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General Fisheries Commission
for the Mediterranean
Commission générale des pêches
pour la Méditerranée

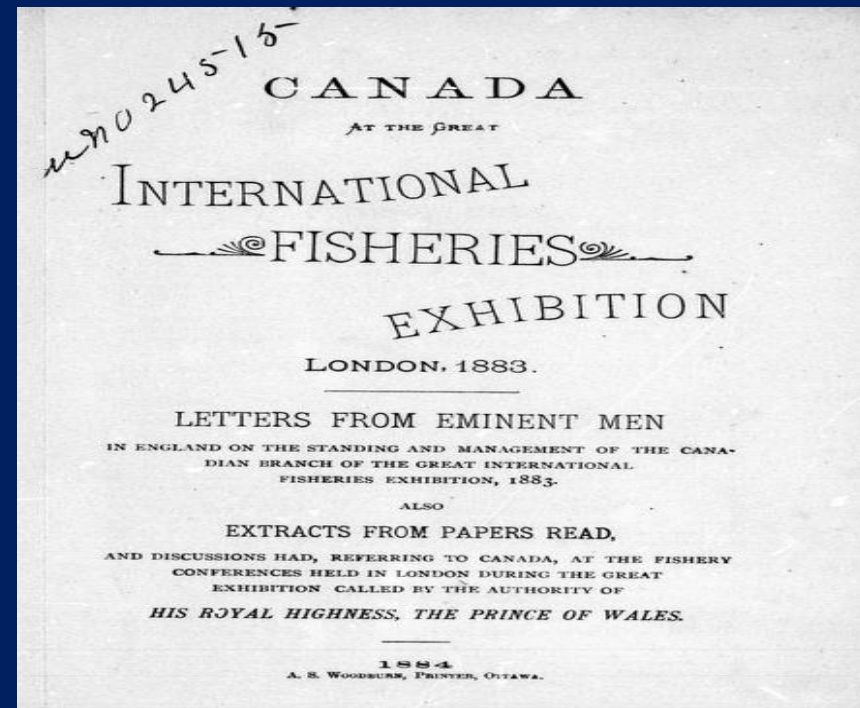
Cooperation among States in the context of regional (conventional) integration through fisheries organizations

Panel Session 1, Global Fishery Forum

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The emergence of the concept of cooperation in fisheries

- **1883:** Great International Fisheries Exhibition organized in London to promote the importance of global fisheries management tools
- At this conference, the fishing industry urged governments to bring about an international conference to reach an agreement on managing North Sea fisheries
- **FACT:** *at the end of 19th century there was the common belief that fisheries were inexhaustible*
- **FACT:** *without the scientific evidence that fisheries could be depleted, there was no need for cooperation*



Lack of cooperation: major threat to marine bio-resources

- **1902**: establishment of the first regional fishery body (ICES) by means of a regional convention to promote fisheries management based on science
- Regional conventions: organizations where cooperation in fisheries management takes place
- Derby fishing occurs where there is no regional convention



Case study: the Black Sea

- Agreement among riparian countries to integrate stock management into a regional system has been lacking for many decades
- Several Black Sea commercial species have been exploited to very high unsustainable levels as a result (e.g. turbot and anchovy)
- The regional convention in place for the Black Sea, namely the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean of the FAO, has finally decided to formulate an ad hoc response for Black Sea fisheries
- **Working Group on the Black Sea (WGBS)**: this body has been allowing to discuss scientific and management priorities since 2011
- Number of management measures adopted by the GFCM since 2011 based on the work of the WGBS: 5, including a management plan for turbot and a recovery plan for piked dogfish
- Work is now ongoing on anchovy, sprat, whitening and sturgeon
- Absent technical cooperation among countries concerned, a common fisheries management system is impossible



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Thank you for your
attention!

Спасибо!