

what are known as autonomous import quotas. These permit additional quantities of fish imports to enter the EC at duty-free or reduced duty rates during specified times of the year. For another, they note that by the end of 1992, Spain and Portugal have promised to completely eliminate their individual import quota regimes. Canadian fish and seafood exporters find it difficult to plan their marketing efforts under the autonomous import quota system, since the quotas vary, upwards or downwards, each year.

Statistical tables and charts on Canada's fisheries trade with the EC and with individual EC member states are appended. In addition, details on the duties and quotas maintained by the EC on fisheries products imports can be found in the Annexes.

IV - ANALYSIS OF PARTICULAR EC DIRECTIVES AND REGULATIONS

Out of approximately 300 EC directives that have been adopted, tabled or proposed in the context of the 1992 market integration program, three deal specifically with fisheries and only one has so far been tabled. It is a draft regulation on "Health Conditions Affecting the Production and Placing on the Market of Fishery Products."

Of all the remaining directives, 17 have been identified as being of possible interest to the fisheries sector. Compliance with some of these directives may pose relatively few problems for Canadian fish exporters, but in some cases adjustments will be required.

a) Regulation on Health Conditions Affecting the Production and Placing on the Market of Fishery Products

So far, four drafts of the proposed EC regulation on "Health Conditions Affecting the Production and Placing on the Market of Fishery Products" have been circulated, and a number of suggestions proposed by Canada have been incorporated. A fifth revision is expected to be published shortly in the EC Official Journal for comment by EC and third country producers. In view of the complexity and implications of this regulation for the Community's fishing industry, the proposal is not expected to receive early passage. The date for implementing the proposed regulation is January 1, 1993, but this time-table could change.

According to reports from the Canadian Permanent Mission to the European Communities in Brussels, the fifth version of the proposed regulation represents an improvement over earlier drafts, especially as it provides greater scope for recognition of "equivalency" between the EC and third country fish inspection systems. Countries like Canada, Norway and Iceland, which have well-developed fish processing industries, should have little difficulty in satisfying the new EC requirements and providing