



## FIRMS Steering Committee Meeting

### Sixth Session

Hobart, Australia, 24 – 26 February 2010

### ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY NAFO DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL

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#### 1. Developments on inventories of Marine resources, and of fisheries

NAFO continues to use the Summary Sheets as a basis of the Marine Resource Inventory. NAFO submissions are up-to-date.

Last year NAFO developed an overview of NAFO Fisheries (see also #5 below) and this has been uploaded.

#### 2. Reporting on status/trends of Marine resources, and of fisheries

In 2009 the Scientific Council revised the classification matrix used for reporting status and trends. They continued to have difficulty assigning stocks to a small number of qualitatively defined classes. However, the table submitted reflects greater recognition of the knowledge of stock status available at the meeting, even if partial, which resulted in greatly shortening the list of “Unknown-Unknown” stocks. Some stocks were also moved from the “Depleted-High” box through the recognition that recent catch records indicated fishing mortalities lower than those that guided previous entries in this classification scheme.

Stock Size (incl. structure)	Fishing Mortality			
	None–Low	Moderate	High	Unknown
Virgin–Large		3LNO Yellowtail flounder		
Intermediate	3M Redfish 3LN Redfish			
Small	3M Cod SA3+4 Northern shortfin squid 3LNO Northern shrimp 3M Northern shrimp		SA2+3KLMNO Greenland halibut	3NOPs White hake 3LNOPs Thorny skate
Depleted	3M American plaice 3LNO American plaice 2J3KL Witch flounder		3NO Cod	SA1 Redfish SA0+1 Roundnose grenadier 3NO Witch flounder
Unknown	SA2+3 Roughhead grenadier 3NO Capelin	0&1A Offsh. & Greenland halibut	1B–1F	1A Insh. Greenland halibut 3O Redfish SA2+3 Roundnose grenadier



### **3. Development/review of standards**

See also #2 above

### **4. Development of Applications (e.g. new module at Secretariat level, or enhancements in streamlining workflow at Partner level)**

See also #6 below

### **5. Development of case studies/prototypes**

Not applicable

### **6. Training or skills development**

A training workshop was held during 20-25 July 2009 at the NAFO Secretariat, led by Aureliano Gentile from the FIRMS Secretariat, FAO. The training was attended by Barbara Marshall and George Campanis, as well as two members from the IATTC Secretariat. The training showed how to use the on-line editing tool to prepare FIRMS submissions in an XML compliant format. This will allow the Secretariat to submit the stock information in a more timely manner than previously. Shortly after the training the six Fact Sheets (Summary Sheets) from 2009 were published.

During the training, insight was obtained on how to structure documents for possible future applications within the Secretariat.

### **7. Promotional activities**

The FIRMS website is linked from the NAFO website.

### **8. Planned activities during the coming intercessional period.**

In light of the new Fisheries Module the Partnership agreement needs to be reviewed and amended.