

- the implementation of a risk-averse precautionary approach to resource management that places conservation first;
- a program for responsible fishing to address with industry such issues as sustainable fishing and to encourage the development of national and international codes of conduct; and
- a package of adjustment measures, including voluntary licence buy-back programs and changes in licensing policy, aimed at reducing fishing pressure and enhancing the economic and ecological sustainability of the harvesting sector on both Canada's east and west coasts.

In addition, provincial and territorial governments are working cooperatively with the federal government to improve policies to strengthen fisheries management. For example, the governments of Canada and British Columbia are conducting a comprehensive bilateral review of their respective roles and responsibilities in the management of the Pacific salmon fishery. The objective of this exercise is to maintain and enhance the conservation and long-term sustainability of salmon stocks while providing for the long-term viability of the industry. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has enacted legislation to establish standards and certify fishers as professionals. This will foster a more professional fish-harvesting sector, prepare the industry to take on more responsibility for fisheries management, and help restore and maintain a sustainable balance between harvesting capacity and resource supply.

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10th December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks was adopted by consensus in August 1995 at the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and