



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR CETACEANS
6 March 2018, Tromsø, Norway

DRAFT Report

1. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

Nette Leivemann (GR) welcomed the delegates, observers, and invited participants to the meeting of the Management Committee for Cetaceans.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted without revisions.

Leivemann drew the attention of the participants (Appendix B) to the documents for this meeting, in particular documents NAMMCO/26/MC/05 "Proposals for Conservation and Management," NAMMCO/26/MC/06 "Summary of Requests by NAMMCO Council to the Scientific Committee," and NAMMCO/26/08 "Report of the 24th Scientific Committee."

3. NASS

Review of requests by Council for advice from the Scientific Committee

Leivemann noted that there are various requests that are species-specific, and these will be discussed under each species.

Update from Scientific Committee

Hjørn Mikkelsen (FG), the Vice-Chair of the SC, updated the MCC on the progress of the NASS2015 project, and plans for the future.

NASS 2015

An Abundance Estimate WG is scheduled for 22-24 May 2018. The SC recommended that the remaining NASS funds (from Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs grant) will be used for completing all the 2007 and 2015/16 analyses as well as conducting a joint analysis of the abundance of common minke whales in Central North Atlantic (NCA). These estimates will be presented to the May Abundance Estimate WG and generate publications to be included in the next NASS volume.

Future Surveys

The next NASS survey should be in 2022-2023. The SC strongly recommends that attempt be made to conduct again a trans-Atlantic coordinated survey and charge the Secretariat to explore what are the present plans and how much flexibility they encompass.

SMM Workshop

Mikkelsen updated the MCC on the results of the workshop organised by NAMMCO and held 28 and 29 October 2017 in conjunction with the recent SMM conference, 'Cetacean distribution and abundance