



24<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION  
14-18 NOVEMBER 2005

NEAFC headquarters - 22 Berners Street, London W1T  
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**DRAFT SUMMARY RECORDS**

**16 November 11:10 am – 4:10**

*The summary records are intended only for the convenience of participants in the meeting and will only be distributed to participants. They are the sole responsibility of the rapporteur and have not been approved. As the summary records are used as basis of the report of the meeting, corrections and comments to the rapporteur will be appreciated.*

**1. Welcome address by the President and opening statements**

Item closed

**2. Adoption of the agenda and appointment of rapporteur**

Item closed

**3. Establishment and arrangements for the Finance and Administration Committee, and other groups established**

Item closed.

**4. Report by the Advisory Committee on Fisheries Management**

**5. Statistics on quota uptake and vessel activity**

- (a) Reports up to 1 October 2005
- (b) Compilation of catch statistics for 2004

## **6. Reports from Working Groups and Coastal State discussions on management measures for 2006**

- (a) Oceanic-type redfish
- (b) Blue whiting
- (c) Norwegian spring spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring
- (d) Mackerel
- (e) Rockall haddock
- (f) Deep-sea species
- (g) Closed areas

Item closed.

## **7. Recommendations of management measures for 2006 for:**

- (a) Oceanic-type redfish
- (b) Blue whiting
- (c) Norwegian spring spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring
- (d) Mackerel
- (e) Rockall haddock
- (f) Deep-sea species

The President called the meeting to order at 10:23 and asked the Chairman of the NEAFC Deep Sea Working Group, Mr Lachlan Stuart, the EU, to introduce the Report of the Group's April 2005 Meeting. The Chairman highlighted the findings of the Group and drew attention to the full information on how Contracting Parties regulate these fisheries and calculate their baseline period. This allowed the Group to propose a recommendation for management measures in 2006 for the consideration of the NEAFC Commission. There was still no consensus on scope - Regulatory Area of Convention Area.

The Group also proposed guidelines for compiling data on these fisheries. He acknowledged that the proposal for a recommendation did not cover new fisheries. After the meeting, the Chairman had discussed with ICES whether ICES was in a position to give advice which would allow the Group to move towards fisheries-based management measures in deep-sea fisheries. ICES had informed that it would be in a position to do this in the spring of 2006.

The President thanked the Chairman and the Working Group. He noted that NEAFC had already asked Contracting Parties to provide data on these fisheries. The Chairman responded that in addition to data requirements there was an element of quality control of the effort control measures.

The President asked if there was any proposal to change the 70 % effort level. The Norwegian representative proposed that the 70% level be maintained in 2006.

The representative of the European Union noted that their 10% reduction this year in the effort measure of their choosing (kilowatt \*fishing days) was a very significant reduction in effort level. The EU will reduce this further by 20 % in 2006. He would have preferred a tightening of the NEAFC definitions of effort.

The Commission then adopted the proposals from the Working Group: 70% level of effort in 2006 and the system for the compilation of data proposed by the Working Group.

The President asked if there was any proposal to follow the ICES advice on new fisheries. The representative of the European Union answered that there should not be any new fisheries for these species without proof that such a fishery was sustainable. The President asked the Chairman of ACFM what ICES meant by new fisheries. The Chairman of ACFM responded that this was expansion of present fisheries to new areas and/or fisheries for species that have not been exploited earlier.

The representative of the European Union volunteered to draft text to cover new fisheries.

The President stated that the Group should meet in late spring next year to review new advice from ICES.

The Norwegian representative referred to the information they had presented based on news releases of lost and abandoned netgear and retrieval. He once again stressed that the comments made in the news releases were not the views of the Norwegian Government. The EU thanked Norway for clarification of their position. The EU felt that some of the comments made had been inappropriate and offensive with a potential to harm bilateral relations. Nevertheless, the EU regretted the harmful practices described in the news releases and would support continuing cooperation to mitigate them.

The President asked if there was anything to report on bilateral and multilateral discussions with respect to other management measures. There was nothing.

Meeting closed 11:15 am.

It was agreed that HODs meet at 1 pm, the Commission at 2 pm and the group on request for advice at 11 am.

Agenda item kept open.

(g) Closed areas

## **8. Relationships with other fisheries management organisations**

(a) Observer reports

(b) Report of the Fourth Meeting of North Atlantic Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, NARFMOs

## 9. The NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement

- (a) Reports of the Meetings of PECCOE (11-12 April 2005 in Reykjavík and 11-12 October in Copenhagen and the Advisory Group on Data Communications 12 April 2005 in Reykjavík and 13 October in Copenhagen (AM2005/12, 13, 14 and 15)
- (b) Implementation of the Scheme
- (c) Possible adoption of proposals from PECCOE

The President opened the meeting at 5:10 pm. He invited the Norwegian representative to introduce doc. AM2005/41 1. rev. which proposes terms of reference for PECCOE with respect to establishing regulations for gill nets.

The proposal was adopted without comments.

The President informed the meeting that there had been discussions with the observer from Belize on their application for cooperative non-Contracting Party status. While it was seen as a very positive signal that Belize had applied for cooperative non-Contracting Party status, there were some outstanding questions that had to be answered. These questions will be sent to Belize in a formal letter and, pending the answer, the decision on the application from Belize will be reached by written procedure later this year.

The Norwegian representative introduced AM2005/50 which gives PECCOE a mandate to develop a port state control scheme based on the FAO model scheme. The proposal should be ready for decision at the 2006 Annual Meeting.

- (d) Possible adoption of proposals from the Advisory Group for Data Communication

There was no proposal from AGDC for the Commission to decide on.

## 10. Non-Contracting Party activities in the Convention Area

- (a) Possible closure of cooperation quota
- (b) Statistics on activities July 2004 – July 2005
- (c) Sightings of IUU activities and ensuing actions
- (d) A- and B- lists of IUU vessels
- (e) Cooperating non- Contracting Party Status for Belize
- (f) Non –Contracting Party vessels and transshipments in the Regulatory area

These items covered under item 9.

Item closed

## 11. Working Group on the Future of NEAFC

- a) Reports of the meetings of the Working Group 26 April 2005 in London and 28 June 2005 in Brussels (AM2005/08 and 09)

Item closed

## 12. Amendment of the Convention

- (a) Proposal from Iceland on broadening the scope of the NEAFC Convention
- (b) Amendment of Article of the Preamble
- (c) New Article 1
- (d) New Article 2
- (e) New Article 4
- (f) Change to Article 5 and 6

**AM2005/16**

Agenda item closed

## 13. NEAFC Declaration

- (a) Proposal from the Working Group on the Future of NEAFC to adopt a "London" declaration (AM2005/21)

Agenda item closed

## 14. NEAFC and the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and integration of fisheries and environmental policies

- (a) General

### Global

- United Nations General Assembly
- United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, ICP
- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, FAO
- United Nations Environment Programme, UNEP
- Convention on Biological Diversity, CBD
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, UNESCO (IOC) (Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, GESAMP)
- Other international agencies and programmes IUCN, CITES and OECD

### Regional

- Regional Seas Programmes, OSPAR
- Inter-Organisational Consultation Forum, IOCF, to promote a European Marine Strategy
- Nordic Council of Ministers
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, ICES
- Other issues

### Reports from meetings covered by the Secretariat

Item closed

(b) The Review Conference of the 1995 UN Fish Stock Agreement

## **15. Request for scientific advice**

a) Establishment of a permanent Management – Science Committee (AM2005/30)

The Secretary presented the proposal. Basically the purpose is to get a more orderly process developing the request for advice. In addition it is proposed that the Commission has some option to task the Committee with certain issues.

DFG supported the general idea of strengthening the process when preparing request for advice. The EU agreed and the proposal was adopted.

b) Formulation of the request for advice from ICES under Article 14 (AM2005/51)

The Secretary presented the proposal for request for advice.

The EU considered the text in the first part of the request was unnecessarily detailed and it should not be necessary to lift text from the MoU into the request. Although this point was acknowledged, it was decided to keep the text as it is and revise it next year.

c) Other requests for advice

There were none.

Item closed.

Meeting closed 5:42 am.. The Commission meets 11 am 18 November

## **16. Finance and Administration Committee**

- (a) Introduction
- (b) Report on the Secretariat's activities during the year
- (c) Outturn for 2004 and Expected Outturn for 2005
- (d) Draft Budget for 2006
- (e) Main budget recommendation for 2006:
- (f) Refurbishment of 22 Berners Street
- (g) Draft Budget Estimate for 2007
- (h) Contributions from Contracting Parties
- (i) Any other business

## **17. Arrangements for future meetings**

- (a) Annual Meetings in November 2006 and November 2007
- (b) Meetings in subsidiary bodies of NEAFC in 2006

- 18. Press statements and other reports of the Commission's activities**
- 19. Any other business**
- 20. Closure of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

**17.**

**18.**

**19.**