

## PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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The Department of External Affairs announced today that representatives of Canada, the United States and Japan will hold the first meeting of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission in Washington, D.C., beginning February 1, 1954.

The establishment of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission is provided for in the International Convention for the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean, which was signed in Tokyo on May 9, 1952, by Canada, the United States and Japan, and came into effect on June 12, 1953, upon the exchange of ratifications in Tokyo by the three governments.

Invitations to send an observer to the Washington meeting have been extended to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Pacific Halibut Commission, the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission.

The purposes of the meeting will be to decide matters of organization of the Commission, to prepare coordinated programmes of research on stocks of fish that are of common concern to the three countries, and generally to carry out the commitments of the Convention.

The meeting will be attended by the Canadian members of the Commission: Stewart Bates, Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Ottawa; J. M. Buchanan, Vancouver, B.C.; R. G. Hager, Vancouver, B.C.; and James Cameron, Pender Harbour, B.C. In addition Dr. J. L. Kast, Chairman of the Fisheries Research Eoard, Ottawa; A. J. Whitmore, Chief Supervisor of Fisheries, Vancouver, B.C.; Dr. J. L. Hart, Director of the Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo, B.C.; and Dr. A. W. H. Needler, Director of the Atlantic Biological Station, St. Andrews, N.B., and P. G. R. Campbell of the Canadian Ambassy, Washington, will attend the meeting as advisers. Mr. Kunio Shimizu will act as interpreter and translator of Japanese for the Canadian group.