

**2007 Annual Meeting Press Release**

Revised

**28 September 2007****NAFO Celebrates a Modern Convention****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LISBON, PORTUGAL** - The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization held its 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting from the 24<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, 2007. The Ministry of Fisheries of Portugal hosted the meeting in Lisbon, Portugal. The meeting focused on the protection of the environment in the Northwest Atlantic and the establishment of stock management measures.

**NAFO Modernizes its Convention**

Outstanding NAFO reform issues have been successfully concluded and revisions to the NAFO Convention were adopted. They include an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management, improvement of the decision making process and strengthening of the obligations and duties of NAFO Member States, Port States and Flag States. The timely conclusion of the NAFO Reform is regarded as a great success and will ensure that NAFO remains in the forefront of regional organizations managing international fish stocks.

**NAFO Closes Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)**

Further to the 2006 precautionary closure of four seamounts in international waters, this year NAFO decided to also close to bottom fisheries a large area on the Grand Banks for the next five years. During this time a coral monitoring and research program in this area will deliver much needed data to devise future strategies for the protection of corals.

NAFO also decided to hold an extraordinary meeting of the Fisheries Commission in Montreal, Canada, in Spring 2008 dedicated to a comprehensive consideration of strategies and measures to address vulnerable marine ecosystems particularly in the deep seas.

**NAFO Expands Joint Actions Against IUU Vessels**

NAFO has further expanded its IUU (illegal, unreported and unregulated) vessel list to include a number of other regional organizations managing straddling fish stocks in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The "black" list has already proven to be a useful tool since its introduction in 2006.

**New NAFO Measures Against Over-fishing**

NAFO has decided on a special catch communication and inspection scheme for vessels fishing Greenland halibut. This measure will strengthen the fight against over-fishing in the Northwest Atlantic.

**NAFO Launches Grand Banks Cod Recovery Program**

NAFO adopted a conservation plan and rebuilding strategy for Atlantic cod on the southern Grand Banks to promote recovery of this important species. Despite being under a fishing moratorium for over twelve years the status of cod is still of concern and it is hoped that the new measures will help the stock to rebound.

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**Additional highlights of the meeting can be found in the attached backgrounder.**

**For more information  
contact:**

Barbara Marshall, NAFO Secretariat [www.nafo.int](http://www.nafo.int)  
Tel: +1-902-468-8598  
E-mail: [bmarshall@nafo.int](mailto:bmarshall@nafo.int)

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

## 2007 Annual Meeting Press Release

24 - 28 September 2007

### Backgrounder

The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was hosted by the Portuguese Ministry of Fisheries in Lisbon, Portugal. The 200 delegates from NAFO member countries came together to deliberate on management measures for the international fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic as well as to finalize the amendments to the 1979 NAFO Convention. The meeting was also attended by observers from seven other regional fisheries bodies; as well as from the Ecology Action Centre (EAC) and World Wildlife Fund Canada (WWF- Canada).

The **General Council** was chaired by David Bevan (Canada) and focused on the NAFO Reform that started in 2005 to take into account the UN Fish Stock Agreement and other international conventions related to fisheries and marine environments. The amended convention will include a commitment to an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and improve the decision-making process while making it harder for States to object against a NAFO measure. In addition, General Council also addressed administrative and financial matters.

The **Scientific Council** was chaired by Antonio Vázquez (EU) during its fish stock assessments over the last 12 months and who presented the scientific recommendations to the Fisheries Commission at the beginning of this week. Other matters reviewed by the NAFO scientists included the ocean climate summary, using vessel position reports to complement current assessment techniques and creating liaisons with other organizations to apply ecosystem considerations to monitor and assess fish stocks.

The Annual Meeting is followed by the international symposium on "Reproductive and Recruitment Processes of Exploited Marine Fish Stocks". The objective of the symposium is to review the reproduction, early life history and recruitment in exploited fish.

The **Fisheries Commission** was chaired by Vladimir Shibanov (Russian Federation) and decided on Total Allowable Catches and other conservation measures for the international waters of the Northwest Atlantic. Because of the demanding agenda during this Annual Meeting, not all matters could be adequately discussed. Therefore, Fisheries Commission agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting in Montreal, Canada, in Spring 2008, to specifically address a new allocation for shrimp and a strategy for the protection of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems.

Attached is the table of NAFO Total Allowable Catches (TAC) and quotas agreed at this session.

### Meetings

Prior to the Annual Meeting, the following NAFO meetings were held during 2007: (1) General Council Intersessional (Montreal, Canada, 19-20 April); (2) Convention Technical Editing Working Group (Brussels, Belgium 22-23 May); (3) Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) (Gdynia, Poland, 5-7 Jun); (4) Scientific Council Regular Meeting (Dartmouth, Canada, 7-21 June).

The meeting was attended by over 200 delegates from twelve Contracting Parties – Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of Faroe Islands and Greenland), European Union, France (in respect of St. Pierre et Miquelon), Iceland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Norway, Russia, Ukraine and United States of America.

NAFO Executive Secretary  
28 September 2007, Lisbon, Portugal

**For more information  
contact:**

Barbara Marshall, NAFO Secretariat [www.nafo.int](http://www.nafo.int)  
Tel: +1-902-468-8598  
E-mail: [bmarshall@nafo.int](mailto:bmarshall@nafo.int)

### Quota Table 2008 and Effort Allocation Scheme

**QUOTA TABLE. Total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas (metric tons) for 2008 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.**

Species	Cod			Redfish				American plaice		Yellowtail	Witch	
	3L	3M	3NO	3LN	3M	3O	Sub-Area 2 and Div. 1F+3K	3LNO	3M	3LNO	3L	3NO
Canada		0	0	0	500	6000	385 <sup>2,4</sup>	0	0	15112 <sup>5</sup>		0
Cuba		0	-	0	1750		385 <sup>2,4</sup>	-	-	-		-
Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)		0	-	-	69 <sup>19</sup>		9627 <sup>2,3</sup>	-	-	-		-
European Union		0 <sup>11</sup>	0 <sup>11</sup>	0 <sup>11</sup>	7813 <sup>12</sup>	7000	<u>9627<sup>2,3</sup></u> 2503 <sup>2,15</sup>	0	0 <sup>11</sup>	-		0 <sup>11</sup>
France (St. Pierre et Miquelon)		-	-	-	69 <sup>19</sup>		385 <sup>2,4</sup>	-	-	310 <sup>5</sup>		-
Iceland		-	-	-	-		9627 <sup>2,3</sup>	-	-	-		-
Japan		-	-	-	400	150	385 <sup>2,4</sup>	-	-	-		-
Korea		-	-	-	69 <sup>19</sup>	100	385 <sup>2,4</sup>	-	-	-		-
Norway		0	-	-	-		9627 <sup>2,3</sup>	-	-	-		-
Russia		0	0	0	9137	6500	9627 <sup>2,3</sup>	-	0	-		0
Ukraine						150	385 <sup>2,4</sup>					
United States of America		-	-	-	69 <sup>19</sup>		385 <sup>2,4</sup>	-	-	-		-
Others		0	0	0	124	100	-	0	0	78 <sup>5</sup>		0
<b>TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH</b>	*	*	* <sup>20</sup>	*	8500 <sup>8,16</sup>	20000	12516 <sup>10,17</sup>	* <sup>16</sup>	*	15500 <sup>9</sup>	* <sup>20</sup>	*

Species	White hake	Capelin	Skates	Greenland halibut	Squid (Illex) <sup>1</sup>	Shrimp	
						3L	3NO
Division/Contracting Party	3NO	3NO	3LNO	3LMNO	Sub-areas 3+4	3L	3NO
Canada	2500	0	2250	1778	N.S. <sup>6</sup>	20824	
Cuba		0		-	510	278	
Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)		-		206	-	278	
European Union	5000	0 <sup>11</sup>	8500	6951 <sup>18</sup>	<u>N.S.</u> <sup>6</sup> 611 <sup>13</sup>	1392 <sup>14</sup>	
France (St. Pierre et Miquelon)		-		194	453	278	
Iceland		-		-	-	278	
Japan		0		1215	510	278	
Korea		-		-	453	278	
Norway		0		-	-	278	
Russia	500	0	2250	1512	749	278	
Ukraine				-		278	
United States of America		-		-	453	278	
Others	500	-	500	0 <sup>7</sup>	794	0	
TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH	8500 <sup>16</sup>	* <sup>21</sup>	13500	11856	34000	25000	*

\* Ban on fishing in force – The provisions of Article 9, paragraph 1.b) shall apply.

1. 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.
2. The Contracting Parties shall notify the Executive Secretary every second week of catches taken by its vessels from this allocation until accumulated reported catch reaches 50%, after which time weekly notification shall apply. 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.
3. Quota to be shared by vessels from Denmark (Greenland and Faroe Islands), European Union, Iceland, Norway and Russia. Catches in the NAFO Convention Area shall be deducted from the quotas allocated in the NEAFC Convention Area.
4. Quota to be shared by vessels from Canada, Cuba, France (St. Pierre et Miquelon), Japan, Korea, Ukraine and USA.
5. Contracting Parties shall inform the Executive Secretary before 01 December 2007 of the measures to be taken to ensure that total catches do not exceed the levels indicated.

6. 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 (= 29.458 tons).
7. In 2005, the previous 935 t "Others" quota was assigned to three Contracting Parties. When the TAC exceeds 30,000 t the next 1,300 t beyond 30,000 will be allocated to an Others quota which can be accessed by those who do not hold Greenland halibut allocation. In deciding the relevant contributions of Contracting Parties to the 1,300 t Others quota, the Fisheries Commission will take into account the fact that some Contracting Parties received a benefit from the 935 t quota which was reassigned in 2005.
8. Each Contracting Party shall notify the Executive Secretary every second week of catches taken by its vessels from this stock until accumulated reported catch reaches 50%, after which time weekly notification shall apply. Not more than 4250 tons may be fished before 01 July 2008. 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% of the TAC.
9. The provisions of Article 9, paragraph 1.b) of the Conservation and Enforcement Measures shall apply.
10. In the case of the NEAFC decision which modifies the level of TAC in 2008 as compared to 2007, these figures shall be accordingly adjusted by NAFO and formalized through a mail vote.
11. Including fishing entitlements of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania following their accession to the European Union and in accordance with sharing arrangements of the former USSR quota adopted by the Fisheries Commission at its Annual Meeting in 2003 (FC Working Paper 03/7).
12. Including allocations of 1571 tonnes each for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania out of a sharing of 20,000 tonnes, following their accession to the European Union.
13. Allocations of 128 tonnes each for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania as well as 227 tonnes for Poland out of a TAC of 34,000 tonnes, following their accession to the European Union.
14. Including allocations of 278 tonnes each for Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland out of a TAC of 25,000 tonnes, following their accession to the European Union
15. Allocation of 2,234 tonnes for Lithuania and 269 tonnes to Latvia following their accession to the European Union.
16. Applicable to 2008 and 2009.
17. The quota shares in footnotes 4 and 15 can only be fished in the NAFO Regulatory Area. If an increase in the overall TAC as defined in footnote 10 leads to an increase in these shares, the first 500 tonnes of that increase shall be added to the quota share referred to in footnote 4.
18. Including an allocation of 389 tonnes for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania following their accession to the European Union.
19. Notwithstanding the provisions of footnote 8 and without prejudice to future agreements on allocations, these quotas may be fished in their entirety by these Contracting Parties.
20. Applicable to 2008, 2009, and 2010.
21. Applicable until at least 2012.

**Annex I.B**  
**Effort Allocation Scheme for Shrimp Fishery in the**  
**NAFO Regulatory Area Div. 3M, 2008**

CONTRACTING PARTY	NUMBER OF FISHING DAYS	NUMBER OF VESSELS
<b>Canada</b>	456	16
<b>Cuba</b>	100	1
<b>Denmark</b>		
Faroe Islands	1606	8
Greenland	515	14
<b>European Union</b>	3293 <sup>1</sup>	33 <sup>1</sup>
<b>France (in respect of St Pierre et Miquelon)</b>	100	1
<b>Iceland</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Japan</b>	100	1
<b>Korea</b>	100	1
<b>Norway</b>	1985	32
<b>Russia</b>	2100	N/A
<b>Ukraine</b>	100	1
<b>USA</b>	100	1

<sup>1</sup> Including fishing entitlements transferred from Poland (100 fishing days with one vessel), Estonia (1667 fishing days with 8 vessels), Latvia (490 fishing days with 4 vessels) and Lithuania (579 fishing days with 7 vessels) following their accession to the European Union.