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The 2013 Status Report of PRP Recommendations Implementation

Background

In response to UNGA 63/112 which urged RFMOs to conduct performance reviews, in 2009 the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) established a Performance Assessment Working Group (PAWG). The PAWG was tasked with setting up a performance review to address NAFO's strengths, weaknesses, challenges and successes, and to identify areas of improvement.

In April 2010 the PAWG met, and the NAFO Performance Review's terms of reference were drafted for approval by the Organization's Annual Meeting in September, 2010 (GC Doc. 10/1).

The Performance Review Panel (PRP), consisting of three external experts and four internal experts, met twice during 2011 at the NAFO Secretariat Headquarters in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada. The review itself was undertaken by the three external experts, Dr Fábio Hazin, Dr Denzil Miller and Mr Milton Haughton, whilst the four internal experts, James Baird, Einar Lemche, John Spencer and Olga Sedykh, and the NAFO secretariat provided information and administrative support.

The Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel was presented by Dr Denzil Miller, to the 33rd NAFO Annual Meeting. At the September 2011 Annual Meeting the list of PRP recommendations was compiled in GC WP 11/2 (Rev) and the NAFO bodies responsible for each recommendation were established. Panel recommendations that pertained to individual NAFO Constituent Bodies were then forwarded to the Bodies for their review. A General Council Working Group was established to address the PRP recommendations that involve policy issues and more than one Constituent Body (GC Doc. 11/2). The GC Working Group met in March 2012 and was tasked with designating which recommendations could be addressed immediately and which required Plans of Action to be established, either in the short (one to two years), medium (two to three years) or long-term (more than three years). In general those classed as short-term were considered to be high priority items. The approved Draft Action Plan for the Implementation of the Performance Review Recommendations was presented by the GC WG in GC Doc. 12/1. During the September 2012 Annual Meeting the Scientific Council, Fisheries Commission, STACTIC and STACFAD reviewed and addressed the action table contained in GC Doc. 12/1. Following this process a revised Action Plan was agreed and adopted. At this point it was noted that significant progress had already been made by all groups in implementing actions.

It was agreed that the Secretariat would compile all feedback into a single document for circulation to Contracting Parties. It was also agreed that a report on the progress in implementing the Plan of Action should become a regular agenda item on the General Council agenda.

Progress Towards Implementation of Performance Assessment Recommendations

Implementation status of recommendations, by chapter of the PRP Report, is shown in Table 1, while implementation status by timescale agreed in GC Doc 12/1 is shown in Table 2. Please note that the totals in the two tables vary, due to the existence of multiple time scales for some recommendations where more than one action was agreed.

Table 1. Implementation status of recommendations, by chapter of the PRP Report.

Progress Status	Action Completed	Action Ongoing	Action Ongoing - No Further Action Necessary	Action Partially Completed	Action Proposed
Chapter 3	3	1	2	0	1
Chapter 4	13	17	1	6	1
Chapter 5	4	4	0	0	0
Chapter 6	1	0	1	0	0
Chapter 7	8	5	0	0	1

Table 2. Implementation status by agreed timescale.

Progress Status	Completed	Action Ongoing	Action Ongoing - No Further Action Necessary	Action Partially Completed	Action Proposed
Short Term	17	15	2	5	1
Medium Term	13	17	1	3	1
Long Term	1	3	1	0	1

The Definition of Status Grades

Completed – NAFO has fully implemented the proposed course of action and no further action is necessary.

Partially Completed – NAFO has implemented some of the proposals under a recommendation, others remain ongoing.

Action Ongoing, No Further Action Required – The proposal relates to a longer-term or ongoing objective. NAFO has taken steps to implement this and no further action other than monitoring is required.

Action Ongoing – NAFO has taken steps to implement a proposal, but further action is needed in the future.

Action Proposed – The recommendation has been considered by NAFO and a way forwards proposed, but so far no actions have been taken to implement it.

Performance Assessment Database

2013 has seen the development of an Access database as a means of compiling the PRP recommendations, the proposed actions and the progress status of each recommendation. The aim of this database is to provide a means of reviewing the progress made by NAFO and its constituent bodies with regards to the PRP recommendations. To continue with NAFO's efforts to improve transparency the database will be made available online via the NAFO website. Construction of this database has made use of the Internship Program through the work of Tom Reilly.

The documents in Table 3 have been used to populate the database and the status of the various recommendations of the panel are summarised in Table 4. Further details can be found on the NAFO website under the Performance Assessment tab.

Availability and Usage

The outputs of the database will be presented as a downloadable PDF via the NAFO Website (<http://www.nafo.int/about/frames/activities-pa.html>). To search the database for keywords or particular recommendation numbers the ctrl+F facility may be used.

Table 3. Documents used in the preparation of the NAFO Performance Assessment Database.

Document Number	Serial Number	Body	Title
FC Doc 12/12	N6086	FC	Proposal for the Establishment of Measures to Protect Sea Pens and Sponges in the NAFO Regulatory Area
FC Doc 12/18	N6092	FC	Proposal on lost or abandoned fishing gear
FC Doc 12/20	N6094	FC	Product Labelling under Article 24 - All product must be clearly labelled by species and identify the division of capture
FC Doc 12/22	N6096	FC	Standardization of Observer program data and Reporting requirements in the NAFO Regulatory Area
FC Doc 12/23	N6097	FC	Annual Compliance Review 2012
FC Doc 12/25	N6101	FC	Proposal for the updated framework for the presentations of Scientific Advice based on risk
FC Doc 12/26	N6102	FC	Proposal for the improvement of the process to develop questions to the Scientific Council
FC Doc 12/27	N6103	FC	Proposal for a Joint Fisheries Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Conservation Plans and Rebuilding Strategies
FC Doc 12/28	N6104	FC	Proposal for a Joint Fisheries Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on the Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management
FC Doc 12/29	N6105	FC	Proposal for a resolution on the protection of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems from activities other than fishing
FC Doc 12/31	N6130	FC	Report of the Fisheries Commission and its Subsidiary Body (STACTIC)
FC Doc 12/6	N6080	FC	Recommendations from the WGFMS-VME to the Fisheries Commission
FC Doc 12/8	N6082	FC	Provision of VMS Data to NAFO Constituent Bodies
FC Doc 13/4	N6149	FC	Report of the Standing Committee on International Control
FC WP 12/24	N/A	FC	Proposal for a Conservation Measure to ensure the compatibility of measures adopted for the conservation and management of straddling stocks within the Convention Area
FC WP 12/26	N/A	FC	Proposal on the request from the Fisheries Commission to the Scientific Council to facilitate the peer review of the method of catch estimation of NAFO stocks by STACFIS
FC WP 12/8	N/A	FC	Expert Panel Recommendations relevant to STACTIC
FC WP 13/11	N/A	FC	Performance Assessment Review Recommendations addressed to the Fisheries Commission
FC WP 13/3	N/A	FC	Draft Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the proposed joint NEAFC/NAFO Advisory Group on Data Management
FC WP 13/4	N/A	FC	2013 Recommendations from the WGFMS-CPRS to the Fisheries Commission
FC WP 13/7	N/A	FC	Draft Terms of Reference of the proposed Joint Fisheries Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies
FC WP 13/8	N/A	FC	Draft Terms of Reference of the proposed Joint Fisheries Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management
GC Doc 12/1	N6011	GC	Report of the GC Working Group on the Development of Plans of Action for the Implementation of the Recommendations of the NAFO Performance Review Panel

Document Number	Serial Number	Body	Title
GC WG WP 12/1	N/A	GC	Draft Action Plan for the Implementation of the Performance Review Recommendations Concerning Several NAFO bodies
GC WG WP 12/2	N/A	GC	GC WG on the Development of Plans of Action for the Implementation of the Recommendations of the NAFO Performance Review Panel – March 2012
GC WP 12/4	N/A	GC	Assessment of the Methodology used by NAFO Scientific Council to Estimate Catches for NAFO stocks: Summary of Recommendations
GC WP 12/8	N/A	GC	Performance Assessment Review Recommendations addressed to the Scientific Council
NAFO SCS Doc 13/17	N6208	SC	Scientific Council June Meeting 2013
STACFAD WP 12/5	N/A	GC	Update by the Secretariat on the implementation of PRP recommendations tasked to STACFAD
STACTIC WP 12/38	N/A	FC	Protection of the marine environment from pollution in the North West Atlantic Convention area
STACTIC WP 13/6	N/A	FC	Report of the Joint NEAFC/NAFO ad hoc Working group on the possibility of making AGDC a joint body of NEAFC and NAFO