

The new Convention was developed at a series of international meetings held during the past two years. The final signature ceremony was hosted by the Canadian Government in Ottawa last October. Since that time, in addition to Canada, the following have ratified the NAFO Convention: Cuba, the European Economic Community, the German Democratic Republic, Iceland, Norway and the U.S.S.R. Additional ratifications are expected in the near future.

Mr. Jamieson hailed the new Convention as a major international achievement, built on a pre-existing store of good will and cooperation among the coastal states of the Northwest Atlantic and the other states that fish in the area.

"NAFO will bring us even closer to realizing our common objectives of conservation and optimum utilization of the important fishery resources in the area", Mr. LeBlanc said. "More specifically, the new Convention and Organization will recognize Canada's special position and interests in the northwest Atlantic and provide for the controlled management of fisheries in the area beyond and adjacent to our 200-mile fishing zone. NAFO will help us to ensure that good management and conservation is exercised on stocks outside as well as inside the Canadian 200-mile limit."