

The Japanese Tanner Crab Industry

APPENDIX K

Mr. Chairman, members of the Council, I am Shoji Ono, representing the Japanese Tanner Crab Industry.

We are very deeply grateful to you for the fact that RC made a fair and friendly conclusion this November on our request for the modification of FMP for 1979.

However, we are still anxious about our future fishery operation as regards the expanded fishing ground and Quotas, and should like to make the following further requests:

1. Expansion of the fishing ground south of 58°N and east of 173°W in case ice floes remains for a long period of time.

2. Release of the fishing ground south of 58°N and east of 173°W to the Japanese fishing boats after termination of fishing by U.S. boats.

3. In implementing the above-mentioned measures, a portion of the Quotas for the fishing ground north of 58°N to be transferred to the expanded areas accordingly.

4. In implementing the above-mentioned measures, we should like to wish that consideration be given so that the Japanese fishing boats may proceed to the expanded fishing ground as soon as possible after the RC decision.

The crab fishery in the Bering Sea is a traditional Japanese fishery which has been developed by the Japanese fishermen since 1930 and we have been making every effort ever since to develop and maintain the market for crab.

For the prosperity of the crab fishery, we believe that co-operation between the U.S. and Japanese fisheries

industries is essential.

In recent years, we have entered into technical cooperative tie-ups with the fisheries industry of Alaska State with the result that our importation of crab products from the State has continued to increase, which we think has contributed substantially to the development of the fisheries industry of your country.

In GIFA which has been concluded between the U.S. and Japan in conformity with the FCMA, it is stated that the U.S. Government shall promote the optimum utilization of the resources and seek to minimize economic dislocation of our traditional fisheries.

We earnestly hope that special consideration will be given for the improvement of the regulations, so that we may utilize our vast facilities and expand the crab market, as well as maintain the livelihood of the large number of fishermen employed and thus enable our industry to continue operating on a stable basis.

We would very much appreciate your consideration of our aboverquests and trust that your decision will be favorable.

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