

At the September 1989 NAFO annual meeting, the EC once again did not support the conservation decisions adopted by the majority. The EC delegation left unanswered the question of whether or not Community vessels would comply with NAFO decisions for 1990.

#### Canada's Special Concern

World-wide 200-mile national fishing zones cover almost all of the oceans' productive capacity. One of the few exceptions is the "Nose" and "Tail" of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland and the Flemish Cap area. These waters, regulated by NAFO, are adjacent to Canada's 200-mile zone, and are more than 4000 kilometers distant from the nearest EC country.

Canada is particularly concerned about what happens in NAFO regulated waters because fish do not respect international boundaries. While most NAFO-managed stocks are found primarily in the Canadian fishing zone, fish move between NAFO waters and Canadian waters during their seasonal migrations. Stock depletions in NAFO waters directly hurt the Canadian fishing industry as well as other NAFO members.

Following the declaration of the Canadian 200-mile fishing zone in 1977, the Canadian government set catch limits for its own fishing industry under a scientific management scheme. In 1989 quotas for the important northern cod stock were reduced within Canadian waters after new scientific evidence that the fish stock had not grown as fast as earlier expected. A review panel led by Dr. Leslie Harris was established to take a comprehensive look at the northern cod fishery.

As a result of a continuing deteriorating situation, Canada is continuing to press the EC to comply with NAFO quotas because a stable fishery in the Northwest Atlantic is in the best interests of Canada's fishermen and the fishermen from other members of NAFO.