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**Report of the STACTIC Technical Working Group
on Communications
18-19 January 2001
Brussels, Belgium**

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on Communications**

(FC Doc. 01/2)

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The Meeting was held in accordance with the decision taken by the Fisheries Commission through mail consultations (GF/00-632 dated 18 Oct. 18/00 and GF-707 of Nov. 21/00).

1. Opening of Meeting

Mr. Gordon Moulton (NAFO) opened the first meeting of the STACTIC Technical Working Group on Communication at 1015 hrs on 18 January 2001 and welcomed all the delegates (Annex 1).

2. Election of Chairman

Mr. David Bevan (Canada) was elected Chairman of the meeting.

3. Appointment of Rapporteur

Mr. Kjell Nybacka (EC) was appointed Rapporteur.

4. Adoption of Agenda

The Provisional Agenda (Annex 2), as circulated to the Contracting Parties, was adopted with a change concerning confidentiality issues as noted under item 8.

5. Review of the Draft Terms of Reference

The Draft Terms of Reference, as reflected in enclosure 3 to GF/00-632, were discussed and accepted as per Technical W.G. Working Paper 01/2.

**6. Evaluation of tasks and requirements for the NAFO Secretariat
in the context of the reports and message to be sent and received**

The tasks and the requirements for the NAFO Secretariat, as reflected in the Draft list in enclosure 4 to GF/00-632, were discussed. The list of tasks was accepted but the Parties agreed that quality control and flexibility elements should be added to the list as per Technical W.G. Working Paper 01/3, Annex 1.

During this discussion the Contracting Parties highlighted that certain elements of the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures are/or will become redundant. It was agreed that this issue should be dealt with by STACTIC, as appropriate.

**7. Evaluation of the resources available to the NAFO Secretariat
to complete the prescribed tasks**

It was agreed that a consultant is needed to assist the Secretariat in the preparation for a call for tender and other technical issues to prepare and implement a work plan to set up a running

Automated Hail and Vessel Monitoring System. A provisional list of consultants obtained at this meeting can be found in Annex 3.

It was noted that that NAFO has allocated a budget of \$ 200,000 for the proposed Automated Hail and Satellite Tracking System. The Working Group noted that this budget did not calculate the costs of consultant. It was agreed that work should proceed and operate within the allocated budget. It was agreed that the costs for a consultant must not exceed 20 % of the allocated budget.

8. Evaluation of the draft provisions on secure and confidential treatment of electronic reports and messages transmitted pursuant to Part III.E, Part VI and Part VII of the Conservation and Enforcement Measures

It was decided to deal with technical security issues in this meeting, as reflected in enclosure 6 point 4.1 to GF/00-632 and that the remaining confidentiality issues had policy implications and should be discussed by STACTIC at the inter-sessional meeting in London, spring 2001. Concerning this latter part, the Contracting Parties agreed to review enclosure 6 and provide their proposals to the NAFO Secretariat prior to the June STACTIC meeting.

The security aspects were agreed upon as per Technical W.G. Working Paper 01/3, Annex 3.

9. Review of the mandate describing the tasks to be completed by the consultant

The Draft Mandate and Task for the Consultant (System Analyst) was dealt with and approved as per Technical W.G. Working Paper 01/3.

In this context the Parties noted that the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures contains a position requirement of 500 meters, while the North Atlantic Format, using the present means of degrees and minutes, does not allow for transmission of information with an error of less than 900 meters. This may result in vessels being reported in a NAFO zone other than that in which they were actually fishing. This therefore should be discussed by STACTIC.

10. Date and place of next meeting

It was noted that the time schedule is tight and a Calendar of Events was elaborated and agreed upon as per Technical W.G. Working Paper 01/3. To extent possible and in order to cope with the time schedule the Working Group will use e-mail and other telecommunications to manage the tasks set out in the event list. The Chairman of the Working Group will co-ordinate the work and the delegates will keep their Head of Delegations informed continuously. The schedule for the next week was agreed to as follows: January 22 1600 UTC – Secretariat will forward by fax and e-mail letter to the Consultants identified by Contracting Parties and to Heads of Delegations; January 23 - Contracting Parties will forward contacts and telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for those contacts to the Chairman and to the Secretariat; January 24 2000 UTC - Bids are required from the potential contractors by e-mail and forward to the contacts; January 26 1500 UTC - Telephone conference to select the successful contractor and approval for the Secretariat to hire the selected candidate.

11. Other matters

No other matters were discussed.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1300 hrs on 19 January 2001.

Annex 1. List of Participants

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Annex 2. Agenda

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Election of Chairman
3. Appointment of Rapporteur
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5. Review of the Draft Terms of Reference
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10. Date and place of next meeting
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12. Adjournment

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