

*Private Members' Business*

Let me illustrate this. In 1989 the EC set unilateral quotas totalling just over 132,000 tonnes, about 20 times its NAFO quotas. Under the agreement reached in December the EC has accepted all of NAFO's quotas for 1993. In 1989 the EC refused to accept NAFO quotas and the moratorium on northern cod catches outside 200 miles, insisting that its unilateral quotas were based on scientific advice. In 1992 the EC was guided by scientific advice to accept all of NAFO's decisions for 1993 including the moratorium on northern cod.

In 1989 EC catches exceeded not only the NAFO quotas but also the higher unilateral quotas the EC set for itself. In 1992 the EC closely monitored its fleets and closed fisheries for cod, flounder and redfish when quotas were caught.

In 1989 there was little or no international recognition of the overfishing problem. As a result of Canadian efforts the ecological consequences of overfishing outside 200 miles is a high profile international issue. For example, at the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development, the earth summit, in Rio de Janeiro it said the 1989 agreement had not been reached on developing the Law of the Sea toward ending high seas overfishing; but late in 1992 the United Nations General Assembly approved a resolution calling for a high seas fisheries conference, and as I mentioned earlier there is good reason to be optimistic about the outcome of this conference.

Throughout the period since 1989 a tremendous effort has been made by Canada to have the principle of sustainable development given effect in high seas fisheries in the northwest Atlantic.

The Prime Minister has played a key role, raising the issue repeatedly at the highest international levels. The minister of Indian affairs and the minister of employment, when they were ministers of fisheries and oceans, had laboured hard on this issue. So have the present and former Secretary of State for External Affairs and our environment minister.

The Canadian fishing industry, unions and provincial governments have done so as well, advising every step of the way as to how the federal government should proceed and participating in Canada's efforts. All of these efforts were co-ordinated first by Alan Beesley

and upon his retirement by Randolph Gherson, the current ambassador for fisheries conservation.

As our Minister of Fisheries and Oceans has observed, we should also recognize that there is a profound change in the outlook of the European Community. Critical to this was the personal commitment to sustainable development of Manuel Marin, the EC vice-president for fisheries during the period. He deserves considerable credit for his determination to resolve these problems and for the important steps leading up to the agreement.

Let me review briefly the elements of the agreement. The EC and Canada agreed to comply with all of NAFO's conservation and management decisions, including quotas, and the EC will ensure that catches by its fleets do not exceed NAFO quotas. By way of comparison, from 1986 to 1992 the EC set for itself unilateral quotas higher than those set for it by NAFO. EC catches exceeded most NAFO quotas and in some cases the EC's higher unilateral quotas.

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Canada and the EC will work together to end fishing by non-NAFO fleets. These fleets, largely comprising Korean and reflagged EC vessels, have become an increasingly serious threat to resources outside 200 miles.

Canada and the EC will work together to revitalize NAFO through joint proposals to add a dispute settlement mechanism to avoid abuse of the objection procedure.

Canada will set a total allowable catch, TAC for northern 2J-3KL cod once the present moratorium ends, based on advice from Canadian and international scientists. Scientific advice indicates that on average 5 per cent of the biomass is outside 200 miles. Canada and the EC will propose that NAFO make allocations of 2J-3KL cod equal to 5 per cent of the total allowable catch. Canada will retain 95 per cent of the TAC.

As the EC will now be co-operating with Canada in conservation of fisheries resources outside 200 miles, as soon as both parties have given formal approval Canada