

~~NINTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING OF THE
CONSERVATION OF YELLOWFIN TUNA~~

OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA - April 23-24,
1970

~~A G E N D A~~

1. Opening of the Meeting by the Provisional Chairman ✓
2. Appointment of a Committee on Credentials ✓
3. Election of Officers ✓
4. Approval of Agenda ✓
5. Evaluation of the Implementation of the Recommendations of the IATTC in 1969. ✓
6. Consideration of Measures for Implementation of the Recommendations of IATTC in 1970-71. ✓
7. Other Business ✓
8. Closing Remarks ✓

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REPORT OF THE NINTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING

on the

CONSERVATION OF YELLOWFIN TUNA

at

Ottawa, Ontario
April 23-25, 1970

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1. OPENING OF MEETING:

The meeting was opened by the Provisional Chairman, Dr. A. W.H. Needler (Canada), who welcomed the delegates.

2. CREDENTIALS:

A committee consisting of Mr. V.G. Van Campen (U.S.A.) and Mr. A. Zarur (Mexico) examined the credentials. The committee's report was accepted and is attached as ANNEX 1 together with a list of the accredited delegates, observers, and advisers.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

On motions from the delegates, Dr. A.W.H. Needler (Canada) was elected as Chairman, and Dr. G.F.M. Smith (Canada) as rapporteur.

4. AGENDA:

The agenda attached as ANNEX 2 was adopted.

5. EVALUATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The United States reported that the incidental catch, after quota, was within the 15% allowance. Six vessels were charged with regulation infringements and have been or are being dealt with.

Mexico reported that some vessels had exceeded the 4,000-ton allowance because they had not been informed in time. Steps have been taken so that this will not be repeated.

Costa Rica reported no complications.

Canada reported taking less than the 4,000-ton allowance.

Japan reported taking less than the 15% allowance after closure.

6. CONSIDERATION OF MEASURES FOR 1970-71:

Mexico stated that it was in need, for domestic reasons, of an allowance substantially larger than the current 4,000 tons for vessels less than 300 tons capacity. During the detailed discussion of Mexico's request, the following points became apparent:-

The request from Mexico is on the basis of the following domestic considerations:-

- (a) Mexico is developing new fishing capacity with eight vessels on order, four of which are arriving this year and two of the vessels ordered will have 800-ton capacity;
- (b) Mexico possesses incompletely used processing capacity;
- (c) Mexico has an unsatisfied domestic market for tuna.

Concern was expressed by the delegations from the United States, Costa Rica, and Japan for the increased risk of over-fishing if the 1970 catch were to be now increased to much more than the current estimate of 127 thousand short tons. The Commission staff explained this risk and the method of arriving at estimates for closure time and the catch from allowances. It became apparent during these discussions that there were some discrepancies between the Commission's factual statistics and those of some countries. To resolve this difficulty, the Commission's staff was requested to produce a table showing the catch under quota, the catch under the 15% allowance, and the catch under the 4,000-ton allowance, by all countries, and to distribute this information to all countries as soon as possible.

It appeared from the discussion that the only countries likely to be in a position to take full advantage of an increase in allowance in excess of 4,000 tons would be Mexico and the United States.

The administratively unsatisfactory emergency nature of the present request in the midst of the fishing year caused several delegates to express the need for an intergovernmental meeting to examine and explore other and more acceptable means of regulating the tuna fishery.

The Chairman, while expressing concern over the risk from over-exploitation, was sympathetic to the special needs of a coastal state with established but developing fisheries, serviced by small and relatively immobile vessels.

As an impasse seemed to be developing, the Chairman suggested that the meeting recess so that more informal discussions might take place between three delegates from Mexico, three from the United States, and the Chairman.

The meeting recessed for this purpose at 11:00 a.m., April 24. During the recess, a resolution was prepared for consideration of the meeting.

The draft resolution was ready for discussion at 9:45 a.m., April 25. The meeting reconvened under the Chairmanship of Mr. E.B. Young (Canada) in the absence of Dr. Needler. The draft resolution was debated, amended, and finally approved as it appears in ANNEX 3.

The Costan Rican delegation indicated in addition that it was in favour of recognizing special rights for coastal countries. Nevertheless it emphasized that this aspect should be very well defined in order to avoid misunderstandings of proposals, which in one way or another could establish prejudicial precedents for conservation programs.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was a short discussion of the nature of the inter-governmental meeting proposed in the resolution and its rules of procedure. It seemed to be agreed that such a meeting should be of an ad hoc nature and develop its own informal procedures.

8. CLOSING REMARKS

The Acting Chairman thanked the delegates and staff, and adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m., April 25, 1970.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman:

The Committee on Credentials has examined the credentials submitted to it and has found them all in good order. The Committee is pleased to report to the Chair that the Governments of Canada, Costa Rica, Japan, Mexico, Panama, and the United States are represented at the Ninth Intergovernmental Meeting on Conservation of Yellowfin Tuna by duly accredited Delegates and the Governments of Chile and Peru by duly designated Observers.

LIST OF ACCREDITED DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS AND ADVISERS

CANADA:

Delegates: — Dr. A.W.H. Needler
Mr. E.B. Young
Dr. G.F.M. Smith
Dr. P.A. Larkin (absent)

CHILE:

Observers: — Mr. E. Illanes
Mr. R. Mardones

COSTA RICA:

Delegates: — Mr. M.H. Lopez

JAPAN:

Delegates — Mr. K. Hasegawa
Mr. R. Tanabe

Advisers: — Mr. S. Sugano
Mr. S. Shimura

MEXICO:

Delegates: — Miss M.E. Téllez
Mr. A. Cervantes
Mr. A. Zarur

Adviser: — Mr. M. Zubieta

PANAMA:

Delegate: — Mrs. R.C. de Rojas

PERU:

Observer: — Mr. X. Escudero

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Delegates: — Hon. D.I. McKernan
Hon. J.L. McHugh (absent)

Advisers: — Hon. W.H. Holmstrom
Hon. D.P. Loker
Mr. G.B. Gross
Mr. D.R. Moore
Mr. W.M. Terry
Mr. W.G. Van Campen
Mr. R.C. Wilson

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OUR FILE NO.
NOTRE DOSSIER NO

784-12-3

YOUR FILE NO.
VOTRE DOSSIER NO

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
MINISTÈRE DES PÊCHES ET DES FORÊTS
OTTAWA 8

April 30, 1970

SJFN

RE: NINTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING ON THE
CONSERVATION OF YELLOWFIN TUNA - Ottawa, 1970.

MAY 4 1970

Attached is a draft copy of the Report of the Ninth Inter-governmental meeting on the Conservation of Yellowfin Tuna. Please make your suggestions for change on the draft copy and return to me.

I hope to be able to distribute the final report by the middle of May. Mexico and Costa Rica are receiving drafts in both English and Spanish.

This letter is being sent to the following persons:-

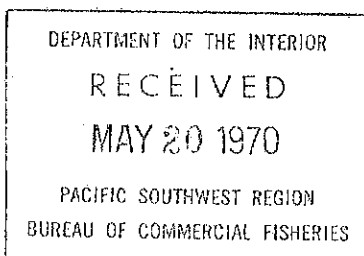
Mr. Milton H. López,
Chief of Fisheries and Wildlife,
Ministry of Agriculture
and Livestock,
San José, Costa Rica.

Mr. V. G. Van Campen,
Foreign Affairs Officer,
Room 3214,
Department of State,
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Miss María Emilia Téllez,
Secretaria de Relaciones
Exteriores,
Ave. Noroalco 1,
Mexico, D.F.

Mr. K. Hasegawa,
First Secretary,
Embassy of Japan,
75 Albert Street,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dr. A. W. H. Needler,
Deputy Minister,
Department of Fisheries and Forestry,
Confederation Heights,
Ottawa 8, Ontario.



G. F. M. Smith

G. F. M. Smith,
International Fisheries Office.

Encls.

RESOLUTION OF THE NINTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING ON THE
CONSERVATION OF YELLOWFIN TUNA

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CONSIDERING:

That the present regulatory system for the conservation of the yellowfin tuna stocks within the Regulatory Area of the IATTC is not completely satisfactory, for various reasons, to the member and co-operating Governments, be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the Commission be asked to amend its conservation recommendations for yellowfin tuna in the 1970 fishing season so as to continue the special allowance of 4,000 short tons for vessels of 300 short tons carrying capacity and less and establish an additional allowance of 2,000 short tons to be distributed by each Government as it sees fit among its vessels in IATTC Classes I to V inclusive, with the understanding that these allowances are of an emergency nature and adopted only for 1970.

2. That a special Intergovernmental Meeting be convened in the summer of 1970, at a place to be determined by the interested Governments, for the purpose of considering alternative regulatory systems which would be more equitable in the impact on the fisheries of the interested countries, as well as other matters relating to the yellowfin tuna fishery in the Convention Area which may be proposed, including a possible revision of the special allowance recommended above.

3. That the following paragraph be added to the end of Section 4 of the Commission's conservation resolution:

"After the closure of the yellowfin tuna fishery, the Governments of the Contracting Parties and co-operating countries may permit their flag vessels to land yellowfin tuna without restriction in any country described in the preceding paragraph which has tuna canning facilities, until such time as the total amount of yellowfin tuna landed in such country during the current year reaches 1,000 short tons."

D R A F T

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Delegate: -- Mrs. R. C. de Rojas

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