

Fischeries Commission, hereinafter referred to as "the Commission".

2. The Commission shall have legal personality and shall enjoy in its relations with other international organisations and in the territories of the Contracting Parties such legal capacity as may be necessary to perform its functions and achieve its ends.

3. Each Contracting Party shall appoint to the Commission not more than two representatives who may be accompanied at any of its meetings by experts and advisers.

4. The Commission shall elect its own President and not more than two Vice-Presidents.

5. The Office of the Commission shall be in London.

6. Except when the Commission determines otherwise, it shall meet once a year in London at such time as it decides; provided, however, that upon the request of a Contracting Party and subject to the concurrence of three other Contracting Parties, the President shall, as soon as practicable, convene a meeting at such time and place as he may determine.

7. The Commission shall appoint its own Secretary and such other staff as it may require.

8. The Commission may set up such Committees and other subsidiary bodies as it considers desirable for the exercise of its duties and functions.

9. Each Contracting Party shall have one vote in the Commission. Decisions of the Commission shall be taken by a simple majority, or, if this Convention specifically requires a qualified majority, by a two-thirds 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. If there is an even division of votes on any matter which is subject to a simple majority decision, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

10. Subject to the provisions of this Article, the Commission shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure, including provisions for the election of the President and Vice-Presidents and their terms of office.

11. Reports of the proceedings of the Commission shall be transmitted as soon as possible to the Contracting Parties in English and French.

ARTICLE 4

1. The Commission shall perform its functions in the interests of the conservation and optimum utilisation of the fishery resources of the Convention Area and shall take into account the best scientific evidence available to it.

2. The Commission shall provide a forum for consultation and exchange of information on the state of the fishery resources in the Convention Area and on management policies, including examination of the overall effect of such policies on the fishery resources.

ARTICLE 5

1. The Commission shall, as appropriate, make recommendations concerning fisheries conducted beyond the areas under fisheries jurisdiction of Contracting Parties. Such recommendations shall be adopted by a qualified majority.

2. The Commission in the exercise of its functions under paragraph 1 shall seek to ensure consistency between:

- (a) any recommendation that applies to a stock or group of stocks occurring both within an area under the fisheries jurisdiction of a Contracting Party and beyond, or any recommendation that would have an effect through species inter-relationships on a stock or group of stocks occurring in whole or in part within an area under the fisheries jurisdiction of a Contracting Party, and
- (b) any measures and decisions taken by such Contracting Party for the management and conservation of that stock or group of stocks with respect to fisheries conducted within the area under its fisheries jurisdiction.

The appropriate Contracting Party and the Commission shall accordingly promote the coordination of such recommendations, measures and decisions.

3. For the purpose of paragraph 2 each Contracting Party shall keep the Commission informed of its measures and decisions.

ARTICLE 6

1. The Commission may make recommendations concerning fisheries conducted within an area under fisheries jurisdiction of a Contracting Party, provided that the Contracting Party in question so requests and the recommendation receives its affirmative vote.

2. The Commission may give advice concerning fisheries referred to in paragraph 1 if the Contracting Party in question so requests.

ARTICLE 7

In the exercise of its functions, as set out in Articles 5 and 6, the Commission may consider *inter alia* measures for:

- (a) the regulation of fishing gear and appliances, including the size of mesh of fishing nets,
- (b) the regulation of the size limits of fish that may be retained on board vessels, or landed or exposed or offered for sale,
- (c) the establishment of closed seasons and of closed areas,
- (d) the improvement and increase of fishery resources, which may include artificial propagation, the transplantation of organisms and the transplantation of young,
- (e) the establishment of total allowable catches and their allocation to Contracting Parties,
- (f) the regulation of the amount of fishing effort and its allocation to Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 8

1. The Commission may by a qualified majority make recommendations concerning measures of control relating to fisheries conducted beyond areas under the fisheries jurisdiction of Contracting Parties for the purpose of ensuring the application of this Convention and any recommendations adopted thereunder.

2. The Commission may also make recommendations concerning measures of control relating to fisheries conducted within an area under the fisheries jurisdiction of a Contracting Party, provided that the Contracting Party in question so requests and the recommendation receives its affirmative vote.