30 November 2005

To
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Heads of Delegation - All Contracting Parties HOD 05/120

At the 2005 Annual Meeting the representative of Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) thanked the President for his efficient Chairing of the meeting. However, she drew attention to the problem of proposals being tabled very late and thus not allowing time for proper consultation and would like to make a positive suggestion. As an interim proposal, the President and Secretary could try a procedure where no new proposal would be accepted at the Annual Meeting after noon on Thursday.

The President has suggested that this matter is dealt with in the following way on a trial basis. If the deadlines proposed work to the satisfaction of Contracting Parties, they could be inserted in the Rules of Procedure at a later stage:

1. proposals which do not depend on Coastal State agreement should, in order to be considered at the Annual Meeting, be submitted – and appear on the NEAFC website - not later than 10 days before the start of the Annual Meeting;

2. amendments to such proposals should be tabled not later than 6 pm on the day before the proposal is scheduled for discussion;

3. proposals which depend on Coastal State agreement shall be tabled not later than 1 hour before the last meeting of the Commission;

4. if there is consensus between Heads of Delegation, a proposal can go forward irrespective of these deadlines.

Contracting Parties are asked to submit comments and amendments to this proposal not later than 31 January 2006.