

**45<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF NAFO - SEPTEMBER 2023****The 2023 Status Report of the Implementation of the  
Recommendations of the 2018 Performance Review Panel  
(Prepared by the NAFO Secretariat)****Background**

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, the Commission adopted an Action Plan to address each of the Recommendations of the 2018 Performance Review (COM Doc. 19-32). This Action Plan designated a proposed action, priority and lead NAFO body or bodies to address this action for each of the 37 Performance Review Recommendations. It was also agreed that the NAFO Secretariat report annually on the progress in implementing the Plan of Action at each subsequent Annual Meeting.

**Progress Towards Implementation of Performance Assessment Recommendations**

The three (3) tables below detail the status of implementation of each of the recommendations, specifically:

- **Table 1** - Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel that are ongoing.

These recommendations include: 1, 4, 6, 11, 12, 17, 18, 20, 23, 26, 29, 32, 33, 34, 36 and 37

- **Table 2** – Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel that have been completed since the 2022 Annual Meeting.

These recommendations include: 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 21, 24 and 30.

- **Table 3** – Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel that have been completed prior to the 2022 Annual Meeting.

These recommendations include: 2, 3, 5, 13, 15, 19, 22, 25, 27, 28, 31 and 35.



**Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations from the  
2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel**

[Adapted from [NAFO/COM Doc. 19-32](#)]

**Table 1.** Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel that are ongoing.

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
<b>III. Conservation and Management</b>								
In relation to the Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
1. III.2.a.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommends the Commission, within a defined timeline, sets objectives and determines acceptable risks as outlined in the Ecosystem Approach Framework Roadmap to ensure its implementation. [pg. 16]</li> </ul>	X (COM/ WG-EAFFM)	X (WG-EAFFM)			LT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WG-EAFFM will continue to make progress on the EAF Roadmap and consider its potential utility in informing management decisions by the COM.</li> <li>WG-EAFFM will reconsider the terminology used in the Ecosystem Summary Sheets in order to provide clarity and avoid potential confusion with standard terminology in fisheries management.</li> <li>SC will continue to refine its work under the EAF Roadmap, including testing the reliability of the ecosystem production potential model and other</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing – No further action required, at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At its July 2023 meeting, WG-EAFFM noted that additional progress was made toward setting objectives and determining acceptable risks as outlined in the EAF Roadmap to ensure its implementation and noted that the status of this recommendation is still ongoing (see COM-SC EAFFM-WP 23-11 and SCS Doc. 23/18).</li> <li>The WG-EAFFM Workshop of Fisheries Managers and Scientists on Ecosystem Roadmap was held in August</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Short-term (ST) is designated as 1-2 years, medium-term (MT) as 2-3 years, and long-term (LT) as more than 3 years; with ST in general being considered high priority items.



NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
							<p>related models, and report on these results to the WG-EAFFM to further develop how it may apply to management decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note also the Proposed Action for Recommendation 2.</li> </ul>	<p>2022. The results and conclusions of this workshop were taken on by the WG-EAFFM during its August 2022 meeting. The seven (7) recommendations pertaining to the Ecosystem Roadmap were adopted by the SC and COM in September 2022 (COM-SC Doc. 22-02).</p>
In relation to data collection and sharing, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
4. III.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO implements the applicable outcomes of the catch estimates methodology study once completed, continue the work of CESAG and utilize Scientific observer data. [pg. 20]</li> </ul>	X (CESAG)	X (CESAG)		X	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CESAG will continue to provide oversight in the implementation of the catch estimation strategy and provide recommendations to the COM on ongoing refinement.</li> <li>CESAG will consider the findings of the catch estimates methodology study and assess its applicability to the work of CESAG and other NAFO sub-bodies.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing – No further action required, at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CESAG has considered the use of Scientific observer data and determined it was not practical (COM-SC Doc. 20-02).</li> <li>The best practices from the catch estimates methodology study that the Joint Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG) were forwarded to STACTIC for consideration in COM-SC CESAG-WP 21-01 (Rev.).</li> <li>These best practices were incorporated in the Terms of Reference for the dedicated working group to review Article 30 of the NAFO CEM "Observer Program" (STACTIC WP 22-30).</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
6. III.3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO implements measures to ensure that fisheries research data, including fisheries survey data used by the Scientific Council, is complete and available for peer review in accordance with established scientific publication standards. [pg. 20]</li> </ul>		X			ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC will endeavor as part of its working procedures to have all of its scientific assessment input data held by the SEC.</li> </ul>	Status: Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A first attempt of a common protocol to submit fisheries information to the Designated Experts was presented by the STACREC Chair. It was agreed that the National Representatives and the STACREC Chair will continue working in this protocol intersessionally to present an agreed protocol to be revised during the June 2023 Scientific Council meeting.</li> <li>At the June STACREC meeting, no progress could be made. This matter will be revisited during the September Annual Meeting.</li> </ul>
In relation to the adoption of consistent/compatible management measures, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
11. III.4.b.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO develops mechanisms for the application of Article VI.11 of the Convention. [pg. 23]</li> </ul>	X				LT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coastal States to communicate to NAFO on management measures important to ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Regulatory Area, as determined by the coastal State to facilitate the application of Article VI.11 of the Convention.</li> </ul>	<u>Status:</u> Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An official mechanism has not been identified for coastal states to communicate on management measures under national jurisdiction.</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
In relation to the allocation of fishing opportunities, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
12. III.4.c.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO revisits the allocation of new fishing opportunities, should a change in circumstances justify it. [pg. 24]</li> </ul>	X				LT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CPs will continue to facilitate fishing opportunities using existing mechanisms within NAFO, such as chartering arrangements and quota transfers.</li> <li>COM will consider the allocation of new fishing opportunities should NAFO establish TACs in the future for stocks not currently under its regulation (i.e., those stocks not currently included in Annexes I.A and I.B of the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures).</li> </ul>	<b>Status:</b> No change in circumstances therefore no further action currently required.
In relation to minimizing pollution, waste, discards, lost and abandoned gear and impacts on non-target species, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
17. III.4.f.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO ensures the implementation of the Action Plan on discards by the stipulated target date in 2021 and establishes measures in the shorter-term to minimize or eradicate high-grading practices. [pg. 27]</li> </ul>	X (WG-BDS/ STACTIC)	X	X		ST/MT	<p>As per <u>COM Doc. 18-22</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COM and SC, and their subsidiary bodies, as well as the SEC, will move forward with the full implementation of the Action Plan (<u>COM Doc. 17-26</u>) (MT).</li> <li>CPs are encouraged to explore with respective industry representatives the reasons for discards and bycatch and report back to</li> </ul>	<b>Status:</b> Ongoing  At the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, STACTIC noted that there was no further action from the Committee on this recommendation unless WG-BDS required further information.

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
							<p>the WG-BDS at its next meeting. To the extent possible, this information should seek to identify specific times, areas, fisheries and/or other factors (ST). STACTIC will review existing NAFO observer and haul-by-haul reporting requirements to consider enhancements that would provide specific information related to the rationale for discards. (ST)</p>	
<p><b>18.</b> <b>III.4.f.2</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urges NAFO gives effect to Article III of the amended Convention in respect of minimizing other harmful impacts such as pollution and waste originating from fishing vessels, catch of species not subject to a directed fishery and impacts on associated or dependent species, in particular endangered species. [pg. 27]</li> </ul>	<p>X (STACTIC/ WG-BDS)</p>				<p>ST/MT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STACTIC will continue discussions and deliberations on its work regarding garbage disposal onboard fishing vessels (ST).</li> <li>COM, STACTIC, and WG-BDS will consider the feasibility of measures to minimize bycatch and discards as part of the Action Plan in the Management and Minimization of Bycatch and Discards (COM Doc. 17-26) (MT).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STACTIC is continuing discussions on the garbage disposal and how to address this issue in the CEM, and at the 2023 Intersessional meeting, tasked the WG-OPR with investigating the possibility of having a garbage disposal data collection requirement as part of the tasks of NAFO Observers.</li> <li>The SC reviewed and summarized information on marine litter in the NRA from data collected during the European Union surveys. This information is included in the WG-ESA meeting report (SCS Doc. 19-25) and in a related primary publication (García-</li> </ul>	

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
								<u>Alegre et al., 2020</u> ), and that the SC would not be in a position to provide any additional information on this topic at this time.
<b>IV. Compliance and Enforcement</b>								
In relation to flag State duties, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
20. IV.1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO calls on all Contracting Parties to carry out self-assessments of flag State performance in accordance with the criteria set out in the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance. Reports of the self-assessments should be submitted to STACTIC in order for it to present a summary report to the Commission. [pg. 30]</li> </ul>	X (STACTIC)			X	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STACTIC will review criteria set out in <u>FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance</u> and provide input on this matter to COM.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, STACTIC reflected on the agreed tasking for Contracting Parties to submit comments on the voluntary guidelines from the 2021 Intersessional Meeting. The comments that were received were incorporated into STACTIC WP 21-38.</li> <li>It was agreed at the 2023 Intersessional Meeting that the remaining Contracting Parties (not included in STACTIC WP 21-38) will submit comments regarding the FAO voluntary guidelines for flag State performance to the Secretariat as soon as possible.</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
In relation to Monitoring Control and Surveillance, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
23. IV.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO urges Contracting Parties to become parties to the International Labour Organization (ILO) Work in Fishing Convention No. 188. [pg. 32]</li> </ul>	X			X	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NAFO will encourage CPs to become parties to the International Labour Organization (ILO) Work in Fishing Convention No. 188.</li> </ul>	<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>V. Governance</b>								
In relation to transparency, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
26. V.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO makes all working documents publicly available, unless otherwise requested by a Contracting Party or subject to confidentiality rules. [pg. 36]</li> </ul>	X	X	X		ST	<p>SEC will make COM documents and STACFAD working papers publicly available on the NAFO website, with the exception of documents dealing with matters deemed confidential.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An update regarding this hybrid policy and guidelines for classification of working documents will be provided to STACFAD at the 2023 Annual Meeting (STACFAD WP 23-13 Rev.).</li> <li>At the 2022 Annual Meeting, STACFAD endorsed the meeting report and recommendations of the Ad Hoc virtual Working Group (COM Doc. 22-02).</li> <li>A hybrid meeting documentation policy posting and distribution of meeting documentation publicly was adopted as an interim measure (COM Doc. 22-27).</li> </ul>	<b>Status:</b> Ongoing



NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
<b>VI. Science</b>								
In relation to science, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
29. VI.2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recommends</b> NAFO, as a matter of high priority, develops a plan and implements steps to match the scientific resources to the workload. [pg. 44]</li> </ul>	X	X		X	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As per <u>COM Doc. 18-20</u>, SC will take the first steps to develop a 3-5 year work-plan, which reflects requests arising from the 2018 Annual Meeting, other multi-year stock assessments and other scientific inquiries already planned for the near future. The work plan should identify the resources necessary to successfully address these issues, gaps in current resources to meet those needs, and proposed prioritization by the SC of upcoming work based on those gaps.</li> <li>• COM will review the SC's work-plan once completed and use as a basis for informing the establishment of work priorities, reflective of the resources available to complete the work.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A five-year workplan was prepared at the June 2021 SC Meeting (<u>SCS Doc. 21/15</u>). The five-year workplan was reviewed and updated for 2022 (<u>SCS Doc. 22/20</u>) and in 2023 (SCS Doc. 23/19).</li> <li>• At the 2022 Annual Meeting, it was agreed to establish an Informal Group to reflect on the workload of the Scientific Council. The informal group is comprised of the Chairs of the Commission, Scientific Council, STACFAD and co-Chairs of WG-EAFFM and WG-RBMS. Its results will be presented at the 2023 Annual Meeting.</li> <li>• (see also recommendation 09 regarding workplan)</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
<b>VII. International Cooperation</b>								
In relation to cooperation with other international organizations, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
32. VII.2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO strengthens and enhances cooperation with RFMOs and other relevant international organizations. [pg. 46]</li> </ul>	X	X	X		MT/ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COM should consider appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and enhance cooperation with RFMOs and other relevant international organizations (MT).</li> <li>NAFO will maintain existing relationships and cooperation with RFMOs (ST).</li> <li>SEC will maintain existing dialogue with RFMOs and other relevant international organizations (ST).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of enhanced cooperation with RFMOs and other relevant international organizations include development of a possible MoU with the Sargasso Sea Commission and International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), as well as work with the FAO ABNJ Deep Seas Fisheries Project.</li> </ul>
33. VI.2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO assesses how it can contribute its expertise to international developments, in particular the completion of the Aichi Targets and the Intergovernmental Conference on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction. [pg. 46]</li> </ul>	X	X	X	X	ST/MT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEC will continue to participate in relevant forums where feasible and contribute NAFO's expertise to international developments and will report to the COM on such participation (ST).</li> <li>CPs are encouraged to participate in relevant forums to share their expertise with respect to international developments (MT).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing – Implemented on an ongoing basis.</p>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY <sup>1</sup>	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
In relation to special requirements of developing countries, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
34. VI.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO participates in capacity building initiatives for developing countries. [pg. 46]</li> </ul>	X		X		ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NAFO will continue to take part in capacity building initiatives inter alia, the sharing of NAFO knowledge and experience in fisheries management, science and governance.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NAFO continues to take part in capacity building initiatives, for example NAFO's work with the FAO ABNJ Deep Sea Fisheries Project includes capacity building in other RFMOs.</li> </ul>
<b>VIII. Finance and Administration</b>								
In relation to finance and administration, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
36. VII.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO initiates a process to design a new visual identity for NAFO that reflects the role and responsibilities of the Organization. [pg. 48]</li> </ul>	X (STACFAD)		X		ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COM will request SEC to present options for a process to design a new visual identity for NAFO, including associated costs, and present these options to the COM/STACFAD for consideration.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An update will be provided to STACFAD at the 2023 Annual Meeting (STACFAD WP 23-11 and STACFAD WP 23-12).</li> <li>As agreed, the NAFO Secretariat, in consultation with the established focus group, worked intersessionally to refine or produce alternative potential logo options for consideration of STACFAD at the 2023 Annual Meeting.</li> </ul>

In addition, considering that the cumulative impact of various human activities beyond the mandate of NAFO on the marine environment is mentioned by the 2018 Performance Review Panel among the significant external challenges for the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fisheries resources, the **Commission recommends** that:

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
37.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contracting Parties be encouraged to share any relevant research they have completed with the Scientific Council;</li> <li>Scientific Council monitor and provide regular updates on relevant research related to the potential impact of activities other than fishing in the Convention Area, such as oil exploration, shipping and recreational activities, and how they may impact the stocks and fisheries as well as biodiversity in the Regulatory Area.</li> </ul>	X (WG-EAFFM)	X (WG-EAFFM)		X	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contracting Parties encouraged to share relevant research they have completed with the Scientific Council.</li> <li>SC will monitor and provide regular updates on relevant research related to the potential impact of activities other than fishing in the Convention Area, such as oil exploration, shipping and recreational activities, and how they may impact the stocks and fisheries as well as biodiversity in the Regulatory Area.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At its July 2023 meeting, the WG-EAFFM reflected that the status of this recommendation is still ongoing (see COM-SC EAFFM-WP 23-12 and SCS Doc. 23/18).</li> <li>The WG-EAFFM agreed to continue to discuss the potential impacts of activities other than fishing in the Convention Area, as a regular part of its agenda.</li> <li>SC notes that current expertise in SC is insufficient to allow assessment of long-term impacts of other activities (SCS Doc. 23/18).</li> <li>.</li> </ul>

**Table 2.** Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel that have been completed since the 2022 Annual Meeting of NAFO.

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
<b>III. Conservation and Management</b>								
In relation to data collection and sharing, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
7. <b>III.3.4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommends NAFO assesses whether the discard data collected on the basis of daily electronic catch reporting is sufficient in order to support a future discards policy. [pg. 20]</li> </ul>	X (WG-BDS/ STACTIC)				MT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As per the Action Plan in the Management and Minimization of Bycatch and Discards (COM Doc. 17-26), SEC and WG-BDS will complete task 1.3, which pertains to data completeness and identification of gaps, by Sept. 2019.</li> <li>To support task 1.3, the SEC will continue its analysis of the available bycatch and discard data, including haul by haul data (beginning from 2016), and identify trends, patterns, anomalies, and data gaps. The SEC will provide regular updates to the WG-BDS in the form of progress reports and seek clarification and direction from the WG-BDS as warranted.</li> <li>WG-BDS will provide guidance and direction to the SEC in completing its work-plan, as required, and review/consider the work-</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, STACTIC agreed to close this item and await further instructions, if any, from the WG-BDS.</li> <li>At the 2022 STACTIC Intersessional meeting a Working Group on Landing Obligation (WG-LO) was established. The group met in August 2022 to draft a response to the Commission request regarding control measures needed in a discard policy. The draft response (STACTIC WP 22-34) was adopted by STACTIC at the 2022 STACTIC Annual meeting and sent to the Commission.</li> <li>Task 1.3, as well as Tasks 2.1 and 2.2 of the BDS Action Plan has been completed by the WG-BDS (COM-BDS WP 21-01).</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
							plan results once completed, including appropriate actions to refer to STACTIC.	
In relation to the consistency of conservation and management decisions with scientific advice, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
8. III.4.a.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> the Commission, as a matter of high priority, follows the Scientific Council advice and implements its multi-annual management strategies and plans in a consistent manner. [pg. 22]</li> </ul>	X				ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COM will continue to take decisions that are consistent with SC advice and implement its multi-annual management strategies and plans in a consistent manner. Also note the Proposed Action for Recommendation 10.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing – Completed for 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After consultation with NAFO Contracting Parties, a table comparing the SC advice and adopted management decisions was created.</li> <li>The table is published in the NAFO Annual Report each year.</li> </ul>
9. III.4.a.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO adopts and implements a multi-annual schedule/planning for the delivery of advice, applicable over a cycle of at least five (5) years, including timelines for the various tasks required. Requests for advice outside the agreed planning should only be accepted in exceptional circumstances. [pg. 22]</li> </ul>	X	X			ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As per COM Doc. 18-20, SC will take the first steps to develop a 3-5 year workplan, which reflects requests arising from the 2018 Annual Meeting, other multi-year stock assessments and other scientific inquiries already planned for the near future. The work plan should identify the resources necessary to successfully address these issues, gaps in current resources to meet those needs, and proposed prioritization by the SC of upcoming work based on those gaps.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing – Completed for 2022/2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A five-year workplan was completed at the June 2021 SC Meeting in response to COM request #10 (SCS Doc. 21/15). SC updates and reviews the plan each June and September to include all requests with prioritization and rationale where appropriate as well as the resources required to respond to the requests (SCS Doc. 23/19).</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COM will continue to implement its multi-annual schedule/planning for the request and delivery of advice and consider adjustments to the schedule if warranted.</li> </ul>	
10. III.4.a.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO publishes annually a comparison between decisions adopted and the relevant scientific advice. [pg. 22]</li> </ul>			X		ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEC will publish a table on the NAFO website and/or in the NAFO Annual Report that compares the decisions adopted by the COM and the relevant scientific advice. Also note the Proposed Action for Recommendation 8.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing – Completed for 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After consultation with NAFO Contracting Parties, a table comparing the SC advice and adopted management decisions was created.</li> <li>The table is published in the NAFO Annual Report each year.</li> </ul>
In relation to the conservation of marine biodiversity and the minimization of harmful fishing impacts on marine ecosystems, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
14. III.4.e.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO assesses means of minimizing or eliminating harmful impacts of fishing surveys on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems within closed areas. [pg. 26]</li> </ul>	X (WG-EAFFM)	X (WG-EAFFM)			ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC will continue its evaluation of the impact of scientific trawl surveys on VME in closed areas, and the effect of excluding surveys from these areas on stock assessments. As per <u>COM Doc. 18-16</u>, CPs will consider possible options for non-destructive regular monitoring within closed areas, bearing in mind cost implications and the utility of data collected for provision of advice.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At its July 2023 meeting, WG-EAFFM noted that the status of this recommendation can be considered closed (see COM-SC EAFFM-WP 23-05 and SCS Doc. 23/18).</li> <li>At the 2023 Annual Meeting in September, the WG-EAFFM recommends that in relation to conducting scientific trawl surveys in areas closed to bottom fishing activities that the Commission request Contracting Parties to make</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
								every effort to minimize impacts of the sampling and maximize the collection of data in the survey hauls made within VME closed areas.
16. III.4.e.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recommends</b> NAFO reviews data available from observers reports and other possible sources that would help identify why encounters with Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems have not been reported to date. [pg. 26]</li> </ul>	X (STACTIC)				ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STACTIC will further examine and assess fishing activities of vessels in and around VMEs and whether these activities are accurately reported. Proposed actions for Recommendation #15 could potentially facilitate the catch reporting of VME indicator species.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Status:</u> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The analysis of the observers data, conducted by the Secretariat, was updated and presented at STACTIC at the 2022 Intersessional Meeting (STACTIC WP 22-19).</li> <li>• STACTIC reflected on STACTIC WP 22-19 which suggests that there has been considerable improvement in quantity and quality in the reporting of VMEs observers since 2019, the year Article 30 was last overhauled by STACTIC.</li> <li>• Furthermore, as agreed, STACTIC WP 22-19 was sent to WG-EAFFM at the July 2023 meeting (COM-SC EAFFM-WP 23-13 Rev.).</li> </ul>
<b>IV. Compliance and Enforcement</b>								
In relation to flag State duties, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
21. IV.1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recommends</b> NAFO amends the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures in order to clarify, rectify and harmonize references to the</li> </ul>	X (STACTIC)				ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STACTIC will discuss how the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures could be amended to clarify, rectify, and harmonize</li> </ul>	<p><u>Status:</u> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The EDG reviewed this issue at its meeting in July 2023, and following their review,</li> </ul>



NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
	duties of the Contracting Parties as flag States. [pg. 31]						references to the duties of the CPs as Flag States.	<p>noted that no further clarifications to the CEM are required and consider this recommendation completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, it was noted that only a few references require review and STACTIC tasked the EDG with reviewing this in advance of the 2023 Annual meeting.</li> <li>As agreed at the STACTIC Intersessional Meeting in May 2022, the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG) continues to work on STACTIC EDG-WP 21-04 at the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting.</li> </ul>
In relation to follow-up on infringements, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
24. IV.3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommends NAFO urges Contracting Parties to increase their efforts in ensuring timely follow-up to infringements. [pg. 33]</li> </ul>	X (STACTIC)			X	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COM will encourage CPs to ensure a timely and effective follow-up on infringements, and to report regularly on action taken as foreseen by Article 37 of NAFO CEM.</li> <li>In cases where action is pending, CPs will provide regular and substantive update reports to the extent possible.</li> <li>STACTIC will continue to report on Dispositions of Infringements reported by</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STACTIC continues to review and discuss the follow-up actions to infringements, as reflected in the <i>Annual Compliance Review</i>, and it was agreed at the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting that the requirement to urge Contracting Parties to increase their efforts in ensuring timely follow-up to infringements was completed.</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
							Contracting Parties in its Annual Compliance Review.	
<b>VI. Science</b>								
In relation to science, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
30. VI.2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO implements a peer review process for the science underlying the SC advice and applies it consistently to all SC science used in advice. [pg. 44]</li> </ul>		X			ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC will continue to enhance the external peer-review of the methods and basis of SC advice to ensure consistency with best scientific practices.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing – Completed for 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expert review resumed in 2023.</li> </ul>

**Table 3.** Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel that have been completed **prior** to the 2022 Annual Meeting of NAFO.

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
<b>III. Conservation and Management</b>								
In relation to the Precautionary Approach Framework, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
2. III.2.b.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO assigns a high priority, including a timeline, to the review of its Precautionary Approach Framework and urges NAFO to act with precaution while awaiting the completion of this review, in particular through a commitment to follow scientific advice. [pg. 17]</li> </ul>	X (WG-RBMS)	X (WG-RBMS)			ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COM and SC will review the steps to be undertaken in completing the review of the Precautionary Approach (PA) Framework and develop a timeline for its completion.</li> <li>CPs asked to provide resources to facilitate the SC review of the PA Framework.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the WG-RBMS Meeting in August 2022, Recommendations 2, 3 and 27 of the 2018 Performance Review Panel updated the status of implementation to "Completed" (COM-SC Doc. 22-03).</li> </ul>
3. III.2.b.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> that NAFO includes 'data-poor' stocks in the Precautionary Approach Framework. [pg. 17]</li> </ul>	X (WG-RBMS)	X (WG-RBMS)			MT/ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC will continue to give high priority to the development of reference points for all stocks which lack them (MT).</li> <li>WG-RBMS will consider the inclusion of data-poor stocks in its review of the PA Framework (ST).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the WG-RBMS Meeting in August 2022, Recommendations 2, 3 and 27 of the 2018 Performance Review Panel updated the status of implementation to "Completed" (COM-SC Doc. 22-03).</li> </ul>
In relation to data collection and sharing, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
5. III.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO agrees on a means to respond to instances of non-compliance by a Contracting Party with its reporting</li> </ul>	X (STACTIC)				ST		<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At STACTIC Intersessional meetings, CPs have</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
	requirements, including logbook data. [pg. 20]							<p>opportunities to respond when compliance issues, including submissions of logbook data, are discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAFO adopted a follow-up procedure regarding haul-by-haul submissions (COM Doc. 18-27). The NAFO Secretariat coordinates with concerned Contracting Parties in locating missing reports, as required.</li> </ul>
In relation to previously unregulated and exploratory fisheries, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
13. III.4.d.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recommends</b> NAFO establishes conservation and management measures for Splendid Alfonsino in Subarea 6, at the earliest opportunity. [pg. 24]</li> </ul>	X	X			ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC will continue to provide scientific advice with respect to Splendid Alfonsino upon request by the COM.</li> <li>• COM notes the Proposed Action of Recommendation 8 and will continue to consider appropriate conservation and management measures for Splendid Alfonsino in Subarea 6.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the Sept 2019 Annual Meeting, the Commission decided to include this stock at the Quota Table with a moratorium on the fishing of it.</li> </ul>
In relation to the conservation of marine biodiversity and the minimization of harmful fishing impacts on marine ecosystems, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
15. III.4.e.2	<p><b>Recommends</b> NAFO establishes codes for Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem indicator species to facilitate reporting of encounters. [pg. 26]</p>	X (WG-EAFFM/ STACTIC)	X (WG-EAFFM)	X		ST/MT		<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All available FAO ASFIS codes have been incorporated into the 2021 NAFO CEM.</li> <li>• WG-EAFFM in 2021 recommended updates to the</li> </ul>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
								list of VME species for Annex I.E of the 2022 NAFO CEM.
In relation to reporting requirements, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
19. III.6.1	<b>Recommends</b> NAFO develop a user-friendly data manual. [pg. 29]	X (STACTIC)		X		ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEC, working work with STACTIC, will compile an inventory of data reporting requirements.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As agreed at the STACTIC Intersessional Meeting in May 2022, the Contracting Party Reporting Deadlines table (STACTIC WP 21-35) detailing data reporting requirements as per the NAFO CEM (STACTIC WP 21-35) was uploaded to the Practices and Procedures Member's page</li> </ul>
<b>IV. Compliance and Enforcement</b>								
In relation to Monitoring Control and Surveillance, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
22. IV.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO evaluates and adopts appropriate measures to deter repeat serious non-compliance. [pg. 32]</li> </ul>	X (STACTIC)				ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STACTIC will continue discussions and deliberations regarding measures to deter repeat non-compliance of serious infringements that could be considered for adoption by the COM.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the 2021 Annual Meeting of NAFO, Article 39 "<i>Follow-up to Infringement</i>" was amended to address repeat serious non-compliance (COM Doc. 21-08).</li> </ul>
<b>V. Governance</b>								
In relation to transparency, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
25. V.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO reorganizes its website</li> </ul>			X		ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEC will continue its work to reorganize the NAFO</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
	library based on the topics covered. [pg. 36]						website library based on the topics covered.	
<b>VI. Science</b>								
In relation to science, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
27. VI.2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO decides the level of acceptable risk regarding the outcomes of conservation and management measures, following a dialogue between Commission and SC, to provide the latter with guidance in its advisory work. [pg. 44]</li> </ul>	X (WG-RBMS)	X (WG-RBMS)			ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In keeping with NAFO's PA Framework, SC should (where possible) provide advice as a range of management options and a risk analysis for each option, allowing managers to decide on appropriate risk levels on a case-by-case basis.</li> <li>COM will continue to provide SC guidance and clarity regarding the range of risk levels to be evaluated with respect to the outcomes of conservation and management measures.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the WG-RBMS Meeting in August 2022, the co-Chairs recalled Recommendations 2, 3 and 27 of the 2018 Performance Review Panel and updated the status of implementation to "Completed" (COM-SC Doc. 22-03).</li> </ul>
28. VI.2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO develops and publishes an advisory decision-making framework to ensure advice is linked explicitly to policy objectives, is consistent and its basis is transparent. [pg. 44]</li> </ul>	X	X			ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COM will continue to include the SC advice on fish stocks and the record of COM decisions in the Annual Meeting reports, and additionally include the associated rationale for the decisions.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p>

NUMBER/ CHAPTER REF.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD NAFO BODY				PRIORITY	PROPOSED ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
		COM	SC	SEC	CPs			
31. VI.2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> the Secretariat conducts a survey of usage and identify further improvements to the public outreach documents relating to the state of NAFO stocks and NAFO science available on the NAFO website. [pg. 44]</li> </ul>			X		ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEC will conduct a survey of usage and identify further improvements to the public outreach documents relating to the state of NAFO stocks and NAFO science available on the NAFO website.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A survey of usage was prepared by the Secretariat and made available on the NAFO website and will be circulated to all CPs.</li> <li>The public outreach documents were reviewed and improved by the Secretariat.</li> </ul>
<b>VIII. Finance and Administration</b>								
In relation to finance and administration, the NAFO Performance Review Panel:								
35. VII.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Recommends</b> NAFO develops an annual operational plan for the NAFO Secretariat outlining key objectives and specifying resources required to meet these objectives. [pg. 48]</li> </ul>	X (STACFAD)		X		ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEC will develop a draft operational plan to be presented/discussed in STACFAD. The draft operational plan should be shared with CPs and STACFAD in advance of the Annual Meeting.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the 2022 Annual Meeting, STACFAD endorsed the annual operation plan as detailed in STACFAD WP-22-10.</li> <li>The annual operational plan to be implemented by the Secretariat.</li> </ul>