1. Opening of the meeting
The President of NEAFC, Johán H. Williams, Norway, opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates.

All Contracting Parties were represented. A list of participants is annex 1.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair
It was agreed that the President should chair the Working Group, at least for the duration of this meeting and until the group elects a Chair. The Contracting Parties would consult regarding a possible Chair that would preside over later meetings of the group.

3. Adoption of the agenda and appointment of rapporteur
The agenda was adopted, with minor amendments to the draft that had been circulated before the meeting.

The Secretary was appointed as rapporteur.

4. Consideration of individual points in the Working Group’s Terms of Reference
   1. The criteria for quota allocations on stocks occurring in the North-East Atlantic, both discrete stocks in the Regulatory Area and straddling stocks occurring both in the waters of the Coastal States and the Regulatory Area
   2. The appropriate reference period
   3. The weighting to be given to each of those criteria
   4. The minimum time period for which the allocation criteria should apply and the consequent timing of any review

There were lengthy discussions under agenda item 4, where many issues were raised. The delegates cooperated in the drafting of informal working documents, but no final agreement was made on the issues that were reflected in those working documents.

The Contracting Parties agreed that significant progress had been made in addressing the tasks given to the Working Group. However, further discussions would be needed before those tasks could be
finalised and further work would be needed before proposals to the Annual Meeting could be formulated.

5. **Formulation of possible proposals to the 2016 Annual Meeting**
No proposals to the 2016 Annual Meeting were formulated at this meeting.

6. **Any other business**
No issues were raised under this agenda item.

7. **Arrangements for possible additional meetings of the Working Group**
It was agreed to hold another meeting of the Working Group. The EU offered to host the next meeting of the working group in the Netherlands on 14-15 April 2016. It was agreed to accept this offer from the EU.

8. **Report of the meeting**
The draft report was circulated on 25 February 2016 and the final report of the meeting was adopted on 3 March 2016.

9. **Closing of the meeting**
The President thanked all the participants for a fruitful meeting and wished everyone a safe journey home.
Annex 1

Working Group on Allocation Criteria
23-25 February 2016

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

President  Williams, Johán H

Secretariat
Ásmundsson, Stefán
Hacker, Diane
van Heerde, Lauren

Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland)

Faroe Islands
Sigvaldsson, Herluf
Skorini, Stefan í

Greenland
Vilhelm Poulsen, Katrin
Roe, Per

European Union
Spencer, John
Thomson, Andrew
Hopkins, Peter
Campbell, Andrew - Ireland
Dipper, Ben – UK
Dybiec, Leszek - Poland
Emeka, Carian - Netherlands
Ferrari, Lauren – UK
Grafino, Carla - Portugal
Goffeng-Raakil, Marianne - Sweden
Lelionnais, Vincent - France
Mancebo, Margarita - Spain
Nielsen, Lisbet - Denmark
Nilsson, Jessica - Sweden
O’Neill, Sheila - Ireland
Raczyńska-Kapcίńska, Marta - Poland
Rektins, Atis - Latvia
Sampson, Harry – UK
Stage, Mikkel - Denmark
Sverdrup-Jensen, Esben - Denmark
Iceland
Helgason, Kristján Freyr
Höskuldsson, Benedikt
Matthiasson, Steinar Ingi
Sigurðsson, Þorsteinn

Norway
Westberg, Ann-Kristin
Løbach, Terje
Marak, Audun
Vikanes, Ingrid

Russian Federation
Golovanov, Sergei