

Canadian and Norwegian representatives met in Ottawa on October 20 and 21 to discuss their future co-operation in the field of fisheries. The Norwegian Delegation was led by Mr. H. Vindenes, Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Canadian Delegation was led by Mr. L. H. J. Legault, Director General, International Fisheries and Marine Directorate, Department of the Environment.

The meeting followed the understanding reached earlier between Canada and Norway concerning the desirability of co-ordinating and harmonizing the actions of the two Governments in extending their respective areas of fisheries jurisdiction and establishing now the principles upon which their mutual fisheries relations shall be conducted in future, pursuant to and in accordance with developing principles of international law and the consensus now emerging from the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

The two sides put forward proposals as the possible basis for an agreement on the terms and conditions that would govern continued fishing by Norwegian vessels in areas to be brought under Canadian jurisdiction beyond the present limits of the Canadian territorial sea and fishing zones off the Atlantic coast. On the basis of these proposals they agreed on the terms of an agreement which, if approved by both Governments, would permit Norwegian vessels to fish in the area concerned, under Canadian authority and control, for resources surplus to Canadian requirements.

The proposed agreement will now be submitted to the approval of the two Governments.

October 21, 1975.