

**THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT
OF POLLOCK RESOURCES IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA**

Scientific and Technical Committee

**November 30-December 2, 1998
Mita Kaigisho Conference Facility
Tokyo, Japan**

Agenda

1. Opening Remarks
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Report of the Science Group
5. Report of the Enforcement/Management Group
6. Discussion of Issues from the Science Group
 - 6.1. Work Plan for 1999
 - 6.1.1. Data Exchanges
 - 6.1.2. Trial Fishing Plans
 - 6.1.3. Cooperative Research Plans
 - 6.1.4. Other Issues
 - 6.1. Allowable Harvest Level (AHL)
7. Discussion of Issues from the Enforcement/Management Group
 - 7.1. Trial Fishing Terms and Conditions for 1999
 - 7.2. Number and priority placement of observers required by Article XI
 - 7.3. Methods to determine catch weight
 - 7.4. Several components of a management system (Management plan, fishing season, etc.)
 - 7.5. Source of data for management
8. Discussion of Issues from the Procedure Group
 - 8.1. Transparency issues
9. Other Matters and Recommendations
 - 9.1. Meeting Schedule
 - 9.2. Other Matters
10. Report to the Annual Conference
11. Closing Remarks

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**NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 2
TOKYO, JAPAN**

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(Head of the Delegation)

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Mr.Liu Quianfei	Official Division of International Cooperation Bureau of Fisheries Ministry of Agriculture
Mr. Zhou Maoliang	Deputy General-Manager Shanghai Deep Sea Fisheries Co.

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- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
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Embassy of the Republic of Korea
Tokyo, Japan |
| Mr. Joon Suk Kang | Deputy Director
International Organization Office
Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
(MOMAF) |
| Mr. Won Seok Yang | Senior Fishery Scientist
Deep-Sea Resources Division
National Fisheries Research and
Development Institute (NFRDI) |
| Mr. Tae Won Kim | Deputy Manager
Trawl Fishery Dep.
Korean Deep Sea fisheries Association |

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Chief Expert, Maritime Administration
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Mr. Stanislaw Kasperk

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Mr. I. Mikhno	Department of Fisheries of the Russian Federation
Mr. S. Safronov	Kamchatka Fishery Enforcement Service (Kamchatrybvod)
Mr. E.Kabanov	Department of Fisheries of Kamchatka region
Mr. B.Sharapov	Far Eastern Fishery Company (Dalryba)
Dr. O.Zolotov	Kamchatka Fisheries Research Institute
Dr. M. Stepanenko	Pacific Fisheries Research Institute
Dr. P. Balykin	Kamchatka Fisheries Research Institute
Mr. V. Nikolaev	Fisheries Representative of Russia to the Republic of Korea
Mr. Yu. Riazantsev	VNIRO Fisheries Research Institute

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Mr. William Penn Hines	National Marine Fisheries Service
Mr. David Flannagan	National Marine Fisheries Service
Dr. Gary Loh-Lee Low	National Marine Fisheries Service
LCDR. Dwight Thomas Mathers	United States Coast Guard
CAPT. J. V. O'shea	United States Coast Guard
Mr. Herbert Stetson Tinkham	United States Department of State
Mr. Neil Williamson	National Marine Fisheries Service
Ms. Dennis Austin	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mr. Francine Bennis	Alaska Marine Conservation Council
Mr. Alvin Richard Burch	Alaska Draggers Association

Mr. Richard Lauber	Chairman, North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Mr. Henry Michell	Tyson's Seafood Group
Mr. Hazel Nelson	Becharoff Corporation
Mr. Edward W. Kloth, Jr.	Regional Attache for Oceans and Natural Resources Embassy of the United States in Tokyo
Mr. Yoshio Nasaka	Embassy of the United States in Tokyo

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Mr. Yoshimi Takao	Fisheries Information Science Division National Research Institute of Fisheries Fisheries Agency, Hasaki
Mr. Kiyoshi Katsuyama	Deputy Director International Affairs Division Fisheries Policy Planning Department Fisheries Agency

Mr. Ichiro Kanto	Deputy Director International Affairs Division Fisheries Policy Planning Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Kanemaru Ijuin	Deputy Director Far Seas Fisheries Division Resources Management Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Masatake Kato	Deputy Director Resources and Environment Research Division Resources Development Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Shoichi Takayama	Far Seas Fisheries Division Resources Management Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Yoshitsugu Shikada	Resources and Environment Research Division Resources Development Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Noriaki Takagi	Executive Secretary Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association
Mr. Tetsuo Inoue	Councilor Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association
Mr. Munemoto Nakayama	Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association
Mr. Ryouji Kubo	Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association
Mr. Tetsuhiko Tanaka	Executive Director National Federation of Medium Trawlers
Mr. Hajime Onishi	Executive Secretary National Federation of Medium Trawlers

Data about Russian hydroacoustic seaching in the donut hole area and adjacent southeastern Aleutian basin and trial fishing in donut hole area in September 1998

The hydroacoustic seaching in the donut hole area and adjacent southeastern Aleutian basin conducted by TINRO-center R/V Professor Kaganovsky from September 19 to September 23, 1998 (Fig. 1).

The R/V Professor Kaganovsky used Simrad EK 500 hydroacoustic station with two frequencies - 38 KHZ and 120 KHZ.

During hydroacoustic seaching there were no any indications of pollock in the donut hole area as well in the southeastern Aleutian Basin. The Simrad EK-500 (38 KHZ) registered very weak echosounder layer on depth 400-450 meters and small, separate points on depth 100-150 meters

On echograms using 120 KHZ frequency was registered just very weak signs of plankton on depth 120-150 meters.

The three control tow conducted in the eastern part of donut hole area and there was not a single specimen of pollock in catch (Table 1). In catch on depth 400-500 meters predominated myctophids, mostly *Stenobrachius leucopsarus* and bycatch of smooth lumpsucker was taken in upper 100-150 layer.

The squid predominated among invertebrates.

Quite obviously on base these data that scale of pollock migration to Aleutian basin in 1998 very low.

THE HYDROACOUSTIC SEARCHING TRACKLINES AND POSITION OF CONTROL TOWS OF
R/V PROFESSOR KAGANOVSKY IN THE DONUT HOLE AREA IN SEPTEMBER 1998.
Figure 1

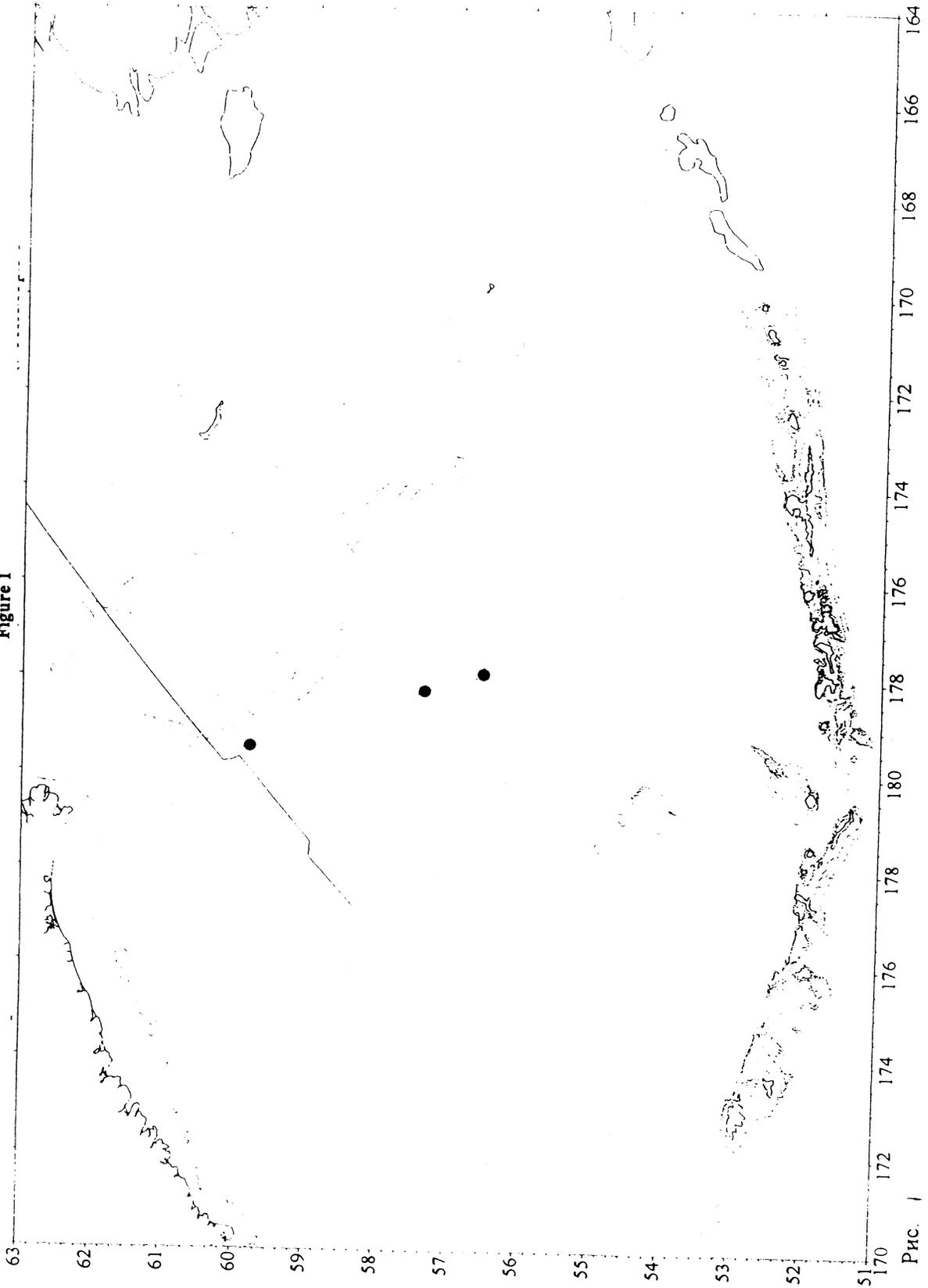


Рис. 1

Table 1

**Catch From the Donut Hole Area
September 1998
R/V Professor Kaganovsky**

Species	% Frequency	C.P.U.E. (Catch/1 hr Tow)		Total Catch	
		Number	Weight (Kg)	Number of fish	Weight (Kg)
Fish					
Aptocyclus Ventricosus	100	8	3.3	25	10.0
Stenobranchius Leucopsarus	66.0	407	2.58	1223	5.24
Chauliodus Maccouni	66.0	3	0.032	10	0.097
Leuroglossus Schmidtii	33.0	1	0.013	3	0.04
Diaphus Theta	33.0	1	0.01	3	0.03
Protomyctophum Thompsoni	33.0	1	0.002	2	0.005
Sebastes Sp.	33.0	1	0.003	2	0.01
Invertebrates					
Gonatopsis Borealia	66.0	1	0.97	3	0.292
Aegnorhynchus Victorea	100	1	0.839	4	2.517
Colycopsis Nematophorus	66.0	95	0.47	284	1.43
Galiteuthis Phyllura	33.0	1	0.015	1	0.045
Gonatus Pyros	66.0	6	0.02	18	0.06
Periphylla Periphylla	66.0	1	0.01	2	0.03
Sergestidae Sp.	33.0	3	0.003	10	0.01
Ptychogena Lactea	33.0	1	0.002	1	0.007

Trial Fishing Plan by China in Central Bering Sea in 1999

A. Status of Trial Fishing Vessel

Vessel Name	KAICHUANG	XIN XING HAI
Registration Number	D6980101	100365
Port of Registry	SHANGHAI CHINA	DALIAN CHINA
IRCS	BIEL	BAIW <i>Deepsea</i>
Owner's Name	SHANGHAI DISTANT WATER FISHERIES Co.	LIAONING DISTANT WATER FISHERIES CO.LTD
Address	NO.10 JIANGPU RD.SHANGHAI	DALIANWAN,GANJINGZIQU,DALIAN
Tons	3180	2925
Net ton	1361.39	878
Vessel length(m)	92	89.2
Vessel width (m)	15	15
Vessel depth (m)	9.55	9.75
Engine power (KW)	1764.5 X 2	2647
Manufactory	BREMEN,GERMNY	KIOJ-GDYNIA
Manufacture date	AUG.,1973	YR.1977
VMS	CODE:15462/TYPE:MAR-90	CODE:15463/TYPE:MAR-90AB

B. Trial Fishing Time: May-June,1999

C. Trial fishing Area & Method: Investigation, catch and processing; Trial fishing from west to east on the high sea of Bering Sea by mid-water trawling.

D. Catch species: Pollock

E. Other items: Comply with Fisheries Regulation related to Bering Sea.

Shanghai Working Group
Nov.18,1998

KOREAN PROPOSAL FOR AHL AND INQ IN 1999

In accordance with the Article 7 of the Convention, the Republic of Korea proposes that AHL should be established by consensus for 1999 as follows;

- AHL of Pollock is **0.13** million metric tons **(A)** at **1.67** million metric tons **(B)** in the Aleutian Basin to reopen on the Part 1, (d) of the Convention.
- Total biomass of pollock in 1998 is **0.72** million metric tons **(C)**

* **AHL** : $(C)/(B) = 43.1\%$ **(D)**

$(A) \times (D) = 56,000$ metric tons **(E)**

* **INQ** : $(E)/6$ Parties = **9,333** metric tons

Bering Sea Convention
Third Annual Conference
(Tokyo, Nov 30-Dec 4, 1998)

POLAND

Description of method:

The method is based on conversion from product weights to round weight by using product recovery rates.

How does this method account for total catch of pollock and other species, including fish that are not retained or processed ?

Depending on catch volume, the method gives direct determination of total catch of pollock, or indirect determination when combined with weight estimation of bycatch visually or by weighing of individual specimen if necessary. In case of routine discards (fish removed from net material and not forwarded to preliminary storage tanks due to unfreshness) the master or mate uses in coordination with the observer (100 % coverage) mutually agreed percentage which is usually as low that may be disregarded as being below the error level of the principal method. In case of incidental loss of fish from deck resulting of heavy weather or codend breaking the procedure of mutual agreement between master and observer is applied.

If method utilizes volumetric measurements:

The method does not utilize volumetric measurement in principle.

If method utilizes conversion....:

Specific product recovery rates are used correspondingly to the kind of product, i.e. headed and gutted fish, pinbone-in skinless filletts, pinbone-off skinless filletts, minced filletts, fishmeal. Determination of coefficients is done at factory room by vessel's commission headed by factory manager in conjunction with the observer who countersigns the protocol. A sample of 100 kgs of pollock (weighing on electronic scales, Marel brand in case of Gryf vessels) is processed on the line, skinning included and then weight of product (including damaged and substandard filletts destined for mincing) is determined using the same scales thus giving product recovery rate expressed as percentage with accuracy to second decimal place. The product recovery rate for minced filletts is determined the same way, using a sample of substandard filletts as initial amount and weighing the minced product, then dividing the weight of product by the weight of sample. Pollock roe is weighted in the form of product and its weight is added to the result of back calculation. Every ten days (or more frequently, in case of significant and rapid changes in biological status of pollock like size, maturity) the method is applied for tuning the coefficients.

Each day the amount of fishmeal production is checked for determination if it is corresponding to the amount of offal divided by 5.555 (standard coefficient of Polish made fishmeal plants). Should the amount of meal exceed its expected amount then surplus is multiplied by 5.555 and result added to the total catch determined by product recovery rates from frozen product, assuming that such surplus meal was made from substandard pollock sorted out before processing.

Describe attributes of the method:

The method reflects precisely the catch weight. It is not sensitive to sea conditions, does not require observer's presence on duty at each lifting of codend and filling of the preliminary storage tanks, avoids mistakes resulting from mixing of the of fish from various hauls in the tanks. Approved in practice. Officially used in some leading living sea resources conserving states, for example New Zealand. The method fits perfectly to the Central Bering Sea area, as based on previous experience, in commercial fishery for pollock the bycatch was practically at zero level.

Describe drawbacks of the method:

Needs a certain qualifications level of the crew officers. Needs cooperation with the observer. Limited use on the vessels not producing fishmeal or even retaining whole round fish only.

If more than one method is used....:

The described method is the preferred one. ^{Polish} ~~At least~~ vessels are able to use it without limitations.

KOREAN PROPOSAL FOR A MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL QUOTAS (INQ)

The Republic of Korea agrees to the equal division of the AHL (Annual Harvest Level) among the six Parties as a management system in the Central Bering Sea, suggested by the United States.

Part 2, C of the Annex of the Convention notes that "the management system shall not prejudice the opportunity for the fishing vessels of all Parties to participate in the fishery". Therefore, Equal division of the AHL would be reasonable approach in compliance with the spirit of the Convention. And Olympic fishery method can cause competitive fishing, leading to a serious damage to pollock resources.

To make up for the weak points in the INQ, Korea supports proposal made by Japan "If the total catch amount of the latest 3 years exceeds more than 50% of the AHL, 50% of the AHL would be divided equally among Parties and the remaining 50% of the AHL would be divided in accordance with the ratio of the catch amount of the latest 3 years of each Parties". Appropriate management and utilization for pollock resources should be achieved in a sustainable way. While overcapacity may have harmful effect on pollock resources, undercapacity may cause economic loss to the fishing States.

Korea also supports that if INQ are agreed, each party must take responsibility for monitoring harvest amount of its vessels, and ensuring that its INQ is observed.

FISHING SEASON

The Republic of Korea proposes that fishing season should be open all seasons. Permission of fishing for specific season can cause competitive fishing and have harmful effect on pollock resources because all fishing vessels from contracting parties concentrate at the same time. In addition, we can imagine that INQ may not be exhausted completely within defined fishing season owing to bad fishing and oceanographic conditions. In that case, it can cause a great economic loss to the fishing States.

Therefore Korea strongly support that fishing should be permitted all the year round, ensuring that its INQ is not exceeded. Korea is confident that monitoring harvest quantity of its vessels can be carried out effectively through observer system and each party's responsibility for monitoring catch.

CATCH ESTIMATE METHODS

Korea believes that it is difficult to apply one unified method in determining the catch weight among the four methods (Scales, Bin, Volmetrics and Product recovery rate) because each party has its own preferred methods.

However, Korea agrees that the Parties needs to agree on the most accurate and cost effective methods to conserve and manage the pollock stocks. Korea believes that Scales and Volmetrics are more appropriate methods, and proposes that these two methods are accepted as the standards.

CATCH DATA TO BE USED

Priority should be given to data from the fishing vessel master rather than that from observer aboard the vessels, as it is difficult for an observer to monitor the catches correctly.

If there were significant differences between the data reported by the vessel master and the observer, the flag State should be required to investigate the discrepancies. Therefore, Korea would like to suggest that master's data should be used in priority and observers' data should be used as supplementary.

NUMBER OF OBSERVERS

With regard to the placement and number of observers, Article XI 5(a) of the Convention clearly notes that "each fishing vessel of the Parties that fishes for pollock in the Convention Area shall accept one observer of a Party other than its flag-State Party. If such an observer is not available, the fishing vessel shall have on board one observer from its flag-State Party".

Korea believes that one observer per vessel is adequate because the activities of observers are to monitor the implementation of conservation and management measures. And more than two observers on board can obstruct fishing activities and impose financial burden on fishermen.

Therefore, in accordance with Article XI 5(a) of the Convention, Korea supports that each fishing vessel accepts one observer from other party on board, regardless of coastal state or non-coastal state. If such an observer is not available, the fishing vessels could on board one observer from its flag-states.

REPORTING OF DATA

Korea supports the establishment of "Representative Party" appointed by the Parties, which serves as the focal point for collection and further dissemination of reports to the Parties.

With regard to reporting of data, Korea proposes bi-weekly reporting of data under the INQ system. Weekly reporting of data to representative Party proposed by United States is too demanding for each Party to collect data from its fishing vessels and inform it to representative Party. Monthly reporting of data proposed by Japan is too long an interval to monitor quantity of catch, and ensure that its INQ is not exceeded.

Bering Sea Convention
Third Annual Conference
(Tokyo, Nov. 30-Dec. 4, 1998)

POLAND

**Polish remarks to the establishment of the
Allowable Harvest Level (AHL) for 1999**

There is no commercial fishery for pollock in the international waters of the Bering Sea since 1992. Until 1995 (i.e. before the Convention entered into force) the suspension of catching activities was the voluntary decision of the Parties concerned. And since 1995 at the Annual Conferences the Parties to the Convention agreed to set the AHL at the level of „0” tons for the consecutive years. Thus, already for seven years the international waters of the Bering Sea were closed for commercial fishery.

Closure of the fishery in the international waters for such a long period has deeply affected Polish fisherman and fisheries industry. The great suffer experienced by the fisheries industry (including both economical and social components) results with very strong pressure on the Polish authorities to reopen the fishery in the international waters of the Bering Sea.

The future of the Convention depends primarily on the responsibility of the fisheries managers and decision makers. But it also depends on the perception that this Convention is aimed at the fisherman well-being and that the Convention has not been established against the fisherman. Therefore there is an urgent need for a strong signal towards the fisherman concerned which could be regarded by them as the positive attitude of the fisheries managers.

As regards the reopening of the fishery in the Convention area the Convention itself provides for decision procedures in all cases - also when the pollock biomass is expected to be very low.

The results of the US research vessel „Miller Freeman” conducted in the south-eastern Aleutian Basin near Bogoslof Island during March 1998 indicated that pollock spawning biomass increased from 392,000 t in 1997 to 492,000 t in 1998 that is over 25%.

Having in mind the above research results as well as strong pressure and expectation from the fisherman, Poland is in favour of opening the fishery in the convention area in 1999. Polish position in this regards is based, among others, also on the fact that the decision to open the fishery does not constitute any risk to the pollock stock - simply because if there is really not enough fish in the area concerned to secure the profitability of the exploitation there will be no exploitation at all. But at the same time the decision for opening the fishery will carry the very positive signal to the fisherman - it will prove that fisheries managers respect the responsibility of the fisherman in the process of fisheries management

Bering Sea Convention
Scientific and Technical Committee Meeting
Seattle, 2-4 September 1998

POLAND

**Polish remarks to the „United States Proposal for
A MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN THE
CENTRAL BERING SEA”**

Conservation and Management Measures

1. Fishing Season

In the Part 2 of the Annex to the Convention the term „a starting date” exists and there is nothing about „a fishing season”.

Therefore Polish position is that: „The starting day for the fishery on pollock in the Central Bering Sea shall start on 1-st of January each year and last to the time when the Annual Harvest Level (AHL) is exhausted”.

Comments

Fishing seasons are usually established in order to protect the spawning concentrations, juvenile fish or other species passing through the fishing grounds. There are no such reasons in the Central Bering Sea.

2. Individual National Quota (INQs)

The Polish position on that matter will be presented separately.

3. „Olympic” fishery

Poland oppose to the „Olympic” system of fishery for pollock for the following reasons:

- The „Olympic” system does not serve the goal of rational utilisation of the fish stocks. Such a system creates a „race for fish” with increased investment in larger vessels and a shortening of the fishing season.
- The „Olympic” system has been a subject to the criticism of many states, international fishing organisations, as well as individual fishermen.
- The „Olympic” system, in the case of the Bering Sea, would greatly favour coastal states. The US proposal does not take into consideration the subparagraphs (b) and (c) of Annex - part 2 which obliged to „take into account the applicable fishing effort of each party, the harvesting and processing capacity of the fishing vessels that may be involved, and their relative efficiency; not prejudice the opportunity for fishing vessels of all Parties to participate in the fishery”.

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POLAND

Remarks to the Japanese proposal for
A MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA,

In general, Poland supports the principles underlying the Japanese proposal.

In particular Poland strongly supports the approach to the establishment of the INQ for each Parties on the rules provided in the Japanese proposal as well as setting the 1st January as the starting day of the fishery

As regards the program for effective monitoring of catch Poland regards the Japanese proposal as a move in the right direction. At the same time Poland believes that more consideration and discussion is required on this matter - to accomodate the concerns of all Parties.

**Draft joint Russia-USA proposals on rules of procedure
for the Annual Conference and Scientific and Technical Committee**

Rule 8 (suggested). Representatives of non-party states, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations may, by consensus of all the Parties, participate as observers in plenary sessions of the Annual Conference and meetings of the Scientific and Technical Committee, including meetings of any subsidiary bodies pursuant to the terms and conditions of Appendix 1.

Appendix 1

1. The Parties may, by consensus reached at or before any Annual Conference, invite a non-party state, intergovernmental or non-governmental organization participate as observer in plenary sessions of the next Annual Conference and in meetings of the Scientific and Technical Committee.
2. Any non-party state, or any intergovernmental or non-governmental organization known for its activities in conservation and management of living marine resources seeking permission to participate as observer in plenary sessions of the Annual Conference and in meetings of the Scientific and Technical Committee shall notify the host Party of the Annual Conference of its request regarding participation at least 90 days in advance of the Annual Conference.
3. The host Party of the Annual Conference which received the request mentioned in paragraph 2 shall notify the other Parties of this request not later than 20 days after the receipt of this request.
4. Any competent non-party state, or any intergovernmental or non-governmental organization known for its activities in conservation and management of living marine resources which applies in due time to participate as observer in plenary sessions of the Scientific and Technical Committee may participate if none of the Parties makes a respective objection in writing at least 30 days before the Annual Conference.
5. The host Party of the Annual Conference shall notify the requesting non-party state, intergovernmental or non-governmental organization of the decision of the Parties.

6. Sessions of other subsidiary bodies of the Annual Conference and of the Scientific and Technical Committee shall be open to observers on a temporary basis only by consensus of the Parties.

7. Any observer allowed to a session may

- a) attend the above session, but may not vote;
- b) make verbal statements at the session as requested by the Chairman;
- c) distribute documents at sessions;
- d) exercise other activities with the approval of the Chairman.

8. At the request of any of the Parties or the Chairman, as appropriate, the attendance at any plenary session of the Annual Conference and at meetings of the Scientific and Technical Committee may be limited to the Parties only.

9. All observers allowed to plenary sessions of the Annual Conference and meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee shall receive by mail or otherwise the same documents as are provided to the Parties and their representatives.

10. All observers allowed to plenary sessions of the Annual Conference and meetings of the Scientific and Technical Committee shall comply with these rules and all other rules of procedure applicable to other participants.

November 20, 1998 (8:58AM)

ADOPTED

APPENDIX 2 TO STACFAD
(formerly DOC #19; with revisions)

GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA
FOR GRANTING OBSERVER STATUS AT ICCAT MEETINGS.
(Drafted by EC)

- 1 In exercising the responsibilities in respect to invitation to observers to ICCAT Meetings as provided for in Article XI of the Convention and in Article 2 of the FAO/ICCAT Agreement, the Executive Secretary, acting on behalf of the Commission, shall invite.
 - FAO.
 - Intergovernmental economic integration organisations constituted by States that have transferred to it competence over the matters governed by the ICCAT Convention, including the competence to enter into treaties in respect of those matters.
 - Intergovernmental organisations that have regular contacts with ICCAT as regards fisheries matters or whose work is of interest to ICCAT or vice versa.
 - Non-Contracting countries with coastlines bordering the Convention Area as defined in Article I of the Convention, or those non-contracting parties, entities or fishing entities identified as harvesting tunas or tuna-like species in the Convention Area.
- 2 All non-governmental organisations (NGOs) which support the objectives of ICCAT and with a demonstrated interest in the species under the purview of ICCAT should be eligible to participate as an observer in all meetings of the organisation and its subsidiary bodies, except extraordinary meetings held in executive sessions or meetings of Heads of Delegations.
- 3 Any NGO desiring to participate as an observer in a meeting of the organisation or its subsidiary bodies shall notify the Secretariat of its desire to participate at least 50 days in advance of the meeting. This application must include:
 - Name, address, telephone and fax number of the organisation;
 - Address of all its national/regional offices;
 - Aims and purposes of the organisation and an indication as to how they relate to the objectives of ICCAT;
 - A brief history of the organisation and a description of its activities;
 - Any papers produced by or for the organisation on the conservation, management or science of tunas or tuna-like species;
 - A history of ICCAT observer status granted/revoked;
 - Information or input that the organisation proposes to present at the meeting in question,
[one item deleted]

November 20, 1998 (8:58AM)

ADOPTED

- 4 The Executive Secretary shall review applications received within the prescribed time, and, at least 45 days before the meeting for which the application was received, shall notify the Contracting Parties of the names and qualifications of NGOs determined to meet the criteria for participation stipulated in paragraph 2 above. Such applications will then be considered as accepted unless one-third of Contracting Parties object in writing at least 30 days prior to the meeting.
- 5 Any eligible NGO admitted to a meeting may:
 - Attend meetings, as set forth above, but may not vote;
 - Make oral statements during the meeting upon the invitation of the presiding officer;
 - Distribute documents at meetings through the secretariat; and
 - Engage in other activities, as appropriate and as approved by the presiding officer;
- 6 Observers will be required to pay a fee for their participation at the meetings of the Organisation, which will contribute to the additional expenses generated by their participation, as determined annually by the Executive Secretary.
- 7 The Executive Secretary will determine whether, due to conference room capacity, seating limitations require that a limited number of observers per NGO may be present at any meetings. The Executive Secretary will transmit this any such determination in the conditions of participation.
- 8 All observers admitted to a meeting shall be sent or otherwise receive the same documentation generally available to Contracting Parties and their delegations, except those documents deemed confidential by the Parties.
- 9 All observers admitted to a meeting shall comply with all rules and procedures applicable to other participants in the meeting. Failure to conform to these rules or any other rules that ICCAT may adopt for the conduct of observers will result in withdrawal of accreditation by the President of the Commission.