

(4) As to wide-ranging species, such as tuna and whales, Canada favours the establishment of international arrangements, while recognizing that certain coastal states in the waters of which these stocks spend part of their life, have special interests in their management and harvesting.

Many coastal states, however, and the developing countries in particular, consider it essential to lay down a general regime which would allow the coastal state to claim exclusive sovereign rights in both the management and the harvest of all species found within a defined zone off its coast. This approach goes somewhat further than the functional or species approach described above but it is not necessarily inconsistent with it. Indeed, countries such as Canada which favour the species approach may be in a better position to implement it under the over-all exclusive sovereign rights approach advocated by the developing coastal states.

It is with these factors in mind that the Canadian delegation to the Seabed Committee has co-sponsored, together with the delegations of India, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Senegal and Madagascar, a set of draft treaty articles which would permit the coastal state to claim (a) exclusive sovereign rights in the management and harvest of all living resources within 200 miles off its coast, as well as (b) preferential rights in respect of such resources in areas adjacent to this zone (thus giving Canada the sort of control it wishes to have over fisheries beyond 200 miles, out to the edge of the continental margin). In co-sponsoring these draft articles, Canada has made clear that in the Canadian view, at least, they would not preclude continued foreign fishing, under Canadian management authority, in the areas within Canada's jurisdiction.

Current trends towards a much wider jurisdiction over fisheries in favour of coastal states obviously favour Canada's basic position and should help Canada achieve its essential objectives which are to obtain those rights which are basic to the protection of the interests of many of its coastal communities. However, the opposition to such trends remains important, as many long-distance fishing nations continue to insist on limited national areas of jurisdiction in order to maintain their operations at the level they have been accustomed to, in some cases over centuries.