

PART II.
42nd Annual Meeting of NAFO
 21–25 September 2020
 To be held via videoconference

Commission

Provisional Agenda

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| 18. Meeting Reports and Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Working Group on Improving Efficiency of NAFO Working Group Process (E-WG), 2020 | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), February and August 2020 c. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), August 2020 d. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), April 2020 | |
| 19. Formulation of Request to the Scientific Council for Scientific Advice on Management in 2022 and Beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3, 4, 6 and Other Matters | |
| V. Conservation of Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area | |
| 20. Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), August 2020 (if more discussion is required)* | <i>Deferred to 2021</i> |
| 21. Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area, 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cod in Division 3M b. American Plaice in Division 3M c. Pelagic <i>Sebastes mentella</i> (oceanic redfish) in Sub-area 2 + Divisions 1F and 3K d. Splendid alfonsino in Sub-area 6 e. Shrimp in Division 3M | |
| 22. Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks Straddling National Jurisdictions, 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cod in Division 3L b. Redfish in Divisions 3LN c. Skates in Divisions 3LNO d. Greenland halibut in Sub-area 2 and Divisions 3KLMNO | |
| 23. Other matters pertaining to Conservation of Fish Stocks | |
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Notes to
the Provisional Agenda of the Commission

42nd Annual Meeting of NAFO, 21–25 September 2020

I. Opening Procedure

1. Opening by the Chair, Stéphane Artano (France-SPM)

The Chair, Stéphane Artano (France-SPM), will call the plenary session of the Commission to order on Monday, 21 September 2020.

Following the procedure established at the 2015 Annual Meeting, delegates will be asked not to address any opening statements orally but instead delegates are invited to submit opening statements in writing for circulation and inclusion in the meeting report.

NAFO Delegations are encouraged to submit any proposals in advance of the Annual Meeting, preferably early enough to be considered for the provisional agenda that is finalized 60 days before the Annual Meeting, but not later than a week prior to the Annual Meeting. This reflects Rule 4.3 of the Rules of Procedure: Commission “No order of business shall be the subject of a decision unless the subject matter has been included in the provisional agenda”. To allow flexibility, new proposals will not be excluded at the Annual Meeting, but delegates are requested to table any new proposals on new topics not later than the opening of the Commission’s afternoon session on Thursday, 24 September 2020.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

Participants will appoint a rapporteur whose duties include maintaining a record of decisions agreed upon by the Commission at the meeting. Traditionally, this function has been carried out by the Secretariat.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda will be presented to the meeting for review and adoption based on the provisional agenda circulated to all Contracting Parties in NAFO/20-197 of 22 July 2020.

4. Admission of Observers

According to Rule 1.a of the NAFO Rules of Procedure: Observers to NAFO Meetings “The Executive Secretary shall invite, as observers, intergovernmental organizations that have regular contacts with NAFO”.

On that basis, the Executive Secretary will invite the following intergovernmental organizations to attend the meeting in an observer capacity: Government of Bermuda, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat, Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES), International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (IMCS) Network, North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO), North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC), North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC), North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES),

Sargasso Sea Commission, Southeast Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO), South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO), United Nations - Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UN-DOALOS) and Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC).

NGOs currently accredited with NAFO Observer Status are: Deep Sea Conservation Coalition (DSCC), Conseil de Bande de la Nation Innu de Nutashkaun, Dalhousie University - Environment Information: Use & Influence Research Initiative (EIUI), Dalhousie University: Marine & Environmental Law Institute (MELAW), Ecology Action Centre (EAC), International Coalition of Fisheries Association (ICFA), Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), Oceans North Canada, Shark Trust and Sustainable Fisheries Greenland.

5. Publicity

Conditions for attendance by media representatives at NAFO meetings are stipulated in the NAFO Media Policy (GC Doc. 04-04). According to the Media Policy, delegates should identify all sessions of the Commission which will be accessible to the public, in addition to the official opening and closing procedures. In addition, it has always been the practice in NAFO that no public statements are made until after the conclusion of the meeting, when a press statement would be released. If so agreed, the meeting will continue that practice.

The Executive Secretary will prepare the press release in collaboration with the Chairs of the Commission and Scientific Council. At the discretion of the President and the Executive Secretary, a press conference may be held following the close of the Annual Meeting by the Chairs of the Commission and Scientific Council and the Executive Secretary.

II. Supervision and Coordination of the Organizational, Administrative and Other Internal Affairs

6. Review of Membership of the Commission

The membership of the Commission has not changed since the 2018 Annual Meeting and is currently comprised of twelve (12) Contracting Parties: Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), European Union (EU), France (in respect of St. Pierre et Miquelon), Iceland, Japan, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Ukraine and United States of America (USA).

7. Administrative and Activity Report by NAFO Secretariat

A detailed administrative and activity report will be circulated to the meeting and discussed in depth by STACFAD (COM Doc. 20-xx).

8. Recruitment of NAFO Executive Secretary for the 2022-2025 term

A recruitment process for the Executive Secretary be launched in 2021 with appointment for the 2022-2025 term. The NAFO Secretariat will work to prepare the necessary follow-up actions based on procedures used in the past.

9. NAFO Headquarters Agreement

Pursuant to Article V, paragraph 3 of the amended NAFO Convention "The privileges and immunities which the Organization and its officers shall enjoy in the territory of a Contracting Party shall be

subject to agreement between the Organization and the Contracting Party including, in particular, a headquarters agreement between the Organization and the host Contracting Party.”

An update on the status of a NAFO Headquarters Agreement will be provided under this agenda item.

10. Review of the list of experts to serve as panelists under the NAFO Dispute Settlement provisions

Under the amended NAFO Convention, paragraph 1 of Annex II states that the “Executive Secretary shall establish and maintain a list of experts who are willing and able to serve as panelists” in any Ad hoc panel established under Article XV of the Convention to settle a dispute.

Further to NAFO/20-161 of 11 June 2020, which was circulated requesting Contracting Parties to review their list of up to five nominees to serve as possible panelists in any Ad hoc panel established under the settlement of disputes provisions of the NAFO Convention (Article XV), the Secretariat will provide the updated list of all the nominated experts to Contracting Parties at this Annual Meeting.

11. Guidance to STACFAD

In order for STACFAD to complete its work at this meeting, the Commission will identify any additional items in the agenda that it wishes STACFAD to discuss at this Annual Meeting and instruct the Chair of STACFAD accordingly.

12. Guidance to STACTIC

The Chair of STACTIC will present a summary report of the Intersessional STACTIC meeting held in May 2020 (NAFO COM Doc. 20-05). In order for STACTIC to complete its work at this meeting, the Commission will identify any additional items that it wishes STACTIC to discuss at this Annual Meeting and instruct the Chair of STACTIC accordingly.

III. Coordination of External Affairs

13. Report of Executive Secretary on External Meetings

The Executive Secretary will provide a report on NAFO’s participation in external activities since the last Annual Meeting.

14. International Relations

a. Relations with other International Organizations

The importance of external relations was also stressed as the work of relevant organizations in other areas can impact the work of NAFO. For that reason, it was agreed that the NAFO Secretariat should try to attend meetings of the United Nations relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (BBNJ), as its resources allow.

The Executive Secretary will provide an update on the BBNJ discussions.

At the 2017 Annual Meeting, it was agreed that that the NAFO Secretariat maintains dialogue with relevant organizations and explore mechanisms to improve the exchange of information.

The Commission and Contracting Parties may consider other means to facilitate active monitoring of assessments, planning processes and actions taken in other fora in order to identify and, if needed, respond on issues concerning NRA fisheries, fisheries resources and biodiversity.

The Executive Secretary will provide a report on the matter.

b. NAFO Members as Observers to External Meetings

This agenda item is to allow for appointment of NAFO members to serve as observers to meetings of other relevant organizations and presentation of their reports, as well as a general discussion of NAFO's cooperation with other organizations.

At the last Annual Meeting, it was agreed that the following NAFO Contracting Parties would observe at meetings of the following organizations during 2019/2020:

- *Canada would represent NAFO at the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) and the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC).*
- *Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) would represent NAFO at the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC).*
- *European Union (EU) would represent NAFO at the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA).*
- *Norway would represent NAFO at the South East Atlantic Fishery Organisation (SEAFO) and the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO).*
- *USA would represent NAFO at the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) and the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO).*

It is expected that those Contracting Parties which attended meetings as NAFO observers will present their respective reports under this agenda item.

c. Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Deep-Seas Project

Under this agenda item, the Executive Secretary will provide an update on the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Deep-Seas Project, of which NAFO is a partner.

15. Oil and Gas Activities in the NAFO Regulatory Area

The Executive Secretary will provide a report on the matter.

IV. Joint Session of Commission and Scientific Council

16. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations

As agreed at the 2019 Annual Meeting, an update will be provided to the "Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel" (COM Doc. 19-32) at subsequent Annual Meetings.

17. Presentation of scientific advice by the Chair of the Scientific Council

a. Response of the Scientific Council to the Commission's request for scientific advice

The Chair of the Scientific Council will present the response of the Scientific Council (formulated in June 2020) to the Commission requests for scientific advice on fish stocks and on other topics (formulated in September 2019).

b. Feedback to the Scientific Council regarding the advice and its work during this meeting

Follow-up questions to the scientific advice should be submitted in writing and whenever possible in advance. Responses to the follow-up questions are expected to be formulated by the Scientific Council during this meeting.

c. Other issues as determined by the Chairs of the Commission and the Scientific Council

18. Meeting Reports and Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Groups

The meeting reports and recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Groups will be presented by the respective Chairs and co-Chairs.

a. Working Group on Improving Efficiency of NAFO Working Group Process (E-WG), 2020

b. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), February and August 2020

c. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), August 2020

d. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), April 2020

19. Formulation of Request to the Scientific Council for Scientific Advice on the Management in 2022 and Beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3, 4 and 6 and Other Matters

A draft request will be prepared by the Contracting Parties for adoption by the Commission.

V. Conservation of Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area

20. Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), August 2020 (if more discussion is required)

Recommendations addressed to the Commission will be considered under this agenda item, if more discussion is required.

Please note, this agenda item will be deferred to 2021 Annual Meeting of NAFO.

21. Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks in the Regulatory Area, 2021

- a. **Cod in Division 3M**
- b. **American Plaice in Division 3M**
- c. **Pelagic *Sebastes mentella* (oceanic redfish) in Sub-area 2 + Divisions 1F and 3K**
- d. **Splendid alfonsino in Sub-area 6**
- e. **Shrimp in Division 3M**

For this agenda item, the Commission will proceed with its review of the stocks above.

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, the Commission requested that the Scientific Council provide scientific information on the Precautionary Approach Framework for all stocks under its responsibility requiring advice for 2021 and beyond (Annex A and B of COM Doc. 19-29). The Commission shall consider the Scientific Council advice in deciding on conservation measures.

22. Management and Technical Measures for Fish Stocks Straddling National Jurisdictions, 2021

- a. **Cod in Division 3L**
- b. **Redfish in Divisions 3LN**
- c. **Skates in Divisions 3LNO**
- d. **Greenland halibut in Sub-area 2 and Divisions 3KLMNO**

For this agenda item, the Commission will proceed with its review of the stocks which straddle national jurisdictions.

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, the Commission requested that the Scientific Council provide scientific information on the Precautionary Approach Framework for all stocks under its responsibility requiring advice for 2021 and beyond (Annex A and B of COM Doc. 19-29). The Commission shall consider the Scientific Council advice in deciding on conservation measures.

23. Other matters pertaining to Conservation of Fish Stocks

Relevant topics concerning the conservation of fish stocks not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item.

VI. Ecosystem Considerations

24. Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), August 2020 (if more discussion is required)

Recommendations addressed to the Commission will be considered under this agenda item, if more discussion is required.

25. Other matters pertaining to Ecosystem Considerations

Relevant topics concerning ecosystem considerations not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item.

Please note, this agenda item will be deferred to 2021 Annual Meeting of NAFO.

VII. Conservation and Enforcement Measures

26. Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), April 2020 (if more discussion is required)

Recommendations addressed to the Commission will be considered under this agenda item, if more discussion is required.

Please note, this agenda item will be deferred to 2021 Annual Meeting of NAFO.

27. Meeting Report and Recommendations of the Ad hoc Working Group on Bycatches, Discards, and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area, April 2020

The meeting report (COM Doc. 20-04) will be presented by the Chair of the Working Group. The recommendations will be considered.

28. Report of STACTIC from this Annual Meeting and Recommendations

The Chair of STACTIC will present the Committee report to the Commission before the end of the Annual Meeting and the recommendations will be considered.

29. Other matters pertaining to Conservation and Enforcement Measures

Relevant topics concerning Conservation and Enforcement Measures not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item.

VIII. Finance and Administration

30. Report of STACFAD from this Annual Meeting

31. Adoption of the 2021 Budget and STACFAD recommendations

The Chair of STACFAD will present the Committee report to the Commission before the end of the Annual Meeting and the recommendations will be considered.

IX. Closing Procedure

32. Other Business

Relevant topics not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item.

33. Time and Place of Next Annual Meeting

The 43rd Annual Meeting will be in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, unless an invitation to host is extended by a Contracting Party and accepted by the Organization.

The 2021 Annual Meeting dates of 20-24 September were previously agreed upon.

34. Press Release

The press release of the meeting will be developed by the Executive Secretary through consultations with the Chairs of the Commission and Scientific Council.

35. Adjournment

The meeting will adjourn on Friday, 25 September 2020.

42nd Annual Meeting of NAFO
 21–25 September 2020
 To be held via videoconference

**Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD)
 of the Commission**

Provisional Agenda

| Agenda item: | |
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| 1. Opening by the Chair, Deirdre Warner-Kramer (USA) | |
| 2. Appointment of Rapporteur | |
| 3. Adoption of Agenda | |
| 4. Audited Financial Statements for 2019 | |
| 5. Administrative and Activity Report by NAFO Secretariat | |
| 6. Financial Statements for 2020 | |
| 7. Review of Accumulated Surplus and Funds | |
| 8. Update on the NAFO websites | |
| 9. Personnel Matters | |
| 10. Review of the Recruitment Process for the NAFO Executive Secretary | |
| 11. Internship Program | |
| 12. Report of the Annual Meeting of the International Fisheries Commissions Pension Society (IFCPS) | |
| 13. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations | |
| 14. Budget Estimate for 2021 | |
| 15. Budget Forecast for 2022 and 2023 | |
| 16. Adoption of 2020/2021 Staff Committee Appointees | |
| 17. Other Business | |
| 18. Election of Chair | |
| 19. Time and Place of 2021-2023 Annual Meetings | |
| 20. Adjournment | |

Notes to
the Provisional Agenda of STACFAD

42nd Annual Meeting of NAFO, 21–25 September 2020

1. Opening by the Chair, Deirdre Warner-Kramer (USA)

The meeting will be opened by the Chair, Deirdre Warner-Kramer (USA).

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

A rapporteur will be appointed by the participants. The Secretariat is prepared to assume this duty as in previous years.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda will be presented to the meeting for review and adoption based on the provisional agenda circulated to all Contracting Parties in NAFO/20-197 of 22 July 2020.

4. Audited Financial Statements for 2019

As agreed at the last Annual Meeting, the audit for the 2019 fiscal year was carried out by Grant Thornton LLP. In accordance with NAFO Financial Regulations, the audited financial statements were circulated to the Heads of Delegations of the Commission. Copies will also be circulated to STACFAD delegates at the meeting.

5. Administrative and Activity Report by NAFO Secretariat

The Administrative and Activity Report (COM Doc. 20-xx) will be presented by the Secretariat.

6. Financial Statements for 2020

Financial Statements for 2020 (projected to 31 December) will be provided by the Secretariat.

7. Review of Accumulated Surplus and Funds

The accumulated surplus account, contingency fund, relocation fund and performance review fund will be presented to the meeting by the Secretariat.

8. Update on the NAFO websites

An update will be provided on the NAFO Ad hoc virtual NAFO Website Re-design Working Group: Data Classification, including work completed since the 2019 Annual Meeting relating to the data classification and access rights of the NAFO websites.

9. Personnel Matters

Any issues related to personnel (e.g. promotions, job descriptions, new staff members hired intersessionally, etc.) will be discussed under this agenda item.

10. Review of the Recruitment Process for the NAFO Executive Secretary

The second and final term of the current Executive Secretary's (ES) contract concludes at the end of 2021. A recruitment process for the next ES be launched in 2021 with an appointment for the 2022-2025 term. It is anticipated that the Commission will request STACFAD to develop the recruitment process. The NAFO Secretariat will provide copies of the procedures used during the previous ES recruitment performed in 2013.

11. Internship Program

The Secretariat will present a report on the intern(s) hosted at the Secretariat during 2020, including tasks performed.

12. Report on the Annual Meeting of the International Fisheries Commissions Pension Society (IFCPS)

The Secretariat will report on the highlights of the Annual Meeting of the IFCPS which was held virtually from 15-17 April 2020.

13. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations

As agreed at the 2019 Annual Meeting, STACFAD will provide an update to the recommendations tasked to it in the "Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel" (COM Doc. 19-32) and any other recommendations, as assigned by the Commission.

14. Budget Estimate for 2021

All budgetary items will be considered by STACFAD based on the Secretariat's presentation.

15. Budget Forecast for 2022 and 2023

16. Adoption of 2020/2021 Staff Committee Appointees

Secretariat members will nominate and contact the nominees for the Staff Committee. STACFAD will be requested by the Secretariat to recommend to the Commission the nominees' appointment to the Staff Committee.

17. Other Business

This agenda item would include any matters referred to STACFAD by the Commission during the current Annual Meeting.

18. Election of Chair

According to Rule 5.4 of the NAFO Rules of Procedure: Commission "The Committee shall elect, to serve for two years, their own Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, who shall be allowed a vote."

The current Chair, Deirdre Warner-Kramer (USA), was re-elected in September 2018.

The current vice-Chair, Robert Fagan (Canada), was elected in September 2019.

19. Time and Place of 2021-2023 Annual Meetings

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, it was agreed that the dates for the 2020-2021 Annual Meetings be as follows with the location in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, unless an invitation to host is extended by a Contracting Party and accepted by the Organization:

2021 - 20 – 24 September

2022 - 19 – 23 September

STACFAD will review these dates and recommend dates for the 2023 Annual Meeting.

2023 - 18 – 22 September (3rd full week of September to be reviewed by the Committee)

20. Adjournment

The Committee shall endeavour to close its proceedings/session at a time that allows the STACFAD report to be circulated to the Commission in advance of the presentation of the Chair of STACFAD.

42nd Annual Meeting of NAFO
 21–25 September 2020
 To be held via videoconference

**Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC)
 of the Commission**

Provisional Agenda

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| Agenda item: | |
| 1. Opening by the Chair, Kaire Märtin (European Union) | |
| 2. Appointment of Rapporteur | |
| 3. Adoption of Agenda | |
| 4. Compliance review 2020 including review of apparent infringement reports and of chartering arrangements | |
| 5. Review of Article 30 of the NAFO CEM | |
| 6. New and pending proposals on enforcement measures: Possible revisions of the NAFO CEM | |
| 7. Discussions on the interpretation of Article 10 of the NAFO CEM | |
| 8. Practical application of Port State Measures in NAFO | |
| 9. Marking of gears | |
| 10. NAFO website and application development | |
| 11. Report and recommendations of the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG) | |
| 12. Review of current IUU list pursuant to NAFO CEM Article 53 | |
| 13. Bycatches and discards | |
| a. Results of the WG-BDS meeting | |
| b. Sorting grids for Division 3M Cod | |
| 14. Discussion of data classification and access rights | |
| 15. Discussion on garbage and labour conditions onboard vessels | |
| 16. Discussion of the reporting of shark catches in the NAFO Regulatory Area | |
| 17. Implementation of the 2018 Performance Review recommendations | |
| 18. Issues relating to the impacts of COVID-19 | |
| 19. Other business | |
| 20. Time and place of next meeting | |
| 21. Adoption of report | |
| 22. Adjournment | |

Notes to
the Provisional Agenda of STACTIC

42nd Annual Meeting of NAFO, 21 – 25 September 2020

1. Opening by the Chair, Kaire Märtin (European Union)

The meeting will be opened by the Chair, Kaire Märtin (European Union).

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

A rapporteur will be nominated and appointed.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda will be presented to the meeting for review and adoption based on the Provisional Agenda circulated to all Contracting Parties in NAFO/20-197 of 22 July 2020.

4. Compliance review 2020 including review of apparent infringement reports and of chartering arrangements

In accordance with Rule 5.1.e of the NAFO Rules of Procedure: Commission, STACTIC shall produce the Annual Compliance Report. STACTIC will review the information based on the compilation of 2019 fisheries reports, including haul by haul submission compliance (circulated to STACTIC by the Secretariat in a separate communication).

At the 2020 Intersessional meeting, Canada agreed to consider the comments from Contracting Parties on the measures concerning vessels demonstrating repeat non-compliance of serious infringements in the NAFO Regulatory Area discussion paper (STACTIC WP 20-04) with the possibility of presenting another discussion paper at this meeting.

5. Review of Article 30 of the NAFO CEM

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, STACTIC agreed that a review of Article 30 be discussed at the 2020 Intersessional meeting, but full discussions were deferred to this meeting. At the 2020 Intersessional meeting, Contracting Parties that conducted fishing activities in 2019 agreed to submit the reporting requirements outlined in Article 30.10.d and Article 30.6.e (where relevant) to the NAFO Secretariat by 12 June 2020 for incorporation into a revised version of STACTIC WP 20-09 for presentation at this meeting.

6. New and pending proposals on enforcement measures: Possible revisions of the NAFO CEM

This is a regular agenda item where new and pending proposals concerning the NAFO CEM are deliberated.

At the 2020 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, it was agreed that Norway will consider the comments made to STACTIC WP 20-07 and cooperate with the European Union to draft a new proposal regarding the inclusion of vessels from IUU lists of other RFMOs to the NAFO IUU list for presentation at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

At the 2019 Annual meeting it was agreed to review the codes outlined in Annex II.J of the NAFO CEM.

7. Discussions on the interpretation of Article 10 of the NAFO CEM

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, STACTIC discussed the interpretation of Article 10 of the NAFO CEM. STACTIC was unable to come to an agreed understanding of the requirements and requested the Commission to advise on the interpretation of the port inspection requirements outlined in Article 10 (Greenland halibut) of the NAFO CEM. The Commission asked STACTIC to continue its deliberations on this issue during subsequent meetings.

8. Practical application of Port State Measures in NAFO

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, STACTIC agreed that a discussion on the practical application of the port State measures be held at the Intersessional meeting, but the item was deferred to this meeting.

9. Marking of gears

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, Contracting Parties agreed to report on their domestic implementation of the FAO guidelines on "Marking of gears" at the Intersessional meeting, but the item was deferred to this meeting.

10. NAFO website and application development

The Secretariat will give an update on any progress or changes to the NAFO MCS Website since the 2020 Intersessional meeting and provide an update on the status of the Observer Application.

11. Report and recommendations of the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG)

The Editorial Drafting Group (EDG) will provide their report and recommendations under this agenda item.

12. Review of current IUU list pursuant to NAFO CEM, Article 53

The IUU list will be reviewed in accordance with Article 53 of the NAFO CEM. STACTIC may need to discuss the recent changes to the NEAFC IUU list that will be adopted to include other RFMO IUU lists into their IUU list and how the changes will relate to the NAFO IUU list. In addition, at the 2020 STACTIC Intersessional meeting, it was agreed that the European Union would follow-up on some of the vessels listed in the NAFO IUU list and provide an update at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

13. Bycatches and discards

a. Results of the WG-BDS meeting

At the 2020 Intersessional Meeting, the NAFO Secretariat presented a summary of the results from the 30 April 2020 meeting of the WG-BDS agreed to follow-up with Contracting Parties on their questions and continue working on the analyses for presentation to the WG-BDS and report back to STACTIC.

b. Sorting grids for Division 3M Cod

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, the Commission requested STACTIC (COM Doc. 19-30) to consider the feasibility of introducing a requirement for the use of sorting grids in trawl fishery for Division 3M cod, this discussion was deferred to this meeting from the Intersessional meeting.

14. Discussion of data classification and access rights

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, Contracting Parties agreed to review the material on the Practices and Procedures webpage, in advance of the Intersessional meeting. The Secretariat agreed to consolidate the information relating to lost gears and research vessels on the NAFO Members Pages. STACTIC will review the information to determine which information may be posted to the public website, and which information should be migrated to the MCS website. This discussion was deferred from the Intersessional meeting to this meeting.

15. Discussion on garbage disposal and labour conditions onboard vessels

At the 2020 Intersessional meeting, the European Union agreed to consider the comments received on STACTIC WP 20-10 and present a revised proposal at this meeting. The NAFO Secretariat will also provide an update on the submissions of the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) posted on the MCS website.

16. Discussion of the reporting of shark catches in the NAFO Regulatory Area

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, STACTIC agreed that Canada, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland), the European Union and the United States of America (with an invitation to other Contracting Parties to participate) would continue to work on standardization for the identification and data collection requirements for Greenland sharks. The update on the status of this work was postponed from the Intersessional meeting to this meeting.

17. Implementation of the 2018 Performance Review recommendations

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, the Commission adopted the Action Plan for Implementation of the Recommendations from the 2018 Report of the NAFO Performance Review Panel (COM Doc. 19-32) developed by the NAFO Commission Working Group to Address the Recommendations of the 2018 Performance Review Panel (WG-PR). The items in the action plan identified for STACTIC will be discussed under this agenda item.

18. Issues relating to the impacts of COVID-19

At the 2020 Intersessional meeting, STACTIC discussed in detail the issues relating to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. STACTIC requested guidance from the Commission on how Contracting Parties should be operating during the pandemic (suspension of measures vs. Contracting Party discretion), and what the role of STACTIC should be in the follow-up of this situation. These discussions will continue under this agenda item.

19. Other business

Any topics not covered by the agenda items above may be discussed under this agenda item.

20. Time and place of next meeting

Under this agenda item, possible dates and venue for the next STACTIC meeting will be discussed.

21. Adoption of report

The STACTIC report will be adopted by the Committee and then presented to the Commission. The recommendations and proposals will be forwarded to the Commission during the meeting for consideration and adoption.

22. Adjournment

The Committee shall endeavour to formally close its proceedings on Wednesday, 23 September 2020 and provide its report for the Commission the following day. The Commission will then decide on the time for the report to be presented by the STACTIC Chair to the Commission.

PART III.
42nd Annual Meeting of NAFO
 21–25 September 2020
 To be held via videoconference

Scientific Council

Provisional Agenda

Note: items listed under agenda item VII.1 (*Requests/advice requested by the Commission (in NAFO/COM Doc. 19-29) deferred from the June 2020 Scientific Council Meeting*), will be addressed as far as possible during this meeting. However, due to time and other constraints, it is likely that many will be deferred to the June 2021 Scientific Council meeting. If the NAFO Commission communicates that responses from Scientific Council on these requests are needed for consideration at the 2020 Annual Meeting or before June 2021, additional meeting days may be added during 15-17 September 2020.

I. Plenary Session

1. Opening
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Plan of Work

II. Review of Scientific Council Recommendations

III. Joint Session of Commission and Scientific Council

1. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations
2. Presentation of scientific advice by the Chair of the Scientific Council
 - a. Response of the Scientific Council to the Commission's request for scientific advice
 - b. Feedback to the SC regarding the advice and its work during this meeting
 - c. Other issues as determined by the Chair of the Commission and of the Scientific Council
3. Meeting Reports and Recommendations of the Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Groups
 - a. Working Group on Improving Efficiency of NAFO Working Group Process (E-WG), 2020
 - b. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), August 2020
 - c. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystems Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM), August 2020
 - d. Joint Commission–Scientific Council Catch Estimation Strategy Advisory Group (CESAG), 2020
4. Formulation of Request to the Scientific Council for Scientific Advice on Management in 2022 and Beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3 and 4 and Other Matters

IV. Publications (STACPUB Chair: Margaret Treble)

1. Opening
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Review of Recommendations in 2019

5. Review of Publications
 - a. Annual Summary
 - i. Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science (JNAFS)
 - ii. Scientific Council Studies
 - iii. Scientific Council Reports
6. Other Matters
7. Adjournment

V. Research Coordination (STACREC Chair: Karen Dwyer)

1. Opening
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Review of Recommendations in 2019
4. Fishery Statistics
 - a. Progress report on Secretariat activities in 2019/2020
 - i. Presentation of catch estimates from the CESAG, daily catch reports and STATLANT 21A and 21B
5. Research Activities
 - a. Biological sampling
 - i. Report on activities in 2019/2020
 - ii. Report by National Representatives on commercial sampling conducted
 - iii. Report on data availability for stock assessments (by Designated Experts)
 - b. Biological surveys
 - i. Review of survey activities in 2019 and early 2020 (by National Representatives and Designated Experts)
 - ii. Surveys planned for 2020 and early 2021
 - c. Tagging activities
 - d. Other research activities
6. Review of SCR and SCS Documents
7. Other Matters
 - a. Summary of progress on previous recommendations
 - b. NAFO Catch Estimates Methodology Study
8. Adjournment

VI. Fisheries Science

1. Opening
2. Nomination of Designated Experts
3. Other Matters
 - a. Review of SCR and SCS Documents
 - b. Assessments deferred from the June meeting
 - i. Northern shortfin squid in SA 3+4 (interim monitoring report)
 - c. Review of FIRMS classification of NAFO stocks
 - d. Other Business

VII. Requests from the Commission

1. Requests/advice requested by the Commission (in NAFO/COM Doc. 19-29) deferred from the June 2020 Scientific Council Meeting

- a. Continue the evaluation of scientific trawl surveys in VME closed areas (COM request #3)
 - b. Identify discard species/stocks with high survivability rates (COM request #4)
 - c. Identify areas and times where bycatch and discards of Greenland sharks have a higher rate of occurrence (COM request #9)
 - d. Develop a 3-5 year work plan (COM request #10)
 - e. Review submitted protocols for a survey methodology to inform the assessment of splendid alfonsino (COM request #13)
 - f. Presentation of the stock assessment and the scientific advice of Cod 2J3KL (Canada), Witch 2J3KL (Canada) and Pelagic *Sebastes mentella* (ICES Divisions V, XII and XIV; NAFO 1) (COM request #14)
 - g. Provide updates on relevant research related to the potential impact of activities other than fishing in the Convention Area (COM request #16)
 - h. Information on sea turtles, sea birds, and marine mammals that are present in NAFO Regulatory Area (COM request #18)
2. *Ad hoc* Requests from Current Meeting
 3. Further progress on items related to COM requests (in NAFO/COM Doc. 19-29)
 - a. COM request #6: assessment of NAFO bottom fisheries in 2021
With regards to the overlap of NAFO fisheries with VME, Scientific Council should finalize the specification of data and information to be included in the directed fishery summaries
 - b. COM request #8: NAFO PA Framework review
Scientific Council should further elaborate on the work plan for the next 1-2 years

VIII. Review of Future Meeting Arrangements

IX. Future Special Sessions

1. Progress on 2021 symposium with ICES on Decadal Hydro-Biological Variability of the North Atlantic for the decade 2010-2019
2. Information concerning Flatfish Symposium 2020
3. Other potential future topics

X. Other Matters

1. Meeting reports
 - a. ICES/NAFO Working Group on Deep-water Ecology (WG-DEC)
 - b. ICES/NAFO/NAMMCO Working Group on Harp and Hooded Seals (WG-HARP)

XI. Adoption of Reports

1. Committee Reports of STACPUB, STACFIS and STACREC
2. Report of Scientific Council

XII. Adjournment

Annex 1. The Commission's Request for Scientific Advice on Management in 2021 and Beyond of Certain Stocks in Subareas 2, 3 and 4 and Other Matters

(NAFO/COM Doc. 19-29; NAFO/SCS Doc. 20-01)

Following a request from the Scientific Council, the Commission agreed that items 1, 2, 7, 8 and 11 should be the priority for the June 2020 Scientific Council meeting.

1. The Commission requests that the Scientific Council provide advice for the management of the fish stocks below according to the assessment frequency presented below. In keeping with the NAFO Precautionary Approach Framework (FC Doc. 04/18), the advice should be provided as a range of management options and a risk analysis for each option (rather than a single TAC recommendation) and the actual risk level should be decided upon by managers.

| Yearly basis | Two-year basis | Three-year basis |
|--|--|---|
| Cod in Div. 3M Northern shrimp in Div. 3M | Redfish in Div. 3M Northern shrimp in Div. 3LNO Thorny skate in Div. 3LNO Witch flounder in Div. 3NO Redfish in Div. 3LN White Hake in Div. 3NO | American Plaice in Div. 3LNO American Plaice in Div. 3M Capelin in Div. 3NO Northern shortfin squid in SA 3+4 Redfish in Div. 3O Yellowtail flounder in Div. 3LNO Greenland halibut in Div. 2+3KLMNO Cod in Div. 3NO Splendid alfonso in SA 6 |

To implement this schedule of assessments, the Scientific Council is requested to conduct a full assessment of these stocks as follows:

In 2020, advice should be provided for 2021 for Cod in 3M and Northern shrimp in 3M. With respect to Northern shrimp in 3M, SC is requested to provide its advice to the Commission prior to the 2020 Annual Meeting.

In 2020, advice should be provided for 2021 and 2022 for: Thorny Skate in 3LNO,

In 2020, advice should be provided for 2021, 2022 and 2023 for: American Plaice in 3M,

Advice should be provided using the guidance provided in **Annexes A or B as appropriate**, or using the predetermined Harvest Control Rules in the cases where they exist, currently Greenland halibut 2+3KLMNO.

The Commission also requests the Scientific Council to continue to monitor the status of all other stocks annually and, should a significant change be observed in stock status (e.g. from surveys) or in bycatch in other fisheries, provide updated advice as appropriate.

2. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to conduct an update assessment of Greenland halibut in Subarea 2+Div 3KLMNO and to compute the TAC using the agreed HCR and determine whether exceptional circumstances are occurring. If exceptional circumstances are occurring, the exceptional circumstances protocol will provide guidance on what steps should be taken.
3. The Commission requests that Scientific Council continue its evaluation of the impact of scientific trawl surveys on VME in closed areas, and the effect of excluding surveys from these areas on stock assessments.

4. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to implement the steps of the Action plan relevant to the SC and in particular the tasks identified under section 2.2 of the Action Plan, for progression in the management and minimization of Bycatch and discards (COM Doc. 17-26), giving priority in 2020 to the identification of discard species/ stocks listed in Annex I.A. and Annex I.B of the NCEM with high survivability rates.
5. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to continue to refine its work under the Ecosystem Approach and report on these results to both the WGEAFFM and WGRBMS.
6. In relation to the assessment of NAFO bottom fisheries in 2021, the Scientific Council should:
 - Assess the overlap of NAFO fisheries with VME to evaluate fishery specific impacts in addition to the cumulative impacts;
 - Consider clearer objective ranking processes and options for objective weighting criteria for the overall assessment of significant adverse impacts and the risk of future adverse impacts;
 - Maintain efforts to assess all of the six FAO criteria (Article 18 of the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep Sea Fisheries in the High Seas) including the three FAO functional SAI criteria which could not be evaluated in the current assessment (recovery potential, ecosystem function alteration, and impact relative to habitat use duration of VME indicator species).
 - Continue to work on non-sponge and coral VMEs (for example bryozoan and sea squirts) to prepare for the next assessment.
7. The Commission requests Scientific Council to conduct a re-assessment of VME closures by 2020, including area #14.
8. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to continue progression on the review of the NAFO PA Framework.
9. The Commission requests Scientific Council continue to work with WG- BDS and the Secretariat to identify areas and times where bycatch and discards of Greenland sharks have a higher rate of occurrence. This work will support WG-BDS in developing appropriate management recommendations, including safe handling practices for live release of Greenland sharks, for consideration by the Commission at its 2021 Annual Meeting.
10. The Commission requests Scientific Council to continue to develop a 3-5 year work plan, which reflects requests arising from the 2019 Annual Meeting, other multi-year stock assessments and other scientific inquiries already planned for the near future. The work plan should identify what resources are necessary to successfully address these issues, gaps in current resources to meet those needs and proposed prioritization by the Scientific Council of upcoming work based on those gaps.
11. The Commission requests that Scientific Council do an update assessment for 3LN redfish and five year projections (2021 to 2025) to evaluate the impact of annual removals at 18 100 tonnes against the performance statistics from NCEM Annex I.H: If this level of catch does not result in fulfilling these performance statistics, SC should advise the level of catch that would.
12. The Commission request that the Scientific Council present the Ecosystem Summary Sheet for 3LNO for presentation to the Commission at the 2020 Annual Meeting.
13. The Commission request the Scientific Council review submitted protocols for a survey methodology to inform the assessment of Splendid Alfonsino. The Scientific Council to report on the outcome of this work at next Commission annual meeting.

14. The COM request that the results of the stock assessment and the scientific advice of Cod 2J3KL (Canada), Witch 2J3KL (Canada) and Pelagic *Sebastes mentella* (ICES Divisions V, XII and XIV; NAFO 1) to be presented to the Scientific Council (SC), and request the SC to prepare a summary of these assessments to be included in its annual report.
15. The Commission to ask the Scientific Council to advise on the possible sustainable management methods for northern shrimp in Div. 3M, including quota, fishing effort, periods, reporting or other technical measures. This advice should be provided before the intersessional work by the end of this year.
16. The Commission requests Scientific Council to continue to monitor and provide updates resulting from relevant research related to the potential impact of activities other than fishing in the Convention Area (for example via EU ATLAS project), and where possible to consider these results in the on-going modular approach concerning the development of Ecosystem Summary Sheets.
17. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to provide advice on gear, including sorting grids, area and time-based measures that can be used to protect and improve the productivity of the 3M Cod stock.
18. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to provide information to the Commission at its next annual meeting on sea turtles, sea birds, and marine mammals that are present in NAFO Regulatory Area based on available data.

ANNEX B. Guidance for providing advice on Stocks Assessed without a Population Model

For those resources for which only general biological and/or catch data are available, few standard criteria exist on which to base advice. The stock status should be evaluated in the context of management requirements for long-term sustainability and the advice provided should be consistent with the precautionary approach.

The following graphs should be presented, for one or several surveys, for the longest time-period possible:

- a) time trends of survey abundance estimates
- b) an age or size range chosen to represent the spawning population
- c) an age or size-range chosen to represent the exploited population
- d) recruitment proxy or index for an age or size-range chosen to represent the recruiting population.
- e) fishing mortality proxy, such as the ratio of reported commercial catches to a measure of the exploited population.
- f) Stock trajectory against reference points

And any information the Scientific Council deems appropriate.