



Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization

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In all correspondence,
please refer to:

NAFO/23-167

19 July 2023

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

45th Annual Meeting of NAFO

18–22 September 2023

Vigo, Spain

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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Yours sincerely,

Brynhildur Benediktsdóttir
Executive Secretary

BB:ll

Enclosed: (40 pgs.)

PART I.

45th Annual Meeting of NAFO

18–22 September 2023

Vigo, Spain

General Organizational Matters

1. Venue of the Meeting

The **45th Annual Meeting of NAFO** will be held at the Palacio de Congresos Mar de Vigo in Vigo, Spain from 18–22 September 2023.

The meeting will be held at:

Palacio de Congresos Mar de Vigo
Av. de Beiramar 59
36202 Vigo, Spain

2. Virtual Participation

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

3. Meetings of the NAFO constituent bodies are scheduled as follows (please see timetable in Annex 2):

Commission: 18–22 September – The Commission will open at 09:30 hrs on 18 September and its Standing Committees (STACFAD and STACTIC) are expected to start at 14:00 hrs on 18 September.

Scientific Council: 18–22 September – Scientific Council will open at 09:30 hrs on 18 September. This will be preceded by a meeting of the SC Executive Committee at 09:00 hrs on 18 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 *45th Annual Meeting of NAFO*.

4. Hotel Accommodations

Complete hotel information was circulated earlier to Contracting Parties (NAFO/23-132 of 25 May 2023).

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, 11 September 2023.**

For your convenience, please find enclosed a registration form in pdf-fillable format (Annex 3).

6. 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.

7. 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>.

8. NAFO Meetings SharePoint

For the convenience of meeting participants, a NAFO Meetings SharePoint site has been created. 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 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.

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, 21 September 2023.**

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, 11 September 2023** 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.

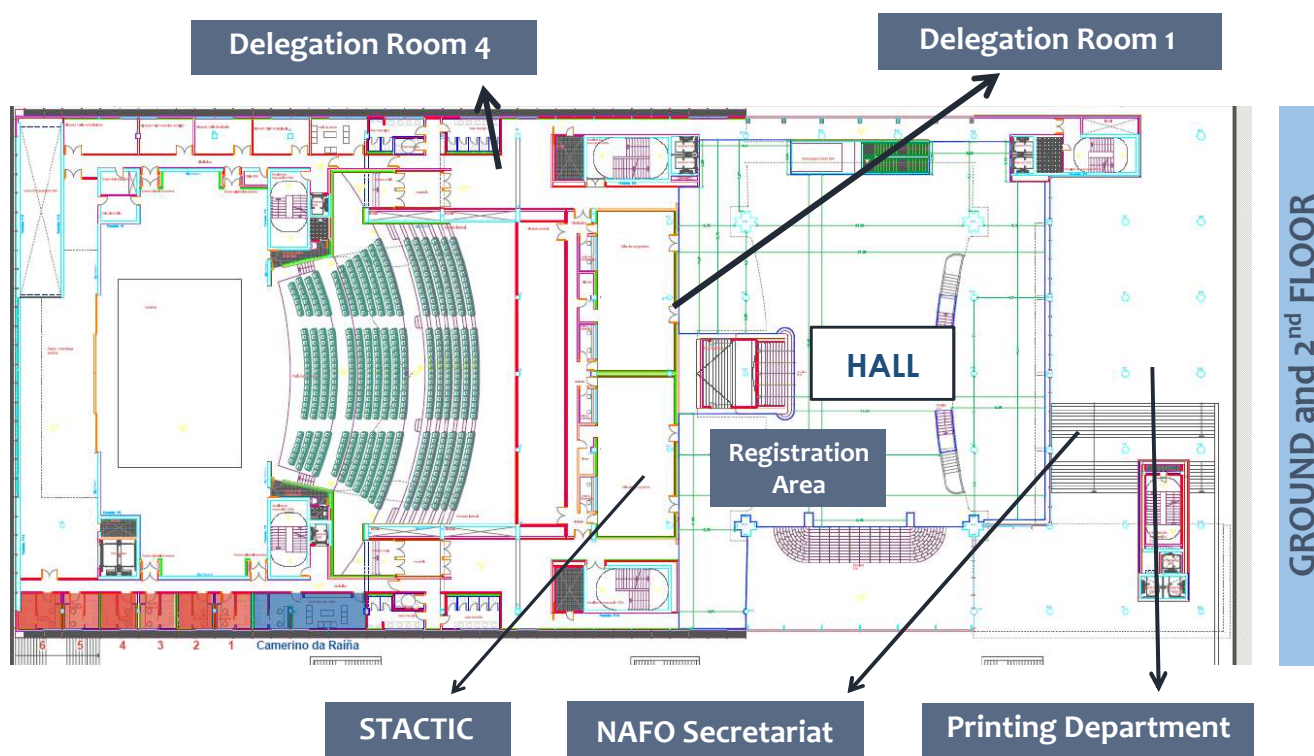
11. NAFO Recordings

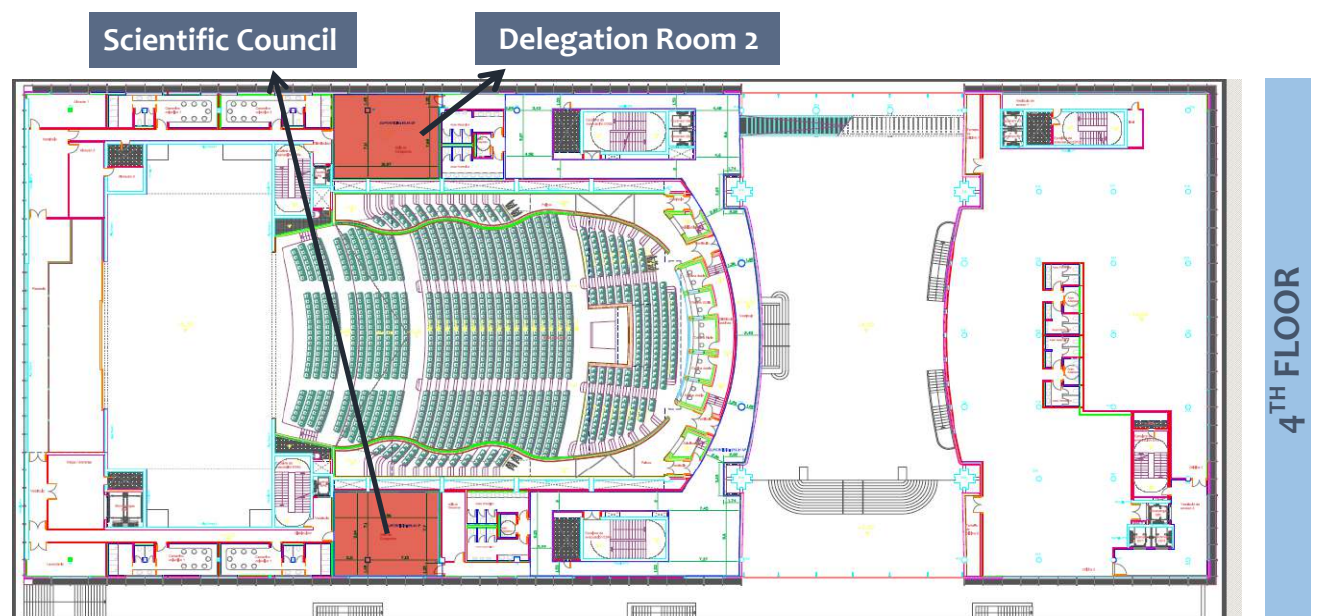
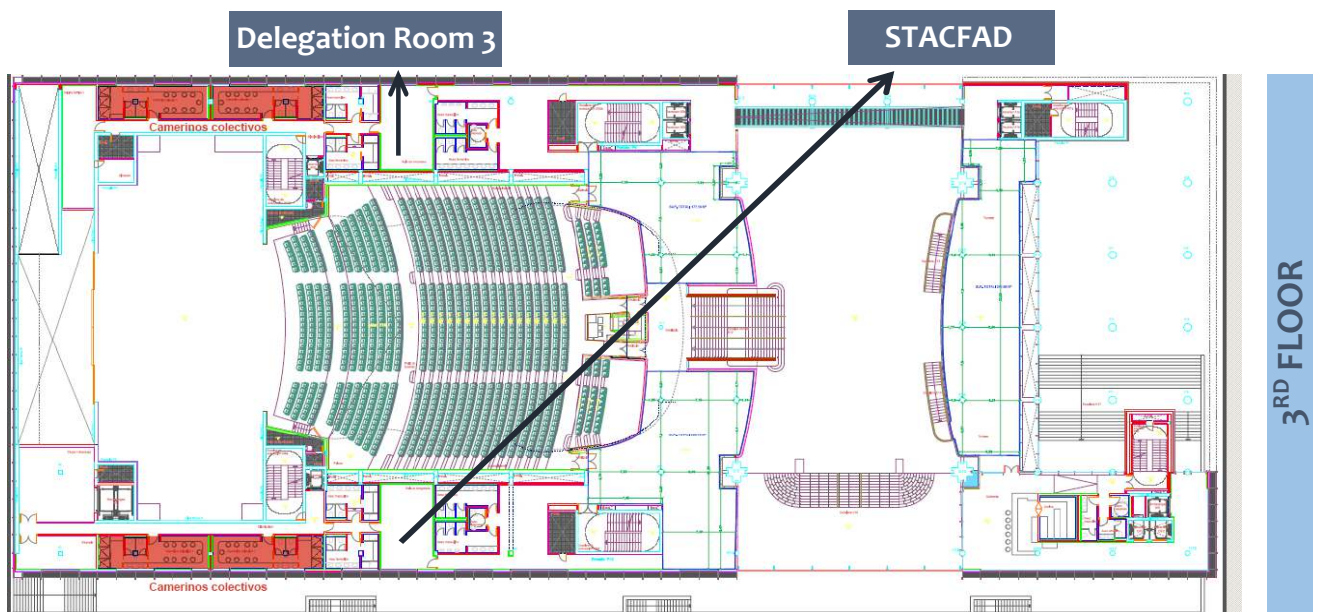
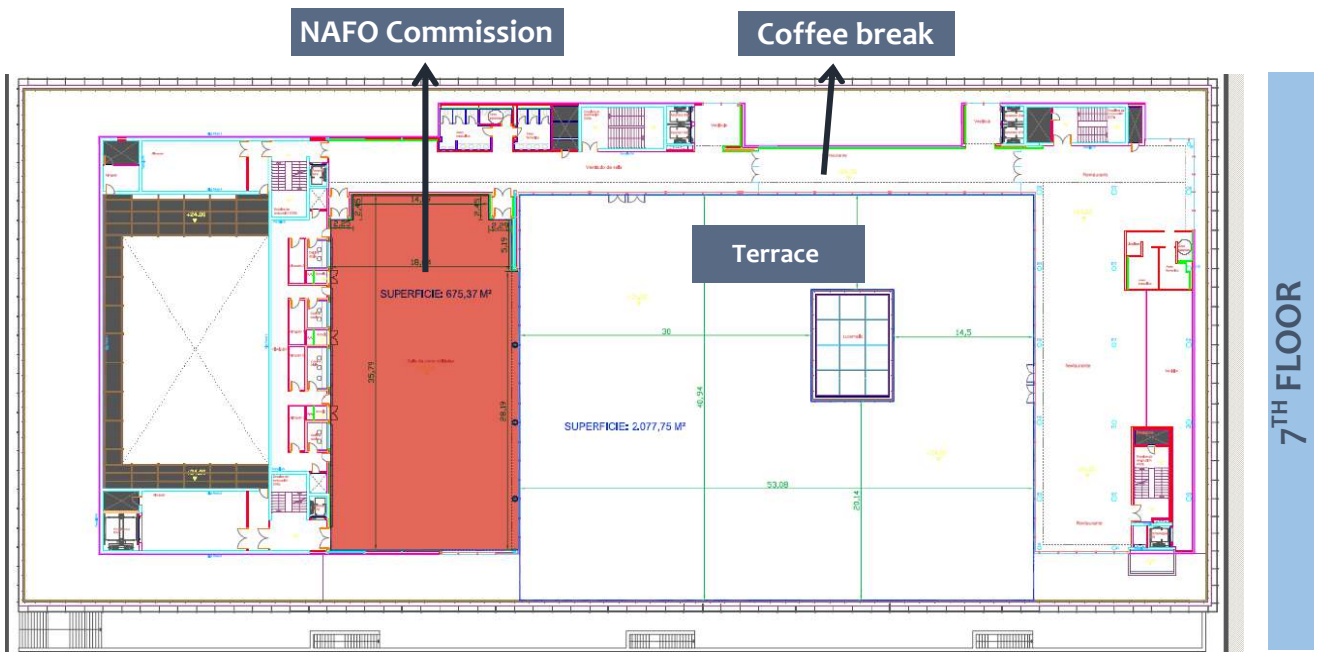
The NAFO Secretariat may record meetings of the organization. All recordings are securely stored by the Secretariat and used for documentation purposes only.

NAFO

45TH ANNUAL MEETING

NAFO Bodies	Room	Level
NAFO COMMISSION	Sala Polivalente	Seventh
SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL	Mar 4	Fourth
STACTIC	Mar 2	Ground
STACFAD	Mar 3	Third
NAFO SECRETARIAT	Balconada	Second
PRINTING DEPARTMENT	Balconada	Second
REGISTRATION AREA	Hall	Ground
DELEGATION ROOM 1	Terra 2	Ground
DELEGATION ROOM 2	Terra 4	Fourth
DELEGATION ROOM 3	Terra 3	Third
DELEGATION ROOM 4	Sala de prensa	Second





Annex 2.**Provisional Timetable 2023**

Please note, the start times provided below are approximations and may be adjusted, in consultation with the respective Chair(s), for the upcoming *45th Annual Meeting of NAFO*. Delegates are strongly encouraged to reference the daily timetable for updates.

HOURS	EVENT	NAFO BODIES	Room
Sunday, 17 September			
TBA	Coordination Meeting	All Chairs	
16:00–18:00	Registration	All Bodies	Hall – Ground Floor
Monday, 18 September			
08:30–	Registration	All Bodies	Hall – Ground Floor
09:00–09:30	Session	SC Executive Committee	
09:30–12:30	Opening Session	Scientific Council	Mar 4 – 4 th Floor
09:30–12:30	Opening Session	Commission	Sala Polivalente – 7 th Floor
12:30–14:00	Lunch Break		
14:00–18:00	Sessions	Scientific Council	Mar 4 – 4 th Floor
	Opening Sessions	STACTIC	Mar 2 - Ground Floor
		STACFAD	Mar 3 – 3 rd Floor
<i>Heads of Delegation Dinner</i>			
Tuesday, 19 September			
09:00–12:30	Sessions	Joint (Commission – Scientific Council)	Sala Polivalente – 7 th Floor
		STACTIC	Mar 2 - Ground Floor
		STACFAD	Mar 3 – 3 rd Floor
	12:30–12:45	<i>Group Photo – All Heads of Delegation</i>	
12:30–14:00	Lunch Break		
14:00–18:00	Sessions	Commission	Sala Polivalente – 7 th Floor
		Scientific Council	Mar 4 – 4 th Floor
		STACTIC	Mar 2 - Ground Floor
		STACFAD	Mar 3 – 3 rd Floor
<i>NAFO 45th Annual Meeting Reception</i>			
Wednesday, 20 September			
09:00–12:30	Sessions	Commission	Sala Polivalente – 7 th Floor
		Scientific Council	Mar 4 – 4 th Floor
		STACTIC	Mar 2 - Ground Floor
		STACFAD	Mar 3 – 3 rd Floor
12:30–14:00	Lunch Break		

HOURS	EVENT	NAFO BODIES	Room
14:00–18:00		Commission	Sala Polivalente – 7 th Floor
		Scientific Council	Mar 4 – 4 th Floor
16:00–18:00	Closing Sessions*	STACTIC	Mar 2 – Ground Floor
		STACFAD	Mar 3 – 3 rd Floor

** Standing Committee reports (STACTIC and STACFAD) should be finalized and submitted to the Secretariat for distribution on Thursday.*

Thursday, 21 September

09:00–12:30	Sessions	Commission	Sala Polivalente – 7 th Floor
		Scientific Council	Mar 4 – 4 th Floor
<i>**if required</i>	Sessions	STACTIC	Mar 2 – Ground Floor
		STACFAD	Mar 3 – 3 rd Floor
12:30–14:00	Lunch Break		
14:00–18:00	Sessions	Commission	Sala Polivalente – 7 th Floor
		Scientific Council	Mar 4 – 4 th Floor

***If additional requests from the Commission are received, a new session(s) would be required to convene.*

Friday, 22 September

09:00–	Closing Sessions	Commission	Sala Polivalente – 7 th Floor
		Scientific Council	Mar 4 – 4 th Floor
	Closing of the Annual Meeting		

[illegible]

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.
45th Annual Meeting of NAFO
 18–22 September 2023
 Vigo, Spain

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 the NAFO Secretariat
8.	NAFO Headquarters Agreement
9.	Review of the list of experts to serve as panelists under the NAFO Dispute Settlement provisions
10.	Guidance to STACFAD
11.	Guidance to STACTIC
III. Coordination of External Affairs	
12.	Report of Executive Secretary on External Meetings
13.	International Relations
	a. Relations with other International Organizations
	b. Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Deep-Sea Fisheries Project
	c. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NAFO and the Sargasso Sea Commission
	d. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NAFO and the International Council for the Exploration for the Sea (ICES)
	e. NAFO Members as Observers to External Meetings
14.	Oil and Gas Activities in the NAFO Regulatory Area
IV. Joint Session of Commission and Scientific Council	
15.	Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations
16.	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 Chairs of the Commission and the Scientific Council
17.	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), 2023
	b. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), April and July 2023
	c. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), July 2023
	d. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), April 2023
	e. Informal Group to reflect on the workload of the Scientific Council, April 2023
18.	Formulation of Request to the Scientific Council for Scientific Advice on the Management in 2025 and Beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3, 4 and Other Matters
V. Conservation of Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area	
19.	Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), April and July 2023 (if more discussion is required)
20.	Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area, 2024
	a. Cod in Division 3M
	b. Shrimp in Division 3M
	c. Redfish in Division 3M
	d. American plaice in Division 3M
21.	Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks Straddling National Jurisdictions, 2024
	a. Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 and Divisions 3KLMNO
	b. Pelagic <i>Sebastes mentella</i> (oceanic redfish) in Subarea 2 + Divisions 1F and 3K
	c. Yellowtail flounder in Divisions 3LNO
	d. White hake in Divisions 3NO
	e. Shrimp in Divisions 3LNO
22.	Other matters pertaining to Conservation of Fish Stocks
VI. Ecosystem Considerations	
23.	Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), July 2023 (if more discussion is required)
24.	Other matters pertaining to Ecosystem Considerations

VII. Conservation and Enforcement Measures	
25.	Update of the Ad hoc Working Group on Bycatches, Discards, and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area
26.	Report of STACTIC from this Annual Meeting and Recommendations
27.	Other matters pertaining to Conservation and Enforcement Measures
VIII. Finance and Administration	
28.	Report of STACFAD from this Annual Meeting
29.	Adoption of the 2024 Budget and STACFAD recommendations
IX. Closing Procedure	
30.	Other Business
31.	Election of Chair and vice-Chair
32.	Time and Place of Next Annual Meeting
33.	Press Release
34.	Adjournment

Notes to
the Provisional Agenda of the Commission

45th Annual Meeting of NAFO, 18–22 September 2023

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 on Monday, 18 September 2023.

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, 21 September 2023.

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 NAFO 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/23-167 of 19 July 2023.

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), Fishermen and Hunters Association in Greenland (KNAPK), 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 (COM Doc. 22-21). 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 or media posts, including social media, 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 2022 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 the NAFO Secretariat

A detailed administrative and activity report will be circulated to the meeting and discussed in depth by STACFAD (COM Doc. 23-05).

8. 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 (NAFO/23-095 of 28 March 2023).

9. 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/23-170 of 20 July 2023, 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 NAFO Secretariat will provide the updated list of all the nominated experts to Contracting Parties at this Annual Meeting.

10. 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.

11. Guidance to STACTIC

The Chair of STACTIC will present a summary report of the Intersessional STACTIC meeting held in May 2023 (COM Doc. 23-02).

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 and instruct the Chair of STACTIC accordingly.

III. Coordination of External Affairs

12. 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.

13. 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.

b. 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. 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.

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

The NAFO Secretariat was approached by the Sargasso Sea Commission about the possibility of signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the two Secretariats.

The Executive Secretary will provide an update on this matter.

d. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NAFO and the International Council for the Exploration for the Sea (ICES)

The NAFO Secretariat and the International Council for the Exploration for the Sea (ICES) have reviewed the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the two Secretariats.

The Executive Secretary will provide an update on this matter.

e. 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 2022/2023:

- *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 Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), 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 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.

14. 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

15. 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).

16. 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 2023) and on other topics (formulated in June 2023 and in September 2023).

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

17. 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), 2023

b. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), April and July 2023

c. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), July 2023

d. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), April 2023

e. Informal Group to reflect on the workload of the Scientific Council, April 2023

18. Formulation of Request to the Scientific Council for Scientific Advice on the Management in 2025 and Beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3 and 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

19. Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), April and July 2023 (if more discussion is required)

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

20. Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area, 2024

a. Cod in Division 3M

b. Shrimp in Division 3M

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

c. Redfish in Division 3M

d. American plaice in Division 3M

21. Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks Straddling National Jurisdictions, 2024

a. Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 and Divisions 3KLMNO

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

c. Yellowtail flounder in Divisions 3LNO

d. White hake in Divisions 3NO

e. Shrimp in Divisions 3LNO

22. 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

23. Recommendations of the Joint Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), July 2023 (if more discussion is required)

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

24. 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

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

At the 2022 NAFO Annual Meeting, Contracting Parties were asked to reflect on whether this Ad hoc working group should continue.

26. Report of STACTIC from this Annual Meeting and Recommendations

The Interim Chair of STACTIC, Patrick Moran (United States of America), will present the Committee report to the Commission before the end of the Annual Meeting and the recommendations will be considered.

27. 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

28. Report of STACFAD from this Annual Meeting

29. Adoption of the 2024 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

30. Other Business

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

31. Election of Chair and vice-Chair

According to Rule 3.1 of the NAFO Rules of Procedure: Commission “The Commission shall elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson for a term of two years. Each shall be eligible for re-election but shall not serve for more than four years in succession in the same capacity. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall not be representatives of the same Contracting Party.”

The last election of Chair and vice-Chair took place in September 2021.

32. Time and Place of Next Annual Meeting

The 46th 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 2024 Annual Meeting dates of 23-27 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, 22 September 2023.

45th Annual Meeting of NAFO
18–22 September 2023
Vigo, Spain

**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 2022
5.	Administrative and Activity Report by the NAFO Secretariat
6.	Financial Statements for 2023
7.	Review of Accumulated Surplus and Funds
8.	Personnel Matters
9.	Internship Program
10.	Report of the Annual Meeting of the International Fisheries Commissions Pension Society (IFCPS), 25–27 April 2023
11.	Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations
	a. Design a potential new visual identity for NAFO
	b. Data classification and access rights of the NAFO websites
12.	Budget Estimate for 2024
13.	Budget Forecast for 2025 and 2026
14.	Adoption of 2023/2024 Staff Committee Appointees
15.	Other Business
16.	Election of vice-Chair
17.	Time and Place of 2024–2026 Annual Meetings
18.	Adjournment

Notes to
the Provisional Agenda of STACFAD

45th Annual Meeting of NAFO, 18–22 September 2023

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 NAFO 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/23-167 of 19 July 2023.

4. Audited Financial Statements for 2022

Baker Tilly Nova Scotia Inc. performed the audit for the 2022 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.

5. Administrative and Activity Report by the NAFO Secretariat

The Administrative and Activity Report (COM Doc. 23-05) will be presented by the Secretariat.

6. Financial Statements for 2023

Financial Statement estimates for 2023 (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.

9. 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 early 2024.

10. Report on the Annual Meeting of the International Fisheries Commissions Pension Society (IFCPS), 25–27 April 2023

The Secretariat will report on the highlights of the Annual Meeting of the International Fisheries Commission Pension Society which was held from 25–27 April 2023 in San Diego, USA.

11. 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 2022 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 work completed since the 2022 Annual Meeting relating to the data classification and access rights of the NAFO websites.

As agreed at the last Annual Meeting, the hybrid documentation policy regarding posting and distribution of meeting documentation as well as the guidelines for classification of routine meeting documentation by the NAFO Secretariat would be reviewed by STACFAD at the 2023 Annual Meeting of NAFO.

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.”

12. Budget Estimate for 2024

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

13. Budget Forecast for 2025 and 2026

14. Adoption of 2023/2024 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.

15. Other Business

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

16. Election of vice-Chair

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

The vice-Chair position is currently vacant as Jake Round (United Kingdom) stepped down in June 2023.

The current Chair, Robert Fagan (Canada), was re-elected in September 2022.

17. Time and Place of 2024–2026 Annual Meetings

At the 2022 Annual Meeting, it was agreed that the dates for the 2024–2025 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:

2024	-	23 – 27 September
2025	-	15 – 19 September

STACFAD will review these dates and recommend dates for the 2026 Annual Meeting.

2026	-	21 – 25 September (3 rd full week of September to be reviewed by the Committee)
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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.

18. 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.

45th Annual Meeting of NAFO
18–22 September 2023
Vigo, Spain

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

Provisional Agenda

Agenda item	
1.	Opening by the Interim Chair, Patrick Moran (United States of America)
2.	Appointment of Rapporteur
3.	Adoption of Agenda
4.	Compliance review 2022 including review of apparent infringement reports and of chartering arrangements
5.	Review of Article 30 of the NAFO CEM
6.	NAFO MCS website and application development
7.	New and pending proposals on enforcement measures: Possible revisions of the NAFO CEM
8.	Discussion on the review of Article 4 of the NAFO CEM
9.	Practical application of Port State Measures in NAFO
10.	Marking of gears
11.	Report and recommendations of the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG)
12.	Review and evaluation of Practices and Procedures
13.	Review of current IUU list pursuant to NAFO CEM Article 53
14.	Report and advice of the Joint Advisory Group on Data Management (JAGDM)
15.	Discussions on garbage disposal onboard vessels
16.	Implementation of the 2018 Performance Review recommendations
17.	Other Business
18.	Election of Chair and vice-Chair
19.	Time and place of next meeting
20.	Adoption of report
21.	Adjournment

Notes to
the Provisional Agenda of STACTIC
45th Annual Meeting of NAFO, 18–22 September 2023

1. Opening by the Interim Chair, Patrick Moran (United States of America)

The meeting will be opened by the Interim Chair, Patrick Moran (United States of America).

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/23-167 of 19 July 2023.

4. 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 2022 fisheries reports (circulated to STACTIC by the Secretariat in a separate communication).

5. Review of Article 30 of the NAFO CEM

At the 2022 Intersessional meeting, the STACTIC Observer Program Review Working Group (WG-OPR), whose mandate is to carry out the review of Article 30 of the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures (CEM) "Observer Program", was called to meet in advance of the 2023 Annual Meeting and present an update at this meeting.

6. NAFO MCS website and application development

The Secretariat has continued work on the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Website and the Observer application since the 2023 Intersessional meeting and will provide an update at this meeting.

7. 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 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, several proposals were deferred to this meeting to allow time for the incorporation of feedback from other Contracting Parties. These proposals include Japan's proposal for the squid fishery (STACTIC WP 23-09), Canada's proposal to modify bycatch (STACTIC WP 23-14), and Canada's proposal regarding product labelling requirements (STACTIC WP 22-25 Revised). The discussion of the European Union's proposal on measure for pelagic and deep pelagic redfish (STACTIC WP 23-13) was also agreed to continue at this meeting.

8. Discussion on the review of Article 4 of the NAFO CEM

At the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting it was agreed that the review of Article 4 of the NAFO CEM will continue at this meeting.

9. Practical application of Port State Measures in NAFO

Following the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, as agreed, the STACTIC Chair sent a letter to the PECMAC Chair (NEAFC) (NAFO/23-119) providing an update on the discussions relating to the differences in the calculation of the percentages in the PSC3 forms and requesting feedback. Any relevant updates will be provided at this meeting.

The NAFO Secretariat also agreed to engage with the FAO Secretariat on the Global Information Exchange System (GIES) system and an update will also be provided at this meeting. The NAFO Secretariat will also provide an update on the progress of the e-PSC system.

10. Marking of gears

Discussions on vessel marking requirements in the NAFO CEM may continue at this meeting.

11. Report and recommendations of the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG)

At the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting it was agreed that the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG) would hold a meeting in advance of the 2023 Annual Meeting to review the text of Article 12.1(d bis) of the NAFO CEM, as well as the review of the references to the duties of the Contracting Parties as flag States in STACTIC EDG-WP 21-04 (Revised). An update will be provided at this meeting.

12. 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 share relevant Practices and Procedures with STACTIC and to submit relevant documents to the Secretariat. The NAFO Secretariat will also provide a list of all information currently available on the Practices and Procedures webpages.

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

The IUU list will be reviewed in accordance with Article 53 of the NAFO CEM.

At the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, it was agreed that the NAFO Secretariat would make the required updates to the NAFO IUU list in STACTIC WP 23-10 (Revised). STACTIC will review the IUU Vessel List, and Provisional IUU Vessel List at this meeting and recommend to the Commission whether each vessel listed in the Provisional IUU Vessel List should be deleted, retained, or transferred to the IUU vessel list in accordance with Article 53 of the NAFO CEM.

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

The NAFO Secretariat will provide an update from the latest Joint Advisory Group on Data Management (JAGDM) meeting that took place on 25 May 2023.

15. Discussions on garbage disposal onboard vessels

At the 2023 Intersessional meeting, STACTIC agreed that the STACTIC Observer Program Review Working Group (WG-OPR) would consider the possibility of adding data collection on garbage disposal at-sea as a task for the NAFO Observers. The WG-OPR is anticipated to meet in advance of this meeting and will provide any relevant updates on this matter.

16. Implementation of the 2018 Performance Review recommendations

As agreed at the 2023 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, Contracting Parties, who have not already done so, will review and submit comments regarding the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for flag State Performance to the NAFO Secretariat as soon as possible, to help facilitate continued discussions at this meeting.

17. Other Business

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

18. Election of Chair and vice-Chair

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

The Interim Chair, Patrick Moran (United States of America), was elected in September 2022 for a one-year term.

The vice-Chair position is currently vacant.

19. Time and place of next meeting

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

20. 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.

21. Adjournment

The Committee shall endeavour to formally close its proceedings on Thursday, 21 September 2023 and provide its report to the Commission. The Commission will then decide on the time for the report to be presented by the STACTIC Interim Chair to the Commission.

PART III.

45th Annual Meeting of NAFO
18–22 September 2023
Vigo, Spain

Scientific Council

Provisional Agenda

I. Plenary Session (Scientific Council Chair: Karen Dwyer)

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 SC 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), 2023
 - b. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), April and July 2023
 - c. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), July 2023
 - d. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), 2023
 - e. Informal Group to reflect on the workload of the Scientific Council, April 2023
4. Formulation of Request to the Scientific Council for Scientific Advice on Management in 2025 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 2024 and 2025
5. Other Matters
 - a. Review of SCR and SCS Documents
 - b. Review of Survey SCS Document
 - c. Other Business

- i) Reviewers for June 2024: topics
- 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
 - i) Northern shortfin squid in SA 3+4 (interim monitoring)
 - 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. Presentation of any new results from stock assessments and the scientific advice of pelagic *Sebastes mentella* (ICES Divisions V, XII and XIV; NAFO 1) (request #9)
 - b. Requests arising from Working Groups in 2023
- 2. *Ad hoc* Requests from Current Meeting
- 3. Further progress on items related to COM requests (in SCS Doc. 23/01)
 - a. 3-5 year work plan (Commission request #8)
 - b. Continued work on the PA Review (Commission request #7)

VII. Review of Future Meeting Arrangements

VIII. Future Special Sessions

- 1. Discussion of proposed topics
 - a. Flatfish symposium 2024
 - b. FAO/NAO Ecosystem workshop 2025
 - c. Other proposed topics

IX. Other Matters

- 1. 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)
- 2. Any other business

X. Adoption of Reports

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

XI. Adjournment

Annex 1. COMMISSION'S REQUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON MANAGEMENT IN 2024 AND BEYOND OF CERTAIN STOCKS IN SUBAREAS 2, 3 AND 4 AND OTHER MATTERS

(From [SC Doc. 23/01](#))

Following a request from the Scientific Council, the Commission agreed that items 1, 2, 4 and 7 should be the priority for the June 2023 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 in Div. 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

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). However, for 3M shrimp supplementary advice in terms of fishing-days should also be considered to the extent feasible.

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

- In 2023, advice should be provided for 2024 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 2023, advice should be provided for 2024 and 2025 for: Redfish in Div. 3M, White hake in Div. 3NO, Yellowtail flounder in Div. 3LNO and Northern shrimp in Div. 3LNO.
- In 2023, advice should be provided for 2024, 2025 and 2026 for: American plaice in Div. 3M.

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 in Subarea 2 + Div 3KLMNO annually to compute the TAC using the agreed HCR and determine whether exceptional circumstances are occurring. If exceptional circumstances are occurring, the exceptional circumstances 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. The Commission requests that Scientific Council continue to advance work on the 2+3KLMNO Greenland halibut and 3LN redfish MSE processes during 2022-2023, as per the approved 2023 workplan [COM-SC RBMS WP 22/07], in particular :
 - a. Review and finalize the data series to be used for the two MSEs;
 - b. For the Greenland Halibut MSE: (1) propose, review and finalize Operating Models (OMs) to be used; and (2) Test Candidate Management Procedures (CMPs) to support the RBMS recommendation of an HCR to the Commission; and
 - c. For the 3LN Redfish MSE: (1) Proposal of an initial review of Operating Models; and (2) work to support the development of performance statistics and CMPs.
5. The Commission requests that the Scientific Council continue to work on tiers 1 and 2 of the Roadmap, specifically to:
 - a. Include on a regular basis summary information on TCI in stock summary sheets (including indications of other NAFO managed stocks within the corresponding guild) and ecosystem summary sheets.
 - b. Work to support WG-EAFFM in exploring:
 - i. Management considerations for occasions in which the 2TCI ecosystem reference point were to be exceeded, similar to those when exceptional circumstances are triggered within MSE.
 - ii. Effective methods to communicate TCI-related information to the Commission, in particular for when 2TCI is, or expected to be exceeded.
 - c. Complete the development of the 3LNO ecosystem summary sheet (ESS), advance as much as possible the development of the 3M ESS, and continue working, if capacity allows, toward undertaking a joint Workshop with ICES (International Council for the Exploration of the Sea) on reporting on North Atlantic ecosystems.
6. In relation to the habitat impact assessment component of the Roadmap (VME and SAI analyses), the Commission requests that Scientific Council to:
 - a. Complete the 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 needed for the 2023 WG-EAFFM meeting;
 - b. Support the Secretariat in creating standardized data layers (using GIS), and products with supporting documentation (including metadata) for periodic reassessment

- purposes required to support the implementation of the NAFO Roadmap towards an Ecosystem Approach; and
- c. Continue working with WG-EAFFM towards developing operational objectives for the protection of VMEs and biodiversity in the NRA.
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 and revised in 2022 (NAFO COM-SC Doc. 20-04), specifically:
 - a. Develop a small set of revised PA frameworks based on the conclusions of the first PA Framework workshop to inform RBMS in proposing a draft revised framework in 2023; and
 - b. Apply in an illustrative way the revised PA frameworks to selected NAFO stocks, and consider how the SC advice may have differed under the revised PA Frameworks to inform RBMS in proposing a draft revised framework in 2023
 8. The Commission requests Scientific Council to update the 3-5 year work plan, which reflects requests arising from the 2022 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 any new results from stock assessments and the scientific advice of 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.
 10. The Commission requests that any new Canadian stock assessments for Cod 2J3KL and Witch flounder 2J3KL be included as an annex to the Scientific Council's annual report.
 11. The Commission requests Scientific Council, jointly with the Secretariat, to conduct ongoing analysis of the Flemish Cap cod fishery data by 2023 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.

[illegible]

2. For stock assessed with an age-structured model, information should be provided on stock size, spawning stock sizes, recruitment prospects, historical fishing mortality. Graphs and/or tables should be provided for all of the following for the longest time-period possible:
- historical yield and fishing mortality;
 - spawning stock biomass and recruitment levels;
 - Stock trajectory against reference points
 - And any information the Scientific Council deems appropriate

Stochastic short-term projections (3 years) should be performed with the following constant fishing mortality levels as appropriate:

- For stocks opened to direct fishing: $F_{0.1}$, F_{\max} , $2/3 F_{\max}$, $3/4 F_{\max}$, $85\% F_{\max}$, $75\% F_{\text{status quo}}$, $F_{\text{status quo}}$, $125\% F_{\text{status quo}}$,
 - For stocks under a moratorium to direct fishing: $F_{\text{status quo}}$, $F = 0$.

The first year of the projection should assume a catch equal to the agreed TAC for that year.

Results from stochastic short-term projection should include:

- The 10%, 50% and 90% percentiles of the yield, total biomass, spawning stock biomass and exploitable biomass for each year of the projections
- The risks of stock population parameters increasing above or falling below available biomass and fishing mortality reference points. The table indicated below should guide the Scientific Council in presenting the short-term projections.

[illegible]

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 2023

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	Andrea Perreault	andrea.perreault@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	Nicolas Le Corre	katherine.skane@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

From the Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Vigo (Pontevedra), Spain

Roughhead grenadier in SA 2+3	Fernando Gonzalez-Costas	fernando.gonzalez@ieo.csic.es
Splendid alfonso in Subarea 6	Fernando Gonzalez-Costas	fernando.gonzalez@ieo.csic.es
Cod in Div. 3M	Irene Garrido Fernández	irene.garrido@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	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
Greenland halibut in SA 0+1 (offshore)	Adriana Nogueira	adno@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.osebee@noaa.gov
White hake in Div. 3NO	Katherine Sosebee	katherine.osebee@noaa.gov

**Annex 3. DENMARK (ON BEHALF OF GREENLAND) COASTAL STATE REQUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC
ADVICE - 2024**
(from [SCS Doc. 23/03](#))

Denmark (on behalf of Greenland) hereby requests for scientific advice on management in 2024 of certain stocks in NAFO Subareas 0 and 1. Denmark (on behalf of Greenland) requests the Scientific Council for advice on the following species:

1. Golden Redfish and Demersal Deep-Sea Redfish

Advice on Golden redfish (*Sebastes marinus*) and demersal deep-sea redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Subarea 1 was in June 2020 given for 2021-2023. The Scientific Council is requested to provide advice on appropriate TAC levels for 2024 to 2026.

2. Atlantic Wolffish and Spotted Wolffish

Advice on Atlantic Wolffish (*Anarhichas lupus*) and Spotted Wolffish (*Anarhichas minor*) in Subarea 1 was in June 2020 given for 2021-2023. The Scientific Council is requested to provide advice on appropriate TAC levels for 2024 to 2026.

3. Greenland Halibut, Offshore

Advice on Greenland Halibut, Offshore in Subareas 0 and 1 was in 2022 given for 2023 and 2024. The Scientific Council is requested to evaluate whether the data collected in 2022 is sufficient to reconsider the harvest recommendation for 2024. If so, the Scientific Council is requested to provide updated advice on appropriate TAC levels for 2024, taking the new data into account.

4. Greenland Halibut, Inshore, West Greenland

Advice on the inshore stocks of Greenland Halibut in Subarea 1 was in 2022 given for 2023-2024. The Scientific Council is requested to continue its monitoring of the above stocks and provide updated advice in the event of significant changes in stock levels. Scientific Council are also requested to evaluate the performance of an appropriate analytical assessment model and its perception of the stock trajectory.

5. Northern Shrimp, West Greenland

The Scientific Council is requested, before October, to provide advice on the scientific basis for management of Northern Shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in Subareas 0 and 1 in 2024. The advice is requested to be in line with Greenland's stated management objective of maintaining a mortality risk of no more than 35% in the first-year prediction and to provide a catch option table ranging with 5,000 tonne increments. Future catch options should be provided for as many years as data allows for.

6. Northern Shrimp, East Greenland

The Scientific Council is in cooperation with ICES requested to provide advice on the scientific basis for management of Northern Shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in Denmark Strait and adjacent waters east of southern Greenland in 2023 and for as many years ahead as data allows for.

Annex 4. CANADA'S REQUEST FOR COASTAL STATE ADVICE - 2024

(from [SCS Doc. 23/04](#))

Canada would like to submit its request to the Scientific Council for advice on the following species:

1. Greenland halibut (Subarea 0 + 1 (offshore))

In 2022, advice on Greenland Halibut in Subareas 0 and 1 (offshore) was given for 2023 and 2024. The Scientific Council is requested to evaluate whether the data collected in 2022 is sufficient to reconsider the harvest recommendation for 2024. If so, the Scientific Council is requested to provide an updated assessment of status and trends in the total stock area throughout its range and to advise on the 2024 TAC level.

2. Shrimp (Subarea 1 and Division 0A)

Canada requests the Scientific Council to consider the following options in assessing and projecting future stock levels for Shrimp in Subarea 1 and Division 0A:

The status of the stock should be determined and risk-based advice provided for catch options corresponding to Z_{msy} , in 5,000-10,000t increments (subject to the discretion of Scientific Council), with forecasts for 2024 to 2026. These options should be evaluated in relation to Canada's Harvest Strategy (2022 revised version attached) and NAFO's Precautionary Approach Framework, and presented in the form of risk analyses related to B_{msy} , 80% B_{msy} , B_{lim} (30% B_{msy}) and Z_{msy} .

Presentation of the results should include graphs and/or tables related to the following:

- Historical and current yield, biomass relative to B_{msy} , total mortality relative to Z_{msy} , and recruitment (or proxy) levels for the longest time period possible;
- Total mortality (Z) and fishable biomass for a range of projected catch options (as noted above) for the years 2024 to 2026. Projections should include both catch options and a range of effective cod predation biomass levels considered appropriate by the Scientific Council. Results should include risk analyses of falling below: B_{MSY} , 80% B_{msy} and B_{lim} (30% B_{msy}), and of being above Z_{msy} based on the 3-year projections, consistent with the Harvest Decision Rules in Canada's Harvest Strategy; and
- Total area fished for the longest time period possible.

Please provide the advice relative to [Canada's Harvest Strategy](#) as part of the formal advice (i.e., grey box in the advice summary sheet).