Recommendation 12:2012

THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION ADOPTED BY POSTAL VOTE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3(8) AND 14(3) OF THE CONVENTION ON FUTURE MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES, A RECOMMENDATION TO ESTABLISH A JOINT AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING AGDC A JOINT BODY OF NEAFC AND NAFO

It is recommended that, in accordance with Articles 3(8) and 14(3) of the Convention, a joint ad hoc Working Group be established on the possibility of making the Advisory Group on Data Communications (AGDC) a joint body of the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) and the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), provided that NAFO agrees to co-establish the ad hoc Working Group.

The “joint ad hoc Working Group on the possibility of making AGDC a joint body of NEAFC and NAFO” shall have the following Terms of Reference:

1. The function of the joint ad hoc Working Group shall be to:
   a. consider the effects that making AGDC a joint body of NEAFC and NAFO would have on the work of AGDC and on the work of the two organisations, and conclude on whether it is advisable to establish an AGDC that is a joint body of NEAFC and NAFO;
   b. examine substantive and practical issues regarding making AGDC a joint body of NEAFC and NAFO, including identifying any potential obstacles and considering solutions to overcome them;
   c. examine, and conclude on, possible working practices for a joint AGDC, including arrangements for meetings and the roles of the respective Secretariats;
   d. formulate, as appropriate, drafts for:
      i. NEAFC and NAFO Recommendations establishing a joint AGDC;
      ii. Terms of Reference for a joint AGDC;
      iii. Rules of Procedure for a joint AGDC; and
      iv. any other matter for which it is appropriate to formulate a draft before a joint AGDC is established.

2. All Contracting Parties to NEAFC and NAFO may take part in the work of the joint ad hoc Working Group.

3. The ad hoc Working Group shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair.

4. The ad hoc Working Group may establish its own Rules of Procedure.

5. The Secretariats of NEAFC and NAFO shall assist the joint ad hoc Working Group in its work, including providing it with facilities for meetings, as appropriate.

6. The joint ad hoc Working Group shall present a report to the 2013 Annual Meetings of NEAFC and NAFO, either with final conclusions, or a progress report if it has not been able to finalise its work.

The Secretary shall forward this Recommendation to the NAFO Secretary and request that he forward it to all NAFO Contracting Parties, inviting them to formally propose that NAFO co-establish the joint ad hoc Working Group.
If NAFO agrees to co-establish the joint ad hoc Working Group, the Secretary shall work with the NAFO Secretary on arrangements for an initial meeting of the group, in early 2013.