



Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization

Summit Place · 1601 Lower Water Street · Suite 401
Halifax · Nova Scotia · B3J 3P6 · Canada

Telephone: +1 902 468 5590
Email: info@nafo.int · Web: www.nafo.int

In all correspondence,
please refer to:

NAFO/22-193

20 July 2022

TO: All Contracting Parties – Heads of Delegations; and
Chair of NAFO Commission and its subsidiary bodies

**44th Annual Meeting of NAFO
Palácio da Bolsa in Porto, Portugal
19–23 September 2022**

This document is presented to the Contracting Parties in accordance with the provisions of the NAFO Rules of Procedure.

Provisional Agendas

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Sincerely yours,

Fred Kingston
Executive Secretary

FK:ll
Enclosed: (40 pgs.)

PART I.**44th Annual Meeting of NAFO**

19–23 September 2022

Porto, Portugal

General Organizational Matters**1. Venue of the Meeting**

The **44th Annual Meeting of NAFO** will be held at the Palácio da Bolsa in Porto, Portugal from 19–23 September 2022.

[Palácio da Bolsa](#)

Rua Ferreira Borges

4050-253 Porto, Portugal

2. Virtual Participation

For those Contracting Parties that are unable to attend the meeting in-person, Webex capabilities will be provided.

The Secretariat staff will be available for technical support during the meeting. “*Breakout rooms*” will be available for smaller group meetings and/or bilateral consultations, as required.

3. Meetings of the NAFO constituent bodies are scheduled as follows (please see timetable in Annex 1):

Commission: 19–23 September – The Commission will open at 09:30 hrs on 19 September and its Standing Committees (STACFAD and STACTIC) are expected to start at 14:00 hrs on 19 September.

Scientific Council: 19–23 September – Scientific Council will open at 09:30 hrs on 19 September. This will be preceded by a meeting of the SC Executive Committee at 09:00 hrs on 19 September.

Please note, Provisional Timetables may be adjusted for each NAFO Body and Standing Committee, in consultation with the respective Chair(s), for the upcoming *44th Annual Meeting of NAFO*.

4. Hotel Accommodations

Complete hotel information was circulated earlier to Contracting Parties (NAFO/22-172 of 30 June 2022).

5. Registration of Delegates

In accordance with the NAFO Rules of Procedure, Contracting Parties are requested to notify the Executive Secretary, as far as possible in advance of the meeting, the names of their representatives, alternates, experts and advisers who will attend

As the meeting will be divided into four (4) meetings running concurrently, Contracting Parties are further requested to notify the Executive Secretary which delegates are designated to participate in each meeting in-person or virtually, specifically:

- Commission
- Scientific Council
- STACTIC
- STACFAD

To allow adequate time to create personalized SharePoint accounts and circulate virtual meeting invitations, we kindly request completed registration forms be returned to the NAFO Secretariat by **Monday, 12 September 2022**.

For your convenience, please find enclosed a registration form in pdf-fillable format (Annex 2).

6. NAFO Meetings SharePoint

For the convenience of meeting participants, a NAFO Meetings SharePoint site has been created. A personalized username and password are required to access the site at <https://meetings.nafo.int>. We ask any Contracting Party requiring log-in details to please contact the NAFO Secretariat by telephone: +1 902 468-5590 Ext. 201 or by e-mail: info@nafo.int.

7. Delegation Rooms

A limited number of delegation rooms are available for rent. Any Contracting Parties wishing to book a delegation room, please contact the NAFO Secretariat by telephone: +1 902 468-5590 Ext. 201 or by e-mail: info@nafo.int.

8. Meeting Documentation

As agreed at the 2018 Annual Meeting of NAFO, paper copies of meeting documentation will not be provided to each delegate. Unless otherwise requested by a delegation, each Contracting Party will receive three (3) sets of printed meeting documentation distributed to the “pigeon holes.”

Meeting documentation, prior to and during the meeting, will be available for registered participants on the NAFO Meetings SharePoint at <https://meetings.nafo.int>.

A personalized username and password are required to access the SharePoint. We ask any Contracting Party requiring log-in details to please contact the NAFO Secretariat by telephone: +1 902 468-5590 Ext. 201 or by e-mail: info@nafo.int.

9. Submission of Proposals

NAFO Delegations are encouraged to submit proposals in advance of the Annual Meeting, but **not later than a week prior to the Annual Meeting**. This reflects Rule 4.3 of the Rules of Procedure: Commission “*No order of business shall be the subject of a decision unless the subject matter has been included in the provisional agenda*”.

To allow flexibility, new proposals will not be excluded at the Annual Meeting, but delegates are requested to table any new proposals on new topics not later than the opening of the Commission’s afternoon session on **Thursday, 22 September 2022**.

To allow sufficient time to review prior to the meeting and to focus discussion during the meeting, Contracting Parties are strongly encouraged to provide meeting documentation by **Monday, 12 September 2022** for inclusion on to the NAFO Meetings SharePoint.

10. NAFO Photos

The NAFO Secretariat regularly photographs its meetings and delegates. Photographs are used by NAFO on its website and publications, intended to showcase NAFO activities. All images are securely stored by the Secretariat. Please be assured that every attempt is made to ensure appropriate images are selected for publication and circulation.

11. NAFO Recordings

The NAFO Secretariat may record meetings of the organization. All recordings are securely stored by the Secretariat and used for documentation purposes only.

Annex 1.**Provisional Timetable 2022**

Please note, the start times provided below are approximations and may be adjusted, in consultation with the respective Chair(s), for the upcoming 44th Annual Meeting of NAFO. Delegates are strongly encouraged to reference the daily timetable for updates.

HOURS	EVENT	NAFO BODIES
Sunday, 18 September		
TBA	Coordination Meeting	All Chairs
16:00–18:00	Registration	All Bodies
Monday, 19 September		
08:30–	Registration	All Bodies
09:00–09:30	Session	SC Executive Committee
09:30–12:30	Opening Session	Scientific Council
09:30–12:30	Opening Session	Commission
12:30–14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00–18:00	Sessions	Scientific Council
	Opening Sessions	STACTIC STACFAD
<i>Heads of Delegation Dinner</i>		
Tuesday, 20 September		
09:00–12:30	Sessions	Joint (Commission – Scientific Council) STACTIC STACFAD
	<i>12:30–12:45 Group Photo – All Heads of Delegation</i>	
12:30–14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00–18:00	Sessions	Commission Scientific Council STACTIC STACFAD
<i>NAFO 44th Annual Meeting Reception</i>		
Wednesday, 21 September		
09:00–12:30	Sessions	Commission Scientific Council STACTIC STACFAD
12:30–14:00	Lunch Break	

HOURS	EVENT	NAFO BODIES
14:00–18:00		Commission Scientific Council
16:00–18:00	Closing Sessions*	STACTIC STACFAD
<i>* Standing Committee reports (STACTIC and STACFAD) should be finalized and submitted to the Secretariat for distribution on Thursday.</i>		
Thursday, 22 September		
09:00–12:30	Sessions	Commission Scientific Council
<i>**if required</i>	Sessions	STACTIC STACFAD
12:30–14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00–18:00	Sessions	Commission Scientific Council
<i>**If additional requests from the Commission are received, a new session(s) would be required to convene.</i>		
Friday, 23 September		
09:00–	Closing Sessions	Commission Scientific Council
	Closing of the Annual Meeting	

The **ADVISERS/EXPERTS** who are designated to observe on behalf of the Contracting Party:

DELEGATE NAME	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL	ASSIGNED MEETING (COM, SC, STACTIC, STACFAD)	PARTICIPATION FORMAT (IN-PERSON OR VIRTUALLY)

Completed registration forms may be returned to:

Lisa LeFort, Senior Executive Assistant to the Executive Secretary
 Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Secretariat
 Tel.: +1 902 468-5590 Ext. 207 or Email: info@nafo.int

PART II.**44th Annual Meeting of NAFO**

19–23 September 2022

Porto, Portugal

Commission**Provisional Agenda**

Agenda item
I. Opening Procedure
1. Opening by the Acting Chair, Deirdre Warner-Kramer (United States of America)
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Admission of Observers
5. Publicity
II. Supervision and Coordination of the Organizational, Administrative and Other Internal Affairs
6. Review of Membership of the Commission
7. Administrative and Activity Report by NAFO Secretariat
8. Recruitment of NAFO Executive Secretary for the 2023–2026 term
9. NAFO Headquarters Agreement
10. Review of the list of experts to serve as panelists under the NAFO Dispute Settlement provisions
11. Guidance to STACFAD
12. Guidance to STACTIC
III. Coordination of External Affairs
13. Report of Executive Secretary on External Meetings
14. International Relations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Relations with other International Organizations b. NAFO Members as Observers to External Meetings c. Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Deep-Sea Fisheries Project d. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the NAFO Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Sargasso Sea Commission
15. Oil and Gas Activities in the NAFO Regulatory Area
IV. Joint Session of Commission and Scientific Council
16. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations
17. Presentation of scientific advice by the Chair of the Scientific Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Response of the Scientific Council to the Commission's request for scientific advice b. Feedback to the Scientific Council regarding the advice and its work during this meeting c. Other issues as determined by the Chairs of the Commission and the Scientific Council

18.	Meeting Reports and Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Working Group on Improving Efficiency of NAFO Working Group Process (E-WG), 2022 b. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), August 2022 c. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), August 2022 d. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), April 2022
19.	Formulation of Request to the Scientific Council for Scientific Advice on Management in 2024 and Beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3, 4 and Other Matters
	V. Conservation of Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area
20.	Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), August 2022 (if more discussion is required)
21.	Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area, 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cod in Division 3M b. Pelagic <i>Sebastes mentella</i> (oceanic redfish) in Subarea 2 + Divisions 1F and 3K c. Shrimp in Division 3M
22.	Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks Straddling National Jurisdictions, 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Redfish in Divisions 3LN b. Redfish in Division 3O c. Witch flounder in Divisions 3NO d. Thorny skate in Divisions 3LNO e. Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 and Divisions 3KLMNO f. Northern shortfin squid in Subareas 3+4
23.	Other matters pertaining to Conservation of Fish Stocks
	VI. Ecosystem Considerations
24.	Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), August 2022 (if more discussion is required)
25.	Other matters pertaining to Ecosystem Considerations
	VII. Conservation and Enforcement Measures
26.	Update of the <i>Ad hoc</i> Working Group on Bycatches, Discards, and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area, 2022
27.	Report of STACTIC from this Annual Meeting and Recommendations
28.	Other matters pertaining to Conservation and Enforcement Measures
	VIII. Finance and Administration
29.	Report of STACFAD from this Annual Meeting
30.	Adoption of the 2023 Budget and STACFAD recommendations

IX. Closing Procedure
31. Other Business
32. Time and Place of Next Annual Meeting
33. Press Release
34. Adjournment

Notes to
the Provisional Agenda of the Commission

44th Annual Meeting of NAFO, 19–23 September 2022

I. Opening Procedure

1. Opening by the Acting Chair, Deirdre Warner-Kramer (United States of America)

The Acting Chair, Deirdre Warner-Kramer (United States of America), will call the plenary session of the Commission to order at 09:30 hrs on Monday, 19 September 2022.

Following the procedure established at the 2015 Annual Meeting, delegates will be asked not to address any opening statements orally but instead delegates are invited to submit opening statements in writing for circulation and inclusion in the meeting report.

NAFO Delegations are encouraged to submit any proposals in advance of the Annual Meeting, preferably early enough to be considered for the provisional agenda that is finalized 60 days before the Annual Meeting, but not later than a week prior to the Annual Meeting. This reflects Rule 4.3 of the Rules of Procedure: Commission “No order of business shall be the subject of a decision unless the subject matter has been included in the provisional agenda”. To allow flexibility, new proposals will not be excluded at the Annual Meeting, but delegates are requested to table any new proposals on new topics not later than the opening of the Commission’s afternoon session on Thursday, 22 September 2022.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

Participants will appoint a rapporteur whose duties include maintaining a record of decisions agreed upon by the Commission at the meeting. Traditionally, this function has been carried out by the Secretariat.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda will be presented to the meeting for review and adoption based on the provisional agenda circulated to all Contracting Parties in NAFO/22-193 of 20 July 2022.

4. Admission of Observers

According to Rule 1(a) of the NAFO Rules of Procedure: Observers to NAFO Meetings “The Executive Secretary shall invite, as observers, intergovernmental organizations that have regular contacts with NAFO”.

On that basis, the Executive Secretary will invite the following intergovernmental organizations to attend the meeting in an observer capacity: Government of Bermuda, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat, Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES), International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Network, North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO), North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC), North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC), North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), Sargasso Sea Commission, Southeast Atlantic Fisheries

Organization (SEAFO), South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO), United Nations - Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UN-DOALOS) and Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC).

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) currently accredited with NAFO Observer Status are: Dalhousie University – Environment Information: Use & Influence Research Initiative (EIUI), Dalhousie University – Marine & Environmental Law Institute (MELAW), Deep Sea Conservation Coalition (DSCC), Ecology Action Centre (EAC), International Coalition of Fisheries Association (ICFA), Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), Oceans North Canada, Shark Trust and Sustainable Fisheries Greenland.

5. Publicity

Conditions for attendance by media representatives at NAFO meetings are stipulated in the NAFO Media Policy (GC Doc. 04-04). According to the Media Policy, delegates should identify all sessions of the Commission which will be accessible to the public, in addition to the official opening and closing procedures. In addition, it has always been the practice in NAFO that no public statements are made until after the conclusion of the meeting, when a press statement would be released. If so agreed, the meeting will continue that practice.

The Executive Secretary will prepare the press release in collaboration with the Chairs of the Commission and Scientific Council. At the discretion of the President and the Executive Secretary, a press conference may be held following the close of the Annual Meeting by the Chairs of the Commission and Scientific Council and the Executive Secretary.

II. Supervision and Coordination of the Organizational, Administrative and Other Internal Affairs

6. Review of Membership of the Commission

The membership of the Commission has not changed since the 2021 Annual Meeting and is currently comprised of thirteen (13) Contracting Parties: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), European Union, France (in respect of St. Pierre et Miquelon), Iceland, Japan, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States of America (USA).

7. Administrative and Activity Report by NAFO Secretariat

A detailed administrative and activity report will be circulated to the meeting and discussed in depth by STACFAD (COM Doc. 22-04).

8. Recruitment of NAFO Executive Secretary for the 2023–2026 term

A recruitment process for the Executive Secretary was launched in 2022 with appointment for the 2023–2026 term. Interviews of the short-listed candidates and selection of the next Executive Secretary will be done at this meeting.

9. NAFO Headquarters Agreement

Pursuant to Article V, paragraph 3 of the NAFO Convention “The privileges and immunities which the Organization and its officers shall enjoy in the territory of a Contracting Party shall be subject to

agreement between the Organization and the Contracting Party including, in particular, a headquarters agreement between the Organization and the host Contracting Party.”

An update on the status of the NAFO Headquarters Agreement will be provided under this agenda item.

10. Review of the list of experts to serve as panelists under the NAFO Dispute Settlement provisions

The NAFO Convention, paragraph 1 of Annex II states that the “Executive Secretary shall establish and maintain a list of experts who are willing and able to serve as panelists” in any Ad hoc panel established under Article XV of the NAFO Convention to settle a dispute.

Further to NAFO/22-162 of 15 June 2022, which was circulated requesting Contracting Parties to review their list of up to five nominees to serve as possible panelists in any Ad hoc panel established under the settlement of disputes provisions of the NAFO Convention (Article XV), the Secretariat will provide the updated list of all the nominated experts to Contracting Parties at this Annual Meeting.

11. Guidance to STACFAD

In order for STACFAD to complete its work at this meeting, the Commission will identify any additional items that it wishes STACFAD to discuss at this Annual Meeting and instruct the Chair of STACFAD accordingly.

12. Guidance to STACTIC

The Chair of STACTIC will present a summary report of the Intersessional STACTIC meeting held in May 2022 (COM Doc. 22-03). In order for STACTIC to complete its work at this meeting, the Commission will identify any additional items that it wishes STACTIC to discuss at this Annual Meeting, including the issue of STACTIC participation, and instruct the Chair of STACTIC accordingly.

III. Coordination of External Affairs

13. Report of Executive Secretary on External Meetings

The Executive Secretary will provide a report on NAFO’s participation in external activities since the last Annual Meeting.

14. International Relations

a. Relations with other International Organizations

At the 2017 Annual Meeting, it was agreed that the NAFO Secretariat maintains dialogue with relevant organizations and explore mechanisms to improve the exchange of information. The Commission and Contracting Parties may consider other means to facilitate active monitoring of assessments, planning processes and actions taken in other fora in order to identify and, if needed, respond on issues concerning NAFO Regulatory Area (NRA) fisheries, fisheries resources and biodiversity.

The Executive Secretary will provide a report on the matter.

The importance of external relations was also stressed as the work of relevant organizations in other areas can impact the work of NAFO. For that reason, it was agreed that the NAFO Secretariat should try to attend meetings of the United Nations relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (BBNJ), as its resources allow.

The Executive Secretary will provide an update on the BBNJ discussions.

b. NAFO Members as Observers to External Meetings

This agenda item is to allow for appointment of NAFO members to serve as observers to meetings of other relevant organizations and presentation of their reports, as well as a general discussion of NAFO's cooperation with other organizations.

At the last Annual Meeting, it was agreed that the following NAFO Contracting Parties would observe at meetings of the following organizations during 2021/2022:

- *Canada would represent NAFO at the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) and the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC).*
- *Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) would represent NAFO at the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC).*
- *European Union would represent NAFO at the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA).*
- *Japan would represent NAFO at the South East Atlantic Fishery Organization (SEAFO).*
- *Norway would represent NAFO at the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO).*
- *USA would represent NAFO at the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) and the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO).*

It is expected that those Contracting Parties which attended meetings as NAFO observers will present their respective reports under this agenda item.

c. Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Deep-Sea Fisheries Project

Under this agenda item, the Executive Secretary will provide information on the five-year Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Deep-Sea Fisheries Project, administered by the FAO, which is anticipated to start in mid-2022. At the 2021 Annual Meeting, NAFO agreed to be a collaborating partner of this Project, similar to the role NAFO played in its predecessor ABNJ Deep-Seas Project.

d. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the NAFO Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Sargasso Sea Commission

The NAFO Secretariat has been approached by the Secretariat of the Sargasso Sea Commission (SSSC) about the possibility of signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the two Secretariats. Contracting Parties will be asked to authorize the Executive Secretary to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

15. Oil and Gas Activities in the NAFO Regulatory Area

The Executive Secretary will provide a report on the matter.

IV. Joint Session of Commission and Scientific Council

16. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations

As agreed at the 2019 Annual Meeting, the NAFO Secretariat will provide an update on the progress in addressing the “Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel” (COM Doc. 19-32).

17. Presentation of scientific advice by the Chair of the Scientific Council

a. Response of the Scientific Council to the Commission’s request for scientific advice

The Chair of the Scientific Council, Karen Dwyer (Canada), will present the response of the Scientific Council to the Commission requests for scientific advice on fish stocks (formulated in June 2022) and on other topics (formulated in June 2022 and in September 2022).

b. Feedback to the Scientific Council regarding the advice and its work during this meeting

Follow-up questions to the scientific advice should be submitted in writing, and whenever possible in advance. Responses to the follow-up questions are expected to be formulated by the Scientific Council during this meeting.

c. Other issues as determined by the Chairs of the Commission and the Scientific Council

18. Meeting Reports and Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Groups

The meeting reports and recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Groups will be presented by the respective Chairs and co-Chairs for consideration.

a. Working Group on Improving Efficiency of NAFO Working Group Process (E-WG), 2022

b. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), August 2022

c. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), August 2022

d. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), April 2022

19. Formulation of Request to the Scientific Council for Scientific Advice on the Management in 2024 and Beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3, 4 and Other Matters

A draft request will be prepared by the Contracting Parties for adoption by the Commission.

V. Conservation of Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area

20. Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), August 2022 (if more discussion is required)

Recommendations addressed to the Commission will be considered under this agenda item, if more discussion is required.

21. Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area, 2023

a. Cod in Division 3M

b. Pelagic *Sebastes mentella* (oceanic redfish) in Subarea 2 + Divisions 1F and 3K

c. Shrimp in Division 3M

This stock is managed through an allocation scheme as prescribed in Annex I.B of the NAFO CEM. The Commission may wish to consider other management options.

22. Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks Straddling National Jurisdictions, 2023

a. Redfish in Divisions 3LN

b. Redfish in Division 3O

c. Witch flounder in Divisions 3NO

d. Thorny skate in Divisions 3LNO

e. Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 and Divisions 3KLMNO

f. Northern shortfin squid in Subareas 3+4

23. Other matters pertaining to Conservation of Fish Stocks

Relevant topics concerning the conservation of fish stocks not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item.

VI. Ecosystem Considerations

24. Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), August 2022 (if more discussion is required)

Recommendations addressed to the Commission will be considered under this agenda item, if more discussion is required.

25. Other matters pertaining to Ecosystem Considerations

Relevant topics concerning ecosystem considerations not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item.

VII. Conservation and Enforcement Measures

26. Update of the *Ad hoc* Working Group on Bycatches, Discards, and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area, 2022

An update will be provided by the Chair of the Working Group, Deirdre Warner-Kramer (United States of America).

27. Report of STACTIC from this Annual Meeting and Recommendations

The Chair of STACTIC, Kaire Märtin (European Union), will present the Committee report to the Commission before the end of the Annual Meeting and the recommendations will be considered.

28. Other matters pertaining to Conservation and Enforcement Measures

Relevant topics concerning conservation and enforcement measures not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item.

VIII. Finance and Administration

29. Report of STACFAD from this Annual Meeting

30. Adoption of the 2023 Budget and STACFAD recommendations

The Chair of STACFAD, Robert Fagan (Canada), will present the Committee report to the Commission before the end of the Annual Meeting and the recommendations will be considered.

IX. Closing Procedure

31. Other Business

Relevant topics not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item.

32. Time and Place of Next Annual Meeting

The 45th Annual Meeting will be in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, unless an invitation to host is extended by a Contracting Party and accepted by the Organization.

The 2023 Annual Meeting of 18–22 September were previously agreed upon.

33. Press Release

The press release of the meeting will be developed by the Executive Secretary through consultations with the Chairs of the Commission and Scientific Council.

34. Adjournment

The meeting will adjourn on Friday, 23 September 2022.

44th Annual Meeting of NAFO
19–23 September 2022
Porto, Portugal

**Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD)
of the Commission**

Provisional Agenda

Agenda item
1. Opening by the Chair, Robert Fagan (Canada)
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Audited Financial Statements for 2021
5. Administrative and Activity Report by NAFO Secretariat
6. Financial Statements for 2022
7. Review of Accumulated Surplus and Funds
8. Personnel Matters
9. Recruitment of NAFO Executive Secretary for the 2023–2026 term
10. Internship Program
11. Report of the Annual Meeting of the International Fisheries Commissions Pension Society (IFCPS), 05–07 April 2022
12. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Design a potential new visual identity for NAFO b. Data classification and access rights of the NAFO websites c. NAFO operational plan
13. Budget Estimate for 2023
14. Budget Forecast for 2024 and 2025
15. Adoption of 2022/2023 Staff Committee Appointees
16. Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Support and Maintenance Agreement
17. Election of Chair
18. Time and Place of 2023–2025 Annual Meetings
19. Adjournment

Notes to
the Provisional Agenda of STACFAD

44th Annual Meeting of NAFO, 19–23 September 2022

1. Opening by the Chair, Robert Fagan, (Canada)

The meeting will be opened by the Chair, Robert Fagan (Canada).

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

A rapporteur will be appointed by the participants. The Secretariat is prepared to assume this duty as in previous years.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda will be presented to the meeting for review and adoption based on the provisional agenda circulated to all Contracting Parties in NAFO/22-193 of 20 July 2022.

4. Audited Financial Statements for 2021

As agreed at the last Annual Meeting, Baker Tilly Nova Scotia Inc. was appointed to perform the audit for the 2021 fiscal year. In accordance with NAFO Financial Regulations, the draft audited financial statements were circulated to the Heads of Delegations. Copies will also be circulated to STACFAD delegates.

The Auditors have noted that there is a small inconsistency with the Organization's policy not to record/recognize the pension plan assets in the NAFO Financial Regulations and the Basis of Accounting used in the financial statements.

The NAFO Secretariat will provide a proposal to amend the NAFO Financial Regulations accordingly.

5. Administrative and Activity Report by NAFO Secretariat

The Administrative and Activity Report (COM Doc. 22-04) will be presented by the Secretariat.

6. Financial Statements for 2022

Financial Statement estimates for 2022 (projected to 31 December) will be provided by the Secretariat.

7. Review of Accumulated Surplus and Funds

The accumulated surplus account, contingency fund, relocation fund and performance review fund will be presented to the meeting by the Secretariat.

8. Personnel Matters

Any issues related to personnel (e.g., promotions, job descriptions, new staff members hired intersessionally, etc.) will be discussed under this agenda item.

The NAFO Secretariat will present a proposal to amend Rule 4.2 of the NAFO Staff Rules to update scheduled pay dates.

9. Recruitment of NAFO Executive Secretary for the 2023–2026 term

A recruitment process for the Executive Secretary was launched in 2022 with appointment for the 2023–2026 term. Interviews of the short-listed candidates and selection of the next Executive Secretary will be done by the Commission at this meeting.

It is anticipated that STACFAD will be tasked with the development of a draft contract for the incoming Executive Secretary.

10. Internship Program

The NAFO internship program has been suspended since the Spring of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that the program will resume in second half of 2022 or early 2023.

11. Report on the Annual Meeting of the International Fisheries Commissions Pension Society (IFCPS), 05–07 April 2022

The Secretariat will report on the highlights of the Annual Meeting of the IFCPS which was held from 05–07 April 2022 in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

12. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations

As agreed at the 2019 Annual Meeting, STACFAD will provide an update to the recommendations tasked to it in the “Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel” (COM Doc. 19-32) and any other recommendations, as assigned by the Commission.

a. Design a potential new visual identity for NAFO

An update will be provided on the work completed since the 2021 Annual Meeting to initiate a process to design a potential new visual identity for NAFO.

The development is being done in response to Recommendation #36 of the 2018 NAFO Performance Review which “Recommends NAFO initiates a process to design a new visual identity for NAFO that reflects the role and responsibilities of the Organization.”

b. Data classification and access rights of the NAFO websites

An update will be provided on the NAFO Ad hoc virtual NAFO Website Re-design Working Group: Data Classification including work completed since the 2021 Annual Meeting relating to the data classification and access rights of the NAFO websites.

The work is being done in response to Recommendation #26 of the 2018 NAFO Performance Review which “Recommends NAFO makes all working documents publicly available, unless otherwise requested by a Contracting Party or subject to confidentiality rules.”

c. NAFO operational plan

An update will be provided on the work completed since the 2021 Annual Meeting on the development of an annual operational plan.

This work is being done in response to Recommendation #35 of the 2018 NAFO Performance Review which "Recommends NAFO develops an annual operational plan for the NAFO Secretariat outlining key objectives and specifying resources required to meet these objectives."

13. Budget Estimate for 2023

All budgetary items will be considered by STACFAD based on the Secretariat's presentation.

14. Budget Forecast for 2024 and 2025

15. Adoption of 2022/2023 Staff Committee Appointees

Secretariat members will nominate and contact the nominees for the Staff Committee. STACFAD will be requested by the Secretariat to recommend to the Commission the nominees' appointment to the Staff Committee.

16. Other Business

This agenda item would include any matters referred to STACFAD by the Commission during the current Annual Meeting including:

a. Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Support and Maintenance Agreement

At the STACTIC Intersessional Meeting held in May 2022, STACTIC discussed if the upcoming expiry of the VMS support and maintenance agreement, currently held by Visma Consulting A/S (Visma), should be renewed or to put out a call for tender. The Committee expressed views that STACFAD is the relevant body to advise the NAFO Commission on financial decisions.

It was agreed that:

The Secretariat would forward all relevant information to STACFAD in advance of the 2022 Annual Meeting so they could consider in tandem with STACTIC whether to renew the contract with VISMA for 2025 forward or to put out a call for tender.

17. Election of Chair

According to Rule 5.4 of the NAFO Rules of Procedure: Commission "The Committee shall elect, to serve for two years, their own Chairperson and vice-Chairperson, who shall be allowed a vote."

The current Chair, Robert Fagan (Canada), was elected in September 2020.

The current vice-Chair, Jake Round (United Kingdom), was elected in September 2021.

18. Time and Place of 2023–2025 Annual Meetings

At the 2021 Annual Meeting, it was agreed that the dates for the 2023–2024 Annual Meetings be as follows with the location in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, unless an invitation to host is extended by a Contracting Party and accepted by the Organization:

2023 - 18 – 22 September

2024 - 23 – 27 September

STACFAD will review these dates and recommend dates for the 2025 Annual Meeting.

2025 - 15 – 19 September (3rd full week of September to be reviewed by the Committee)

Contracting Parties are encouraged, whenever possible, to provide more than 12 months notice of the intention to extend an invitation to host a NAFO Annual Meeting to avoid unnecessary fiscal implications of the Organization having to make a non-refundable deposit to secure conference space.

19. Adjournment

The Committee shall endeavour to close its proceedings/session at a time that allows the STACFAD report to be circulated to the Commission in advance of the presentation of the Chair of STACFAD.

44th Annual Meeting of NAFO
19–23 September 2022
Porto, Portugal

**Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)
of the Commission**

Provisional Agenda

Agenda item
1. Opening by the Chair, Kaire Märtin (European Union)
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. STACTIC participation
5. Compliance review 2022 including review of apparent infringement reports and of chartering arrangements
6. Review of Article 30 of the NAFO CEM
7. NAFO MCS website and application development
8. New and pending proposals on enforcement measures: Possible revisions of the NAFO CEM
9. Review of Article 7 of the NAFO CEM
10. Review of current IUU list pursuant to NAFO CEM Article 53
11. Practical application of Port State Measures in NAFO
12. Marking of gears
13. Report and Recommendations of the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG)
14. Report and advice of the Joint Advisory Group on Data Management (JAGDM)
15. Bycatch and discards
16. Review and evaluation of Practices and Procedures
17. Implementation of the Performance Review recommendations
18. Discussion on garbage disposal onboard vessels
19. Visma VMS contract renewal
20. Other Business
21. Election of Chair and vice-Chair
22. Time and place of next meeting
23. Adoption of report
24. Adjournment

Notes to
the Provisional Agenda of STACTIC
44th Annual Meeting of NAFO, 19–23 September 2022

1. Opening by the Chair, Kaire Märtin (European Union)

The meeting will be opened by the Chair, Kaire Märtin (European Union).

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

A rapporteur will be nominated and appointed.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda will be presented to the meeting for review and adoption based on the Provisional Agenda circulated to all Contracting Parties in NAFO/22-193 of 20 July 2022.

4. STACTIC Participation

It was agreed at the 2022 Intersessional meeting, that STACTIC sends a written request to the Commission prior to this meeting requesting assistance of the Commission to come to a resolution regarding participants, other than government officials, in STACTIC.

5. Compliance review 2022 including review of apparent infringement reports and of chartering arrangements

In accordance with Rule 5.1(e) of the NAFO Rules of Procedure: Commission, STACTIC shall produce the Annual Compliance Report. STACTIC will review the information based on the compilation of 2021 fisheries reports (circulated to STACTIC by the Secretariat in a separate communication). The Annual Compliance Report will include an annex summarizing the input from Contracting Parties on the issues faced in the 2021 fishing year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

6. Review of Article 30 of the NAFO CEM

At the 2022 Intersessional meeting, a dedicated working group was established whose mandate was to carry out the review of Article 30 of the NAFO CEM “Observer Program”. This working group will meet prior to the 2022 Annual Meeting and present an update at this meeting.

7. NAFO MCS website and application development

The Secretariat has continued work on the enhancement to the MCS Website and the Observer application since the 2022 Intersessional meeting and will provide an update at this meeting.

8. New and pending proposals on enforcement measures: Possible revisions of the NAFO CEM

This is a regular agenda item where new and pending proposals concerning the NAFO CEM are deliberated.

At the 2022 Intersessional meeting, STACTIC agreed to continue discussion on the proposal from the United States of America in STACTIC WP 21-51 (Rev. 3) at this meeting. The United States of America and

Japan combined their individual proposals for trial tows into one proposal, STACTIC WP 22-29 and it was agreed to continue discussion on the combined proposal at this meeting. The European Union (STACTIC WP 22-23) and Canada (STACTIC WP 22-24 and STACTIC WP 22-25) agreed to revise their proposals for discussion at this meeting.

9. Review of Article 7 of the NAFO CEM

According to footnote 1 of Article 7 of the NAFO CEM: STACTIC shall review these Division 3M Control Measures and propose amendments as appropriate to the Commission at its Annual Meeting in 2022. These Division 3M Control Measures are only applicable when the TAC for cod in Division 3M is Annex I.A is under 6 000 tonnes.

STACTIC shall also update the time-sensitive footnote 1.

10. Review of current IUU list pursuant to NAFO CEM Article 53

Discussion on the provisional IUU list (STACTIC WP 22-10) will continue at this meeting as well as STACTIC WP 22-22 on listing IUU vessels from other RFMOs in NAFO's IUU list.

The Secretariat agreed to provide an oral update and draft report, if available, from the International MCS Network project on advancing the utility of RFMO IUU Vessel lists at this meeting.

11. Practical application of Port State Measures in NAFO

At the 2022 Intersessional meeting, the Secretariat agreed to contact NEAFC on their Port State Control (PSC) system and the FAO on its Global Information Exchange System (GIES) and to provide an update at this meeting on streamlining the PSC process.

Denmark (in respect of Faroe Island and Greenland) agreed to draft a working paper on calculating percentages with respect to over and under reporting of catches in PSC3s for presentation at this meeting.

12. Marking of gears

At the 2022 Intersessional meeting, Contracting Parties agreed to provide any outstanding domestic information on the marking of gears used to the Secretariat. Using the information provided from Contracting Parties, STACTIC agreed to a comparative analysis of the marking practices as well as the two documents (Convention on Conduct of Fishing Operations in the North Atlantic and the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear). The comparative analysis is intended to be presented at this meeting.

13. Report and Recommendations of the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG)

STACTIC agreed to send to the Commission for adoption, STACTIC WP 22-07 regarding the insertion of Subarea 6 in the caption of Annex I.A of the NAFO CEM at this meeting. The EDG agreed to draft a proposal for presentation at this meeting, using STACTIC EDG 21-04 as a basis, for article revisions regarding articles in the NAFO CEM where "fly its flag" occurs. It was further agreed to continue discussion on the lost gear map (STACTIC WP 22-08 Rev.) at this meeting. The United States of America agreed to draft a proposal to modify Article 13 of the NAFO CEM to be presented at this meeting.

STACTIC agreed that EDG review the NAFO CEM to ensure that no amendments are required for adoption of STACTIC WP 21-46 and report back to STACTIC at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

14. Report and advice of the Joint Advisory Group on Data Management (JAGDM)

A modified request be forwarded to JAGDM, for further discussion to take place at this meeting, including a question on potential IT implications of restricting the possibility by NAFO masters to use the COX message to report the last CAT information (using a CAT message instead) if the catch and exit areas differ.

15. Bycatch and discards

At the 2022 Intersessional Meeting, an Ad hoc WG was established to advance the discussions on the landing obligations policies. This Ad hoc working group will meet prior to the 2022 Annual Meeting and present an update at this meeting.

16. Review and evaluation of Practices and Procedures

It was agreed that this be a standing agenda item with the intention of providing Contracting Parties with the opportunity to share domestic Practices and Procedures. Contracting Parties are encouraged to continue to submit relevant documents to the Secretariat to augment the NAFO Members' pages. The Secretariat will also provide a list of all information currently available.

At the 2022 Intersessional Meeting, STACTIC agreed to continue discussion on STACTIC WP 22-09 (Rev. 4) to determine which current information may be posted to the public website and which current information should remain on the NAFO Member's pages at this meeting for final review. Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide any new documents on domestic Practices and Procedures prior to the 2022 Annual Meeting.

17. Implementation of the Performance Review recommendations

As agreed at the 2022 Intersessional meeting, the Secretariat would conduct further analysis on the observers' data and report at this meeting (2018 Performance Review, Recommendation 16); STACTIC would re-iterate its request to the Commission for further guidance regarding the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance (2018 Performance Review, Recommendation 20); and STACTIC would continue its reflection on efforts in ensuring timely follow-up to infringements (2018 Performance Review, Recommendation 24).

18. Discussions on garbage disposal onboard vessel

At the 2022 Intersessional meeting, STACTIC agreed to ask the Commission of the possibility that other NAFO specialized bodies, notably the Scientific Council, provide information on the impact of garbage disposal in the NAFO Regulatory Area. STACTIC will continue discussion on this matter at this meeting.

19. Visma VMS contract renewal

The Secretariat will present further information on historic contracts, NEAFC's current VMS details and what other software providers may be available. STACFAD is also requested to provide guidance.

20. Other business

Any topics not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item including:

21. Election of Chair and vice-Chair

According to NAFO Rules of Procedure: Commission (Rule 5.3) “...and shall elect, from among those representatives, to serve for two years, its own Chair and vice-Chair ...”

The current Chair, Kaire Märtin, (European Union), was re-elected in September 2021 for a one-year term extension.

The current vice-Chair, Patrick Moran (United States of America), was re-elected in September 2021 for a one-year term extension.

22. Time and place of next meeting

Under this agenda item, the time and place of the next STACTIC meeting will be discussed.

23. Adoption of report

The STACTIC report will be adopted by STACTIC and then presented to the Commission. The recommendations and proposals will be forwarded to the Commission during the meeting for consideration and adoption.

24. Adjournment

The Committee shall endeavour to formally close its proceedings on Thursday, 22 September 2022 and provide its report to the Commission. The Commission will then decide on the time for the report to be presented by the STACTIC Chair to the Commission.

PART II.**44th Annual Meeting of NAFO**

19–23 September 2022

Porto, Portugal

Scientific Council**Provisional Agenda****I. Plenary Session**

1. Opening
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Plan of Work

II. Review of Scientific Council Recommendations**III. Joint Session of Commission and Scientific Council**

1. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations
2. Presentation of scientific advice by the Chair of the Scientific Council
 - a. Response of the Scientific Council to the Commission's request for scientific advice
 - b. Feedback to the Scientific Council regarding the advice and its work during this meeting
 - c. Other issues as determined by the Chair of the Commission and of the Scientific Council
3. Meeting Reports and Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Groups
 - a. Working Group on Improving Efficiency of NAFO Working Group Process (E-WG), 2022
 - b. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), August 2022
 - c. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), August 2022
 - d. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), 2022
4. Formulation of Request to the Scientific Council for Scientific Advice on Management in 2023 and beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3 and 4 and Other Matters

IV. Research Coordination (STACREC Chair: Diana González-Troncoso)

1. Opening
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Fisheries Statistics
 - a. Progress Reports on Secretariat Activities
 - b. Review of STATLANT21 Research Activities
4. Research Activities
 - a. Surveys Planned for 2023 and 2024
5. Other Matters
 - a. Review of SCR and SCS Documents
 - b. Review of Survey SCS Document
 - c. Other Business
 - i) Reviewers for June 2023: topics (e.g., data poor stocks, MSE processes)

- ii) Data availability (open access, Share Point access, etc.) and format (submission of data, NAFOdown)

6. Adjournment

V. Fisheries Science (STACFIS Chair: Mark Simpson)

- 1. Opening
- 2. Nomination of Designated Experts
- 3. Other Matters
 - a. Review of SCR and SCS Documents
 - b. Assessments deferred from the June meeting
Northern shortfin squid in Subareas 3+4
 - c. Review of FIRMS classification of NAFO stocks
 - d. Other Business

VI. Requests from the Commission

- 1. Requests/advice deferred from the June Meeting
 - a. Scientific Council budget for 2022
 - b. Requests arising from Working Groups in 2021
- 2. *Ad hoc* Requests from Current Meeting
- 3. Further progress on items related to COM requests (in SCS Doc. 22-01)
 - a. COM request #8: NAFO PA Framework review

VII. Review of Future Meeting Arrangements

- 1. Scientific Council meetings
- 2. NAFO/ICES joint groups

VIII. Future Special Sessions

- 1. Discussion of proposed topics
 - a. Flatfish symposium 2022 and 2023
 - b. Other proposed topics

IX. Other Matters

- 1. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations
- 2. Meeting reports
 - a. ICES/NAFO Working Group on Deep-water Ecology (WG-DEC)
 - b. ICES/NAFO/NAMMCO Working Group on Harp and Hooded Seals (WG-HARP)
- 3. Any other business

X. Adoption of Reports

- 1. Committee Reports of STACFIS and STACREC
- 2. Report of Scientific Council

XI. Adjournment

Annex 1. The Commission's Request for Scientific Advice on Management in 2022 and Beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3 and 4 and Other Matters

(from [SCS Doc. 22/01](#))

Following a request from the Scientific Council, the Commission agreed that items 1, 2, 4, 7, and 9 should be the priority for the June 2022 Scientific Council meeting subject to resources and COVID-related restrictions.

1. The Commission requests that the Scientific Council provide advice for the management of the fish stocks below according to the assessment frequency presented below. In keeping with the NAFO Precautionary Approach Framework (FC Doc. 04/18), the advice should be provided as a range of management options and a risk analysis for each option without a single TAC recommendation. The Commission will decide upon the acceptable risk level in the context of the entirety of the SC advice for each stock guided and as foreseen by the Precautionary Approach.

Yearly basis	Two-year basis	Three-year basis
Cod in Div. 3M Northern shrimp in Div. 3M	Redfish in Div. 3M Thorny skate in Div. 3LNO Witch flounder in Div. 3NO Redfish in Div. 3LN White hake in Div. 3NO Yellowtail flounder in Div. 3LNO Northern shrimp 3LNO	American Plaice in Div. 3LNO American Plaice in Div. 3M Northern shortfin squid in SA 3+4 Redfish in Div. 3O Cod in Div. 3NO

To implement this schedule of assessments, the Scientific Council is requested to conduct a full assessment of these stocks as follows:

- In 2022, advice should be provided for 2023 for Cod in Div. 3M and Northern shrimp in Div. 3M. With respect to Northern shrimp in Div. 3M, Scientific Council is requested to provide its advice to the Commission prior to the 2023 Annual Meeting based on the survey data up to and including 2023.
- In 2022, advice should be provided for 2023 and 2024 for: Thorny skate in Div. 3LNO, Redfish in Div. 3LN, Witch flounder in Div. 3NO.
- In 2022, advice should be provided for 2023, 2024 and 2025 for: SA 3+4 Northern shortfin squid, Redfish in Div. 3O.

Advice should be provided using the guidance provided in **Annexes A or B as appropriate**, or using the predetermined Harvest Control Rules in the cases where they exist (currently Greenland halibut 2+3KLMNO).

The Commission also requests the Scientific Council to continue to monitor the status of all other stocks annually and, should a significant change be observed in stock status (*e.g.*, from surveys) or in bycatch in other fisheries, provide updated advice as appropriate.

2. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to monitor the status of Greenland halibut. Conditional on the absence of other reasons for Exceptional Circumstances arising (other than the missing Canadian spring 3LNO survey), to calculate in 2022 the HCR adjusting the TAC advised for 2022 using four survey indices (Canadian fall 2J3K, Canadian fall 3LNO, EU 3M 0-1400m, and EU-Spain 3NO surveys) to provide TAC advice for 2023. If other reasons for exceptional circumstances are occurring, the EC protocol will provide guidance on what steps should be taken.
3. The Commission requests that Scientific Council 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.
4. Scientific Council initiate the first steps in both the 2+3KLMNO Greenland halibut and 3LN redfish MSE processes during 2021-2022, namely:
 - a. Compile catch and survey data and any additional sources of information used in the current models;
 - b. Review and finalize the data inputs for review at the June 2022 Scientific Council meeting when conducting both the 3LN redfish assessment and the assessment of Greenland Halibut Exceptional Circumstances/ Provision of TAC advice
 - c. Time permitting, further work on the respective MSE work plans by the SC-GHL and SC-Redfish subgroups for presentation to WG-RBMS or SC.
5. The Commission requests that Scientific Council continue work on the sustainability of catches aspect of the Ecosystem Roadmap, including:
 - a. In consultation with WG-EAFFM via co-Chairs, convene independent experts to do a scientific review of; a) the estimation of fisheries production potential and total catch indices, and b) the adequacy of this analysis for their proposed use within the NAFO roadmap (Tier 1), while considering how species interactions are expected to be addressed in the future (Tier 2) within the overall Roadmap structure. The outcomes of this review would need to be tabled in June at Scientific Council to be available in advance of the planned workshop in 2022.
 - b. Work to support the WG-EAFFM workshop in 2022, which will explore ecosystem objectives and further develop how the Roadmap may apply to management decision making.
 - c. Continue its work to develop models that support implementation of Tier 2 of the EAFM Roadmap.
6. The Commission requests that Scientific Council, in relation to VME analyses:
 - a. Conduct a re-assessment of its previously recommended closures of 7a, 11a, 14a and 14b, incorporating catch and effort data for fisheries of shrimp from 2020 and 2021 into the fishing impact assessments. This work is to be completed by the 2023 Scientific Council meeting.

- b. Review the effectiveness of NAFO CEM, Chapter 2 from a scientific and technical perspective and report back to the WG-EAFFM. WG-EAFFM would subsequently in 2022 consider whether any modifications to this Chapter should be recommended.
7. The Commission requests Scientific Council to continue progression on the review of the NAFO PA Framework in accordance to the PAF review work plan approved in 2020 (NAFO COM-SC Doc. 20-04).
8. The Commission requests Scientific Council to continue to develop a 3-5 year work plan, which reflects requests arising from the 2021 Annual Meeting, other multi-year stock assessments and other scientific inquiries already planned for the near future. The work plan should identify what resources are necessary to successfully address these issues, gaps in current resources to meet those needs and proposed prioritization by the Scientific Council of upcoming work based on those gaps.
9. The Commission requests that Scientific Council do a full assessment for Div. 3LN redfish and provide advice based on the projection for various harvest levels for two-years (2023 and 2024) to evaluate the impacts according to the performance statistics from NAFO CEM Annex I.H.
10. The Commission requests that any new results from stock assessments and the scientific advice of Cod 2J3KL (Canada), Witch 2J3KL (Canada) and Pelagic *Sebastes mentella* (ICES Divisions V, XII and XIV; NAFO 1) to be presented to the Scientific Council and request the Scientific Council to prepare a summary of these assessments to be included in its annual report.
11. The Commission requests Scientific Council, jointly with the Secretariat, to conduct ongoing analysis of the Flemish Cap cod fishery data by 2022 in order to:
 - a. monitor the consequences of the management decisions (including the analysis of the redistribution of the fishing effort along the year and its potential effects on ecosystems, the variation of the cod catch composition in lengths/ages, and the bycatch levels of other fish species, benthos in general, and VME taxa in particular), and
 - b. carry out any additional monitoring that would be required, including Div. 3M cod caught as bycatch in other fisheries during the closed period.
12. The Commission requests Secretariat and the Scientific Council with other international organizations, such as the FAO and ICES to inform the Scientific Council's work related to the potential impact of activities other than fishing in the Convention Area. This would be conditional on CPs providing appropriate additional expertise to Scientific Council.
13. The Commission request that Scientific Council proceed with developing the ecosystem summary sheets for 3M and 3LNO move toward undertaking a joint Workshop with ICES (International Council for the Exploration of the Sea) as part of a peer review of North Atlantic ecosystems.

ANNEX B. Guidance for providing advice on Stocks Assessed without a Population Model

For those resources for which only general biological and/or catch data are available, few standard criteria exist on which to base advice. The stock status should be evaluated in the context of management requirements for long-term sustainability and the advice provided should be consistent with the precautionary approach.

The following graphs should be presented, for one or several surveys, for the longest time-period possible:

- a. time trends of survey abundance estimates
- b. an age or size range chosen to represent the spawning population
- c. an age or size-range chosen to represent the exploited population
- d. recruitment proxy or index for an age or size-range chosen to represent the recruiting population.
- e. fishing mortality proxy, such as the ratio of reported commercial catches to a measure of the exploited population.
- f. Stock trajectory against reference points

And any information the Scientific Council deems appropriate.

Annex 2. Designated Experts in 2022

From the Science Branch, Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Centre, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada

Cod in Div. 3NO	Rick Rideout	rick.rideout@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Redfish Div. 3O	Laura Wheeland	laura.wheeland@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Redfish 3LN	Bob Rogers	bob.rogers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
American Plaice in Div. 3LNO	Laura Wheeland	laura.wheeland@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Witch flounder in Div. 3NO	Dawn Maddock Parsons	dawn.parsons@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Yellowtail flounder in Div. 3LNO	Dawn Maddock Parsons	dawn.parsons@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Greenland halibut in SA 2+3KLMNO	Paul Regular	paul.regular@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Northern shrimp in Div. 3LNO	Katherine Skanes	katherine.skane@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

From the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Greenland halibut in SA 0+1	Margaret Treble	margart.treble@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
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From the Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Vigo (Pontevedra), Spain

Roughhead grenadier in SA 2+3	Fernando Gonzalez-Costas	fernando.gonzalez@ieo.csic.es
Splendid alfonsino in Subarea 6	Fernando Gonzalez-Costas	fernando.gonzalez@ieo.csic.es
Cod in Div. 3M	Diana Gonzalez-Troncoso	diana.gonzalez@ieo.csic.es
Shrimp in Div. 3M	Jose Miguel Casas Sanchez	mikel.casas@ieo.csic.es

From the Instituto Nacional de Recursos Biológicos (INRB/IPMA), Lisbon, Portugal

American plaice in Div. 3M	Ricardo Alpoim	ralpoim@ipma.pt
Golden redfish in Div. 3M	Ricardo Alpoim	ralpoim@ipma.pt
Redfish in Div. 3M	Ricardo Alpoim (provisional)	ralpoim@ipma.pt

From the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources, Nuuk, Greenland

Demersal Redfish in SA1	Rasmus Nygaard	rany@natur.gl
Wolfish in SA1	Rasmus Nygaard	rany@natur.gl
Greenland halibut in Div. 1 inshore	Rasmus Nygaard	rany@natur.gl
Northern shrimp in SA 0+1	AnnDorte Burmeister	anndorte@natur.gl
Northern shrimp in Denmark Strait	Tanja Buch	TaBb@natur.gl

From Knipovich Polar Research Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography (PINRO), Russian Federation

Capelin in Div. 3NO	Konstantin Fomin	fomin@pinro.ru
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From National Marine Fisheries Service, NEFSC, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, United States of America

Northern Shortfin Squid in SA 3 & 4	Lisa Hendrickson	lisa.hendrickson@noaa.gov
Thorny skate in Div. 3LNO	Katherine Sosebee	katherine.seebee@noaa.gov
White hake in Div. 3NO	Katherine Sosebee	katherine.seebee@noaa.gov