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In all correspondence
please refer to:

NAFO/26-069

06 March 2026

TO: All Contracting Parties;
Representatives of STACTIC; and
Chairs of Commission and STACTIC

Dear Colleagues,

Subject: Provisional Agenda – *NAFO Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) Intersessional Meeting, 06–08 May 2026 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*

Further to NAFO/26-037 of 05 February 2026, and pursuant to Rule 4.2 of the *NAFO Rules of Procedure: Commission*, please find enclosed the provisional agenda for the *NAFO Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) Intersessional Meeting* taking place 06–08 May 2026 at the NAFO Secretariat (Summit Place, 1601 Lower Water Street, Suite 401) in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Following circulation of the draft provisional agenda, there has been a small amendment to the annotation under agenda item 7 “*New and pending proposals on enforcement measures: Possible revisions of the NAFO CEM*”.

1. **STACTIC Rules of Procedure** – A gentle reminder that, pursuant to Rule 6.a of the *NAFO Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) Rules of Procedure regarding data confidentiality and participation in meetings (COM Doc. 22-19)*:

“Contracting Parties shall provide to the NAFO Secretariat a list of all STACTIC attendees no less than 10 days in advance of any STACTIC meeting, noting all participants’ affiliations.”

2. **NAFO Meetings SharePoint** – All relevant meeting documentation will be accessible on the NAFO Meetings SharePoint at <https://nafoportal.sharepoint.com/sites/meetings-stactic-may> as it becomes available.

Please note, the NAFO Meetings SharePoint was updated in December 2025, and new login credentials are required. As each Contracting Party registers its delegates, participants will receive a system-generated email from Microsoft containing their personalized access link and instructions for logging in to the new platform.

As adopted at the 2023 Annual Meeting of NAFO ([COM Doc. 23-28](#)), the guidelines for the classification of working documents reads “*The Contracting Party submitting a Working Paper is responsible to designate that Working Paper as “open access” and made available to the general public on the NAFO website prior to the meeting. If the Contracting Party does not make*

such a designation, then it will not be made available to the general public on the NAFO website prior to the meeting.”

3. **Hybrid Capabilities** – For those Contracting Party representatives that are unable to attend the meeting in-person, hybrid capabilities will be provided.

For logistical purposes, the NAFO Secretariat requires Contracting Parties to indicate on the list of STACTIC attendees those that will be participating in-person and/or virtually.

4. **General Information** – To assist participants with travel arrangements, please find further enclosed general information including hotel accommodations and current requirements when travelling to Canada.

We kindly ask your assistance in providing this information to the members of your meeting delegation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Brynhildur Benediktsdóttir
Executive Secretary

BB:ll

Enclosed: Provisional Agenda and General Information (05 pgs.)

NAFO Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) Intersessional Meeting

06–08 May 2026
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Provisional Agenda

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

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

2. Appointment of rapporteur

A rapporteur will be nominated and appointed.

3. Adoption of agenda

4. Annual compliance review 2025

The NAFO Secretariat will present the draft compilation of the fishing reports as part of the process of the Annual Compliance Review conducted by STACTIC in accordance with Rule 5.1(e) of the NAFO Rules of Procedure: Commission. Contracting Parties will be invited to review the draft compilation for completeness and accuracy.

At the 2025 Annual Meeting, it was also agreed that discussions would continue on the observer reporting template (STACTIC WP 25-08 (Rev. 6), and the format of the at-sea inspection information (STACTIC WP 25-17).

5. Annual compliance review format

At the 2025 STACTIC Annual Meeting, it was agreed that Contracting Parties will further reflect on STACTIC WP 25-10 (Revised) and provide Canada with feedback prior to the 2026 STACTIC Intersessional Meeting. It was also agreed that Discussions on the compliance review format, as outlined in STACTIC WP 25-10 (Revised), will continue at the 2026 STACTIC Intersessional Meeting.

6. NAFO MCS website and application development

The Secretariat has continued work on the MCS Website, the Observer application, and the ePSC application since the 2025 Annual 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 2025 STACTIC Annual Meeting, it was agreed that comments on STACTIC WP 25-20 be provided to Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) ahead of the 2026 STACTIC Intersessional Meeting.

8. Review of specific measures in Article 6 of the NAFO CEM

a. Measures relating to the cod fishery in Division 3M

In accordance with Article 6.13 of the NAFO CEM, referred to in Article 6.10 shall apply during 2026 and be reviewed by STACTIC in 2026, to assess whether the provisions led to an increase in 3M redfish bycatches or directed fishery.

b. Measures relating to the yellowtail flounder fishery

In accordance with Article 6.14 of the NAFO CEM, in 2026 STACTIC shall assess if the provisions in Articles 6.3(g) and 6.9(a) led to an increase on American plaice bycatches or directed fishery on American plaice; and review Articles 6.3(g) and 6.9(a).

c. Measures relating to the squid fishery

In accordance with Article 11.9 of the NAFO CEM, the exemption referred to in Articles 11.2 to 11.8 shall apply during 2025 and 2026 and be reviewed by STACTIC.

9. Update from the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG)

The work of reviewing the draft of the 2026 NAFO CEM was completed by correspondence in 2025, so there was no meeting of the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG). Any updates or future work of the EDG may be discussed under this agenda item.

10. Report and recommendations of the Working Group on the Introduction of FLUX UN/CEFACT Standard for fisheries data exchanges in NAFO (WG-FLUX)

An update on the work of the Working Group on the Introduction of FLUX UN/CEFACT Standard for fisheries data exchanges in NAFO (WG-FLUX) will be provided under this agenda item.

11. Review of the Electronic observation program

In accordance with Article 30.13 of the 2026 NAFO CEM, STACTIC will review the implementation of the Electronic Observation Program in 2026.

12. Half-year review of the implementation of new NAFO CEM measures

The NAFO Secretariat will report on its experience in the implementation of binding measures adopted by the Commission at the 2025 Annual Meeting, which came into force in January 2026 (NAFO/25-252 of 25 November 2025). Contracting Parties will be invited to report on their experience and any issues encountered in the implementation of the new measures.

13. Discussion on the definition of directed fisheries and bycatches

At the 2025 STACTIC Annual Meeting, it was agreed that discussions on the definition of directed fisheries and bycatches continue at the 2026 STACTIC Intersessional Meeting.

14. Flag State Performance Review

At the 2024 STACTIC Annual Meeting, it was agreed that all Contracting Parties will complete the self-assessments of flag State performance in accordance with the criteria set out in the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance for initial presentation at the 2026 STACTIC Intersessional Meeting. A summary report will be prepared by STACTIC to be presented to the NAFO Commission at its 2026 Annual Meeting.

15. Practical application of port State measures in NAFO

At the 2025 STACTIC Annual Meeting, it was agreed that discussions on the practical application of Port State Measures in NAFO continue at the 2026 STACTIC Intersessional Meeting.

16. Review of Annex II.B of the NAFO CEM

At the 2025 STACTIC Annual Meeting, it was agreed that the United States of America, along with other interested Contracting Parties, will review the Rules of Confidentiality in Annex II.B and provide a discussion paper ahead of the 2026 STACTIC Intersessional Meeting.

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

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

18. 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 Secretariat will also provide a list of all information currently available on the Practices and Procedures webpages.

19. Other business

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

20. Time and place of next meeting

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

21. Adoption of report

22. Adjournment

NAFO Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) Intersessional Meeting

06–08 May 2026
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

General Information

Meeting Venue

The meeting will be held at:

NAFO Secretariat
Summit Place
1601 Lower Water Street, Suite 401
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada B3J 3P6

Hotel Accommodations

In close vicinity to the NAFO Headquarters:

Courtyard by Marriott Halifax Downtown
5120 Salter St., Halifax, NS
Ph: +1 902-428-1900

The Hollis Halifax - a DoubleTree Suites
1649 Hollis St, Halifax, NS
Ph: +1 902-429-7233

Residence Inn by Marriott Halifax Downtown
1599 Grafton St., Halifax, NS
Ph: +1 902-422-0493

The Sutton Place Hotel Halifax
1700 Grafton St., Halifax, NS
Ph: +1-902-932-7548

Muir, Autograph Collection
1709 Lower Water St., Halifax, NS
Ph: +1-902-407-6847

Four Points by Sheraton Halifax
1496 Hollis St., Halifax, NS
Ph: +1 902-423-4444

Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel
1919 Upper Water St., Halifax, NS
Ph: +1 902-421-1700

The Prince George Hotel Halifax
1725 Market St., Halifax, NS
Ph: +1 800-565-1567

Cambridge Suite Hotel Halifax
1583 Brunswick St., Halifax, NS
Ph: +1 -902-420-0555

The Barrington Hotel
1875 Barrington St, Halifax, NS
Ph: +1-902-429-7410

Hotel reservations are to be made by participants directly with the hotel.

Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

An Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) is an entry requirement for visa-exempt foreign nationals travelling to Canada by air. The eTA can be completed online and costs CAD \$7.00. You can find more information about applying for an eTA [here](#).

Transportation

Taxi service provided by:

Casino Taxi
Ph: 902-425-6666 or 902-429-6666
www.casinotaxi.ca

Public Transportation

Halifax Transit is Halifax's public bus and ferry service provider. For current schedules and fares, visit [Halifax Transit](#).

Tips on travelling to and from the airport

- It takes about 30-40 minutes to get from the airport to downtown Halifax
- Take the Metro Regional Express Bus (route #320) for \$4.75 (exact change or HFXGO app).
- Rent a car. The rental car counters are located on the Lower Level of the Airport Parkade.
- Take a taxi or limo right from the airport to downtown Halifax for \$68-\$75
- Uber and Lyft are available in Halifax
- You can find more information on transportation from the Halifax Airport [here](#).

Tourism Information

For additional tourist information, visit <https://discoverhalifaxns.com/>