

In December 1989, the EC set a unilateral quota of 32,000 tons for cod in the area 2J3KL which extends beyond the 200-mile zone. In doing so, the EC failed to comply with the NAFO decision that there be no fishing of 2J3KL cod outside the 200-mile limit. NAFO is an international organization established to protect fishery resources of the northwest Atlantic ocean. The organization is made up of 12 members, including Canada and the European Community.

The high-level political discussions by the two Canadian Ministers are a further step in the continuing initiative of the Government to end foreign overfishing in the northwest Atlantic. The government's objectives are to obtain recognition of the serious political, environmental and socio-economic ramifications of overfishing outside Canada's 200-mile fishing zone, and to achieve agreement of the Community to comply with NAFO conservation decisions.

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