

For 1987, vessels registered in St. Pierre and Miquelon will be provided with a quota of 3,500 t of cod from the two major Gulf of St. Lawrence cod stocks. This quota is provided for in Canada's 1987 Atlantic Groundfish Management Plan. French vessels will also be allocated 3,000 t of surplus cod in NAFO Division 2GH off the northern Labrador coast. France already receives 200 t of this stock as part of the EEC's allocation under a separate Canada-EEC fisheries treaty. All these allocations were fully discussed during extensive consultations with the Newfoundland and other provincial governments and representatives from the fishing industry.

The French will also receive in 1987 fishing allocations in Canadian waters outside the Gulf in accordance with obligations under the 1972 Canada/France Treaty and under a separate fisheries treaty between Canada and the European Economic Community. These allocations are included in the 1987 Atlantic Groundfish Management Plan and total approximately 15,600 t of various species, the same as in 1986. They include the 6,400 t of cod in 3Ps that Canada has established as the French quota for this stock.

The level of the cod allocation for St. Pierre and Miquelon in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is an exception to the government's policy against non-surplus cod allocations to foreign fleets, as it is greater than what Canada's legal obligations require under the 1972 Canada-France treaty. This point has been made in writing to the French. The exception has been made in order to facilitate resolution of the boundary dispute.

"This agreement is a significant step toward resolution of longstanding differences between Canada and France over the maritime boundary off the south coast of Newfoundland and St. Pierre and Miquelon", Mr. Clark stated. "However, the serious problems still remain to be settled, including the fishing quotas for France from 1988 to 1991, and the French overfishing off the south coast of Newfoundland".

Mr. Siddon noted that while the scientific discussions on 3Ps should prove helpful, France has not agreed to reduce her unjustified fishing effort off the south coast of Newfoundland. "The problem", he said, "is that France claims most of this area