



news release

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MINISTERS NOTE PROGRESS BUT RENEW CALL FOR THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY TO ABIDE BY NAFO QUOTAS

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie and Fisheries and Oceans Minister Tom Siddon commented today on the results of the annual Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) meeting that concluded today in Brussels.

"NAFO adopted a resolution calling on all its members to adhere to the conservation measures and quotas that NAFO has established," said Mr. Siddon. "The EC should heed this call by NAFO and end its overfishing. Canada will continue to press the EC to adhere to NAFO conservation measures and quotas."

"While the EC committed itself to the principles of conservation and rational management at the outset of the NAFO meetings, the EC, by not supporting the conservation measures and quotas adopted by NAFO this week, has not delivered as yet on its new commitment," Mr. Crosbie said. "NAFO has set quotas for 1990 in accordance with scientific advice. It remains to be seen whether the EC will accept these quotas or set its own quotas for 1990."

The annual NAFO meeting was held from September 12 to 15. At this meeting, NAFO established conservation measures, including quotas for stocks it manages outside Canada's 200-mile fisheries zone.

NAFO, the international organization established to protect the fishery resources of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean, is made up of 12 members, including Canada and the European Community.

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In recent years, the EC has set its own quotas unilaterally and fished well above the quotas set for the EC by NAFO. EC catches have been taken in waters outside Canada's 200-mile fisheries zone.

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