

**SECTION I**

(pages 1 to 62)

**Report of the General Council and its Subsidiary Bodies  
(STACFAD and STACFAC), 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
16-20 September 2002  
Santiago de Compostela, Galicia, Spain**

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## PART I

### **Report of the General Council Meeting** (GC Doc. 02/4)

#### **24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 16-20 September 2002** **Santiago de Compostela, Galicia, Spain**

#### **1. Opening of the Meeting** (items 1-5 of the Agenda)

- 1.1 The Meeting was opened by the Chair of the General Council, E. Oltuski (Cuba).
- 1.2 The Representatives of seventeen (17) Contracting Parties were present: Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland-DFG), Estonia, European Union, France (in respect of St. Pierre et Miquelon), Iceland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, Ukraine and the United States of America (Annex 1).
- 1.3 The Chairman welcomed the delegates to the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting wishing them productive discussions and successful results of the upcoming discussions. He emphasized the NAFO commitments and goals of sustainable management of fish resources in the NAFO Convention Area.
- 1.4 The Honorable Minister of Fisheries of Galicia, Mr. Enrique Cesar Lopez Veiga, on behalf of the host country and Galician fishermen cordially invited the NAFO Meeting delegates to Galicia in the name of the Spanish Government and Galician Government. He said that "Galicia is one of the main fishing regions in Europe. We appreciate the NAFO's choice to convene this meeting in Galicia and we wish you all well and success at this meeting. Galicians believe that the sea helps to bring people together and such cooperation brings the maritime nations together for better understanding and close collaboration. We are friendly people and in this spirit, wishing you full consensus in all your agreements. And when you successfully adjourn your Annual Meeting, we would be glad to show you our friendly land and people so that you would wish sometime to come back to visit us again. Thank you very much! Again, welcome to the Land of Galicia!".
- 1.5 The Heads of Delegations from Canada, European Union, Republic of Korea, Ukraine and the United States forwarded their opening statements to the NAFO Secretariat (Annexes 2-6).
- 1.6 The Executive Secretary of NAFO, L. Chepel, was appointed as Rapporteur.
- 1.7 The adopted Agenda is attached in Annex 7.
- 1.8 Admission of Observers was addressed by the Executive Secretary reporting on his invitations to FAO, ICCAT, ICES, NAMMCO, NASCO, NEAFC and NPAFC in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. These organizations acknowledged NAFO's invitations and all, except FAO, NEAFC, NAMMCO, advised that they would not take part in the NAFO event due to their busy internal schedules.

FAO was represented by Mr. D. Doulman, NAMMCO was represented by the delegate of Iceland and NEAFC was represented by the delegate of Denmark (DFG).

With regards to non-Contracting Parties harvesting fishing resources in the NAFO area, invitations were dispatched to Belize, Honduras, Sao Tome e Principe and Sierra Leone. No responses from those countries have been received.

- 1.9 On the item of "Publicity", the meeting agreed to the existing procedure that no statements should be made to the media until after the conclusion of the meeting, when the NAFO Secretariat would issue a Press Release. The Press Release was finalized and issued at the closing session of the General Council, September 20, 2002 (Annex 8).

## **2. Supervision and Coordination of Organizational, Administrative and Other Internal Affairs (items 6-8)**

- 2.1 The membership of NAFO was 18 Contracting Parties, the members of the General Council and Scientific Council. The membership of the Fisheries Commission (those member participating in fishery in the NAFO Area) was 16 as Bulgaria and Romania did not participate in NAFO fishery.
- 2.2 The Representative of Bulgaria was in attendance (first time since 1993), and he addressed the Meeting noting Bulgaria's intention to fully participate in NAFO activities and settle all required organizational and financial commitments according to the NAFO Convention and Financial Regulations. He further introduced Bulgaria's paper (Annex 9) explaining their schedule of repayment of the contributions "in arrears" to the end of 2004. This matter was referred to STACFAD.

At the closing session of the General Council, September 20, 2002, the Council discussed the presentation by STACFAD, and the Chairman ruled that Bulgaria's voting rights under the provisions and functions of the NAFO Convention shall be in effect from the date of Bulgaria's first instalment-debt repayment for 2001-2002 to the NAFO budget. Then Bulgaria will fulfil its outstanding financial obligations during 2003-2004. There was a consensus on this matter.

- 2.3 With respect to Romania's participation in NAFO affairs, the Meeting noted the Romanian note of withdrawal from the NAFO Convention effective 31 December 2002 (Annex 10).
- 2.4 Item 7 "Administrative Report" was referred to STACFAD. At the closing session, on the advice of the Chair of STACFAD, the Report was adopted by the General Council.
- 2.5 Under Item 8 "Selection of the Executive Secretary", the Heads of Delegations elected (by secret ballot) a new Executive Secretary – Johanne Fischer (European Union), who should take the office from 01 January 2003. She was introduced to the General Council by the Chairman and welcomed by the Delegates with cheerful acclamation and applause.

## **3. Coordination of External Relations (items 9-11)**

- 3.1 Under item 9 "Communication with the United Nations", the Chairman noted the NAFO paper (GF/02-380, June 19, 2002) forwarded to the UN Secretariat regarding "large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments" in the NAFO Convention Area. This paper was finalized from the Executive Secretary's draft through review and approval by Contracting Parties.
- 3.2 Under item 10 "FAO International Plans of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing", the Secretary presented a compilation report including the FAO guidelines and Norwegian paper on this subject. There was no decision for further action by the General Council.

The Representative of Norway noted that the initial reference (by the Executive Secretary) to the management of shark fisheries and incidental catch of seabirds in long line fisheries was not relevant to the main subject of this item.

- 3.3 For the item 11, "NAFO cooperation with ICES", the Executive Secretary explained that the General Secretary of ICES, Dr. David de Griffith, was in favour, through mutual discussions, to develop closer relations between ICES and NAFO, and for this purpose the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between these two organizations would be a useful tool for improvement of such relations. The draft MoU was tabled by the Executive Secretary advising that this draft was reviewed and accepted provisionally in its letter and spirit by the General Secretary of ICES. This matter was referred to the Scientific Council for advice. At the closing session, the Chairman of the Scientific Council, Dr. Ralph Mayo, presented the Scientific Council's consideration along the lines that ICES-NAFO cooperation has at all times been on the scientific frontiers with several projects underway without complication and in a good cooperative spirit. He advised further that no specific MoU would be required to continue such cooperation at the present time.

Several Contracting Parties supported the idea of an MoU, and some Contracting Parties suggested that there was not need to formalize NAFO-ICES relations in such a form. Finally, the Chairman of the General Council concluded that General Council would accept the consideration by the Scientific Council (Annex 11).

- 3.4 Item 11a, "Participation in the Northwest Atlantic Regional Fisheries Organizations Meetings". The Executive Secretary explained this item of cooperation between regional (North Atlantic) fisheries organizations (NARFMO) that was initiated by the NEAFC Secretariat. There has been extensive exchange intersessionally between NAFO Contracting Parties and the Executive Secretary, who explained this idea in detail and asked for permission and mandate to take part in NARFMO meetings. Several Contracting Parties expressed their concern regarding the agenda of such meetings which should not be in the frame of policy/legal issues of NAFO, which have not been finalized or agreed by Contracting Parties, e.g. dispute settlement procedures (DSP) or precautionary approach (PA). The General Council agreed on the following interpretation/position regarding this matter (from GC W.P. 02/5 by Denmark):

"While the Executive Secretaries of the North Atlantic RFMO's obviously have no competence to decide upon the substance of the issues dealt with by the Organizations, it was generally agreed that benefits would be gained by an exchange of experience in the practicalities of running the Organizations. On this basis the General Council encouraged the Secretariat to participate in the next Meeting of North Atlantic RFMO Secretariats."

#### **4. Fishing Activities in the Regulatory Area Adverse to the Objectives of the NAFO Convention (items 12-14)**

- 4.1 Under item 12, the Contracting Parties briefly exchanged their views on the current situation of NCP fishing in the Regulatory Area. The Canadian representative noted the increased activity of NCP presence fishing in Subarea 1, Div. 1F on Redfish fishery and proposed STACFAC to consider this matter in greater detail during its following sessions.
- 4.2 Under item 13, the STACFAC Chairman, Daniel Silvestre (France-SPM), presented his report to the Meeting with the following highlights and recommendations (for complete details, please see Part III of this Report):
- The Executive Secretary send a letter to the Russian Federation seeking information on the registration of the six Belizean flagged fishing vessels and encouraging the Russian Federation to take action vis à vis the transshipment to a Russian flagged cargo vessel by a Non-Contracting Party vessel;
  - the President of NAFO write to Belize and Cyprus seeking more information on the registration of the Belizean fishing vessels and that these letters be delivered by the Governments of France and Canada respectively;
  - The Secretariat be asked to produce annually a table compiling past communications (including responses) with Non-Contracting Parties regarding fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area;
  - The NAFO Secretariat write to the NEAFC Secretariat suggesting that information on sightings of Non-Contracting Party vessels fishing in their respective regulatory areas always be exchanged without delay;
  - STACFAC be mandated to determine if measures relating to all relevant provisions of the IPOA on IUU have been established in NAFO or whether further action is desirable and report its assessment to General Council. In this respect STACFAC draws to the attention of the General Council that the IPOA on IUU is relevant to both Non-Contracting Parties and Contracting Parties but that STACFAC is limited to assessing the IPOA with regard to Non-Contracting Parties;
  - Contracting Parties submitting information pursuant to paragraph 6 of the Scheme should mark it accordingly for easy identification by the Secretariat, and STACFAC should develop guidance on implementation of paragraph 11 of the Scheme;
  - The specific discrepancies noted between the Scheme and the Conservation and Enforcement Measures per agenda item 10 above be drawn to the attention of the Fisheries Commission for STACTIC's consideration;
  - Contingent upon adoption of relevant proposals by the Fisheries Commission, that oceanic redfish (pelagic *Sebastes mentella*) be added to annex A or B, as appropriate, of the Scheme;
  - It recommend to the Fisheries Commission that the Drafting Group engaged in the overhaul of the Conservation and Enforcement Measures review the possible incorporation of the entirety of the Scheme in the Conservation and Enforcement Measures as part of its work.

The Representatives approved the STACFAC recommendations and expressed their support to STACFAC activity.

The Representative of Canada emphasized that one of the most important topics of NARFMO cooperation (see item 11a) should be the exchange and monitoring of information on NCP fishing activities in the North Atlantic, and this should be a prime task for the NAFO Executive Secretary.

The Representative of the Russian Federation explained that the reference to Russian Federation vessels (Belizean flag..) would not be appropriate as the six noted vessels do not have any Russian Federation registration at present time, do not belong to any Russian Company, and, therefore there is no legal connection to the Russian Federation on this matter. These vessels probably were under Russian jurisdiction at one time but not at the current time. With respect to the transshipment to a Russian flag vessel, this will be thoroughly investigated by Russian authorities who will report the results to the NAFO Secretariat. Russia would not accept the principle of a double standard and continues to maintain stringent control of its vessels.

The Representative of the European Union acknowledged very elaborate work and recommendations by STACFAC. He underlined that NAFO approach in the matters of communication with NCP governments should be both strong administrative and diplomatic actions. It would not be adequate to just politely ask one NCP-Belize about vessel registrations. NAFO needs a comprehensive and effective system to exchange information among Contracting Parties on transshipments and other issues of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing. In this case, the proposed cooperation of NARFMO would be very useful, in particular the experience of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) could be helpful. The EU Representative advised that the European Union is currently developing its policy of targeting IUU fishing in the context of its Common Fishery Policy, and this document, when finalized, could be circulated to Contracting Parties.

The Representative of the United States emphasized on the importance of the NCP issue to the USA as well as a number of regional fisheries management organizations, and welcomed the Russian Federation's cooperation on this matter within NAFO. He further supported the idea of close cooperation with other regional organizations on NCP fisheries and to use the experience of organizations such as ICCAT. He further advised that the USA supports the FAO initiatives and action plans on IUU fishing, responsible fisheries, shark, and seabird conservation. He urged all Contracting Parties to cooperate closely on these issues.

The General Council adopted the STACFAC Report as a whole.

- 4.3 Item 14 "Consideration of the status of the Working Group on Dispute Settlement Procedures (DSP)". The DSP Working Group met in 2001 (June 12-14) and its report (GC Doc. 01/4) was presented to the General Council by the Chairman, Mr. F. Wieland, at the Helsingør meeting (Denmark, January 2002). There were different comments on the status of the report, and the final decision was that the report should be noted as received for further consideration by the General Council at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

The Contracting Parties exchanged opinions on the status of the Working Group and possible continuation of DSP discussions in the framework of a Working Group. The European Union Representative supported the continuation of the DSP Working Group with the aim of developing a NAFO dispute settlement procedure relevant to NAFO and reflecting the Contracting Parties' needs and their experience in the Northwest Atlantic fisheries affairs.

The Representative of Canada stated that Canada would be prepared to work towards finalization of the work of the Working Group on Dispute Settlement Procedures on the understanding that Canada would not agree to its application until other provisions of the 1995 United Nations Agreement on Straddling and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks are implemented in NAFO. In this regard, he stated that Canada would be prepared to re-examine its position on all bracketed language in the Consolidated Text 2001 (DSP WG WP 01/7-Revision 2). However, he noted that Canada would insist on incorporating in the text a clear statement that where the dispute settlement provisions of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement or the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) apply, nothing in a NAFO dispute settlement provision would be interpreted as depriving a party to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement or UNCLOS of its right to seek resolution of the dispute under those treaties.

The European Union Representative proposed to organize consultations between Canada, the EU and the USA to identify the grounds for discussions and possible avenues to achieve progress on this matter. The outcome of such consultations will be reported to the Chairman of the General Council, and then there should be a decision on whether to proceed with a Working Group meeting. The Representatives of Canada and United States supported the EU suggestion.

The Representative of Latvia emphasized that in this matter, all Contracting Parties should take active participation as DSP procedures would be very important not only for Canada, EU and USA.

The General Council agreed to undertake consultations between interested Contracting Parties, and, if necessary, then to convene the DSP Working Group.

## **5. Finance** (items 15-16)

5.1 Items 15-16 were referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD). The STACFAD proceedings are presented in Part II of this General Council Report.

5.2 The Chairman of STACFAD, G F. Kingston (EU), presented its report to the General Council on 20 September and highlighted the following recommendations:

- a) the 2001 Auditors' Report be adopted.
- b) the Secretariat engage a Human Resources Consultant, at an estimated cost of \$2,400, to prepare job descriptions for 3 other employees that had previously been in the CR category, which would then be forwarded to Canada for its analysis.
- c) the contribution from Romania be deemed uncollectable and that the amount be applied against the Accumulated Surplus Account. The Chairman noted Romania's announcement to withdraw from NAFO as of 31 December 2002.
- d) that contributions, which had been deemed uncollectable in prior years, shall be returned to the Accumulated Surplus Account. The distribution of these recovered contributions shall be returned to Contracting Parties as a reduction of the following year's assessed contributions. The distribution shall be calculated on the same basis as the year of the original billing distribution when the contributions were deemed uncollectable.
- e) that \$75,000 be maintained as a minimum balance in this account in order to fulfill NAFO's financial obligations in early 2003 until contributions are received. The remaining estimated accumulated surplus balance of \$106,286 at the end of 2002 would be used to reduce contributions due from Contracting Parties in 2003.
- f) the starting salary of the incoming Executive Secretary be set at the maximum level in the EX-2 Category of the Canadian system. Under this system there is the eligibility for a performance bonus at the end of her first year in office (as per the previous paragraph). (Appraisal at Annual Meeting, September 2003.)

It was agreed that the establishment of this salary for the incoming Executive Secretary should not presuppose future considerations of job classification and/or salary scale.

STACFAD further agreed that the broad issue of possible changes in the job classification system and salary scale of the Executive Secretary be deferred to the 2003 Annual Meeting, including the possibility of enhanced duties and responsibilities.

- g) the budget of \$1,385,400 for the year 2003 be adopted.
- h) the dates for the 2005 Annual Meeting be as follows, with the location in Halifax, unless an invitation to host is extended by a Contracting Party and accepted by the Organization:

Scientific Council	-	07-16 September
General Council	-	12-16 September
Fisheries Commission	-	12-16 September

The dates of the 2003 and 2004 Annual Meetings, as previously agreed upon, are as follows:

2003	Scientific Council	-	10-19 September
	General Council	-	15-19 September
	Fisheries Commission	-	15-19 September
2004	Scientific Council	-	08-17 September
	General Council	-	13-17 September
	Fisheries Commission	-	13-17 September

5.3 Regarding NAFO Publications and Public Information STACFAD recommended that:

- the Secretariat continue to accelerate the transition from print to electronic (outgoing) communication to both the public and Contracting Parties with a view to dramatically reducing costs and improving efficiency and timeliness of such transmissions;
- in principle, the primary means of disseminating information to Contracting Parties should be via e-mail and website access, utilizing password protected links as necessary;
- a regular review of e-mail addresses be undertaken to ensure that they are valid and up-to-date; and
- the Secretariat continue to vigorously pursue avenues to improve the day-to-day operations of the Organization and to modernize its communication systems and procedures.

In principle, the primary means of providing information to the public be through the NAFO website with the availability of hardcopy material at a nominal fee in order to recover printing and mailing costs.

5.4 The General Council discussed the STACFAD recommendations and adopted the 2003 budget and report as a whole.

## **6. Closing Procedures** (items 17-20)

6.1 Item 17, "Time and Place of Next Annual Meeting" was reported by STACFAD (above).

6.2 Under item 18 "Other Business", the Chairman introduced a "Schedule of NAFO Intersessional Meetings, 2002-2003" which was adopted by the General Council (Annex 12).

6.3 The draft Press Release was circulated to Heads of Delegations on Thursday, September 19, and was finalized by the Secretariat after the Meeting incorporating the relevant comments by Contracting Parties (Annex 8).

6.4 At the conclusion, the Chairman and Heads of Delegations wished all the best to the outgoing Executive Secretary, Leonard Chepel, who in response took the floor and expressed his gratitude to Contracting Parties and his colleagues at the Secretariat for their cooperation during his 12-year assignment with NAFO. Mr. Chepel presented all Contracting Parties' delegations with his memorable token of historical book – "Northwest Atlantic: Fisheries, Science, Regulations, XX Century", which summarizes all major developments and decisions by two international organizations in the Northwest Atlantic – ICNAF and NAFO during XX Century.

6.5 The meeting adjourned at 1300, September 20, 2002.

## Annex 1. List of Participants

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**Annex 2. Opening Statement by the Representative of Canada**  
(P. S. Chamut)

- Mr. Chairman, distinguished Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen;
- It is indeed a pleasure to participate at this twenty-fourth annual meeting of NAFO in the magnificent surroundings of Santiago de Compostela. This is a city that has both a richness of history and hospitality, and on behalf of the entire Canadian delegation, I wish to express how delighted we are to be here.
- I would also thank the Spanish authorities for hosting this meeting, and for their warm and generous hospitality.
- As we begin today, I want to reflect on the importance of this meeting for the Canadian delegation, and for this Organization.
- The past decade has been a difficult one for Canadian fishermen, and fishing communities in Atlantic Canada. So too has it presented very substantial challenges to NAFO.
- Within Canadian fisheries, we have confronted the collapse of groundfish stocks, closures of fisheries and processing plants and the economic devastation of communities sustained by the fishery for hundreds of years.
- We have learned the hard way about the need for conservation and sustainable fishing practices.
- Although it has been difficult and painful, we have transformed our fishing industry.
- At the same time, it has also been difficult times within NAFO. We have had to confront the harsh reality of moratoria, and the effect the closures have had on fishermen from distant communities that had also enjoyed the benefits of the abundant stocks on the Grand Banks.
- We have recognized the need for NAFO to invest in improved conservation, and stock rebuilding. Progress has been made, and as an organization, we can take credit for what has been done.
- Although we have come a long way over the past 15 years, recent information shows that progress is being eroded. We cannot let past progress distract us from tackling the difficult challenges that remain.
- We have a long and difficult road to travel to ensure the rebuilding of once plentiful stocks. Many stocks continue to be at historically low levels, despite the fishing moratoria. Progress to stock recovery is very slow, and fragile. Achieving recovery depends upon the actions taken around this table, to adopt the right conservation measures, and to ensure they are adhered to.
- It is clear to us in Canada that the well-being of groundfish stocks – and the economic future of our fishing communities – depends upon the decisions made here.
- It is for this reason that NAFO is so important to the people who are represented by the Canadian delegation. In the absence of the commitment of all Contracting Parties to stock rebuilding and sustainable fishing practices, the future of our fishing industry is bleak. Our fishermen have nowhere else to go. Their future is directly and uniquely dependent on the success of NAFO in meeting its responsibility.
- It is for this reason that the outcome of this meeting is being watched so closely in Newfoundland, and elsewhere in Canada.
- The level of scrutiny reflects not only the importance of the outcome to domestic interests. It also reflects an increasing skepticism that NAFO can successfully address the challenges it must face.

- This skepticism stems from the increasing trends in non-compliance with NAFO conservation measures. It is also validated by the observations in many Scientific Council reports about bycatch of species under moratoria, and the harvest of juvenile fish.
- This growing dissatisfaction with NAFO's performance is being expressed politically in the form of demands for strong action by government to assert Canadian interests in the protection of groundfish stocks.
- For example, a report to our Parliament by the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans advocates that Canada withdraw from NAFO, and institute custodial management of fish resources.
- At this meeting, this organization will be judged by actions we take to demonstrate that NAFO can protect and rebuild stocks, and manage sustainably.
- With this as backdrop, I want to be clear about the Government of Canada's objective for this session.
- Our intent, and commitment, is to work with all Parties to achieve an objective which I believe is shared – to find ways to make NAFO more effective.
- We believe this objective can be advanced by showing that we are rectifying problems of compliance; that all Contracting Parties are following up to deter non-compliance; that we are adopting more effective conservation measures; and by demonstrating that science is the basis for setting TACs.
- Making NAFO more effective is a collective challenge. We believe that this organization can find the will to continue to strengthen its performance, and to serve as a model for other regional fisheries management organizations to emulate.
- Canada is looking forward to a constructive meeting – one which will advance the interests of this organization and its members, and provide a brighter future for all who depend upon the fishing resources under our stewardship.
- Thank you.

### **Annex 3. Opening Statement by the Representative of the European Union** (Mr. J. Spencer)

Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,

Firstly, as a European-Celtic origin it is for me a particular pleasure to be in this part of Europe, which has historical strong ties with coastal communities in Europe and particular ties between Galicia and other parts of Europe, such as Ireland and Great Britain.

It is a great pleasure for me on a personal basis to find myself in Galicia and also in the part of Europe along with our cousins to the south in Portugal, which were art the very foundation and originators of fishing in the Northwest Atlantic so many centuries ago. And that tradition and that commitment to continue sustainable fishery is a driving force behind our involvement in NAFO. We would like to thank the Spanish Government and regional authorities for the facilities they put at our disposal, which would facilitate our constructive dialogue between all parties around the table.

Mr. Chairman, I shall be rather brief with my presentation. I think it rather hinges around five-six words. Those key words are beginning with the letter "C". First of all, our objective, and I hope this objective is shared around the table that we are seeking to arrive at the *consensus* on the range of issues confronting us at this Annual Meeting. We do not see any distinctions between this meeting and any other previous meetings of NAFO. We are firmly committed to the NAFO process that has been at the beginning and we remain so. We think that this is only the way forward to achieve the sustainability of fisheries that has truly strengthened the international cooperation. So this is the first key word – consensus.

The second key word for the European Community is the word *compliance*. It is essential that we have more involvement of parties around the table in the compliance effort, and, I say that in regard of the current observer scheme, which is under review, but also to inspection presence. In our view, the rights to fish go hand in hand with the responsibility to ensure the ability to control vessels. We have been consistently present in the NAFO Regulatory Area many years now with a permanent control presence, and the investments in terms of manpower, in terms of material and in terms of costs have been considerable. But it is towards the basic obligations we have vis-à-vis of our involvement in the Area. And we would hope that in the course of this week, we would hear echoed from the other parties their willingness not simply looking for quotas and for different technical conditions, but their wish to cooperate in involving themselves in the compliance effort. We will have an opportunity to put on the table of the Fisheries Commission a report that we have drawn-up in very non-technical language on our findings in relation to compliance in the last years. It would give a picture, which results from the inspection on all vessels, and I say that ..."on all vessels"... with very much emphasis since our vessels, without question, are the most inspected and controlled vessels in the NAFO Area and have been for years.

The third "C" is the term *consistency*. We have to be careful that when we approach different agreed measures and management proposals that we have to be consistent in the outlook. There have been several problems in NAFO with the closure of many of the key historical fisheries. And we have the responsibility to ensure that those fisheries recover. We have taken certain measures of technical measure to address issues and have to be extremely vigilant on the by-catch issue. But we equally have to avoid what I would term a unilateral action whereby one NAFO party departs from the NAFO approach in relation to the management of the stocks. And I am talking about 2J3KL cod stock, where it is clear from the international scientific advice available to us that there should be a closure, but, unfortunately, that closure has been ignored on a number of occasions in recent time. And this is an issue that we would come back to in detail at the Fisheries Commission discussions.

*Cooperation*, Mr. Chairman, is the key word. Without the cooperation of the parties around the table, NAFO cannot achieve its objectives. We think that NAFO has made a substantial contribution to promote international cooperation, but we cannot be complacent and we are not complacent. And, therefore, we would trust that different issues that we address this week, be those of a management or technical nature, be addressed in a straight-forward and constructive manner so that we improve what we have already and we build upon it.

And finally, Mr. Chairman, the letter "C" and there I would talk about XXI Century. We have now moved into a new century and we have new responsibility, and I trust we will be wise in the selection of our Executive Secretary so that he or she would be able to bring us forward in a constructive and dynamic way in order to improve what is the very foundation of this organization, the NAFO Secretariat.

Mr. Chairman, I will close my comments. There are many issues that in five "Cs" I have mentioned that will underpin our involvement in this NAFO Annual Meeting.

Thank-you Mr. Chairman.

**Annex 4. Opening Statement by the Representative of the Republic of Korea**  
(Mr. Oh Choong-Shin)

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a great honor for me to take part in the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of NAFO as the representative of the Republic of Korea in the historic city, Santiago de Compostela.

I would like to give my thanks to the Secretariat of NAFO for the preparation of the Meeting. And my thanks also go to the Spanish Government for hosting this Conference.

The Republic of Korea, as a responsible fishing Country, has been actively making all efforts in establishing international fishery regimes.

In this connection, my country will also continue to cooperate with the member countries of NAFO for the conservation and management of fishery resources. Even though the Republic of Korea became a member country of NAFO in December, 1993 in order to join the activities to conserve and manage fishery resources, the fishing allocated to Korea has not reached the level which even one vessel can harvest since Korea's entrance to NAFO and moreover, the allocated quota has been on the decrease.

Korea has contributed to the development of NAFO by sharing its contribution with sincerity. All member countries of NAFO should keep in mind that according to Article 11 of the UN Agreement on the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, the fishing quota must be allocated properly to the member country which has cooperated in conserving and managing fishery resources.

Korea has suspended catching in the NAFO Regulatory Area at the same time with its entrance to the Organization, because the profitable fishing quota was not secured.

If the above situation continues to Korea, the Korean government will lose the justifiable reason for the continuous participation to NAFO.

Therefore, the Korean government is making a demand for the favorable allotment of the fishing quota. Korea has also continued to improve the present quota system of NAFO, because the current quota allocation devised by NAFO is somewhat outdated and it is no longer applicable to the present reality.

And the fishing quota should be allocated fairly on the basis of historical fishing activities and efforts for the conservation and management among member countries.

The member countries which have operated in the NAFO Regulatory Area should put themselves in other's place.

I would like to touch roughly the observer program. The observer program is necessary and helpful to conserve and manage fishery resources. However, because the main role of observers is to collect scientific data about fisheries, the number of observers should be at a minimum to achieve their purpose without disturbing the fishing activities.

Even though a little amount of the fishing quota is given to Korea, Korean vessels cannot operate fishing activities owing to lack of the profitable quota.

Therefore, in order to utilize effectively the allocated quota the transfer of the fishing quota should be permitted between the member countries of NAFO.

I think this Organization has met two big problems. One is the recovery of fishery resources in the NAFO Convention Area, and the other is the proper allocation of the fishing quota among the Contracting Parties. I hope these two subjects will be discussed fully and this Meeting will get a successful result.

Thank-you!

**Annex 5. Opening Statement by the Representative of Ukraine**  
(Mr. V. Chernik)

Dear Mr. President,

Dear Colleagues,

We all come to this meeting on the sacred Land of Galicia with our best hopes to discuss and successfully resolve the issues of the Agenda of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. And even if we could not resolve all of them, we would be able to develop and agree on the follow-up and new measures of the conservation and utilization of fish resources of the NAFO area in most effective way. We have to find such methods of resources allocation that those should be fair, transparent and understandable. Today, we would recognize the insufficiency of the approach of the resources distribution, which would be based only on the achieved basis.

Such an approach would allow sometimes to artificially expedite fishery and catches even exaggerate the results for the sake of obtaining a larger quota(s). In such situations, there would be an undesirable intent to "swap/trade" quotas not only for necessity, but as a commercial trade.

The Ukrainian Delegation is thankful to the host Contracting Party and the Galician Government for the excellent organization of this Annual Meeting in Santiago de Compostela. We hope that the selection of a new Executive Secretary of NAFO and other decisions of this meeting would reflect in our memories with satisfaction for those achievements.

The Ukrainian Delegation wishes to all participants of this meeting very fruitful and productive work!

Thank-you!

**Annex 6. Opening Statement by the Representative of the  
United States of America (Mr. J. H. Dunnigan)**

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure for the United States to participate in the 24<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of this fine organization. It is a personal honor for me to be here for the first time as the head of my country's delegation. We very much look forward to this week as an opportunity to strengthen an international organization that is already recognized as a leader in the conservation and management of ocean fisheries.

In the United States we are committed to an aggressive program of conservation and management of our fisheries, one that focuses on securing the benefits of these resources over the long term to our fishermen, their families, and all who depend on our fisheries. We all know how difficult this can be. We all recognize the hardships that are being faced by our coastal communities. Our New England and Mid-Atlantic fishermen, for example, are facing increasingly difficult limitations as we seek to rebuild groundfish stocks to a point where they can produce the maximum sustainable yield. Many of these fishermen had fathers and grandfathers who relied on fisheries that are now regulated by NAFO. Our government, in collaboration with our industry, struggles to find the best solution to the challenges of conservation. And yet we do it because we have proven to ourselves that conservation works. We have seen it happen in our fisheries. The great lesson of our experience over the past decade has been that fishery resources can recover if government and industry and other organizations with an interest in our fisheries work together in a program of prudent and precautionary management. And we are convinced that along with our colleagues in NAFO, we can all find the same, common success in the fisheries managed under the NAFO umbrella.

All of this begins with sound science, and a commitment to applying it wisely. The NAFO Scientific Council has an outstanding record of providing the advice to the fishery managers in NAFO. They have been creative and supportive of our needs as managers, understanding the difficulties that we all face. The United States is proud to be a strong contributor and supporter of NAFO science, and are committed to its application to our common management problems.

Sound conservation and management continues with the development and application of an effective system of governance. In this area we look forward to working with our colleagues in NAFO to continue to strengthen the conservation and management program to which we are all committed. We believe that NAFO has the opportunity to strengthen its approach toward monitoring and control in a manner that ensures compliance with its allowable catch and control measures. And we believe that NAFO has the opportunity to continue to make progress in the development of an approach that will ensure in the future that the conservation and management measures that we apply are wise, cautionary, and aim to secure the greatest long-term benefits from our resources.

We must also continue to strive for a management program that is fair and equitable to all. The United States remains committed to developing an approach to allocations that will allow all members to share in the benefits of conservation as our NAFO stocks recover. We continue to believe that the NAFO conservation program will result in greater opportunities over the long term for all fishermen, including our own. We very much look forward this week to working with our colleagues to reinvigorate our efforts to develop an long-term approach to making allocations decisions.

Mr. Chairman, NAFO also has the opportunity this week to commit itself to effective and vigorous staff leadership. The United States takes note of the excellent efforts of the NAFO Executive Secretary over the past ten years, and we wish graciously to acknowledge and thank Dr. Chepel for his outstanding service. Our belief that this fine organization continues to deserve strong staff leadership is a symbol of our commitment to NAFO. We face exciting times ahead. We face difficult times ahead. It will be essential that we be guided by a staff and an Executive Secretary who are experienced, who understand the ways in which countries work together toward common purpose, and who are committed to the mutual success of all. Given our recognition of the long-term nature of the commitments we make and the benefits that we expect to receive, we believe that this is one of the most significant decisions we have to make this week. And we look forward to working with our colleagues around this table to ensure the ongoing success of NAFO.

And finally, Mr. Chairman, let us take note of the historic and cultural significance of the location of this meeting. One cannot help but be impressed by the beauty of our surroundings and by the warmth of friendship of the people of this region. Coming from a country and a culture that is only a few hundred years old, I am reminded of how much we have to learn. In our country we were struck by horrible tragedy only a year ago last week. The pain of that time is still fresh in our minds, and we are grateful for the expressions of concern and support provided by our colleagues at NAFO. The resiliency and the dedication of a people over many millennia, as we witness in Spain and in Galicia, are a witness from which we can learn much. We thank the government of Spain and of Galicia for graciously hosting this most important meeting.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

## **Annex 7. Agenda**

### **I. Opening Procedure**

1. Opening by Chairman, E. Oltuski (Cuba)
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
  - a) General Council
  - b) Fisheries Commission
  - c) Reports from Contracting Parties on their communication with Bulgaria
7. Administrative Report
8. Selection of the Executive Secretary

### **III. Coordination of External Relations**

9. Communication with the United Nations General Assembly (Resolution 55/8, October 30, 2000)
10. FAO International Plans of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
11. NAFO cooperation with ICES
  - a) Participation in North Atlantic Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (NARFMO) Meetings

### **IV. Fishing Activities in the Regulatory Area Adverse to the Objectives of the NAFO Convention**

12. Consideration of non-Contracting Party activity in the NAFO Regulatory Area and agreement on the task of STACFAC at the current meeting
13. Report of STACFAC at the Annual Meeting and decisions on actions
14. Consideration of the status of the Working Group on Dispute Settlement Procedures (DSP)

### **V. Finance**

15. Report of STACFAD at the Annual Meeting
16. Adoption of the Budget and STACFAD recommendations for 2003

### **VI. Closing Procedure**

17. Time and Place of Next Annual Meeting
18. Other Business
19. Press Release
20. Adjournment

### Annex 8. Press Release

1. The 24th Annual Meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) was held in Santiago de Compostela, Galicia, Spain, during 16-20 September 2002, under the chairmanship of Enrique Oltuski (Cuba), President of NAFO. The NAFO constituent bodies - General Council, Fisheries Commission and Scientific Council convened their sessions at the Galicia Congress and Exhibition Centre.
2. The meeting was attended by 200 delegates from seventeen Contracting Parties - Canada, Bulgaria, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland), Estonia, European Union, France (in respect of St. Pierre et Miquelon), Iceland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, Ukraine and United States of America.
3. Prior to the Annual Meeting, the following NAFO meetings occurred during 2001: (1) Special Meetings (General Council and Fisheries Commission) in a framework of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting (Helsingør, Denmark, Jan. 29 – Feb. 01); (2) Standing Committee on International Control (Copenhagen, Denmark, May 6-9); (3) Working Group of Technical Experts on Precautionary Approach (Dartmouth, N.S., Canada, June 20-21); (4) Working Group on Management of Oceanic Redfish (Dartmouth, N.S., Canada, June 24-25); (5) Scientific Council Regular Meeting (Dartmouth, N.S., Canada, June 6-20); (6) STACTIC Drafting Group to Overhaul Conservation and Enforcement Measures (Ottawa, Canada, July 9-11).
4. The Scientific Council, under the chairmanship of Ralph Mayo (USA), reviewed and assessed the status of fish stocks in the NAFO Area. The scientific advice and recommendations from the Scientific Council were presented to the Fisheries Commission. The Scientific Council agreed that major groundfish stocks still remain at low abundance and, therefore, should not be recommended for directed fisheries during 2003. The biomass and fishery potentials of Yellowtail flounder in Div. 3LNO were assessed as stable with the possibility of a sustainable fishery. The Scientific Council Symposium on Elasmobranch Fisheries (held in advance of Annual Meeting) brought new ideas on shark management, harvest strategies and stock assessment.
5. The Fisheries Commission, under the chairmanship of Dean Swanson (USA), considered the advice of the Scientific Council in relation to the conservation of fish stocks in the Regulatory Area and agreed to conservation and enforcement measures.

The Fisheries Commission agreed to continue moratoria ("no directed fishery") in 2003 on the following stocks: Cod in Divisions 3M, 3L (that portion within the Regulatory Area) and 3NO, Redfish in Div. 3LN, American plaice in Divisions 3M and 3LNO, Witch flounder in Div. 3NO and 3L (that portion within the Regulatory Area); and Capelin in Div. 3NO. The Quota Table for 2003 was adopted (Attachment 1).

With respect to management measures for cod in Div. 2J3KL, Contracting Parties other than Canada expressed their serious concern that management measures for this stock may not be consistent throughout its range in the Convention Area in the year 2002.

The Fisheries Commission adopted new rules for assessing the compliance of the NAFO Contracting Parties with the Conservation and Enforcement Measures in the NAFO Area.

The Fisheries Commission agreed on continuing restrictive conservation measures in shrimp fishery on Flemish Cap and Division 3L by employing selective sorting grates for by-catch avoidance and 40mm mesh size. The fishing days in Div. 3M should be 90% of an earlier benchmark historical record. The Fisheries Commission also agreed on specific rules for controlling and monitoring by-catches and minimizing incidental catches in directed fisheries and modifications to the Automated Hail/Vessel Monitoring System for continuous effective monitoring of fishing activities in the Regulatory Area.

6. The General Council, under the chairmanship of Enrique Oltuski (Cuba), deliberated several substantive issues regarding internal and external NAFO policy and finance on the following terms:
  - Standing Committee on non-Contracting Party Fishing Activity in the Regulatory Area (STACFAC) shall continue the study for application of the FAO International Plans of Action on Illegal, Unregulated and

Unreported Fishing (IUU) to NAFO needs;

- Concern was expressed with regards to non-Contracting Party fishing activity in the NAFO Regulatory Area in the second half of 2002, and STACFAC was instructed to review and monitor this situation.
  - The President of NAFO will contact the non-Contracting Parties (Belize and Cyprus) whose flag vessels were involved.
  - The General Council considered the re-establishment of the voting rights of Bulgaria based on Bulgaria's commitment to re-pay its outstanding contributions.
7. The General Council of NAFO elected a new Executive Secretary – Johanne Fischer (European Union), who will replace the outgoing Executive Secretary – Leonard Chepel effective January 01, 2003.
8. The following elections of NAFO officers took place:
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Chairman of Standing Committee on Fishing Activities of non-Contracting Parties in the Regulatory Area (STACFAC)      | - D. Silvestre (France in respect of St. Pierre et Miquelon) (re-elected) |
| Vice-Chairman of Standing Committee on Fishing Activities of non-Contracting Parties in the Regulatory Area (STACFAC) | - N. Bouffard (Canada) (re-elected)                                       |

NAFO General Council  
20 September 2002

NAFO Secretariat  
Dartmouth, N.S.  
Canada

QUOTA TABLE. Total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas (metric tons) for 2003 of particular stocks in Subareas 1-4 of the NAFO Convention Area. The values listed include quantities to be taken both inside and outside the 200-mile fishing zone, where applicable.

Contracting Party	Cod		Redfish		American plaice		Yellowtail	Witch	Capelin	G. halibut	Squid (Illex) <sup>3,3</sup>	Shrimp
	Div. 3M	Div. 3NO	Div. 3M	Div. 3LN	Div. 3M	Div. 3LNO						
1. Canada	0	0	500	0	0	0	14137 <sup>7</sup>	0	0	4 668	N.S. <sup>4</sup>	5 000
2. Cuba	0	-	1750	0	-	-	-	-	0	-	510	67
3. Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)	0	-	69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
4. European Union	0	0	3100	0	0	0	290 <sup>7</sup>	-	0	17 226	N.S. <sup>4</sup>	67
5. France (St. Pierre et Miquelon)	-	-	69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	453	67
6. Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
7. Japan	-	-	400	-	-	-	-	-	0	3 189	510	67
8. Korea	-	-	69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	453	67
9. Norway	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	67
10. Poland	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	227	67
11. Estonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
12. Latvia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
13. Lithuania	0	0	13 850 <sup>1</sup>	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	1 133 <sup>1</sup>	67
14. Russia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 969	-	67
15. Ukraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
16. United States of America	-	-	69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	453	67
17. Others	0	0	124	0	0	0	73 <sup>7</sup>	0	-	2 070 <sup>5</sup>	794	0
Total Allowable Catch	* <sup>9</sup>	*	5 000 <sup>6</sup>	*	* <sup>9</sup>	*	14 500 <sup>8</sup>	*	*	31 122	34 000	6 000

<sup>1</sup> Quotas to be fished by vessels from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and the Russian Federation. The provisions of Part I, Section A.3 of the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures shall apply.

<sup>2</sup> The opening date for the Squid (Illex) fishery is 1 July.

<sup>3</sup> Any quota listed for squid may be increased by a transfer from any "coastal state" as defined in Article 1, paragraph 3 of the NAFO Convention, provided that the TAC for squid is not exceeded. Transfers made to Contracting Parties conducting fisheries for squid in the Regulatory Area shall be reported to the Executive Secretary, and the report shall be made as promptly as possible.

<sup>4</sup> Not specified because the allocation to these Contracting Parties are as yet undetermined, although their sum shall not exceed the difference between the total of allocations to other Contracting Parties and the TAC.

<sup>5</sup> Of which no more than 60% (1242 t) may be fished before 1 May 2003.

<sup>6</sup> Each Contracting Party shall notify the Executive Secretary bi-weekly of catches taken by its vessels from this stock. Not more than 2500 tons may be fished before July 1, 2003. The Executive Secretary shall notify without delay all Contracting Parties of the date on which, for this stock, accumulated reported catch taken by vessels of the Contracting Parties is estimated to equal 50 and then 100 percent of the TAC for that stock.

<sup>7</sup> Contracting Parties shall inform the NAFO Executive Secretary before (1 December 2002) of the measures to be taken to meet the advice of the NAFO Scientific Council, i.e. to ensure that total catches do not exceed the levels indicated.

<sup>8</sup> The provisions of Part I, Section A.5c) of NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures shall apply.

<sup>9</sup> Applicable to 2003 and 2004.

\*No directed fishing – The provisions of Part I, Section A.5a and c of NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures shall apply.

		Oceanic Redfish (pelagic <i>Sebastes mentella</i> )
		<u>NAFO SA 2 and Divisions 1F and 3K</u>
Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)	}	25,000 <sup>1);2);3)</sup>
European Union		
Iceland		
Norway		
Poland		
Russia		
Canada	}	7,500 <sup>1);3)</sup>
Cuba		
Estonia		
France (St. Pierre et Miquelon)		
Japan		
Korea		
Latvia		
Lithuania		
Ukraine		
USA		

- 1) The Contracting Parties shall notify the Executive Secretary bi-weekly of catches taken by its vessels from this allocation. The Executive Secretary shall notify without delay all Contracting Parties the dates on which accumulated reported catch taken by vessels of Contracting Parties estimated equal to 50% and then 100% of that allocation.
- 2) As acceptance of this decision the quantities taken from that allocation in the NAFO Convention Area by respective Contracting Parties shall be deducted from the quotas allocated to these Contracting Parties in the NEAFC Convention Area.
- 3) This arrangement applies to 2003 and is without prejudice to sharing arrangements for this stock in future years.

**Annex 9. Bulgarian Declaration on Repayment of the Bulgarian  
outstanding contributions (for the years 1993-2002)**

(GC Working Paper 02/6)

The Bulgarian Delegation at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of NAFO states the following:

- a) Bulgaria acknowledges its outstanding contributions to NAFO Budget for the years 1993-2002 in the amount of \$171,061.42 Cdn
- b) Bulgaria declares the following schedule of the noted outstanding contribution repayment:
  - For the years 2001-2002 in the amount of \$41,264.67 to the end of 2002.
  - For the years 1993-2000 in the amount of \$129,796.75 during 2003-2004.

Pursuant to the above-noted commitment, the Bulgarian Government requests the General Council of NAFO to restore Bulgaria's voting rights under the provisions of Article XVI.9 of the NAFO Convention.

**Annex 10. Letter regarding Romania's withdrawal from NAFO**

**EMBASSY OF ROMANIA  
OTTAWA  
AMBASSADE DE ROUMANIE**



**655 RIDEAU STREET, OTTAWA, ON  
CANADA, K1N 6A3  
TEL. : (613) 789-3769, 789-5345  
789-4037, 789-4038  
FAX : (613) 789-4365**

**No. 380**

The Embassy of Romania presents its compliments to the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade - the Legal Affairs Bureau - and has the honour to notify hereby that through Law no.793 of December 29, 2001, the Parliament of Romania has adopted the decision that Romania renounces its membership in the Convention on Future Multilateral Co-operation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries - NAFO, signed in Ottawa on October 21, 1978.

This notification is made in conformity with the provisions of Article XXIV of the said Convention. The Embassy of Romania is kindly requesting the Legal Affairs Bureau to acknowledge receipt of the present Note and confirm the annulment of Romania's membership in NAFO.

The Embassy of Romania avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade - the Legal Affairs Bureau - the assurance of its highest consideration. *gg*

Ottawa, February 15, 2002



**DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

**The Legal Affairs Bureau**

**Annex 11. Scientific Council Consideration of Memorandum of  
Understanding with ICES**  
(GC Working Paper 02/7)

The Scientific Council considered a proposal presented by the Executive Secretary to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ICES and referred to it by General Council.

Scientific Council noted that it has had a long-standing working relationship with ICES in many scientific activities of mutual interest. The Council at present continues to work effectively with ICES, e.g. Scientific Council nominees attending ACFM Meetings of ICES, a Joint NAFO/ICES Working Group on Harp and Hooded Seals, conducting co-sponsored Symposia, etc. Under the circumstances Scientific Council is unclear as to the incremental benefits that would accrue through a formal document such as a MoU. It was accordingly decided there is not any need for a formal MoU at this stage. Scientific Council, however, agreed this matter could be considered at a later date based on any additional documentation that may be prepared outlining, in more detail, the benefits and advantages of any MoU.

**Annex 12. Schedule of NAFO Intersessional Meetings, 2002-2003**  
(GC Working Paper 02/8)

## Meetings

STACTIC W.G. on Pilot Project	D. Bevan (Canada)	18-20 Nov 2002 (after NEAFC AM)	London (NEAFC)
W.G. of Fisheries Commission on Allocation (FC WP 02/30 Rev.)	.... (EU)	26-28 March <sup>1)</sup> or 18-20 February	Florida, USA
W.G. of the General Council on Dispute Settlement (if decided)	?	29-30 April	Brussels
W.G. (small) of STACTIC to overhaul Conservation and Enforcement Measures	?	before STACTIC June Meeting	"preferably by phone"
STACTIC:	D. Bevan	16-20 June	Copenhagen Denmark
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluation of Part VI (incl. STACTIC W.P. 02/31)</li> <li>- Pilot Project (proposal from STACTIC W.G.)</li> <li>- Green Bible – CEM (proposal from small group)</li> <li>- Compliance (structure of work for September STACTIC Meeting)</li> <li>- Others</li> </ul>			

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<sup>1)</sup>Heads of Delegations will be notified by September 27, 2002 of the chosen dates upon notification from the US delegation.