

and in the territories of the Contracting Parties such legal capacity as may be necessary to perform its functions and achieve its ends. The immunities and privileges which the Organization and its officers shall enjoy in the territory of a Contracting Party shall be subject to agreement between the Organization and the Contracting Party concerned.

4. The headquarters of the Organization shall be at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, or at such other place as may be decided by the General Council.⁴

ARTICLE III

The functions of the General Council shall be:

- (a) to supervise and coordinate the organizational, administrative, financial and other internal affairs of the Organization, including the relations among its constituent bodies;
- (b) to coordinate the external relations of the Organization;
- (c) to review and determine the membership of the Fisheries Commission pursuant to Article XIII; and
- (d) to exercise such other authority as is conferred upon it by this Convention.

ARTICLE IV

1. Each Contracting Party shall be a member of the General Council and shall appoint to the Council not more than three representatives who may be accompanied at any of its meetings by alternates, experts and advisers.

2. The General Council shall elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, each of whom shall serve for a term of two years and shall be eligible for re-election but shall not serve for more than four years in succession. The Chairman shall be a representative of a Contracting Party that is a member of the Fisheries Commission and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be representatives of different Contracting Parties.

3. The Chairman shall be the President of the Organization and shall be its principal representative.

4. The Chairman of the General Council shall convene a regular annual meeting of the Organization at a place decided upon by the General Council and which shall normally be in North America.

5. Any meeting of the General Council, other than the annual meeting, may be called by the Chairman at such time and place as the Chairman may determine, upon the request of a Contracting Party with the concurrence of another Contracting Party.

6. The General Council may establish such Committees and Sub-committees as it considers desirable for the exercise of its duties and functions.

ARTICLE V

1. Each Contracting Party shall have one vote in proceedings of the General Council.¹

2. Except where otherwise provided, decisions of the General Council shall be taken by a majority of the votes of all Contracting Parties present and casting affirmative or negative votes, provided that no vote shall be taken unless there is a quorum of at least two-thirds of the Contracting Parties.

3. The General Council shall adopt, and amend as occasion may require, rules for the conduct of its meetings and for the exercise of its functions.

4. The General Council shall submit to the Contracting Parties an annual report of the activities of the Organization.

ARTICLE VI

1. The functions of the Scientific Council shall be:

- (a) to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among the Contracting Parties with respect to the study, appraisal and exchange of scientific information and views relating to the fisheries of the Convention Area, including environmental and ecological factors affecting these fisheries, and to encourage and promote cooperation among the Contracting Parties in scientific research

designed to fill gaps in knowledge pertaining to these matters;

- (b) to compile and maintain statistics and records and to publish or disseminate reports, information and materials pertaining to the fisheries of the Convention Area, including environmental and ecological factors affecting these fisheries;
- (c) to provide scientific advice to coastal States, where requested to do so pursuant to Article VII; and
- (d) to provide scientific advice to the Fisheries Commission, pursuant to Article VIII or on its own initiative as required for the purposes of the Commission.

2. The functions of the Scientific Council may, where appropriate, be carried out in cooperation with other public or private organizations having related objectives.

3. The Contracting Parties shall furnish to the Scientific Council any available statistical and scientific information requested by the Council for the purpose of this Article.

ARTICLE VII

1. The Scientific Council shall, at the request of a coastal State, consider and report on any question pertaining to the scientific basis for the management and conservation of fishery resources in waters under the fisheries jurisdiction of that coastal State within the Convention Area

2. The coastal State shall, in consultation with the Scientific Council, specify terms of reference for the consideration of any question referred to the Council pursuant to paragraph 1. These terms of reference shall include, along with any other matters deemed appropriate, such of the following as are applicable:

- (a) a statement of the question referred, including a description of the fisheries and area to be considered;
- (b) where scientific estimates or predictions are sought, a description of any relevant factors or assumptions to be taken into account; and
- (c) where applicable, a description of any objectives the coastal State is seeking to attain and an indication of whether specific advice or a range of options should be provided.

ARTICLE VIII

The Scientific Council shall consider and report on any question referred to it by the Fisheries Commission pertaining to the scientific basis for the management and conservation of fishery resources within the Regulatory Area and shall take into account the terms of reference specified by the Fisheries Commission in respect of that question.

ARTICLE IX

1. Each Contracting Party shall be a member of the Scientific Council and shall appoint to the Council its own representatives who may be accompanied at any of its meetings by alternates, experts and advisers.

2. The Scientific Council shall elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, each of whom shall serve for a term of two years and shall be eligible for re-election but shall not serve for more than four years in succession. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be representatives of different Contracting Parties.

3. Any meeting of the Scientific Council, other than the annual meeting convened pursuant to Article IV, may be called by the Chairman at such time and place as the Chairman may determine, upon the request of a coastal State or upon the request of a Contracting Party with the concurrence of another Contracting Party.

4. The Scientific Council may establish such Committees and Sub-committees as it considers desirable for the exercise of its duties and functions.

ARTICLE X

1. Scientific advice to be provided by the Scientific Council pursuant to this Convention shall be determined by consensus.