



Serial No. N4018

NAFO/FC Doc. 98/11

20<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 1998

Scientific Council Proposals/Recommendations with  
the implication on the Conservation and Management  
of Fish Stocks in the NAFO Convention Area

This document summarizes the Scientific Council proposals/recommendations forwarded to the Fisheries Commission during the 20th Annual Meeting, Lisbon, Portugal, 14-18 September 1998. The proposals/recommendations were adopted by the Fisheries Commission at the closing session, 18 September 1998, for the purpose of conservation and management of fish stocks in the NAFO Convention/Regulatory area, on the following terms and conditions:

1. The timing of Scientific Council advice for certain stocks (from FC Working Paper 98/7)

The assessment of certain (six) stocks by the Scientific Council on an alternating year basis will be as follows:

The time horizon for the assessments are depicted in the Table below (check marks identify the year of the assessments).

Stock	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
A. plaice 3LNO	✓		✓		✓
Cod 3NO	✓		✓		✓
Redfish 3LN	✓		✓		✓
Cod 3M	✓	✓		✓	
A. plaice 3M	✓	✓		✓	
Witch 3NO	✓	✓		✓	

For Capelin in Div. 3NO, advice will not be provided until appropriate data are available.

2. Scientific advice for the shrimp in Div. 3M (from FC Working Paper 98/9)

The Scientific Council will conduct the assessment of shrimp in Div. 3M in November. First time, in November 1999, the scientific advice would be presented (at the 22nd Annual Meeting, September 2000) to the year 2001 and annually thereafter.

3. Statistical data, and identification and reporting of elasmobranchs, "grenadiers" and non-traditional species (from FC Working Paper 98/14)

The following scientific recommendations were agreed by the Fisheries Commission:

- i) The analyses on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and other non-traditional species be carried out and the results presented to the Scientific Council at the earliest opportunity.
- ii) The inter-agency statistical data harmonization (catch data between NAFO and FAO) be continued as a regular procedure in order that the discrepancies be detected at as early a stage as possible, and that national authorities should be requested to submit statistics with a maximum of detail with regard to the species composition of the catch, in order to minimize one of the main causes of inter-agency discrepancies.
- iii) The NAFO Contracting Parties should encourage training in identification and reporting of elasmobranchs (within the national data collection centers prior to submission to international organizations).
- iv) An expanded list of individually identified species of elasmobranchs be included on the STATLANT 21A questionnaire and that the national authorities be requested to submit catch statistics with a maximum degree of detail.
- v) The identification of grenadier should also be publicized, and that Contracting Parties with data on roughhead grenadier in SA 2+3 bring such data to Scientific Council June 1999 meeting to attempt an assessment on this species.