission's work.
- 67. The Committee agreed that the Antarctic area be excluded for the time being from the terms of reference of the proposed Commission.
- 68. The Committee requested the Director-General to do everything in his power to ensure cooperation of the new Commission, when formed, with the IPFC and to invite the IPFC likewise to take all necessary steps to make this possible.
- 69. The Committee also noted that when regulatory measures became necessary, an international convention between the countries concerned might be needed.

### UN Resolution on Development of Natural Resources - Resources of the Sea

- 70. The Committee had before it the text of the Resolution on Development of Natural Resources Resources of the Sea (A/Res/2172 (XXI)), adopted by the UN General Assembly on 6 December 1966. It also had an account prepared by the Secretariat of the history of the Resolution and of subsequent actions taken by the UN, ACC, IOC of Unesco, WMO, SCCR of ICSU and ACMRR; this material was assembled in documents COFI/67/7, 7/Sup.1 and 7/Sup.2.
- 71. An extract from a report of a Sub-Committee of ACC, was of a strictly confidential character which was included in the documentation which delegates were asked to respect.
- 72. The representative of the UN emphasized the particular importance which the Secretary-General attached to General Assembly Resolution 2172 and indicated that the Secretary-General would greatly welcome the full cooperation of the Committee on Fisheries in the various actions which he was called upon to take in response to that Resolution. The Secretary-General had already invited the Committee on Fisheries to nominate a member of the small group of experts who were to assist him in the preparation of the comprehensive survey and in the formulation of the proposals, as referred to in the Resolution. He indicated that the Director-General of FAO had also been asked to nominate an expert to serve on this group.
- 73. The Committee accordingly nominated Dr. A.W.H. Needler in this capacity, ospecially in view of his long experience in fishery matters, scientific, industrial and administrative, and the Assistant Director-General (Fisheries) announced that the Director-General had designated Mr. F.E. Popper, Director of Program Coordination and Operations of the Department of Fisheries, as his nominee.

- 74. The Committee, while remarking that the UN Resolution had been adopted without there having been preparatory discussions with FAO, noted the great importance of its subject matter to the fishery industry and to fishery research throughout the world and also that the arrangements made for the implementation of the Resolution appeared to be satisfactory. It accordingly decided to cooperate to the fullest extent in order to ensure that fishery aspects were taken into account when the material was prepared for the comprehensive survey called for by the Resolution; and particularly at the stage when the proposals were being formulated.
- 75. The Committee noted the rather tight timetable envisaged and considered how best to give Dr. Needler the advice and support that he would need. The Committee decided to authorize Dr. Needler to obtain the advice of the Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries if he deemed that necessary in the course of his participation in the group of experts.
- 76. The Committee noted that a Joint ACMRR/SCOR/WMO (AC) Working Group had already been established which should provide advice on various scientific aspects of the implementation of the Resolution.

# World Conference on the Rational Development and Conservation of Fishery Resources

- 77. The Conference had before it a paper entitle "Notes on a World Fishery Congress" (COFI/67/8) which had been prepared by the Secretariat in response to a request made by the Committee at its first Session. At that time a proposal had been made that FAO should be asked to consider the organization of a World Conference on the Rational Development and Conservation of Fishery Resources. The Committee had decided to consider the matter further during its second Session on the basis of information to be provided by the Department of Fisheries of FAO.
- 78. The Committee discussed at some length the objectives of such a Conference and its possible timing and methods of financing. Many Delegations expressed views favouring in principle a World Fishery Congress along the general lines outlined in the Secretariat paper. A number of Committee members however expressed reservations as to the timing and agenda, and some considered that the necessity for such a Congress had not been established.
- 79. It was noted that for such a Congress to be a success, a fully worked-out agenda would have to be prepared, and the relationship of such a Congress to other related activities would need careful consideration; such as the World Food Congress and the Indicative World Plan' and also the UN Resolution on Development of Natural Resources of the Sea, which was considered elsewhere in this Report. Some Delegates also felt that it would be desirable to clarify the functions of such a Congress vis-a-vis those of the Committee on Fisheries itself.
- 80. It was noted that no provision had been made in the Director-General's proposals in the Program of Work and Budget of the Organization for 1968/69 to cover the costs of such a Congress. In view of the estimated magnitude of these costs it was considered unlikely that they could be accommodated within the Regular Program budget of the Organization. It would therefore be necessary to arrange for external financing.
- 81. In the absence of specific proposals for an agenda, and for the other reasons stated above, the Committee was unable to take a firm decision on the proposal at its present session, and suggested to the Director-General to consult Member Nations in this matter; and, in order to enable the Committee to consider this matter further, to prepare for consideration at its next Session an analysis of objectives, agenda, timing and means of financing, taking into account the expressed views of Member Nations.

# Development and Coordination of Regional Fishery Statistics

- 82. The Committee considered Secretariat documents COFI/67/9 and 9 Sup.1, which outlined the activities of the Department of Fisheries in the field of fishery statistics, and which also pointed out some major deficiencies in available statistics suggesting certain courses of action.
- 83. The Committee reaffirmed the importance of fishery statistics as an essential pre-requisite for the development of fisheries and for their conservation; and noted that there were basic weaknesses in systems for the collection of statistics and also for their analysis in many parts of the world in countries at all stages of development.
- 84. The Committee therefore expressed the view that the Department of Fisheries should pursue any or all of the following courses of action as may be appropriate:
- 1. Establishment of regional or group country working parties on fishery statistics patterned on the CARPAS Working Party on Fishery Statistics and Biological Sampling or the Continuing Working Party on Fishery Statistics in the North Atlantic Area (CWP);
- 2. Organization of more frequent seminars or training centres in areas where countries have neither trained personnel nor funds to establish appropriate statistical systems;
- 3. Inclusion in UNDP-TA requests by Member Nations of statistical experts for national government offices, or by groups of nations, to assist with statistical organization;
- 4. Consultation with the Continuing Working Party on Fishery Statistics in the North Atlantic on problems outside the North Atlantic area;
- 5. Working towards greater comparability of fishery Statistics.

#### DATE, PLACE AND AGENDA OF NEXT SESSION

85. The Committee in conformity with Rule XXX. 4 and 5 of the General Rules of the Organization and Rule II.1 of its Rules of Procedure decided to hold its Third Session in Rome about April 1968. In accordance with Rule XXXIV - 3 (b) of the General Rules of the Organization, the Committee left the precise timing to the Director-General in consultation with the Chairman, and suggested that the Session should last about one week; the possibility of holding it from mid-week over a weekend should be considered.

# ESTABLISHMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES, SUBSIDIARY WORKING PARTIES OR STUDY GROUPS UNDER RULE XXX-10

- 86. The Committee decided that the Ad Hoc Working Party on the Southeast Pacific established during this Session (para. 5 above) having presented its report (para. 55), should cease to exist.
- 87. The Committee established (para. 8) one new subsidiary body by Resolution COFI 2/2 attached as Appendix E to this report; namely the "Sub-Committee on Education and Training in the Field of Fisheries".

- 88. The Committee decided that, since the Working Party on the Rational Utilization of the Fishery Resources of the Indian Ocean, which was established at the Committee's First Session, had completed its work with the presentation (para. 61) of its report (COFI/67/6), it should cease to exist.
- 89. The Committee decided (para. 40) that the Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries should continue in existence.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

- 90. Under this head, the Observer from Kuwait requested the Committee to consider some fishery problems in the Culf bounded by Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and other countries, and it was decided that the Director-General be asked to assemble such information as could be made available by the various countries concerned with the fisheries of the area, for consideration by the Indian Coean Fishery Commission if it were established, and if not by the Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations Concerned with Fisheries.
- 91. The Committee, having no further business to transact, adopted its report.

#### MATTERS REQUIRING THE ATTENTION OF THE FAO COUNCIL

- 92. The following matters specifically require the attention of the Council:
- (a) Matters of Substance upon which Council Action is Required
  - i) Recommendation to the Council that it consider formulating an amendment to Article VI.1 of the Constitution and, as necessary, amendments to related rules, principles and procedures so as to provide for the expeditious establishment of regional commissions concerned with fisheries having certain characteristics (paras. 38-39);
  - ii) Recommendation to the Council that it authorise the Director-General to establish a Committee of selected Member Nations under Article VI.2 of the Constitution for the Eastern Middle Atlantic area (paras. 42 46);
  - iii) Draft resolution (para. 54) amending the statutes of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Commission for the South West Atlantic (CARPAS) to transform it from a regional commission to a commission open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of FAO.
  - iv) The Committee's request to the Director-General to place before the Council as expeditiously as possible the draft of a resolution which would have the effect of establishing an Indian Ocean Fishery Commission (parase 61-69).
- (b) Subjects upon which some discussion in the Council might provide useful guidance for further consideration by the Committee.
  - i) The Committee's consideration of the question of its membership referred to it by the Council (para. 37);
  - ii) The Committee's request to the Director-General to prepare the draft of an international convention providing for a flahery body for the Southeast Atlantic along the lines of the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunes (paras. 48 49);

- 111) The Committee's view that the Department of Fisheries should in its work on the development and coordination of regional fishery statistics pursue, among other courses, that of establishing regional or group country working parties on the subject . (para. 84)
- (c) Problems of overlapping and inter-relationship between groups within FAO
  - 1) The Committee noted certain differences in function between the Technical Committee on Fisheries and itself, and expressed views on its own working methods (paras. 33-34).

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### APPENDIX B

#### ACENDA

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Session
- 2. Matters considered by the Forty-Seventh Session of the FAO Council
  - (a) The role of the Technical Committee on Fisheries of the Conference and the Committee on Fisheries
  - (b) Adoption of the amended Rules of Procedure
  - (c) Membership in the Committee on Fisheries
- 3. International Co-operation in Fisheries
  - (a) Report of Sub-Committee on the Development of Co-operation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries
  - (b) Report of Working Party on the Rational Utilization of the Fishery Resources of the Indian Ocean
  - (c) U.N. Resolution on Development of Natural Resources Resources of the Sea
  - (d) World Conference on the Rational Development and Conservation of Fishery Resources
  - (e) Development and co-ordination of regional fishery statistics
- 4. Matters of Righ Priority in the Program of Work of the Committee on Fisheries
  - (a) Education and training in the field of fisheries
  - (b) Utilization of fishery resources
  - (c) Economic aspects of fishery management
  - (d) World appraisal of fishery resources
  - (a) Marine Pollution

- 5. Matters arising from the Fourth Session of the Advisory Committee on Marine Resources Research (ACMRR)
- 6. Proposed Activities of the Department of Fisheries during 1968/69
- 7. Establishment of Sub-Committees, Subsidiary Working Parties or Study Groups under Rule XXX-10
- 8. Date, Place and Agenda of Next Session
- 9. Any other Business
- 10. Adoption of Report and Recommendations

## APPENDIX C

## LIST OF DOCUMENTS

COFI/67/1		Provisional Agenda
COFI/67/2		Actions and information arising from the Forty-Seventh Session of the FAO Council (17 - 28 October 1966)
COFI/67/3		Membership in Committee on Commodity Problems and Committee on Fisheries
COFI/67/4		Regional fishery bodies within the framework of FAO
COFI/67/5		Report of the First Session of the Committee on Fisheries Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries
COFI/67/6		Report of the First Session of the Committee on Fisheries Working Party on the Rational Utilization of the Fishery Resources of the Indian Ocean
COFI/67/7		UN Resolution on Development of Natural Resources - Resources of the Sea
7,	Sup.l	Appendices to COFI/67/7
7,	Sup.2	Further developments
cofi/67/8		Notes on a World Fishery Congress
cofi/67/9	,	Development and coordination of national, regional and international fishery statistics
9,	Sup.1	Biological statistics

COFI/67/10	Education and training in the field of fisheries			
COFI/67/11	The utilization of fishery resources			
COFI/67/12	The economic aspects of fishery management			
cofi/67/13	World appraisal of fishery resources			
COFI/67/14	Marine pollution			
14, Sup.1	Marine pollution			
cofi/67/15	Matters arising from the Fourth Session of the FAO Advisory Committee on Marine Resources Research			
15, Sup.1	Annexures to COFI/67/15			
15, Cor.1	Corrigenda			
COFI/67/16	Program of Work of the Department of Fisheries (by functions)			
COFI/67/17	Annotated Provisional Agenda			
COFI/67/18	Proposals for the establishment of international fishery bodies in the middle and southeast Atlantic			
COFI/67/19	Revision of the Statutes of the FAO Regional Fisheries Advisory Commission for the South West Atlantic (CARPAS)			

cofi/67/Inf. 1	Extract from the Director-General's Program of Work and Budget for 1968-69, Chapter relating to the Department of Fisheries
cofi/67/Inf. 2	Summary of current fishery field projects
cofi/67/Inf. 3	Conferences and training centres organized by the Department of Fisheries
COFI/67/Inf. 4	Provisional Timetable
cofi/67/Inf. 5	List of participants (provisional)
COFI/67/Inf. 6	List of documents

cofi/67/Inf. 7	Information for Delegates
cofi/67/inf. 8	Appointments for visitors during current session
cofi/67/Inf. 9	Rational utilization of the fishery resources of the eastern central Atlantic and the southeastern Atlantic
COFI/67/Inf. 10	FAO Regional Fisheries Advisory Commission for the South West Atlantic (CARPAS), revision of Statutes
COFI/67/Inf. 11	Rational utilization of the fishery resources of the southeast Pacific
COFI/67/Inf. 12	Statutes of the Committee on Fisheries
cofi/67/Inf. 13	Methods of work of the FAO Council and of its Committees
COFI/67/Inf. 14	Information on types of measures for improving rational fishery exploitation in the southeast Pacific

#### APPENDIX D

## RESOLUTION No. COFI/2/1

# Establishment of an ad hoo Working Party on the Southeast Pacific

#### THE COMMITTEE

#### Agreeing

with the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee on the Development of Cooperation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries regarding consideration of measures for improving rational fishery exploitation in the South East Pacific (Section 4c of COFI/67/5)

#### Hereby establishes

in accordance with Rule XXX-10 of the General Rules of the Organization and Rule VII of the Committee's Rules of Procedure, and ad hoc Working Party to be known as the ad hoc Working Party on the Southeast Pacific to:

- (a) examine in the light of the Report of the Sub-Committee and the background documentation provided by the Secretariat
  - 1) problems of immediate and direct concern mainly to Chile, Ecuador and Peru which require consultation and coordination among these countries
  - 2) problems of an international character concerning the study and rational management and utilization of resources in the Southeast Pacific which are of wider concern;
- (b) consider the possibility of creating a continuing subsidiary body of the Committee on Fisheries or some other continuing arrangment within the framework of FAO to stimulate and coordinate collaboration among the countries concerned with the problems mentioned under (a 1) above;
- (c) bear in mind, as regards the problems which are international in character in the Southeast Pacific, the need to secure active participation of all countries carrying out fishing or resarch activities in the area and to consider the possibility of establishing under the auspices of FAO a fishery body with wide membership;
- (d) to make specific recommentations to the Committee at its present Session regarding arrangements to be made or bodies to be established to deal with the problems enumerated above.

## Determines

that the <u>ad hoc</u> Working Party shall be composed of representatives of Chile, Ecuador Japan, Peru and United States of America and that it may invite representatives or observers of other countries or international organizations concerned to attend some or all of its Sessions.

#### APPENDIXE

## RESOLUTION NO. COFI/2/2

## Sub-Committee on Fishery Education and Training

#### THE COMMITTEE

#### Implementing

its conclusion that the establishment of a Sub-Committee on fishery education and training would be useful in carrying out its responsibilities,

#### Hereby establishes

in accordance with Rule XXX-10 of the General Rules of the Organization and Rule VII of the Committee's Rules of Procedure, a Sub-Committee to be known as the Sub-Committee on Fishery Education and Training, the statutes of which shall be as follows:

#### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Sub-Committee shall be to study the problems of fishery education and training and the most appropriate and effective future action to be taken to overcome them and to report thereon to the Committee on Fisheries.

#### 2. Terms of Reference

The activities of the Sub-Committee shall in particular include the following:

- (a) to identify the needs for fishery education and training in developing countries with particular reference to the fields to be covered, to the manpower requirements for fishery development and to the kinds of education and training required for the various fields of fishery activity.
- (b) to advise on the most suitable means of meeting these needs and in particular advising on: formulation of curricula; the problem of recruitment and training of instructors; the supply of the training equipment (including fishery training vessels); instruction handbooks, manuals and textbooks; the facilities in terms of buildings and accommodation for trainees; and the development of facilities for training of fisheries personnel of developing countries.
- (c) to advise on the practicability of setting up new institutions or developing or expanding existing institutions to meet the needs of fishery education and training, through the assistance of multilateral or bilateral programs, and on a national, subregional or regional basis.

## 3. Membership

Membership in the Sub-Committee shall consist of representatives of such members of the Committee on Fisheries as indicate a wish to participate in the Sub-Committee's work. Members should be represented by experts in the field of education and training.

Any Member Nation of FAO that is not a moder of the Sub-Committee or any Associate Member, after having notified the Director-General of its intention, may attend sessions of the Sub-Committee in an observer capacity and participate in the work of the Sub-Committee at the discretion of the Chairman. Interested intergovernmental organizations, and in particular Unesco and ILO, should also be invited to participate.

## APPENDIX F

# PROPOSALS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL FISHERY BODIES IN THE EASTERN MIDDLE AND SOUTHEASTERN ATLANTIC

#### SUMMARY

This paper reviews the fishery situation in the Eastern Middle Atlantic area and the Southeastern area and defines these areas; lists the main fish species, and presents suggestions for the establishment of an international fishery body for each area in lieu of the existing FAO Regional Fisheries Commission for Western Africa. A proposal is also made for periodic ad hoc meetings of fishery officers and technicians from West African countries on selected fishery problems to assist their development in this field.

#### INTRODUCTION

1. During its First Session the Sub-Committee on the Development of Co-operation with International Organizations concerned with Fisheries noted the rapid development of fishing in the Eastern Middle and Southeastern Atlantic, as well as the rather large number of countries involved, and noted further that some concern was already being felt as to the status of the stocks on which those fisheries depended. The Sub-Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare, for consideration by the Committee on Fisheries at its Second Session, proposals for the establishment of an international body or bodies with responsibilities relating to these areas, including a definition of the sea areas and stocks to be dealt with, as well as the desirable status, composition and terms of reference of the body or bodies (Ref. COFI/67/5).

#### DEFINITION OF THE SEA AREAS

- 2. From the fishery point of view the waters of the Eastern Atlantic stretching from Punta Marroqui, the southernmost point of the European continent, to the Antarotic, can be divided into two areas:
  - (a) the Eastern Middle Atlantic area
  - (b) the Southeastern Atlantic area

#### (a) The Eastern Middle Atlantic Area

- 3. The northern boundary would be a line from Punta Marroqui, due west along the latitude 36°N, coinciding with the Southern boundary of the area of responsibility of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC). The resources of the warm part of the central Gulf of Guinea and those of the regions to the south influenced by the cold waters of the northward flowing Benguela current are distinct from each other with little overlap around the Congo River mouth (about 6°S latitude). ACMRR1 at its Fourth Session, suggested that the resources differ at approximately southwards and northwards of the Congo River mouth. For statistical purposes FAO at present makes an arbitrary separation at 10°S latitude, purely for the convenience of adopting a 10° module in regions where regional fishery bodies do not exist, or, if existing, have not established statutory boundaries.
- 4. The arbitrary western boundary used by FAO for statistical purposes is a line proceeding from  $36^{\circ}$ N,  $40^{\circ}$ W southwards to  $10^{\circ}$ N, thence eastwards to  $30^{\circ}$ W, thence southwards to the equator, thence eastwards to  $20^{\circ}$ W, thence southwards to the southern boundary latitude of the area. 2/

#### (b) The Southeastern Atlantic Area

- 5. The northern boundary would presumably be the same as the southern boundary of the Eastern Middle Atlantic area. A convenient southern boundary in the Antarotic region, if it is desired to establish one, might be considered at approximately 60°S latitude.
- 6. The geographical eastern boundary between the Atlantic and Indian Oceans is generally considered to be a line drawn due south along 20°E longitude from the coast of Africa. However, this line divides the stocks which mix with the Southeastern Atlantic stocks. It seems, therefore, more appropriate from the fishery point of view to consider an eastern boundary at, say, 30° to 40°E longitude.
- 7. The western boundary is taken by FAO for statistical purposes arbitrarily at  $20^{\circ}\text{W}$  longitude.

#### FISH STOCKS

8. The following species and groups are of importance:

<sup>1/</sup> Advisory Committee on Marine Resources Research

<sup>2/</sup> See map in Appendix II

## (a) Eastern Middle Atlantic Area

Sardina pilchardus - sardine

Sardinella aurita, S. eba - sardinella

Ethmalosa fimbriata - bonga

Ilisha africana

Trachurus sp. - borse mackerel

Brachydeuterus auritus - bigeye

Galecides decadactylus - shine nose

Pseudotolithus senegalensis, P. typus - croaker

Pagrus ehrenbergi - bream

Paracubiceps sp.

Priacanthus arinatus

Dentex angolensis, D. congolensis - bream

Pagellus coupei - bream

Arius spp. - catfish

Cynoglossus spp.

Sparidae - bream

Lutjanidae - snapper

Merluccius spp. - bake

Tunas, mainly yellowfin tuna

Penaeus duorarum and other shallow water (penaeids) shrimps

Panulirus spp. - spiny lobster

Squida

## (b) Southeastern Atlantic Area

Sardinops ocellata - sardine

Sardinella spp. - sardinella

Merluocius capensis - hake

Trachurus trachurus - horse mackerel

Thyrsites atun - snake mackerel, snoek

Sparidae

Jasus spp. - rock lobster

#### BODY OR BODIES TO BE ESTABLISHED

- 9. The Sub-Committee, recognizing that the FAO Regional Fisheries Commission for Western Africa was not operational, requested the Secretariat, as indicated in the Introduction of this paper, to submit proposals regarding the desirable status, composition and terms of reference of the body or bodies which need to be established in this region.
- 10. The Fourth FAO Regional Conference for Africa (Abidjan 9-19 November 1966) emphasized that:
  - "The approach to this problem should be determined by the natural delimitations of the stocks and attention was drawn to the differing problems of the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, the Southeast Atlantic, the tropical eastern Atlantic from the Congo River mouth northward to Morocco, and the various major inland water basins" (See Appendix I)
- The Sub-Committee agreed that a division of the sea region under consideration may be necessary for purposes of both study and management. As indicated on page to finis paper, from the zoogeographical point of view the waters of the region can be divided into two areas. In view of the differences in the fisheries it is suggested that two bodies be established for the region; one for the Eastern Middle Atlantic area, with an area of competence extending from 36°N latitude to north of the Congo River mouth (about 6°S latitude) and with a western boundary approximately to that presently used for statistical purposes; the other for the Southeastern Atlantic area extending southwards from the latitude north of the Congo River mouth and to about 20°N and 30° to 40°E longitude. Its southern boundary might be at about 60°S latitude, or could be left undefined.

#### (a) The Eastern Middle Atlantic Area

- 12. The Sub-Committee considered it essential that both the coastal countries concerned and the other countries fishing in the area or participating in the exploration of its resources should fully participate in the work of the body to be established. The existing FAO Regional Fisheries Commission for Western Africa is established as a regional body under Article VI-1 of the FAO Constitution, which does not at present allow participation by States other than those designated as within the region according to a landward-locking definition of the "region". The establishment is suggested of a replacement body composed of selected Member Nations, under Article VI-2 of the FAO Constitution. In drafting its terms of reference consideration would be given to those of the existing Commission, but probably excluding inland fisheries.
- 13. The establishment of a Committee of selected Member Nations under Article VI-2 of the FAO Constitution is suggested as an interim measure. The Director-General of FAO, when selecting members of the suggested Committee, should invite participation of African states of the region and also those FAO Member Nations fishing or carrying out research in the sea area concerned, whose contribution to the work of the Committee he deems essential or desirable.

- 14. The possibility, at a later stage, of changing the constitutional basis of the Committee by setting it up as a body under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution, might be considered. This would allow for membership of all FAO Member Nations and also, by a two-thirds majority of its membership, of such non-Member Nations of FAO which are members of the United Nations. In addition, it would enable the body, if it so decided, to have an autonomous budget and carry out joint projects and programs.
- 15. Bodies of that type have to be established on the basis of a treaty drawn up in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article XIV of the Constitution. This procedure requires that a technical meeting of Member Nations be convened to assist in the preparation of a treaty. The draft text of the treaty has to be submitted by the Director-General to the Conference for approval and submission to Member Nations so that those wishing to do so could become parties thereto in accordance with their constitutional procedures.
- 16. Reference should also be made to document COFI/67/4, "Regional Fishery Bodies within the Framework of FAO", which suggests an amendment to Article VI of the FAO Constitution with a view to making possible the establishment of bodies relating to the fisheries of a particular sea region and open to all Member Nations and associated Members and such non-Member Nations of the Organization as are members of the United Nations that have an interest in the fisheries in the sea area covered by the regional commission.
- 17. Mention should be made that Article VI bodies cannot have an autonomous budget based on mandatory contributions as laid down in a scale of contributions. If the members of the body consider, however, that certain joint activities should be undertaken, they could make voluntary contributions to a trust fund, as provided for in Financial Regulation 6.7, to be administered by the Director-General in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Organization. An enabling provision to this effect would, however, have to be included in the terms of reference of the body concerned.
- 18. It should be noted that the establishment of fishery bodies under Article VI in its present or proposed new form does not require the drawing up and adoption of an international treaty. All that is necessary is a decision by the Conference or Council of the Organization.
- 19. The Fourth FAO Regional Conference for Africa noted the need for representatives of West African countries (coastal and inland) to meet to discuss their own problems and jointly to develop their fishery policies. Therefore, in addition to setting up the Committee proposed above, FAO would be required to make provisions to convene from time to time ad hoc meetings to this end.

#### (b) Southeastern Atlantic Area

- 20. During its First Session the Committee on Fisheries, in referring to the problems of the Southeastern Atlantic, noted that a new initiative is required, in view of the rapidly increasing fishing intensity in that area by fishing fleets from many nations. As to the type of body to be established the Committee pointed out that in the field of research and conservation the existing north Atlantic bodies as well as the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas might be taken as good examples.
- 21. To establish for the Southeastern Atlantic a fishery body having a potentially management function as do the non-FAO bodies functioning in the north Atlantic and the Atlantic Tuna Commission, it would be necessary for all the states now fishing in the area to adopt an international convention to which all the states now interested in the fisheries of the area could be parties. The FAO Secretariat might prepare, bearing in mind the experience gained in drafting the International Convention for

the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, a draft convention providing for the setting up of a fishery body for the Southeastern Atlantic. This draft convention could be circulated for comments to all nations concerned, including both FAO Members and non-Member Nations which are Members of the UN or of other specialized agencies. In the light of the comments received on the Secretariat's draft, the Director-General of FAO in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Fisheries, could decide whether or not to convene a Working Party to review the draft convention further prior to the convening of a Conference of Plenipotentiaries for the purpose of discussing, amending as necessary, and adopting it. The Director-General might be requested to consult with interested governments about the procedure to be followed to convene such a Conference or to take such other measures as he deems appropriate.

APPENDIX I

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE FOURTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA

"108. The responsibility of all countries fishing a common resource to contribute to investigations directed to its assessment and elucidation of the effects of fishing on it, and to participate in international agreements for its conservation on a scientific basis was emphasized. A prime need in this regard is for the improvement and collation of statistics on catches and fishing effort, by different gears, species, seasons and zones, and for corresponding biological statistics on the basis of definitions and standards to be suggested by FAO. The approach to this problem should be determined by the natural delimitations of the stocks and attention was drawn to the differing problems of the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, the Southeast Atlantic, the tropical eastern Atlantic from the Congo River mouth northwards to Morocco, and the various major inland water basins."

"109. The FAO Committee on Fisheries and its subsidiary bodies, as well as the Advisory Committee on Marine Resources Research, should give urgent attention to these problems and especially where, as in the eastern Atlantic, the stocks are being subject to greatly intensified, and as yet undisciplined, exploitation both by the developing African fleets and by fleets from non-African countries. It was pointed out that both the consequent reduction in level of stocks and the increased fish landings in Africa by foreign vessels, while contributing to protein food supplies, can add to the difficulties of further development of the local fisheries, and bring instability in supply. Furthermore, the African countries have an interest in the establishment of cooperation and management in areas where they do not fish at present but where they may wish to in the future."

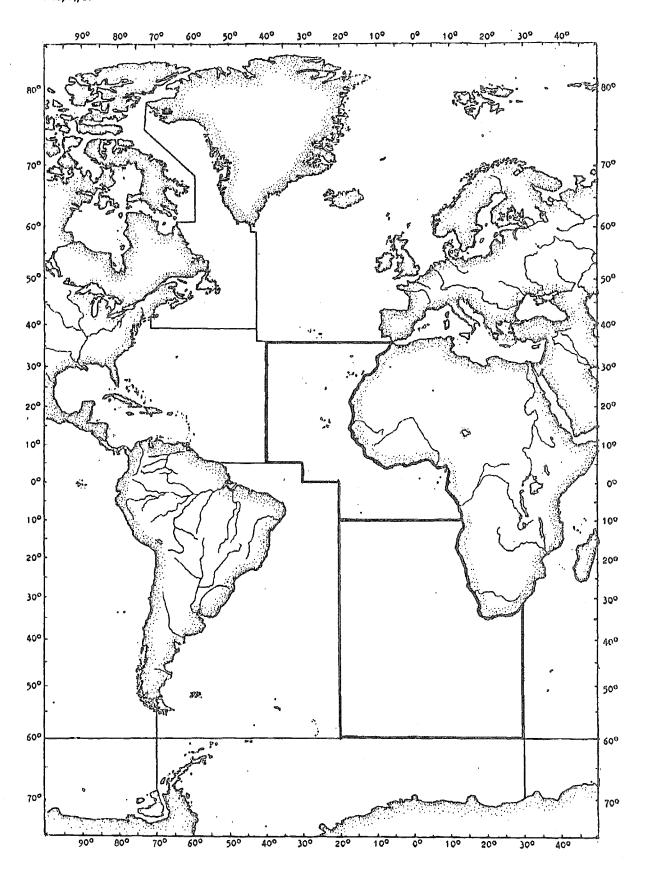
"15. The Technical Conference should consider alternative arrangements which might include the establishment of a replacement body for the Regional Fisheries Commission for West Africa, or an appropriate revision of its statutes. The Technical Conference should give attention also to the development of African fisheries in the eastern tropical Atlantic, and also to common problems of the inland waters of the sub-region. Elsewhere, cooperation between riparian countries in developing and conserving the resources of inland water basins was necessary and the formation of suitable international bodies to facilitate this should be encouraged. Such cooperation should, however, not be confined to stock assessment and regulation of fishing, but should include also marketing arrangements."

#### Recommendations

"To request the Technical Conference on the Fisheries of West African Countries (1967) to consider alternative arrangements for prosecuting the tasks for which the RFCWA has been established, and to give attention to the development of African fisheries in the eastern tropical Atlantic and to the common problems of the inland waters of the sub-region (115)"

"To encourage the formation of suitable international bodies to facilitate cooperation between riparian countries in developing and conserving the fishery resources of inland water basins and in marketing the catches." (115)"

<sup>1/</sup> FAO Technical Conference on the Fisheries of West African Countries, to be convened in Dakar, Senegal, during the summer of 1967



FAO FIGHING AREAS FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES