



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 9 November 2012**

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**COVER NOTE**

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from:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director
date of receipt:	30 October 2012
to:	Mr Uwe CORSEPIUS, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

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Subject:	34th Annual Meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO) (St. Petersburg, Russia, 17-21 September 2012) - Notification of adopted Conservation and Enforcement Measures
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Delegations will find attached the above-mentioned conservation and enforcement measures.

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Encl.: Adopted Conservation and Enforcement Measures



## Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization

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In all correspondence,  
please refer to:

GFS/12-308

28 September 2012

TO: All Contracting Parties – Heads of Delegations of the General Council and Fisheries Commission

Dear Madam/Sir,

Pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 6 of Article XI of the Convention, the following is a notification of proposals for international measures of control and enforcement within the NAFO Regulatory Area. The proposals were adopted at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, 17-21 September 2012 and herewith presented as follows:

1. FC Doc. 12/6 (from FC W.P. 12/6)	Recommendations from WGFMS-VME to the Fisheries Commission ( <i>includes Recommendations 1-3 re Lists of VME indicator species and elements; Assessment of bottom fishing activities; and, Exploratory Fishing. Regarding Recommendation 4 re Thresholds, please see item 7 below</i> )
2. FC Doc. 12/7 (from FC W.P. 12/9, Revision 3)	Skates in Division 3LNO
3. FC Doc. 12/8 (from FC W.P. 12/15)	Provision of VMS Data to NAFO Constituent Bodies
4. FC Doc. 12/9 (from FC W.P. 12/31, Revised)	Closure of 3M Redfish Fisheries when TAC has been Reached
5. FC Doc. 12/10 (from FC W.P. 12/33)	White Hake in Divisions 3NO
6. FC Doc. 12/11 (from FC W.P. 12/36)	Shrimp in Division 3L – Deletion of Article 9.8
7. FC Doc. 12/12 (from FC W.P. 12/37)	Proposal for the Establishment of Measures to Protect Sea Pens and Sponges in the NAFO Regulatory Area
8. FC Doc. 12/13 (from STACTIC W.P. 12/4, Revision 3)	Definition of Mid-water Trawl
9. FC Doc. 12/14 (from STACTIC W.P. 12/16, Revision 3)	Catch Recording in Logbooks (Tow by Tow/Set by Set)
10. FC Doc. 12/15 (from STACTIC W.P. 12/20)	Proposal to implement Cancel report to the NAFO Measures
11. FC Doc. 12/16 (from STACTIC W.P. 12/21, Revised)	Proposal to implement error codes for duplicated reports/ messages received by the Secretariat
12. FC Doc. 12/17 (from STACTIC W.P. 12/31, Revision 2)	Modification of NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures – Article 22 – Vessel Requirements
13. FC Doc. 12/18 (from STACTIC W.P. 12/33, Revision 2)	Proposal on lost or abandoned fishing gear

14. FC Doc. 12/19 (from STACTIC W.P. 12/34, Revision 1)	Proposed Amendment to NCEM Annex IV.B
15. FC Doc. 12/20 (from STACTIC W.P. 12/35, Revision 3)	Product Labelling under Article 24 – All product must be clearly labelled by species and identify the division of capture
16. Quota Table 2013	Total Allowable Catches (TACs) and quotas for 2013 of particular stocks in Subareas 1-4 of the NAFO Convention Area. (NCEM-Annex I.A)
17. Effort Allocation Scheme for Shrimp Fishery in the NAFO Regulatory Area Div. 3M, 2013	NCEM Annex I.B

For the purpose of the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article XII of the Convention, the date of the transmittal of proposals is 28 September 2012. Pursuant to the provisions of Article XII.1, the proposals shall become measures binding on all Contracting Parties within sixty (60) days of the date of transmittal unless any Fisheries Commission member presents to the Executive Secretary an objection to a proposal within the objection period.

Yours sincerely,



Stan M. Goodick  
Deputy Executive Secretary/Senior Finance  
and Staff Administrator

SMG:bjm

Enclosures:

FC Docs. 12/6-12/20  
Annexes I.A and I.B of NCEM

Serial No. N6080NAFO/FC Doc. 12/6  
(Adopted)**34th ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 2012****Recommendations from the WGFMS-VME to the Fisheries Commission**

The FC Working Group of Fishery Managers and Scientists on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (WGFMS-VME) met on 11-13 September 2012 in Bergen, Norway and agreed on the following recommendations:

**Lists of VME indicator species and elements**

1. The WG **recommends** that the list of VME indicator species and VME elements prepared by the Scientific Council (Tables 1 and 2 of the SCS 12/19, p. 37-39, Annex 1) be adopted in conjunction with the proposed revisions to Article 15 of the 2012 NCEM, as contained in FCWG-VME Working Paper 12/3 (Revision 4) (Annex 2). These tables should be appended as Annexes in the NCEM.

**Assessment of bottom fishing activities**

2.1 The WG **recommends** that FC request SC use the revised Annex 1.E.V of the NCEM to guide development of their workplan related to reassessment of fishing activity with respect to Significant Adverse Impact (SAI) on VME and would note that this assessment is a single component of the broader EAF Roadmap being developed separately by SC.

2.2 The WG **recommends** the adoption of the proposed Annex 1.E.V of NCEM as contained in WG WP 12/5 Revised (Annex 3).

**Exploratory Fishing**

3. The WG **recommends** the adoption of the revised provisions relating to Exploratory Fishing in Chapter II of the NCEM, as contained in FCWG-VME Working Paper 12/3 (Revision 4) (Annex 2).

**Thresholds (see Annex 4 FCWG-VME Working Paper 12/7 Revised)**

4.1. The WG **recommends** 60 kg of corals excluding sea pens, inside and outside the footprint.

4.2. The WG **recommends** that FC consider adopting revised encounter thresholds outside the fishing footprint of 7 kg of sea pens and 300 kg for sponges.

4.3. The WG **recommends** that the FC, considering the distribution of sea pens and the practical considerations associated with a value of 7 kg for a threshold, consider additional area closures to significant concentration of sea pens, and/or introduce a 7 kg threshold inside the footprint.

4.4. The WG **recommends** 300 kg threshold for sponges inside the fishing footprint. This measure should be reviewed if refinements to the existing closures take place.

**Working Group Terms of Reference, Fisheries re-assessment (see Annex 5 FCWG-VME Working Paper 12/6 Revision 2)**

5. Recognizing that the Performance Review Panel has noted the usefulness of increasing communication between SC and FC, and recommended further development and consolidation of the EAF Roadmap, the WG **recommends** that FC modify the Terms of Reference for this WG to expand its mandate to include broader aspects of EAF as part of the future dialogue between SC and FC.

## Annex 1. Lists of VME Indicator Species and Elements

Table 1. List of VME Indicator Species.

Benthic Invertebrate VME Indicator Species			
Common name of taxonomic group	Known Taxon	Family	Phylum
Large-sized sponges	<i>Iophon piceum</i>	Acamidae	Porifera
	<i>Stelletta normani</i>	Ancorinidae	
	<i>Stelletta</i> sp.	Ancorinidae	
	<i>Stryphnus ponderosus</i>	Ancorinidae	
	<i>Axinella</i> sp.	Axinellidae	
	<i>Phakellia</i> sp.	Axinellidae	
	<i>Esperiopsis villosa</i>	Esperiopsidae	
	<i>Geodia barretti</i>	Geodiidae	
	<i>Geodia macandrewii</i>	Geodiidae	
	<i>Geodia phlegraei</i>	Geodiidae	
	<i>Mycale (Mycale) lingua</i>	Mycalidae	
	<i>Thenaea muricata</i>	Pachastrellidae	
	<i>Polymastia</i> spp.	Polymastiidae	
	<i>Weberella bursa</i>	Polymastiidae	
	<i>Weberella</i> sp.	Polymastiidae	
	<i>Asconema foliatum</i>	Rossellidae	
	<i>Craniella cranium</i>	Tetillidae	
Stony corals (known seamount species may not occur in abundance in the NRA)	<i>Lophelia pertusa</i>	Caryophylliidae	Cnidaria
	<i>Solenosmilia variabilis</i>	Caryophylliidae	
	<i>Enallopsammia rostrata</i>	Dendrophylliidae	
	<i>Madrepora oculata</i>	Oculinidae	
Small gorgonian corals	<i>Anthothela grandiflora</i>	Anthothelidae	Cnidaria
	<i>Chrysogorgia</i> sp.	Chrysogorgiidae	
	<i>Radicipes gracilis</i>	Chrysogorgiidae	
	<i>Metallogorgia melanotrichos</i>	Chrysogorgiidae	
	<i>Acanella arbuscula</i>	Isididae	
	<i>Acanella eburnea</i>	Isididae	
	<i>Swiftia</i> sp.	Plexauridae	
	<i>Narella laxa</i>	Primnoidae	
Large gorgonian corals	<i>Acanthogorgia armata</i>	Acanthogorgiidae	Cnidaria
	<i>Iridogorgia</i> sp.	Chrysogorgiidae	
	<i>Corallium bathyrrubrum</i>	Coralliidae	
	<i>Corallium bayeri</i>	Coralliidae	
	<i>Keratoisis ornata</i>	Isididae	
	<i>Keratoisis</i> sp.	Isididae	
	<i>Lepidisis</i> sp.	Isididae	
	<i>Paragorgia arborea</i>	Paragorgiidae	
	<i>Paragorgia johnsoni</i>	Paragorgiidae	
	<i>Paramuricea grandis</i>	Plexauridae	
	<i>Paramuricea placomus</i>	Plexauridae	
	<i>Paramuricea</i> spp.	Plexauridae	
	<i>Placogorgia</i> sp.	Plexauridae	
	<i>Placogorgia terceira</i>	Plexauridae	
	<i>Calyptrophora</i> sp.	Primnoidae	
	<i>Parastenella atlantica</i>	Primnoidae	

	<i>Primnoa resedaeformis</i> <i>Thouarella grasshoffi</i>	Primnoidae Primnoidae	
Sea pens	<i>Anthoptilum grandiflorum</i> <i>Funiculina quadrangularis</i> <i>Halipteris</i> cf. <i>christii</i> <i>Halipteris finmarchica</i> <i>Halipteris</i> sp. <i>Kophobelemnion stelliferum</i> <i>Pennatula aculeata</i> <i>Pennatula grandis</i> <i>Pennatula</i> sp. <i>Distichoptilum gracile</i> <i>Protophilum</i> sp. <i>Umbellula lindahli</i> <i>Virgularia</i> cf. <i>mirabilis</i>	Anthoptilidae Funiculinidae Halipteridae Halipteridae Halipteridae Kophobelemnidae Pennatulidae Pennatulidae Pennatulidae Protophilidae Protophilidae Umbellulidae Virgulariidae	Cnidaria
Tube-dwelling anemones	<i>Pachycerianthus borealis</i>	Cerianthidae	Cnidaria
Erect bryozoans	<i>Euratea loricata</i>	Eurateidae	Bryozoa
Sea lilies (Crinoids)	<i>Trichometra cubensis</i> <i>Conocrinus lofotensis</i> <i>Gephyrocrinus grimaldii</i>	Antedonidae Bourgueticrinidae Hyocrinidae	Echinodermata
Sea squirts	<i>Boltenia ovifera</i> <i>Halocynthia aurantium</i>	Pyuridae Pyuridae	Chordata

Table 2. List of VME indicator elements.

Physical VME indicator elements	
Seamounts	Fogo Seamounts (Div. 3O, 4Vs) Newfoundland Seamounts (Div. 3MN) Corner Rise Seamounts (Div. 6GH) New England Seamounts (Div. 6EF)
Canyons	Shelf-indenting canyon; Tail of the Grand Bank (Div. 3N) Canyons with head > 400 m depth; South of Flemish Cap and Tail of the Grand Bank (Div. 3MN) Canyons with heads > 200 m depth; Tail of the Grand Bank (Div. 3O)
Knolls	Orphan Knoll (Div. 3K) Beothuk Knoll (Div. 3 LMN)
Southeast Shoal	Tail of the Grand Bank Spawning grounds (Div. 3N)
Steep flanks > 6.4°	South and Southeast of Flemish Cap. (Div. 3 LM)

**Annex 2. Amendments to Chapter II of the NAFO CEM – clarification  
of provisions related to the exploratory bottom fishing activities – Chapter II  
Bottom Fisheries in the NAFO Regulatory Area  
(FCWG-VME Working Paper 12/3, Revision 4)**

**Article 15 - Purpose and definitions**

1. The purpose of this Article is to ensure the implementation by NAFO of effective measures to prevent significant adverse impacts of bottom fishing activities on vulnerable marine ecosystems known to occur or likely to occur in the Regulatory Area based on the best available scientific information. For the purposes of this Article, NAFO will take into account the guidance provided by the FAO in the framework of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and any other internationally agreed standards, as appropriate.
2. The term 'bottom fishing activities' means bottom fishing activities where the fishing gear is likely to contact the seafloor during the normal course of fishing operations.
3. The term "existing bottom fishing areas" ("footprint") means that portion of the Regulatory Area where bottom fishing has historically occurred and is defined by the coordinates shown in Table 1 and illustrated in Figure 4.
4. The term "exploratory bottom fishing activities" means bottom fishing activities conducted in unfished bottom areas, or bottom fishing activities with significant changes to the conduct or in the technology used in the existing bottom fishing areas.
5. The term "unfished bottom areas" means other areas within the Regulatory Area which are not defined as existing bottom fishing areas.
6. The term "vulnerable marine ecosystems" has the same meaning and characteristics as those contained in paragraphs 42 and 43 of the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas.
7. The term "VME indicator species" refers to species of coral identified as gorgonians, *Lophelia*, and sea pen fields; crinoids; erect bryozoans; sea squirts; cerianthid anemone fields; and sponges that constitute sponge grounds or aggregations. The current list is attached as Part VI of Annex I.E.
8. The term "VME element" refers to topographical, hydrophysical or geological features which potentially support VMEs including slopes, summits and flanks of seamounts and knolls and canyons as described in the Annex of the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas. The current list is attached as Part VII of Annex I.E.
9. The term "significant adverse impacts" has the same meaning and characteristics as those described in paragraphs 17-20 of the FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep Sea Fisheries in the High Seas.
10. The term "encounter" means catch of a VME indicator species above threshold levels as set out in Article 20.3. Any encounter with a VME indicator species or merely detecting its presence is not sufficient to identify a VME. That identification should be made on a case-by-case basis through assessment by relevant bodies.

**Article 16 - Seamount, Coral, and Sponge Protection Zones**

1. Until December 31, 2014, no vessel shall engage in bottom fishing activities in any of the areas defined by connecting the following coordinates (in numerical order and back to coordinate 1), subject to the exception foreseen in paragraph 2.
2. A request to conduct exploratory bottom fishing activities, in any of the areas defined by paragraph 1, shall be in accordance with Article 18 and the Exploratory Protocol (Part IV of Annex I.E).
3. If a vessel fishing in any of the areas defined in paragraph 1 encounters a VME indicator species, as defined in Article 20.3, interim encounter provisions as set out in Article 20.2 will apply.
4. Until December 31, 2014, no vessel shall engage in bottom fishing activities in the following area in Division 3O defined by connecting the following coordinates (as illustrated in Figure 2).
5. Until December 31, 2014, no vessel shall engage in bottom fishing activities in the areas defined by connecting the following coordinates (as illustrated in Figure 3).

6. The measures referred to in Article 16.5 shall be reviewed in 2014 by the Fisheries Commission, taking account of the advice from the Scientific Council and the Working Group of Fishery Managers and Scientists, and a decision shall be taken on future management measures.
7. Contracting Parties are encouraged to the extent possible to record all coral and sponge catch in their annual government and/or industry research programs and to consider non-destructive means for the long-term monitoring of coral and sponges in the closed areas.

#### **Article 17 Map of existing bottom fishing areas**

#### **Article 18 – Exploratory bottom fishing activities**

1. Exploratory bottom fishing activities shall be conducted in accordance with the exploratory protocol set out in Parts I-IV of Annex I.E.
2. Contracting Parties whose vessels wish to engage in exploratory bottom fishing activities shall communicate a 'Notice of Intent to Undertake Exploratory Bottom Fishing' (Annex I.E, Parts I and IV) to the Executive Secretary together with the assessment required under Article 19(2) (i).
3. The exploratory bottom fishing activities may start only after they have been authorized in accordance with Article 19bis.
4. Contracting Parties shall ensure that vessels flying their flag and conducting exploratory bottom fishing activities have a scientific observer on board.
5. Contracting Parties shall within 3 months of the completion of the fishing trip provide an 'Exploratory Bottom Fishing Trip Report' of the results of such activities to the Executive Secretary for circulation to the Scientific Council and all Contracting Parties.

#### **Article 19 - Assessment of proposed exploratory bottom fishing activities**

Assessment for proposed exploratory bottom fishing activities in the Regulatory Area shall follow the procedure below:

- i. The Contracting Party proposing to participate in exploratory bottom fishing activities shall submit to the Executive Secretary information and preliminary assessment of the known and anticipated impacts of the bottom fishing activity which will be exercised by the vessels flying its flag on vulnerable marine ecosystems.

That assessment shall be sent no less than two weeks in advance of the opening of the June meeting of the Scientific Council. It shall address the elements as set forth in Part V of Annex I.E.

The Executive Secretary shall promptly forward these submissions to the Scientific Council and the Fisheries Commission.

- ii. The elaboration of that assessment shall be carried out in accordance with guidance developed by the Scientific Council, or, in the absence of such guidance, to the best of the Contracting Party's ability.

- iii. At the meeting of the Scientific Council immediately following the submission of the information and preliminary assessment, the Scientific Council shall undertake an assessment of the submitted documentation, according to procedures and standards it develops and, taking into account the risks of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems. The Scientific Council may use in its assessment additional information available to it, including information from other fisheries in the region or similar fisheries elsewhere.

The Scientific Council shall in line with the precautionary approach, provide advice to the Fisheries Commission on possible significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems and on the mitigation measures to prevent them.



**Article 19bis Management measures on exploratory bottom fishing activities and for the protection of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems**

1. The Working Group of Fishery Managers and Scientists on VMEs shall examine the advice of the Scientific Council delivered in accordance with Article 19(iii) and shall make recommendations to the Fisheries Commission in accordance with its mandate.
2. The Fisheries Commission shall, taking account of advice and recommendations provided by the Scientific Council and the Working Group of Fishery Managers and Scientists on VMEs concerning exploratory bottom fishing activities, including data and information arising from reports pursuant to Article 20 adopt conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems. These may include:
  - i. allowing, prohibiting or restricting bottom fishing activities;
  - ii. requiring specific mitigation measures for bottom fishing activities;
  - iii. allowing, prohibiting or restricting bottom fishing with certain gear types, or changes in gear design and/or deployment; and/or
  - iv. any other relevant requirements or restrictions to prevent significant adverse impacts to vulnerable marine ecosystems.

**Article 19ter – Evaluation of exploratory bottom fishing activities**

1. At its meeting immediately following receipt of the ‘Exploratory Bottom Fishing Trip Report’ circulated in accordance with Article 18(5), the Scientific Council shall evaluate the exploratory bottom fishing activities. Taking into account the risks of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, the Scientific Council shall, in line with the precautionary approach, provide advice to the Fisheries Commission on the decision to be taken in accordance with Article 19ter(3).
2. The Working Group of Fishery Managers and Scientists on VMEs shall examine the advice of the Scientific Council delivered in accordance with Article 19ter(1) and shall make recommendations to the Fisheries Commission in accordance with its mandate.
3. The Fisheries Commission shall, taking account of advice and recommendations provided by the Scientific Council and the Working Group of Fishery Managers and Scientists on VMEs, either to:
  - i. Authorise the bottom fishing activity for part or all of the area in which exploratory bottom fishing was carried out and include this area in the existing bottom fishing areas (footprint), or,
  - ii. Discontinue the exploratory bottom fishing activity and, if necessary, close part or all of the area where which exploratory bottom fishing was carried out, or,
  - iii. Authorise the continued conduct of exploratory bottom fishing activity, in line with Article 18 with a view to gather more information.

**Article 20 - Interim Encounter Provision**

Contracting Parties shall require that vessels flying their flag and conducting bottom fishing activities within the Regulatory Area abide by the following rules, where, in the course of fishing operations, evidence of vulnerable marine ecosystems is encountered:

1. Existing bottom fishing areas
  - i. Vessels shall quantify catch of VME indicator species.
  - ii. if the quantity of VME indicator species caught in a fishing operation (such as trawl tow or set of a gillnet or longline) is beyond the threshold defined in paragraph 3 below, the following shall apply:

- The vessel master shall report the incident to the flag State Contracting Party, which without delay shall forward the information to the Executive Secretary, including the position that is provided by the vessel, either the end point of the tow or set or another position that is closest to the exact encounter location, the VME indicator species encountered, and the quantity (kg) of VME indicator species encountered. Contracting Parties may if they so wish require their vessels to also report the incident directly to the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall archive the information and report it to all Contracting Parties. The Contracting Parties shall immediately alert all fishing vessels flying their flag.

- The vessel master shall cease fishing and move away at least 2 nautical miles from the endpoint of the tow/set in the direction least likely to result in further encounters. The captain shall use his best judgment based on all available sources of information.

- The Executive Secretary shall make an annual report on single and multiple encounters in discrete areas within existing bottom fishing areas to the Scientific Council. The Scientific Council shall evaluate and, on a case-by-case basis the information and provide advice to the Fisheries Commission on whether a VME exists. The advice shall be based on annually updated assessments of the accumulated information on encounters and the Scientific Council's advice on the need for action, using FAO guidelines as a basis. The Fisheries Commission shall consider the advice in accordance with Article 19.4.

## 2. Unfished bottom areas

i. Vessels shall quantify catch of VME indicator species. Observers deployed shall identify corals, sponges and other organisms to the lowest possible taxonomical level. The Exploratory Fishery Data Collection Form found in Part III of Annex I.E shall be used (templates).

ii. If the quantity of VME indicator species caught in a fishing operation (such as trawl tow or set of a gillnet or longline) is beyond the threshold defined in paragraph 3 below, the following shall apply:

- The vessel master shall report the incident without delay to its flag state Contracting Party, which shall forward the information to the Executive Secretary, including the position that is provided by the vessel, either the end point of the tow or set or another position that is closest to the exact encounter location, the VME indicator species encountered, and the quantity (kg) of VME indicator species encountered. Contracting Parties may if they so wish require their vessels to also report the incident directly to the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall archive the information and without delay transmit it to all Contracting Parties. The Contracting Parties shall issue an immediate alert to all vessels flying their flag.

- The vessel shall cease fishing and move away at least 2 nautical miles from the endpoint of the tow/set in the direction least likely to result in further encounters. The captain shall use his best judgment based on all available sources of information.

- The Executive Secretary shall at the same time request Contracting Parties to implement a temporary closure of a two mile radius around the reporting position. The reporting position is that provided by the vessel, either the endpoint of the tow/set or another position that the evidence suggests is closest to the exact encounter location.

- The Executive Secretary shall make an annual report on single and multiple encounters in discrete areas within existing bottom fishing areas to the Scientific Council. This report should also include reports from the exploratory bottom fishing activities conducted in the last year. The Scientific Council at its next meeting shall examine the temporary closure. If the Scientific Council advises that the area consists of a vulnerable marine ecosystem the Executive Secretary shall request Contracting Parties to maintain the temporary closure until such time that the Fisheries Commission has adopted conservation and management measures in accordance with Article 19bis.2. If the Scientific Council does not conclude that the proposed area is a VME, the Executive Secretary shall inform Contracting Parties which may re-open the area to their vessels.

- The Executive Secretary shall make an annual report on archived reports from encounters in unfished bottom areas to the Scientific Council. This report shall also include reports from the exploratory

bottom fishing activities that were conducted in the last year. The Scientific Council shall evaluate the information and provide advice to the Fisheries Commission on the appropriateness of temporary closures and other measures. The advice should be based on annually updated assessments of the accumulated information on encounters as well as other scientific information. The Scientific Council's advice should reflect provisions outlined in the FAO guidelines. The Fisheries Commission shall consider the advice in accordance with Article 19bis.2.

3. For both existing bottom fishing areas and unfished bottom areas, an encounter with primary VME indicator species is defined as a catch per set (e.g. trawl tow, longline set, or gillnet set) of more than 60 kg of live coral. For unfished bottom areas, an encounter with primary VME indicator species is defined as a catch per set (e.g. trawl tow, longline set, or gillnet set) of more than 400 kg of sponges. For existing bottom fishing areas (the "footprint"), an encounter with primary VME indicator species is defined as a catch per set (e.g. trawl tow, longline set, or gillnet set) of more than 600 kg of sponges. These thresholds are set on a provisional basis and may be adjusted as experience is gained in the application of this measure.

#### **Article 20bis: Reassessment of bottom fishing activities**

1. The Scientific Council, with the co-operation of Contracting Parties, shall identify, on the basis of best available scientific information, vulnerable marine ecosystems in the Regulatory Area and map sites where these vulnerable marine ecosystem are known to occur or likely to occur and provide such data and information to the Executive Secretary for circulation to all Contracting Parties.
2. Fisheries Commission will in collaboration with the Scientific Council and the Working Group of Fishery Managers and Scientists on VMEs conduct a reassessment in 2016 and every 5 years thereafter of bottom fishing activities, or when there is new scientific information indicating a VME in a given area. Following the assessment, the Fisheries Commission shall take the necessary actions to protect VMEs.

#### **Article 21 – Review**

The provisions of this Chapter shall be reviewed by the Fisheries Commission at its Annual Meeting in 2014.

## **Annex I.E Templates for the conduct of exploratory bottom fishing activities**

### **IV. Exploratory Protocol**

The Exploratory Protocol shall consist of:

- A harvesting plan which outlines target species, dates and areas. Area and effort restrictions should be considered to ensure fisheries occur on a gradual basis in a limited geographical area.
- A mitigation plan including measures to prevent significant adverse impact to vulnerable marine ecosystems that may be encountered during the fishery.
- A catch monitoring plan that includes recording/reporting of all species caught, 100% satellite tracking and 100% observer coverage. The recording/reporting of catch should be sufficiently detailed to conduct an assessment of activity, if required.
- A data collection plan to facilitate the identification of vulnerable marine ecosystems/species in area fished.

### **V. Assessment of Bottom Fishing Activities <new text of WP 12/5>**

VI. List of VME indicator species <table to be inserted>

VII. List of physical VME indicator elements <table to be inserted>

**Annex 3. Assessment of Bottom Fishing Activities**  
(FCWG-VME Working Paper 12/5, Revised)

**Proposed Recommendation from VME WG to FC concerning Assessments**

Recognizing that the current terms of reference of the WGFMS on VMEs is focused on VMEs, the WG would recommend FC consider revising Annex I E V as suggested below. This revision highlights the connections between ecosystem considerations noted by SC and the assessment of SAI on VMEs requested by FC. The WG underscores the specific nature of the assessment being considered while acknowledging how it supports broader application of EAF.

Recommends that FC request SC use the revised Annex I E V to guide development of their workplan related to reassessment of fishing activity with respect to SAI on VME and would note that this assessment is a single component of the broader EAF Roadmap being developed separately by SC.

**Proposed Annex I E. Section V. Assessment of Bottom Fisheries Activities.**

**V. Assessment of Bottom Fishing Activities**

Assessments should consider the best available scientific and technical information on the current state of fishery resources.

Assessments should address, *inter alia*:

1. Type(s) of fishing conducted or contemplated, including vessels and gear types, fishing areas, target and potential bycatch species, fishing effort levels and duration of fishing (harvesting plan);
2. Existing baseline information on the ecosystems, habitats and communities in the fishing area, against which future changes are to be compared;
3. Identification, description and mapping of VMEs known or likely to occur in the fishing area;
4. Identification, description and evaluation of the occurrence, scale and duration of likely impacts, including cumulative impacts of activities covered by the assessment on VMEs;
- 4bis Consideration of VME elements known to occur in the fishing area; (New paragraph)
5. Data and methods used to identify, describe and assess the impacts of the activity, the identification of gaps in knowledge, and an evaluation of uncertainties in the information presented in the assessment;
6. Risk assessment of likely impacts by the fishing operations to determine which impacts on VMEs are likely to be significant adverse impacts; and
7. The proposed mitigation and management measures to be used to prevent significant adverse impacts on VMEs, and the measures to be used to monitor effects of the fishing operations.

**Annex 4. Thresholds**  
(FCWG-VME Working Paper 12/7, Revised)

**Existing measures**

The VME WG notes that the 60kg threshold for corals would be retained, other than for sea pens, if the recommendations below are accepted.

**Proposed Recommendation from VME WG to FC concerning Thresholds Outside the Fishing Footprint**

Recognizing the advice from SC concerning sea pens and sponges, the VME WG recommends that FC consider adopting revised encounter thresholds outside the fishing footprint of 7kg for sea pens and 300 kg for sponges.

**Proposed Recommendation from VME WG to FC concerning Thresholds Inside the Fishing Footprint – sea pens**

The VME WG notes that the situation inside the fishing footprint is more complex, especially in light of advice for a 7kg threshold for sea pens and that two approaches are currently available and being used: closed areas or encounter protocol.

The VME WG also noted the SC observation that as locations of concentrations of benthic VME indicator species become increasingly well-defined through survey and mapping efforts, appropriate closed areas are put in place, and re-assessed through the annual surveys. Under these conditions, the encounter provisions within the footprint become redundant. The VME WG further noted that such a situation may be emerging for corals and sponges within the footprint where management decisions have been taken or are being considered to close areas. The VME WG acknowledged that UNGA Resolution 61/105 calls for encounter provisions within the suite of measures to protect VMEs. The VME WG additionally noted that SC considers that management through the closure of areas with significant concentrations of VMEs is the most effective measure for protecting VMEs in the NRA.

With the time available to the VME WG, mapping of possible refinements to the closed areas for consideration by the FC was not possible. The WG noted however that these closures could be through modifications or refinements of some of the existing closures or some additional targeted closures.

The VME WG recommends that the FC, considering the distribution of sea pens and the practical considerations associated with a value of 7 kg for a threshold, consider additional area closures to protect significant concentrations of sea pens and/or introduce a 7kg encounter threshold.

**Proposed Recommendation from VME WG to FC concerning Thresholds Inside the Fishing Footprint – sponges**

The VME WG noted the approach recommended for sea pens and recommends that FC consider a similar approach for sponges. The VME WG recommends 300kg as an encounter threshold for sponge. This measure should be reconsidered if refinements to the closed areas are adopted.

**Annex 5. Broadening of Working Group Terms of Reference**  
(FCWG-VME Working Paper 12/6, Revision 2)

**Proposed recommendation from VME WG to FC**

Recognizing that the Performance Review has noted the usefulness of increasing communication between SC and FC, and recommended further development and consolidation of the EAF Roadmap

The WGFMS-VME recommends that FC modify the ToR for this working group to expand its mandate to include broader aspects of EAF as part of the future dialogue between SC and FC.



Serial No. N6081

NAFO/FC Doc. 12/7  
(Adopted)**34th ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****Skates in Divisions 3LNO**

Concerned that the NAFO skate total allowable catch (TAC) has been set in excess of the advice from the Scientific Council since its establishment, and is now more than twice current advice;

Noting that total skate catch in 2010 and 2011 was substantially less than quotas established, suggesting that it is not necessary to set TACs in excess of scientific advice based on existing fishing capacity;

Recalling that, at the 2010 annual meeting, the European Union, Canada, and the United States committed to adopt the scientific advice for skates;

Contracting Party	2009 Quotas (metric tons)	2009 Catch (metric tons)	2010 Quotas (metric tons)	2010 Catch (metric tons)	2011 Quotas (metric tons)	2011 Nominal Catch (metric tons)
Canada	2250	435	2,000	50	2,000	129
Russian Federation	2250	10	2000	91	2,000	7
European Union	8500	5234	7556	5223	7,556	5251
Others	500	42	444	-	444	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>5721</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>5,364</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>5400</b>

Considering that the NAFO Scientific Council has reported in FC Working Paper 12/1 that:

- Skate catches in NAFO Divisions 3LNO should not exceed recent catches (5495 mt from 2009 – 2011);
- Thorny skates have very low reproductive capacity due to slow growth and few offspring;
- Thorny skate biomass in Div. 3LNO remains at a low level, with no signs of recovery since NAFO brought this stock under management;
- While the Canadian research vessel indices appear stable at low levels, the European Union-Spain Division 3NO index has been declining since 2007;
- Biomass has remained low despite above average recruitment in 2010 and 2011;
- Thorny skate density in Division 3LNO is still predominately on the southern Grand Banks; and
- Historically, thorny skate had been widely distributed throughout the Grand Bank.

The U.S. therefore proposes that NAFO Contracting Parties set the 2013 and 2014 TAC for Skates in Division 3LNO at 7,000 metric tons.





Serial No. N6082

NAFO/FC Doc. 12/8  
(Adopted)

**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012**

**Provision of VMS Data to NAFO Constituent Bodies**

*Considering that* following specific requests from the Fisheries Commission to the Scientific Council, VMS data is currently available in a summary form to the Scientific Council (NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures, Article 26.10(d));

*Mindful that* although VMS data is primarily collected for MCS purpose, it is also a useful source of information for scientific and statistical purposes;

*Recognizing that* VMS data has previously been used by NAFO to meet a range of management and science needs including delineation of NAFO's fishing footprint and the modeling of by-catch thresholds for the management of VME species in the NRA;

*Noting that* the Performance Review panel recommended that NAFO should consider rules to govern the use of VMS data, specifically how and why VMS data should be used, while avoiding overly-restrictive usage conditions;

*Seeking to* make access and use of NAFO VMS data efficient in order to it meet the needs for both scientific advice and compliance monitoring, as recommended by the *Expert Panel Regarding Assessment of the Methodology Used by NAFO Scientific Council to Estimate Catches for NAFO Stocks*;

*Recalling that* the General Council Action Plan for the Implementation of the Performance Review Recommendations encourages the use of VMS data by Scientific Council for preparation of advice;

*Conscious of* the need to maintain industry confidentiality of VMS data (i.e. commercial sensitivity of detailed fishing location);

It is recommended that Article 26.10 (d) be amended as follows:

(d) makes VMS data available in a summary form, that does not include the vessel's identification, to the Scientific Council and other NAFO Constituent bodies to allow them to carry out their mandated responsibilities.

Serial No. N6083NAFO/FC Doc. 12/9  
(Adopted)**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****Closure of 3M Redfish Fisheries when TAC has been Reached****Background**

The NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures state in Article 5.2 that “Each Contracting Party to which a quota has been allocated shall close its fishery in the Regulatory Area for the stocks listed in Annex I.A on the date on which the accumulated reported catch, the estimated unreported catch, the estimated quantity to be taken before the closure of the fishery and the likely by-catches during the period to which the quota applies, equal 100% of the quota allocated to that Contracting Party.

In the case of 3M Redfish, footnote 8 of Annex I states that “The Executive Secretary shall notify without delay all Contracting Parties of the date on which, for this stock, accumulated reported catch taken by vessels of the Contracting Parties is estimated to equal 50% and then 100% of the TAC.”

The Measures do not specify that Contracting Parties shall close its fishery for 3M Redfish when notified that 100% of the TAC is estimated to be taken.

Note: This proposal does not preclude the Contracting Parties identified in footnote 19 of Annex I which identifies Contracting parties permitted to fish their quota in its entirety.

For clarity it is recommended that Article 5.2 be amended.

**Proposed Amendments**

The current Article 5.2 will become Article 5.2(a)  
In addition add the following paragraph as 5.2(b)

5.2(b) The Executive Secretary shall notify without delay all Contracting Parties of the date on which, for 3M Redfish, the accumulated reported catch taken by vessels of the Contracting Parties is estimated to equal 50% and then 100% of the TAC. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that after it has been notified by the Executive Secretary that 100% of the TAC is taken, no more 3M Redfish is retained onboard its vessels.

**Replace footnote 19 of Annex I.A with the following text**

19. Notwithstanding the provisions of footnote 8 and Article 5.2 (b) and without prejudice to future agreements on allocations, these quotas may be fished in their entirety by these Contracting Parties

Serial No. N6084NAFO/FC Doc. 12/10  
(Adopted)**34th ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****White Hake in Divisions 3NO**

Recalling that white hake came under quota regulation when NAFO, at its Annual Meeting in 2004, set a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 8,500 metric tons for 2005-2007 in Div. 3NO;

Noting that NAFO agreed to a directional reduction in the TAC for white hake in Divisions 3NO to a level of 6,000 metric tons in 2009, which was further reduced to 5,000 metric tons at the 2011 NAFO Annual Meeting;

Observing that current catches of white hake are well below recent quotas (129 metric tons in 2011) and subject to high variability with occasional spikes in the availability of fish in this fishery;

Resolve to adopt a TAC for 3NO white hake at 1,000 metric tons for 2013 consistent with the most recent advice provided by the Scientific Council to maintain catch at current levels.

Should a Contracting Party experience higher than normal catches per unit of effort (CPUE) and conclude that a shift to high availability levels of white hake during the fishing season - such as what apparently was the case in 2002 and 2003 -- is taking place, then that Contracting Party shall notify the Executive Secretary. Upon this notification, the TAC is increased to 5,000 metric tons. The Executive Secretary shall notify all Contracting Parties of the increased TAC.

Within one month that Contracting Party shall submit a summary of evidence for its conclusion (higher than normal CPUE and any other additional relevant information). On this basis, a mail vote will be submitted to the Fisheries Commission as to whether an exceptional increase in the availability of fish occurs.

In case of a positive vote, the TAC is confirmed to be 5,000 metric tons. In case of a negative vote, the TAC is 1,000 metric tons and catches between the notification of high availability and the notification to Contracting Parties of the result of the vote will not be accounted for the catch limitation provided in Article 5 of the NCEM.

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

Serial No. N6085

NAFO/FC Doc. 12/ 11  
(Adopted)

**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING -- SEPTEMBER 2012**

Shrimp in Division 3L -- Deletion of Article 9.8

**Proposed Amendments**

Delete:

**Article 9 -- Shrimp**

8. The quota allocated to Canada in Division 3L shall be fished within the Canadian zone. The remaining quota shall be allocated within the Regulatory Area between all other Contracting Parties.

Serial No. N6086NAFO/FC Doc. 12/12  
(Adopted)**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****Proposal for the Establishment of Measures to Protect Sea Pens and Sponges  
in the NAFO Regulatory Area**

**Mindful** of the recommendations of the Scientific Council from their June 2012 meeting regarding vulnerable marine ecosystems, in particular the location and encounter threshold levels for sea pens, in the NAFO regulatory area;

**Noting** the recommendations of the Working Group of Fisheries Managers and Scientists on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems regarding encounter threshold levels and possible closed areas for sea pens;

**Recognizing** the significant effort by Contracting Parties to develop and consider potential closed areas to protect sea pens, but mindful of the need for more time to review the information provided by the Scientific Council on sea pens; and

**Considering** the recent decision to allow VMS data to be available to NAFO constituent bodies and the potential benefit in managing measures to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems;

It is proposed that the Fisheries Commission establish an encounter threshold of 7kg for sea pens inside the fishing footprint of the NAFO Regulatory Area.

It is also proposed that the Working Group of Fisheries Managers and Scientists on Ecosystems convene as soon as possible after the June 2013 Scientific Council meeting to further consider possible amendments to the closed areas and evaluate the conservation effect of applying thresholds and move on rules.

It is also proposed that Article 20.3 of the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures be updated as follows:

3. For both existing and new fishing areas, an encounter with primary VME indicator species is defined as a catch per set (e.g. trawl tow, longline set, or gillnet set) of more than 7kg of sea pens, 60 kg of other live coral and 300 kg of sponges. These thresholds are set on a provisional basis and may be adjusted as experience is gained in the application of this measure.

Serial No. N6087NAFO/FC Doc. 12/13  
(Adopted)**34<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****Definition of Mid-water Trawl****Background:**

There are several references in the NCEM to the use of mid-water trawl. For clarity, it is necessary to define a mid-water trawl. The following text is proposed for definition of a mid-water trawl.

In accordance with Definition and classification of fishing gear categories *FAO Fisheries Technical Paper ISSN 0429-9345 Rev.222* point 3.2.1. “Mid-water otter trawls are towed by a single boat. The horizontal opening of the net is controlled by otter boards, usually of a hydrodynamic shape, which normally do not touch the ground.

**Proposed Amendment:**

New text of Article 13.2.f):

“ 90 mm for redfish (RED) in the fishery using mid-water trawls in Division 3O and 3M. Within this fishery mid-water trawl means trawl gear that is designed to fish for pelagic species, no portion of which is designed to be or is operated in contact with the bottom at any time. The gear shall not include discs, bobbins or rollers on its footrope or any other attachments designed to make contact with the bottom. The trawl may have chafing gear attached

Serial No. N6088NAFO/FC Doc. 12/14  
(Adopted)**34<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 2012****Catch Recording in Logbooks (Tow by Tow/Set by Set)****Background**

Currently, the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures require that fishing vessels record their catches on a daily basis. By-Catch requirements in Article 6.2 and Minimum fish size requirements in Article 14.4 are based on catches in a single haul. The Peer Review Panel and Scientific Council have identified that Catch per unit effort is an important component used in estimating removals from fish stocks. To ensure the most reliable and complete data is available in determining catch per unit effort as well as for the purpose of monitoring compliance with these provisions it is recommended that fishing vessels be required to record catches on a tow by tow or set by set basis.

Tow by tow/set by set information has been highlighted by Scientific Council in its 2012 report (SCS.12/19) as an essential element in completing fisheries assessments and more broadly in the ecosystems approach to fisheries.

**Proposed Amendments**

**Replace existing text in Article 25.1(b) by adding the following text.**

(b) accurately record the catch of each tow /set and complete fishing logbook entries as specified in Annex II.A

**Replace Annex II.A with the following text.**

## 8) "CANCEL" report

Data Element	Field Code	Mandatory/Optional	Requirements for the field
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
From	FR	M	Name of the transmitting Party
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination, "XNW" for NAFO
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; message type, "CAN" <sup>1</sup> as Cancel report
Radio call sign	RC	M	Vessel registration detail; international radio call sign of the vessel
Cancelled report	CR	M	Message detail; the record number of the report to be cancelled
Year of the report cancelled	YR	M	Message detail; year of the report to be cancelled
Date	DA	M	Message detail; date of transmission
Time	TI	M	Message detail; time of transmission
End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record

<sup>1</sup>Cancel report should not be used to cancel other Cancel report.

## 3. Add two rows to the Annex II.D(C) to the category "Message Details".

Cancelled report	CR	Num*6	NNNNNN	Number of the record to be cancelled
Year of the report cancelled	YR	Num*4	NNNN	Year of the report to be cancelled

## 4. Add the following row to the Annex II.D(E) "Types of reports and messages".

II.F	Article 25.2	CAN	cancel	Report for cancellation of a report set out in the Article 25.2
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**Recommendation 9: 2012**

**THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING IN NOVEMBER 2011 ADOPTED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 8 OF THE CONVENTION ON FUTURE MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES, AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 14 AND ANNEXES IV, VIII AND IX OF THE “SCHEME OF CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT IN RESPECT OF FISHING VESSELS FISHING IN AREAS BEYOND THE LIMITS OF NATIONAL FISHERIES JURISDICTION IN THE CONVENTION AREA” AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Add the new paragraph 4 to the Article 14:
  4. The reports set out in Articles 12 and 13 may be cancelled using the format specified in Annex VIII 7). If a report set out in Article 12 or 13 is subject to correction, a new report must be sent without delay after the Cancel report within time limits set out in Articles 12 and 13.  
If the flag state FMC accepts the cancellation of a report from its vessel it shall communicate it to the Secretary.

2. Add the following to the end of the Annex VIII:

Annex VIII 7) “CANCEL” report

Data Element	Field Code	Mandatory/Optional	Remarks
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
From	FR	M	Name of the transmitting Party
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination, “XNE” for NEAFC
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; message type, “CAN” <sup>1</sup> as Cancel report
Radio call sign	RC	M	Vessel registration detail; international radio call sign of the vessel
Cancelled report	CR	M	Message detail; the record number of the report to be cancelled
Year of the report cancelled	YR	M	Message detail; year of the report to be cancelled
Date	DA	M	Message detail; date of transmission
Time	TI	M	Message detail; time of transmission
End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record

<sup>1</sup>A Cancel report shall not be used to cancel another Cancel report



Serial No. N6090

NAFO/FC Doc. 12/16  
(Adopted)**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****Proposal to implement error codes for duplicated reports/messages  
received by the Secretariat****Background:**

In accordance with Measures (Annex II.D.2): *"If a Contracting Party so requests, the Secretary shall send a return message every time an electronic transmission of a report or message is received"*.

When FMC of such Contracting Party sends to the NAFO Secretariat via HTTPs any report or message it expects to receive the return message (RET) to be confirmed that electronic report or message was received and accepted/unaccepted in the NAFO data base. If the RET message was not received by FMC during the certain timeframe it attempts to resend such report or message to the NAFO Secretariat again. As practice shows, in such situation, in most cases FMC receives the RET message having NAK with misleading error number 102 (data value or size out of range) as reaction even on faultless repeated report or message.

It should be noted that the similar proposal was discussed at the meeting of Advisory Group for Data Communication (AGDC) in May 2011 and it was agreed to send the proposal to PECCOE for adoption (AGDC 2010-2-18rev1). PECCOE at its meeting held in October 2011 had considered and approved this proposal (PE 2011-03-15 rev1) and NEAFC at its annual meeting in November 2011 adopted it (NEAFC Recommendation 10:2012, part 1). Thus, NEAFC has introduced these new error codes starting from 2012.

**Proposal:**

Add two rows to the Annex II.D.2.B "Return error numbers":

Subject/Annex	Errors		Error cause
	Follow-up action required	Accepted	
Communication	105		This report is a duplicate; attempt to re-send a report previously rejected
		155	This report is a duplicate; attempt to re-send a report previously accepted

**Recommendation 10: 2012**

THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING IN NOVEMBER 2011 ADOPTED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 8 OF THE CONVENTION ON FUTURE MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES, AMENDMENTS TO ANNEX IX OF THE "SCHEME OF CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT IN RESPECT OF FISHING VESSELS FISHING IN AREAS BEYOND THE LIMITS OF NATIONAL FISHERIES JURISDICTION IN THE CONVENTION AREA" AS FOLLOWS:

1. Add two rows to the Annex IX D 2b)

Subject/Annex	Errors		Error cause
	Follow-up action required (NAK)	Accepted (ACK)	
Communication	105		This report is a duplicate and has got the status Not Acknowledge (NAK), because this was the status when received earlier
		155	This report is a duplicate and has got the status Acknowledge (ACK), because this was the status when received earlier

2. Add new text to paragraph "Communication Security" of point 4 of Appendix 1 to Annex IX (new text underlined)

**Communication Security**

Appropriate encryption protocols duly tested by the Secretariat and approved by the Commission shall be applied to ensure confidentiality and authenticity. Key management policy shall be in place to support the issue of cryptographic techniques, in particular, the integrity of the PKI (public key infrastructure) will be guaranteed by ensuring that digital certificates correctly identify and validate the party submitting the information.

Serial No. N6091NAFO/FC Doc. 12/17  
(Adopted)**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****Modification of NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures*****Article 22 – Vessel Requirements*****Background**

The vessel requirements obligation under Article 22 of the NAFO CEM does not allow a transparent view of the fishing activities conducted in the NAFO Regulated area (RA). Moreover, there is no tool in place to communicate with the NAFO Secretariat to delete a vessel from the NAFO register, or to modify its authorization to fish. The scope of this proposal is to introduce amendments to Article 22 with the view to make the system more flexible. A more transparent view of the fishing effort deployed would also improve the effectiveness of sea inspection.

This new system would be based on (1) the notification by Contracting Parties of a list of vessels candidate to conduct fishing activities in the NAFO RA, (2) the delivery of an authorization to conduct such activities, identifying the species and/or regulated stocks on which directed fishing is allowed, and (3) the possibility to withdraw the notification, or to suspend the authorization.

Notified and authorized vessels will be recorded in a NAFO register.

By identifying the regulated stocks allowed for direct fishing, there is no need any more to identify those species/stocks in the COE message, not to maintain the specific authorization for species subject to a rebuilding plan, like GHL.

This proposal does not introduce new data elements. However, some of these data elements need a modified definition, for clarity.

**Recommended changes:****1. Replace Article 22 by the following text**

Article 22 – Vessel Requirements

***Notification of fishing vessels***

1. Each Contracting Party shall notify the Executive Secretary by electronic means:
  - a. a list of its vessels flying its flag which it may authorize to conduct fishing activities in the Regulatory Area, hereinafter referred to as a "notified vessel", in the format prescribed in Annex II.C1 (NOT message);
  - b. from time to time, any deletion from the list of notified vessels, without delay, in the format prescribed in Annex II.C2, (WIT message);
2. No fishing vessel shall conduct fishing activities in the Regulatory Area unless it is listed as a notified vessel.

***Authorization to conduct fishing activities***

3. Same as existing paragraph 1 (no fishing activity without authorization)
4. Same as existing paragraph 2 (effort commensurate with opportunities)
5. Each Contracting Party shall transmit to the Executive Secretary by electronic means:
  - a. the individual authorization for each vessel from the list of notified vessels it has authorized to conduct fishing activities in the Regulatory Area, hereinafter referred to as an "authorized vessel", in the format prescribed in Annex II.C3 and no later than 30 days before the start of the fishing activities for the calendar year (AUT message).  
Each authorization shall in particular identify the start and end dates of validity and, the species for which directed fishery is allowed. If the vessel intends to fish for regulated species referred to in Annexes I.A or I.B, the identification shall refer to the stock, where the regulated species is associated to the area concerned;
  - b. the suspension of the authorization, in the format prescribed in Annex II.C4, without delay, in case of removal of the authorization concerned or of any modification to its content, where the removal or the modification occurs during the period of validity (SUS message);
  - c. in case of resuming a suspended authorization, the new authorization, transmitted in accordance with the procedure described in sub a above.
6. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that the period of validity of the authorization matches with the certification period concerning the certification of the capacity plan referred to in paragraphs 10 to 12 below.

***Vessels markings***

7. Same as existing paragraph 5

***Vessel documents to be carried on board***

8. Same as existing paragraph 6, but with sub viii replaced by the following text:
  - viii. the capacity plan referred to in paragraph 10.
  - ix. estimation of freezing capacity or certification of refrigeration system will be provided if possible.

***Capacity plan***

9. No fishing vessel shall conduct fishing activities in the Regulatory Area without carrying on board an accurate up-to-date capacity plan, the capacity plan must be certified by a competent authority or recognized by its flag State
10. The capacity plan shall:
  - a. take the form of a drawing or description, of its fish storage place, including the storage capacity of each fish storage place in cubic meters. The drawing must consist of longitudinal section of the vessel, including a plan for each deck on which a fish storage place is located and the locations of freezers
  - b. show in particular the positions of any door, hatch and any other access to each fish storage place, with reference to the bulkheads;

- c. indicate the main dimensions of the fish storage tanks (refrigerated sea water tanks) and, for each one, indicating the calibration in cubic meters at intervals of 10 cm.
- d. have the true scale clearly indicated on the drawing.

11. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that, every two years, the capacity plan of its authorized vessels is certified correct by the competent authority.

#### ***Duties of the Executive Secretary***

12. The Executive Secretary

- a. maintains a register of all fishing vessels notified in accordance with paragraph 1.a,
- b. identifies in the register the authorized vessels, including chartered vessels, and
- c. amends the register and any element related to the authorizations following notification by a Contracting Party of any modification.

13. Subject to the appropriate confidentiality requirements, the Executive Secretary shall:

- a. posts the register referred to in paragraph 13 on a secure portion of the NAFO website available to each Contracting Party;
- b. delete from the register any vessel that has not conducted fishing activities in the Regulatory Area for a period of two consecutive years, or that has been classified as IUU.

#### **2. Remove paragraph 5.a from Article 10 and adjust subsequent sub paragraphs**

As the new measures will cover all fisheries, Article 10 paragraph 5.a (specific authorization for GHL) becomes obsolete and should be deleted. The subsequent points (b) to (f) should be adjusted to (a) to (e).

#### **3. Remove the line "Directed species" line from Annex II.F section 2 (COE)**

As the authorization to fish identifies the species for which a directed fishery is allowed, referring to the stock in case of regulated species, the field code DS in the COE message becomes obsolete and should be deleted.

#### **4. Referring to Annex II.D part C**

1. replace the category "Vessel Character Details" by the following table

Category	Data element	Field code	Type	Contents	Definitions
Vessel IMO Number	IMO Number	IM	Num*7	"nnnnnnn"	IMO ship identification number
<b>Vessel Character Details</b>	Vessel Tonnage Unit	VT	Char*2 Num*4	"OC"/"LC" Tonnage	According to: "OC" OSLO 1947 Convention /"LC" LONDON ICTM-69
	Vessel Power Unit	VP	Char*2 Num*5	0-99999	Total main engine power in "KW"
	Vessel Length	VL	Char*2 Num*3	"OA" Length in mete	Unit "OA" length overall. Total length of the vessel in meters, rounded to the nearest whole meter

3

	Vessel Type	TP	Char*3	Code	As listed in Annex II.I
	Fishing Gear	GE	Char*3	FAO Code	International Standard Statistical Classification of the Fishing Gear as Annex II.J
<b>Authorization details</b>	Start Date	SD	Num*8	YYYYMMDD	Licence detail; date on which the authorization starts
	End Date	ED	Num*8	YYYYMMDD	Licence detail; date on which the authorization end
	Directed Species	DS	Char*3 Num*6	FAO Species Code/ Area Code	Licence detail; species for which the authorization applies. In case of regulated species from Annex I.A or I.B, the content must refer to the stock (format GHL/N3LMNO)

5. Replace the first line of Annex II.D part E by the following ones.

Annex	Provisions	Code	Message/Report	Remarks
II.C	Article 22.1a	NOT	Notification	Notification of fishing vessels
II.C	Article 22.1b	WIT	Withdrawal	Notification of the withdrawal of a registered vessel
II.C	Article 22.6a	AUT	Authorization	Notification of vessels authorized to conduct fishing activities in the RA
II.C	Article 22.6b	SUS	Suspension	Notification of the suspension of an authorization to conduct fishing activities in the Regulatory Area, within its initial period of validity

6. Replace Annex II.C by the following tables

#### Annex II.C

1) Format for register of vessels

Data Element	Code	Mandatory /Optional	Remarks
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination, "XNW" for NAFO
From	FR	M	Message detail; ISO-3 code of the transmitting
Record Number	RN	M	Message detail; message serial number in current year
Record Date	RD	M	Message detail; date of transmission
Record Time	RT	M	Message detail; time of transmission
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; message type, "NOT" as Notification of vessels that may conduct fishing activities in NAFO RA
Vessel Name	NA	M	Name of the vessel
Radio Call Sign	RC	M	International radio call sign of the vessel
Flag State	FS	M	State where the vessel is registered
Internal Reference Number	IR	O <sup>1</sup>	Unique Contracting Party vessel number as ISO-3 flag state code followed by number

External Registration Number	XR	M	The side number of the vessel
Vessel IMO Number	IM	M <sup>3</sup>	IMO number in the absence of a side number
Port Name	PO	M	Port of registration or home port
Vessel Owner	VO	M <sup>2</sup>	Registered owner and address
Vessel Charterer	VC	M <sup>2</sup>	Responsible for using the vessel
Vessel Type	TP	M	FAO vessel code (Annex II.I)
Vessel Gear	GE	O	FAO statistical classification of fishing gear (Annex II.J)
Vessel Tonnage <sup>3</sup> , measurement method tonnage	VT	M	Vessel tonnage capacity in pairs as needed "OC" = "OSLO" Convention 1947, "LC" "London" Convention ICTM-69 Total capacity in metric tons
Vessel length measurement method length	VL	M	Length in meters in pairs as needed "OA" = overall; length in meters
Vessel Power measurement method Power	VP	M	Engine power in pairs as needed in "KW" PE = propulsion engine AE= Auxillary summary engines Total installed engine power in vessel measured in "KW"
End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record

<sup>1</sup> Mandatory when used as a single identification in other messages.

<sup>2</sup> Whichever one is appropriate.

<sup>3</sup> Mandatory when External Registration Number is absent.

## 2) Format for withdrawal of vessels from the register

Data Element	Code	Mandatory /Optional	Remarks
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination, "XNW" for NAFO Secretariat
From	FR	M	Message detail; ISO-3 code of the transmitting Contracting Party
Record Number	RN	M	Message detail; message serial number in current year
Record Date	RD	M	Message detail; date of transmission
Record Time	RT	M	Message detail; time of transmission
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; message type, "WIT" as Withdrawal of notified vessels
Vessel Name	NA	M	Name of the vessel
Radio Call Sign	RC	M	International radio call sign of the vessel
Internal Reference Number	IR	O	Unique Contracting Party vessel number as ISO-3 flag state code followed by number, if exists
External Registration Number	XR	M	The side number of the vessel

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Vessel IMO Number	IM	M <sup>4</sup>	IMO number in the absence of a side number
Start Date	SD	M	The first date as from which the withdrawal takes affect
End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record

<sup>4</sup> Mandatory when External Registration Number is absent

### 3) Format for authorization to conduct fishing activities

Data Element	Code	Mandatory /Optional	Remarks
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination, "XNW" for NAFO Secretariat
From	FR	M	Message detail; ISO-3 code of the transmitting Contracting Party
Record Number	RN	M	Message detail; message serial number in current year
Record Date	RD	M	Message detail; date of transmission
Record Time	RT	M	Message detail; time of transmission
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; message type, "AUT" as Authorization of vessels to conduct fishing activities in the NAFO RA
Vessel Name	NA	M	Name of the vessel
Radio Call Sign	RC	M	International radio call sign of the vessel
Internal reference Number	IR	O	Unique Contracting Party vessel number as ISO-3 flag state code followed by number, if exists
External registration Number	XR	M	The side number of the vessel
Vessel IMO Number	IM	M <sub>5</sub>	IMO number in the absence of a side number
Start Date	SD	M	License detail; date as from which the Authorization takes effect
End date	ED	O	License detail: Date on which the authorization go to the end. Maximum time validity is 12 months.
Directed Species	DS	M	License detail; species allowed for directed fishery. Regulated species of Annex I.A or I.B must refer to the stock (Allow for several pairs of fields species and divisions i.e. //DS//GHL/3LMNO COD/3M RED/3LN//
End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record

<sup>5</sup> Mandatory when External Registration Number is absent

4) Format to suspend the authorization to conduct fishing activities

Data Element	Code	Mandatory /Optional	Remarks
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination, "XNW" for NAFO Secretariat
From	FR	M	Message detail; ISO-3 code of the transmitting Contracting Party
Record Number	RN	M	Message detail; message serial number in current year
Record Date	RD	M	Message detail; date of transmission
Record Time	RT	M	Message detail; time of transmission
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; message type, "SUS" as Suspension of authorized vessels
Vessel Name	NA	M	Name of the vessel
Radio Call Sign	RC	M	International radio call sign of the vessel
Internal Reference Number	IR	O	Unique Contracting Party vessel number as ISO-3 flag state code followed by number, if exists
External Registration Number	XR	M	The side number of the vessel
Vessel IMO Number	IM	M <sup>6</sup>	IMO number in the absence of a side number
Start Date	SD	M	License detail; date as from which the Suspension takes effect
End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record

<sup>6</sup> Mandatory when External Registration Number is absent

Serial No. N6092NAFO/FC Doc. 12/18  
(Adopted)**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****Proposal on lost or abandoned fishing gear**

The NAFO Performance Review urges NAFO to further its efforts to introduce management measures to deal directly with lost and abandoned fishing gear, with the scope to minimize catches by such gears, and the potential negative impact of so-called ghost-fishing has on the marine ecosystem.

It is proposed to insert the following Article in the Chapter I of the NAFO CEM.

**Article 13.9 – Lost or abandoned fishing gears*****Retrieval of fishing gears***

1. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that :
  - a. vessels fishing in the NRA flying their flag have equipment on board to retrieve lost gear;
  - b. the master of a vessel that has lost gear or part of it shall make every reasonable attempt to retrieve it as soon as possible.
  - c. no master shall deliberately abandon fishing gear, except for safety reasons.
2. If the lost gear cannot be retrieved, the Master of the vessel shall notify the flag State Contracting Party within 24 hours of the following:
  - a. the name and call sign of the vessel,
  - b. the type of lost gear,
  - c. the quantity of gear lost,
  - d. the time when the gear was lost,
  - e. the position where the gear was lost,
  - f. the measures taken by the vessel to retrieve the lost gear.
3. Following retrieval of lost gear, the Master of the vessel shall notify the flag State Contracting Party within 24 hours of the following:
  - a. the name and call sign of the vessel that has retrieved the gear,
  - b. the name and call sign of the vessel that lost the gear (if known),
  - c. the type of gear retrieved,
  - d. the quantity of gear retrieved,
  - e. the time when the gear was retrieved,
  - f. the position where the gear was retrieved.
4. The flag State Contracting Party shall without delay notify the Executive Secretary of the information referred to in paragraph 2 and 3.

***Duties of the Executive Secretary***

5. The Executive Secretary posts without delay the information provided by Contracting Parties in accordance with paragraph 5 on the secure part of the NAFO website.

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

Serial No. N6093

NAFO/FC Doc. 12/19  
(Adopted)

**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012**

**Proposed Amendment to NCEM Annex IV.B**

**Background**

According to the current provisions of NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures, Sightings and Identifications of non Contracting Party vessels shall be reported by NAFO inspectors (Article 46 and Annex IV.B)

This provision could prevent an inspection platform notified to the Secretary without NAFO inspectors on board from doing such a report whereas NAFO abilities are not objectively necessary to do such a report.

**Proposed amendment**

Replace “AUTHORIZED INSPECTOR” in Annex IV B Part I by “OFFICIAL”

and

Replace “AUTHORIZED INSPECTOR” in Annex IV B Part II by “NAME OF OFFICIAL”

Serial No. N6094NAFO/FC Doc. 12/20  
(Adopted)**34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2012****Product Labelling under Article 24 - All product must be clearly labelled by species  
and identify the division of capture****Background**

Currently, the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures require that all fish harvested in the NAFO Regulatory Area must be labelled by species and product category, and in the case of shrimps, the date of capture. The measures further require that GHL and shrimp be marked by Stock Area.

The NAFO Performance Review Panel Recommendations (GC Working Paper 11/2) suggests that Article 23 (now known as Article 24) be improved to take into account the traceability of fish. It is recommended that the labelling requirements for species captured in the NAFO Regulatory Area require that all product be identified by species, product category, and division of capture.

This would improve the traceability of fish from the point of harvest to the point of offloading in port. Vessels regularly cross division boundaries and have onboard species that may have different harvest rules (such as moratorium) in different Divisions. In such cases it is important that inspectors be able to determine from where and when the fish was captured.

It is recommended that as a step towards achieving better traceability of fish from the point of capture that the Division from which the fish was harvested be included on all product labelling.

It is necessary to continue to strengthen the measures on an ongoing basis including improving the accuracy of labelling and reporting of fish captured in the NAFO Regulatory Area. This issue will require regular review at STACTIC.

**Proposed Amendments**

**Replace Article 24 with the following text.**

- 24.1 When processed, all species harvested in the Regulatory Area shall be labeled in such a way that each species and product category is identifiable. All species must be labeled using respectively the following data:
- a) the Name of the capture vessel
  - b) the 3-Alpha Code for each species as listed in Annex I.C
  - c) in the case of shrimps the date of capture
  - d) the Regulatory Area and Division of fishing
  - e) the product form presentation code as listed in Annex II.K.

CATCH									
I.									
Species	Witch	White hake	Capelin	Skates	Greenland halibut	Squid (Illex)	Shrimp		
Division/Contracting Party	3L	3NO	3NO	3LNO	3LMNO	Sub-areas 3+4	3L	3NO	3NO
Canada		0	294	0	1167	N.S. <sup>9</sup>	7160		
Cuba		-	-	0	-	510 <sup>10</sup>	96		
Denmark (Faroe Islands and Greenland)		-	-	-	199	-	96		
European Union		0 <sup>11</sup>	588	0 <sup>11</sup>	4408	N.S. <sup>9</sup> 611 <sup>13</sup>	480 <sup>14</sup>		
France (St. Pierre et Miquelon)		-	-	-	188	453	96		
Iceland		-	-	-	-	-	96		
Japan		-	-	0	1178	510	96		
Korea		-	-	-	-	453	96		
96*10Norway		-	-	0	-	-	96		
Russian Federation		0	59	0	1167	749	96		
Ukraine		-	-	-	-	-	96		
United States of America		-	-	-	-	453	96		
Others		0	59	-	258	794	0		
TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH	4520	25	1000 <sup>17</sup>	4240	7000 <sup>15</sup>	34000 <sup>20</sup>	8600		39

\* Ban on fishing in force.

- Any quota listed for squid may be increased by a transfer from any "coastal state" as defined in Article 1, paragraph 3 of the NAFO Convention, provided that the TAC for squid is not exceeded. Transfers made to Contracting Parties conducting fisheries for squid in the Regulatory Area shall be reported to the Executive Secretary, and the report shall be made as promptly as possible.
- The Executive Secretary shall notify without delay all Contracting Parties the dates on which accumulated reported catch taken by vessels of Contracting Parties estimated equal to 50% and then 100% of that allocation.
- Quota to be shared by vessels from Denmark (Greenland and Faroe Islands), European Union, Iceland, Norway and Russia. Catches in the NAFO Convention Area shall be deducted from the quotas allocated in the NEAFC Convention Area.
- Quota to be shared by vessels from Canada, Cuba, France (St. Pierre et Miquelon), Japan, Korea, Ukraine and USA.
- Contracting Parties shall inform the Executive Secretary before 01 December 2012 of the measures to be taken to ensure that total catches do not exceed the levels indicated.
- The allocation to these Contracting Parties are as yet undetermined, although their sum shall not exceed the difference between the total of allocations to other Contracting Parties and the TAC (= 29 458 tons).

7. In 2005, the previous 935 t "Others" quota was assigned to three Contracting Parties. When the TAC exceeds 30,000 t the next 1,300 t beyond 30,000 will be allocated to an Others quota which can be accessed by those who do not hold Greenland halibut allocation. In deciding the relevant contributions of Contracting Parties to the 1,300 t Others quota, the Fisheries Commission will take into account the fact that some Contracting Parties received a benefit from the 935 t quota which was reassigned in 2005.
8. Not more than 3250 tons may be fished before 01 July 2013.
9. The provisions of Article 12, paragraph 1.b) of the Conservation and Enforcement Measures shall apply.
10. In the case of the NEAFC decision which modifies the level of TAC in 2013 as compared to 2012, these figures shall be accordingly adjusted by NAFO and formalized through a mail vote.
11. Including fishing entitlements of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania following their accession to the European Union and in accordance with sharing arrangements of the former USSR quota adopted by the Fisheries Commission at its Annual Meeting in 2003 (FC Working Paper 03/7).
12. Including allocations of 1571 tonnes each for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania out of a sharing of 20,000 tonnes, following their accession to the European Union.
13. Allocations of 128 tonnes each for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania as well as 227 tonnes for Poland out of a TAC of 34,000 tonnes, following their accession to the European Union.
14. Including allocations of 96 tonnes each for Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland out of a TAC of 8,600 tonnes, following their accession to the European Union.
15. Allocation of 17.85% to Lithuania and 2.15% to Latvia following their accession to the European Union.
16. Applicable to 2013 and 2014.
17. The quota shares in footnotes 4 and 15 can only be fished in the NAFO Regulatory Area. If an increase in the overall TAC as defined in footnote 10 leads to an increase in these shares, the first 500 tonnes of that increase shall be added to the quota share referred to in footnote 4.
18. Including an allocation of 377 tonnes for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania following their accession to the European Union.
19. Notwithstanding the provisions of footnote 8 and Article 5.2 (b) and without prejudice to future agreements on allocations, these quotas may be fished in their entirety by these Contracting Parties.
20. Applicable until at least 2013.
21. In lieu of Article 12.1 (a) and (b) of the CEM, the following by-catch provisions for American plaice only in the 3LNO yellowtail fishery shall apply: Contracting Parties fishing for yellowtail flounder allocated under the NAFO allocation table will be restricted to an overall Am. plaice by-catch harvest limit equal to 15% of their total yellowtail fishery as calculated in accordance with Article 12.1 (c). If a Scientific Council projection indicates that this rate is likely to undermine stock recovery or cause an unreasonable delay in reaching  $B_{lim}$  this rate may be subject to a reassessment by the Fisheries Commission.
22. Following the NAFO annual meeting and prior to January 1 of the succeeding year, at the request of the USA, Canada will transfer 1000 tonnes of its 3LNO yellowtail quota to the USA.
23. The allocation key of this stock is based on the 1998 Quota Table. In 1999, a moratorium on cod in Division 3M was declared.
24. The allocation key of this stock is based on the 1997 Quota Table. In 1998, a moratorium on redfish in Division 3LN was declared.
25. Including fishing entitlements of 157 tons each for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania in accordance with sharing arrangements of the former USSR quota adopted by the Fisheries Commission at its Annual Meeting in 2003 (FC Working Paper 03/7) and allocation of 536 tons for Poland following their accession to the European Union.
26. Including fishing entitlements of 322 tonnes each for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania in accordance with sharing arrangements of the former USSR quota adopted by the Fisheries Commission at its Annual Meeting in 2003 (FC Working Paper 03/7) following their accession to the European Union.
27. Should a Contracting Party experience higher than normal catches per unit of effort (CPUE) and conclude that a shift to high availability levels of white hake during the fishing season - such as what apparently was the case in 2002 and 2003 - is taking place, then that Contracting Party shall notify the Executive Secretary. Upon this notification, the TAC is increased to 5,000 metric tons. The Executive Secretary shall notify all Contracting Parties of the increased TAC. Within one month that Contracting Party shall submit a summary of evidence for its conclusion (higher than normal CPUE and any other additional relevant information). On this basis, a mail vote will be submitted to the Fisheries Commission as to whether an exceptional increase in the availability of fish occurs. In case of a positive vote, the TAC is confirmed to be 5,000 metric tons. In case of a negative vote, the TAC is 1,000 metric tons and catches between the notification of high availability and the notification to Contracting Parties of the result of the vote will not be accounted for the catch limitation provided in Article 5 of the NCEM.



## Annex I.B

**Effort Allocation Scheme for Shrimp Fishery in the  
NAFO Regulatory Area Div. 3M, 2013**

CONTRACTING PARTY	NUMBER OF FISHING DAYS <sup>1</sup>	NUMBER OF VESSELS <sup>1</sup>
Canada	0	0
Cuba	0	0
Denmark	0	
Faroe Islands		0
Greenland		0
European Union	0	0
France (in respect of St. Pierre et Miquelon)	0	0
Iceland	N/A	N/A
Japan	0	0
Korea	0	0
Norway	0	0
Russia	0	N/A
Ukraine	0	0
USA	0	0

<sup>1</sup>When the scientific advice estimates that the stock shows signs of recovery, the fishery shall be re-opened in accordance with the effort allocation key in place for this fishery at the time of the closure.