

**44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF NAFO - SEPTEMBER 2022****Streamlining the Notification Process for Observer Deployments:  
NAFO CEM Article 30****Background**

At the 2020 STACTIC Intersessional Meeting, initial discussions of the changes to Article 30 implemented in 2019 revealed that a number of Contracting Parties found the current requirement to have a vessel's Observer Deployment notification submitted 24 hours prior to NRA entry difficult to achieve. STACTIC WP 21-03Rev4 review noted continued difficulties from two Contracting Parties. Given that the notification contains only the vessel's name and call sign and the observer's name and ID (if applicable), this requirement continues to create administrative burden and challenges.

Discussions at the 2022 STACTIC Intersessional meeting suggested that, as the Observer is identified in OBR reports, the deployment notification may not be required. Based on these discussions, Canada proposes Article 30.10 be adjusted to remove the requirement for a separate notification, noting that observers' IDs are available to inspectors via the Lists of Observers posted to the MCS website annually, if applicable.

**Proposed Amendments****Article 30 – Observer Program*****Duties of the flag State Contracting Party***

10. Each Contracting Party shall submit to the Executive Secretary:

- ~~a) no later than 24 hours in advance of an observer's deployment onboard a fishing vessel the name of the fishing vessel and International Radio Call Sign, together with the name and ID (if applicable) of the observer concerned;~~
- ~~b)~~a) without delay following its receipt, the daily OBR report referred to in paragraph 14 (e);
- ~~e)~~b) within 30 days following the arrival of the vessel in port, the observer trip report referred to in paragraph 14;
- ~~d)~~c) by 1 March each year for the previous calendar year, a report on its compliance with the obligations outlined in this Article.

