

PART II

Report of the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)

**30th Annual Meeting, 22-26 September 2008
Vigo, Spain**

1. Opening of the Meeting (Chair: Mads Nedergaard, DFG)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 14:45 at the Maritime Station, Vigo, Spain and welcomed representatives of Canada, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), EU, France (in respect of St. Pierre-et-Miquelon), Iceland, Japan, Norway, Russia, the United States and the NAFO Secretariat to the STACTIC annual meeting.

No opening statements were made.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

Mr. Gregg Casad (United States) was appointed rapporteur.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The Chair introduced the agenda and opened the floor to comments.

Four additional items were proposed for inclusion under agenda item 8:

- The representative from Iceland proposed an item on sharing of NAFO vessel monitoring system data for the search and rescue cases. *8.i – Use of NAFO VMS information for search and rescue*
- The representative from the EU proposed an item to present additional information on Omega mesh gauges. *8.ii – Omega mesh gauge Working Paper*
- The representative from Canada proposed an item to reflect on the apparent misreporting of shrimp landing in area 3L/3M. *8.iii – Apparent misreporting of shrimp in 3L/3M*
- The representative from the EU proposed to add an agenda item for the next STACTIC meeting. *8.iv – New agenda item for next STACTIC meeting*

The agenda was adopted.

4. Compliance review 2007 including review of reports of apparent infringements

The Chair introduced the agenda item and sought concurrence to review the Working Group on Compliance's report and Working Papers: STACTIC W.P. 08/3, 08/10, 08/11, and FC W.P. 08/7.

For Working Paper 08/10, the Chair reflected on the Secretariat's recommendation to change the report required under Article 28.6 from a quarterly report to inclusion in the annual compliance report. The representative from the United States indicated support for the change given the inclusion of similar information. Canada requested more time to reflect on the issue and the potential impacts of the change.

On Working Paper 08/11, the representative from the EU requested the vessel MADRUS be stricken from the report as it was included in error.

Based on a draft provided in Nuuk, the Chair requested the Compliance Working Group prepare an observed trends section. The Contracting Parties provided input to the Compliance Working Group on the observed trends. Based on the feedback, the Chair for the Compliance Working Group presented STACTIC Working Paper 08/20, Annual Compliance Review 2008. The representative of Canada requested the inclusion of information on compliance within

the shrimp fishery in NAFO Area 3L/3M. The representative of the EU expressed reservation, because the information in the report does not support concerns over compliance within the shrimp fishery. On the issue of VME's, the Compliance Working Group suggested that this should eventually be included in the compliance review, but indicated that this may be premature at present as there was still a need for establish criteria. The Chair recommended Compliance Working Group consider other issues such as inclusion of an analysis of fishing effort in future reports. The Chair expressed concern about the timely submission of Contracting Party inspection and observer reports. STACTIC adopted the Working Paper by consensus for presentation to the Fisheries Committee.

It was agreed to adopt and submit STACTIC Working Paper 08/20, Rev 2 to the Fisheries Commission. The agenda item was closed.

5. Review of current IUU list pursuant to NAFO CEM Article 52.3

The Chair opened agenda item 5 and offered STACTIC Working Paper 08/12 for discussion. STACTIC reviewed the paper and agreed with the addition of four new vessels from the NEAFC IUU vessel list to Table 1 and the removal of three vessels from Table 2. Additionally, STACTIC reviewed the procedures for removal of the POLESTAR from the IUU list upon receipt of NEAFC's removal of the vessel from their IUU list as captured in Article 52.8.

Building on the proposal captured in STACTIC Working Paper 07/32 and 08/9, STACTIC discussed the Norwegian proposal to include the IUU-listed vessels from CCAMLR and SEAFO into NAFO's IUU vessel list. The representative of the United States reiterated their concerns that inclusion based on the IUU vessel list from RFMOs with little or no interaction with NAFO fisheries is not consistent with the Convention's current scope; however, the representative from the United States indicated that the revised Convention text would probably allow for such an action. The representative of the EU noted that any inclusions should consist solely of vessels on a RFMO's final versus interim vessel lists.

Based on the above comment and a review of the responses from CCAMLR and SEAFO to the Secretariat, the Chair recommended deferring the item to allow CCAMLR and SEAFO to determine if they adopt reciprocal agreements and requested the Secretariat track developments of an IUU vessel list within SEAFO.

The item was deferred pending ratification of the new Convention. The agenda item was closed.

6. Port State Control Scheme

The Chair introduced the agenda item and requested comments on the Port State Control proposal, STACTIC Working Paper 08/1. Building on the discussions from the July 2008 intersessional meeting, STACTIC engaged in substantial deliberations regarding the scope of the proposal and key issues such as limiting the scope to other Contracting Party fishing vessels, notification timeframes and inspection level coverage not to conflict with recovery plan inspection requirements. The representative of the EU provided editorial comments to the PSC forms to reflect changes within the Working Paper. The representative of the United States agreed, with concurrence from representatives of Canada, EU, Iceland, and Norway, to provide revised text to STACTIC for the section to incorporate the members' comments. STACTIC has completed review of the Working Paper 08/1, as captured in revision 4. The EU recommended the proposal undergo a review by the Secretariat and the Chair and in coordination with NEAFC. The Chair, supported by Iceland, Norway, and United States, recommended the proposal be forwarded to the Fisheries Commission for adoption.

It was agreed to adopt and submit STACTIC Working Paper 08/1, Rev 4 to the Fisheries Commission. The agenda item was closed.

7. Possible Amendments of Conservation and Enforcement Measures

i. Product labeling by species/stock area (Article 22)

The representative of the EU presented their proposal as captured in STACTIC Working Paper 08/8. The representative of Canada concurs with the first paragraph and offered an amendment to change "respective zones" to "respective stock area." The representative of the EU agreed to the representative of Canada's comment and

recommended the text read, "...shall be marked in accordance with stock area." The representative of Canada captured the change and the proposal was adopted for submission to the Fisheries Commission.

It was agreed to adopt and submit STACTIC Working Paper 08/8 Rev to the Fisheries Commission. This agenda item was closed.

ii. Strengthening ropes, bags, topside chafers

Based on the input from the representative of the EU at the intersessional, Canada presented their proposal, as captured in STACTIC Working Paper 08/17. Based on Canada's changes to the proposal since the Nuuk intersessional, the representatives from Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) and EU fully support the proposal. The proposal was approved for submission to the Fisheries Commission.

It was agreed to adopt and submit STACTIC Working Paper 08/17 to the Fisheries Commission. This agenda item was closed.

iii. Automated COE/COX comparison between NAFO and NEAFC reports

The Secretariat presented an update to the automated comparison of COE/COX reports, as captured in STACTIC Working Paper 08/13. The representative of Iceland provided an update on their efforts to coordinate with NEAFC. Further discussions within STACTIC should be based on the NEAFC's upcoming data communication workshop and the production of additional information on the quality of data.

This agenda is deferred to future meetings.

iv. Record of start/end coordinates for fishing activity

The representative of Canada presented their revised proposal on start/end coordinates for fishing activity, as captured in STACTIC Working Paper 08/16. The representative of the EU recommended changing the language to capture trial tows versus all tows. STACTIC reviewed the revised text and the Working Paper was adopted for submission to the Fisheries Commission.

It was agreed to adopt and submit STACTIC Working Paper 08/16 Rev to the Fisheries Commission.. This agenda item was closed.

v. Vessel Monitoring System (Article 25.1)

Building on previous discussions of STACTIC Working Paper 08/7, Canada presented their revised proposal as captured in STACTIC Working Paper 08/18. STACTIC noted support for Canada's proposal to change the reporting interval from two to one hour and include the course and speed information.

It was agreed to adopt and submit STACTIC Working Paper 08/18 to the Fisheries Commission. This agenda item was closed.

vi. Clarification of Article 12.1.e (Gear Requirements) and Annex I.A (Quota Table)

Based on discussions prior to STACTIC's meeting, the representative of Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) withdrew this agenda item from consideration.

This agenda item was closed.

vii. Inconsistency of Language in NAFO CEM Articles 14 and 15

Based on the discussions from the July intersessional meeting, the United States presented their proposal on the definition of bottom fishing gear or bottom fishing activity, as captured in STACTIC Working Paper 08/15. Norway asked if the use of the term "activity" extends to additional gear types beyond trawl. Japan recommended utilizing the term bottom contact gear. Canada indicated support for either activity or gear. Norway indicated that as currently proposed the definition would need to be included in Article 2. Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) and EU support the United States proposal.

It was agreed to adopt and submit STACTIC Working Paper 08/15 to the Fisheries Commission. This agenda item was closed.

viii. Editorial Changes to the CEM.

The NAFO Secretariat presented STACTIC Working Paper 08/14. The representative of Canada thanked Secretariat for their efforts and recognized the need for review of the measures. EU, joined by Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), extended their appreciation to the Secretariat for the efforts to provide this Working Paper. Both Parties foresee some issues of taking the efforts and implementing them in regulations. Additionally, the representative of the EU indicated there could be translation problems. The Chair requested the Contracting Parties reflect on the proposal for additional discussion at a future STACTIC meeting.

The agenda item was deferred for additional discussion at the next STACTIC intersessional meeting.

8. Other matters

i. Use of NAFO VMS information for search and rescue

The representative from Iceland provided a review of a joint Iceland/United States search and rescue operations. As part of the exercise, Iceland identified a question about NAFO's authority to release VMS information for the purpose of search and rescue operations. The representative of France (in respect of St. Pierre-et-Miquelon) indicated the impending adoption of requirement for inclusion of AIS systems onboard their fishing vessels. The representative from Iceland noted that AIS is effective within line of sight coverage, but VMS is valuable to locate vessels in remote locations. The representative of the United States commented that a regulatory process exists in the United States for the use of VMS for search and rescue purposes, and perhaps a provision could be added to Article 25 to allow for the use of VMS information for search and rescue purpose, consistent with privacy and confidentiality requirements. The representative from Canada noted they have a similar regime to the United States and search and rescue has access to VMS data. The general STACTIC consensus was that the release of NAFO VMS data to Contracting Parties in search and rescue cases would be consistent with current confidentiality provisions of NAFO. Iceland, in coordination with Canada and the United States, agreed to prepare a proposal to clarify this position in the CEM for consideration at the next STACTIC meeting.

The agenda item was deferred to the next STACTIC meeting.

ii. Omega mesh gauge Working Paper

The representative of the EU presented STACTIC Working Paper 08/19 on the Omega mesh gauge. The EU requested parties to reflect on the principles and value of adopting the Omega mesh gauge as the standard for inspection. The representative of Canada expressed their appreciation to the EU for providing the information and identified the need to review the information, understand the operating parameters, and the logistics of procuring the gauges. The EU provided information to address Denmark's (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) request for additional information on the operational testing in the Northern Atlantic and environmental range of the gauge. The Chair expressed a concern over the use of different mesh gauges in different jurisdictions.

The agenda item was deferred to allow Contracting Parties to review the document and revisit the Working Paper at a future meeting.

iii. Apparent misreporting of shrimp in 3L/3M

Building on a Canadian presentation at the intersessional meeting in Nuuk, the representative of Canada provided a synopsis of concerns regarding apparent misreporting in 3L/3M. Canada deferred presentation of a proposal to allow the Fisheries Commission to address the issue of shrimp catch within area 3L.

This agenda item was deferred for additional discussion at a future STACTIC meeting.

iv. New agenda item for next STACTIC meeting

STACTIC agreed that during the next meeting a broad discussion should be undertaken on the Conservation and Enforcement Measures to determine, based on the trends, what compliance objectives NAFO should be focusing on and how they could be achieved in the most cost effective and efficient manner.

This agenda item was agreed to and deferred to the next STACTIC meeting.

9. Time and Place of next meeting

France (in respect of St. Pierre-et-Miquelon) offered to host the next STACTIC intersessional meeting, time and venue to be determined.

10. Adoption of Report

The report was adopted by the representatives.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 13:30 on Thursday, September 25, 2008.

Annex 1. Agenda

1. Opening by the Chair, Mads Nedergaard (Denmark in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland)
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Compliance review 2007 including review of reports of apparent infringements
5. Review of current IUU list pursuant to NAFO CEM Article 52.3
6. Port State Control Scheme
7. Possible Amendments of Conservation and Enforcement Measures
 - i. Product labeling by species/stock area (Article 22)
 - ii. Strengthening ropes, bags, topside chafers
 - iii. Automated COE/COX comparison between NAFO and NEAFC reports
 - iv. Record of start/end coordinates for fishing activity
 - v. Vessel Monitoring System (Article 25.1)
 - vi. Clarification of Article 12.1.e (Gear Requirements) and Annex I.A (Quota Table)
 - vii. Inconsistency of Language in NAFO CEM Articles 14 and 15
 - viii. Editorial changes to the CEM
8. Other matters
 - i. Use of NAFO VMS information for search and rescue
 - ii. Omega mesh gauge Working Paper
 - iii. Apparent Misreporting of shrimp in 3L/3M
 - iv. New Agenda item for next STACTIC meeting
9. Time and Place of the next STACTIC Meeting
10. Adoption of Report
11. Adjournment