RECOMMENDATION BY THE NORTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 5 OF THE CONVENTION ON FUTURE MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING IN NOVEMBER 2008 TO ADOPT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR PELAGIC REDFISH IN THE IRMINGER SEA AND ADJACENT WATERS IN THE NEAFC CONVENTION AREA IN 2009

The Contracting Parties recommend the following measures:

1. In light of the ICES advice for 2009, given in October 2008, the contracting parties agree to initiate work on the establishment of a fisheries management plan which takes into account the uncertainties in science and the properties of the fisheries.

2. In order to have such management in place for the fishing season which starts in spring 2009, the coastal states have agreed to invite the other NEAFC parties to consultations on the management of pelagic redfish in the Irminger sea and adjacent waters in NEAFC headquarters in 9-11 February 2009 which may be followed by further consultations if necessary.

3. In the absence of an existing agreement on management for pelagic redfish in the Irminger Sea and adjacent waters there will be no directed fisheries for Sebastes mentella in that area in the period from 1 January until 1 April 2009.