

PART II

Report of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Chairman, D. Bevan (Canada), welcomed participants to Halifax on September 15, 2003 at 10:00 am adding that there was a lot of work to do before the report of proceedings were to be presented to the Fisheries Commission on Thursday morning.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

Mike Rimmer (EU) was appointed Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of Agenda

As Canada wanted to make a presentation under item 8, they requested this item be postponed until it was more convenient. The Chairman confirmed that this would be taken at 2:00 pm on 16 September. Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland) requested that a presentation on the harmonization group working be made under item 15 "Other Matters". This was agreed and agenda adopted as revised (Annex 1).

4. Review of Annual Returns of Infringements

The Secretariat introduced STACTIC W.P. 03/7 (revised); 03/10 (revised) and FC Doc. 03/4 (Revised).

5. Review of Surveillance and Inspection Reports

The Secretariat introduced STACTIC W.P. 03/8. The representative of Canada tabled its annual report on surveillance and inspection activity (STACTIC W.P. 03/16). The representative of Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland) tabled its summary of inspection activities (STACTIC W.P. 03/20). The representative of EU confirmed that they had given a presentation on inspection activities in Fisheries Commission.

6. Review of Operation of the Automated Hail/VMS System

STACTIC W.P. 03/9 was introduced. The representative of Canada questioned the entry of automatic/nil against one Contracting Party. The Secretariat explained that they had received reports for this Contracting Party via a third party. These stopped but have restarted again. The representative of Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) asked if the entry in the column move and zonal was compulsory when VMS was working. The Secretariat confirmed that this was not the case.

7. Review of Compliance

The Secretariat explained that at the intersessional meeting held in Copenhagen 16-20 June 2003 the Executive Secretary announced that the Secretariat would not be able to present the report on compliance for 2002 because of the large amount of data that needed to be pulled together. The Chairman added that he hoped this would be put together for discussion at 2004 meeting.

At the request of the Fisheries Commission, the Executive Secretary presented STACFAD Working Paper 03/9 "Requirement: Additional staff for a period of 14 months" explaining that this length of handover was necessary to ensure the proper training of the successor to Mr. Gordon Moulton. The Executive Secretary added that additional work could not be carried out without additional resources. STACTIC agrees the work has to be done but should be left to STACFAD to determine how to fund it.

The representative of Canada introduced STACTIC W.P. 03/19. This was a discussion document explaining the roles, responsibilities and process of carrying out review of compliance as agreed in STACTIC W.P. 02/14.

Discussions centered on how much additional work this would create for the Executive Secretary/Secretariat, and if this document actually went further than the terms of reference given to STACTIC in W.P. 02/14. It was clarified that this paper was not intended to replace W.P. 02/14, rather to discuss its implementation. The representatives of EU and Canada agreed to have discussions on how to implement STACTIC W.P. 02/14 and bring recommendation back to STACTIC for their consideration.

8. Port Inspection Protocol

The representative of Canada introduced STACTIC Working Paper 03/12 (Revision 1) explaining that this was a proposal for a port inspection protocol for vessels fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area. There was a presentation explaining the statistical methodology behind the various sampling plans for port inspections. There was a general discussion on this issue with no conclusions. It was agreed that this document has common elements with STACTIC W.P. 03/17, 03/18 and these were discussed together under item 9d.

9. Program for Observers and Satellite Tracking

a) STACTIC Evaluation of the Program for Observers and Satellite Tracking (STACTIC 02/31)

This was discussed at the intersessional meeting. There was no further discussion.

b) Observer Program and Scientific Requirements (SCS Doc. 00/23)

There was general discussion on this item. The Chairman of the Scientific Council had indicated to Chairman of STACTIC that the Scientific Council did not wish to review this paper.

c) Pilot Project

STACTIC had referred the outcome of working group held in London in November 2002 to the Fisheries Commission. There was no further discussion.

d) Proposals for amendments of Conservation and Enforcement Measures, in particular the observer scheme

EU introduced STACTIC Working Paper 03/17 explaining that this was a working paper and took into account views of some Contracting Parties in Copenhagen meeting. The representative of the EU said this would replace the current observer program which finishes at the end of 2003. The representatives of both Canada and the USA both disagreed with the EU's interpretation on observer program ending 2003. Canada introduced STACTIC Working Paper 03/18 explaining that there should be standardization of observer schemes within NAFO. There was general discussion by Contracting Parties on both of these documents with the consensus view that all needed more time to reflect on these papers. A proposal was discussed to have a Working Group set up that would be charged with looking at STACTIC W.P. 03/12, 03/17 and 03/18 with a view to bringing recommendations for comprehensive changes to the CEM to the intersessional STACTIC meeting. Draft terms of reference were prepared by the Chair (STACTIC W.P. 03/21), however, the representative of the EU could not accept the current observer scheme continuing after 2003 and so could not agree to setting up of this working group.

EU introduced STACTIC Working Paper 03/15 which was a proposal to harmonize rules in 3M and 3L shrimp fishery and would add the words "Flag State" in the first sentence of Article 11.2. of the revised CEM. There was a consensus to adopt STACTIC W.P. 03/15 (Revised) to allow the addition of "Flag State" but to keep the rules on 3M and 3L shrimp as they are due to the differences to the fisheries in the zones. STACTIC could re-examine the possible harmonization of by-catch in shrimp fishery if instructed by Fisheries Commission.

10. Review of by-catch limits (task from the Fisheries Commission)

It is the view of STACTIC that they are comfortable with the current percentages. Given that the new system is simpler than the old, the current percentages should be kept unless the Fisheries Commission wants these looked at.

However, STACTIC noted that it would not be possible to compare the equivalency of the percentages under the two systems because the old system was too complicated to follow.

11. Discussion of possible amendments to the Conservation and Enforcement Measures – Definition of infringement

This matter was discussed but further reflection is required before STACTIC can come forward with a recommendation.

12. Proposals for amendments of the Rules of Procedure of the Fisheries Commission

The EU presented STACTIC Working Paper 03/13 (Revised) which would ensure that any measures adopted by the Fisheries Commission would contain a clear explanation of its rationale in the form of an explanatory memorandum; and a clear indication of the section/article/provision to be amended and the exact wording of the amendment in operative terms. It was agreed to forward 03/13 revised to the Fisheries Commission.

The Fisheries Commission referred FC Working Paper 03/10 on the STACTIC recommendation to amend Rules of Procedure of the Fisheries Commission in order to provide for election of a vice chairman asking STACTIC if it needed to include rules should neither chairman nor vice chairman be available to attend STACTIC meeting. It is the view of STACTIC that this is not the case and recommended that FC Working Paper 03/10 be sent back to Fisheries Commission without amendment.

13. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Martin Newman (EU) was elected Chairman and Mads Nedergaard (Denmark in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland), Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Newman and Mr. Nedergaard both thanked Mr. Bevan for his excellent work as Chairman of STACTIC over the last 8 years.

14. Time and Place of Next Meeting

Intersessional meeting to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, June 2004.

15. Other Matters

i) Working Group on Harmonization of the Communications of Catches

Iceland and Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland) presented STACTIC Working Paper 03/14. They explained that this was a working document analyzing the differences in the NAFO and NEAFC electronic reporting system. Contracting Parties were encouraged to access website and provide comments on work conducted to date.

ii) Chartering

Fisheries Commission referred W.P. 03/12 on chartering for clarification. Norway requested that [] be placed around fishing days in the document as they had not agreed to this term in Fisheries Commission. France (on behalf of St. Pierre and Miquelon) stated that the pilot project was set up to look at chartering as such not chartering of specifically shrimp and that shrimp should be in []. EU and USA stated that this went beyond remit of STACTIC. STACTIC requests that Fisheries Commission clarify whether they are to look at chartering in general or chartering of only shrimp. Consensus on FC Working Paper 03/12 (Revision 3) be sent to Fisheries Commission with [] to reflect policy decisions to be made by Fisheries Commission.

STACTIC noted that in the event that the Executive Secretary could not verify under Section 9 that the conditions had been met there is no pro-active action provided for.

iii) Article 36 of Conservation and Enforcement Measures

Fisheries Commission asked STACTIC if Article 36 of the overhaul of the Conservation and Enforcement Measures should be deleted.

It is the opinion of STACTIC that this Article should remain. However STACTIC would look at this matter again after it had reviewed the increase of inspection presence in the NAFO Regulatory Area.

iv) Review Increase of Inspection Presence in NAFO Regulatory Area

Fisheries Commission asked STACTIC to review increase in inspection presence in the NAFO Regulatory Area.

It is the opinion of STACTIC that this is too weighty an issue to be dealt with at this Annual Meeting and to do a valid job would take time. STACTIC therefore will look at this matter in 2004 with a view to coming forward with a paper at the next NAFO Annual Meeting.

16. Adoption of Report

The Committee adopted the Report as is.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned on Thursday, 18 September at 1700 hrs.

Annex 1. Agenda

1. Opening by the Chairman, D. Bevan (Canada)
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Review of Annual Returns of Infringements
 - a) review of disposition of outstanding infringements by Contracting Parties
5. Review of Surveillance and Inspection Reports
6. Review of Operation of the Automated Hail/VMS system
7. Review of Compliance (STACTIC W.P. 02/14)
8. Port Inspection Protocol
9. Program for Observers and Satellite Tracking
 - a) STACTIC Evaluation of the Program for Observers and Satellite Tracking in accordance with Terms of Reference –STACTIC W.P. 02/31)
 - b) Observer Program and Scientific Requirements
 - c) Pilot Project
 - d) Proposals for amendments of Conservation and Enforcement Measures, in particular the observer scheme
10. Review of by-catch limits (Task from the Fisheries Commission)
11. Discussion of possible amendments to the Conservation and Enforcement measures – Definition of infringement
12. Proposals for amendments of the Rules of Procedure of the Fisheries Commission
13. Election of Chair
14. Time and Place of the Next Meeting
15. Other Matters
 - i) Working Group on Harmonization of the Communications of Catches
 - ii) Chartering
 - iii) Article 36 of Conservation and Enforcement Measures
 - iv) Review increase of inspection presence in NAFO Regulatory Area
16. Adoption of Report
17. Adjournment