



<b>FIRMS Steering Committee Meeting</b>
<b>Seventh Session</b>
<b>Italy, Rome, 12 December 2011 - 16 December 2011</b>
<b>NAFO report on FIRMS activities</b>
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### **1. Developments on inventories of Marine resources, and of fisheries;**

NAFO has now completed the inventory for the future Fishery Fact Sheets. The Marine Resources Inventory has also been updated to include, for example, the depth zones.

NAFO has long established the process and maintenance of the MR fact sheets. To date all NAFO submissions of the Marine Resources Fact Sheets are up to date. In the near future when the lasted shrimp advice is finalized these will be added to the MR fact sheets.

NAFO is on the process of developing Fisheries Fact Sheets. NAFO has developed a high level fishery fact sheet giving a general overview of fisheries in the NAFO Regulatory Area (NRA). This has been updated for 2011.

We are presently developing more detailed fact sheets for the four major fisheries in the NRA, namely: Grand Bank groundfish fisheries, Flemish Cap groundfish fisheries, high seas pelagic fisheries and high seas shrimp fisheries. These should be complete by the end of the year.

Future plans include the development fact sheets for individual (species specific) fisheries.

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

NAFO's Scientific Council continues the exercise of reporting on the status and trends of NAFO stocks.

The SC noted: The revisions submitted reflects changes made in the classification of stocks according to the judgement of SC (STACFIS) at the June meeting in 2010. In the present no

stocks are considered to have a high fishing mortality. This is the result of an increase in stock size for some stocks and a reduction in effort. The Stock Classification system is not intended as a means to convey the scientific advice to Fisheries Commission, and should not be used as such. Its purpose is to respond to a request by FIRMS to provide such a classification for their purposes. The category choices do not fully describe the status of some stocks. Scientific advice to the Fisheries Commission is to be found in the Scientific Council report in the summary sheet for each stock.

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

n/a

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

The workflow continues to evolve as staff at the NAFO Secretariat become more familiar with the procedures. The support given by the FIRMS Secretariat (in particular Mr Gentile) remains invaluable!

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

n/a

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

This year there was no particular training but see #4.

### **7. Promotional activities;**

NAFO links to the FIRMS website on its own web. Mention of cooperation with FIRMS is mentioned in various NAFO communications, particularly with outside agencies.

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

No activities are planned at the present.