

References	Council decisions regarding the Inspection and Observation scheme
Report of Council 3, July 1993, p. 6	Council 3 decided to establish a Working Group (WG) to consider inspection and observation schemes, in order to harmonise national regulations and thereby <i>inter alia</i> ensure that data collected will be compatible. (1 st meeting Sep 1993, ToR 5.1)
NAMMCO AR 1994, item 4.1, p. 10	Council 4 noted that the MC had charged the WG on Inspection and Observation (IO) to continue its work according to the recommendations contained in the WG report. These included among other items the development of a common inspection scheme for minke whaling in the North Atlantic.
NAMMCO AR 1995, item 4, p. 23	Council 5 agreed to endorse the MC's recommendations for the following further tasks of the WG on IO. Standard checklist for inspectors - It was agreed that the list of common elements of inspection, as identified by the MC's WG on IO in its discussions on developing a common inspection scheme for coastal minke whaling, could be applied in all national inspection schemes, where resources allow, and that such elements could also apply to coastal whaling for other species besides minke whales. The WG on IO was requested to continue its work on the formulation of a standard checklist for inspectors. Reciprocal observer scheme - The WG on IO was requested to consider the details of a reciprocal observer scheme between NAMMCO member countries and to further develop these.
NAMMCO AR 1996, item 4.3, p 28-29.	Council 6 adopted the Provisions developed by the WG on IO reviewed and amended by the MC, noting reservations from GL re national Inspections and noting the intention of implementing the Scheme in the 1997 hunting season. Further that the Secretariat define clearly the respective duties in relation to the Control Scheme.
NAMMCO AR 1997, item 4.1.4, p. 26	Council 7 agreed to recommendations from MC to implement the Observation Scheme in 1998 according to adopted guidelines and procedures for planning scope and appointing observers.
NAMMCO AR 1998, item 4.3, p. 24	Council 8 noted the decision of the MC to reactivate the WG on IO. The WG would meet before the end of the year in order to review in detail the implementation of the Observation Scheme in 1998 and to review a proposal for the scope and range of observation activities in 1999, as well as to examine other practical and administrative matters requiring further consideration and development, and to propose any amendments to the administrative guidelines to the Scheme which may be necessary.
NAMMCO AR 1999, item 4.3, p. 26	Council 9 noted the decision of the MC to establish an <i>ad hoc</i> WG on the Observation Scheme, with the following mandate: "To review the implementation of the Observation Scheme to examine practical and administrative matters requiring consideration and development, and seek better co-ordination of the observation activities."
NAMMCO AR 1999, item 4.3.1, p. 27	Council 9 adopted the rewording of article 15 for the Guidelines - agreed by the MC. "Appointed observers receive a letter of appointment and a copy of the provisions of the Joint NAMMCO Control Scheme from the Secretariat. When a detailed plan of observation activities for the year is finalised, those observers who will be called upon for active observation will receive an employment contract from the Secretariat. When both parties sign this, the observer will receive an identification card, as well as other relevant documentation necessary for his/her duties. The observer shall return his/her identification card to the Secretariat together with the final report of activities, and shall then receive a letter from the Secretariat confirming his/her completion of duties according to the Scheme." Council further endorsed the MC's recommendation that the FAC considers the financial and administrative aspects of the Joint NAMMCO Control Scheme.
NAMMCO AR 2000, item 4.3.1 WG ob Inspection and Observation	Council 10 agreed to MC endorsement of the recommendations from the WG on Inspection and observation: 1. that each member country provide the Secretariat with detailed information on hunting statistics, quotas, and time frames and places for the most optimum areas of observation. 2. that each member country provide the Secretariat with names of contact persons in each location, for the Secretariat and for the observers. 3. that general information about NAMMCO and about the Observation Scheme be given to the appropriate people and authorities in the member countries. This information should be translated to the local languages and distributed to local officials by the central authorities. 4. that the observation reports are short, concise and formal. They should only contain information on time frame, type of instruction prior to observation, area, violations, and the type of observation activity. 5. that the observers were made anonymous before the reports are published. 6. that comments by each member country to the respective reports must be received by the Secretariat within a month after the reports are issued.
NAMMCO AR 2001, item 4.3, p. 25 Observation Scheme	Council 11 noted that there had been a violation of Article B.2.2 of the Scheme, when the NAMMCO observer had been denied access to one of the Norwegian whaling vessels, its logbooks, the catch report and the catch itself. The Council noted that the Norwegian National Inspector had reported no infringements on the same vessel, and that Norway had taken the appropriate actions with respect to the captain of the vessel. The Council noted that the Management Committee had agreed to the request by Norway that the captain's report be reflected in the report from the Secretariat. The Council agreed to the Management Committee's recommendation that the vessels and individuals are ensured anonymity in future reports.
NAMMCO AR 2001, item 4.3.1	Council 11 noted MC adoption of ToR and formal constitution of CIO.
NAMMCO AR 2002, item 4.3, p. 32 Observation Scheme	Council 12 endorsed MC's encouragement for further expansion of on-board observations lasting more than one day.
NAMMCO AR 2002, item 4.3.1 CHM	Council 12 noted MC's decision not to recommend an increase in the budget for the Scheme at this time, and MC's endorsement that observations should focus on particular hunting activities and/or regions in some years, and endorsed MC support of the recommendation that the member countries nominate more than one observer-candidate to facilitate the implementation of the Scheme.
NAMMCO AR 2003, item 4.3, p. 29 Observation Scheme	Council 13 agreed to MC's considerations that observations on board whaling ships are an important development of the observation scheme.
NAMMCO AR 2003, item 4.3.1, p. 29	Council 14 noted the MC's endorsement of the recommendation by the sub-Committee that the Secretariat reviews and recommends improvements to the implementation of the Scheme. The Council noted that the evaluation should only consider the implementation process and not the actual Provisions and Guidelines texts.
NAMMCO AR 2004, item 4.3.1, p. 29	Council 15 noted MC's endorsement of the Sub-Committee conclusions regarding the implementation of the Scheme (p. 201-203) and supports the recommendations of MC that member countries be encouraged to submit proposals for amendments to the Scheme. Points for improvement cover: nomination process, information flow to the Secretariat, training of observers, duration of observation period and budget.
NAMMCO AR 2005	No decision taken
NAMMCO AR 2006, item 4.1, page 19 - Observation Scheme	Council 16 noted that the MC had agreed that the provisions of the Scheme should be amended to integrate requirements for observer training to ensure observer safety onboard vessels, and to take account of recent technological developments in automated monitoring, and reporting to Council rather than MC Council 16 approved that observation and inspection matters now become Council issues and the Sub-Committee (CIO) report directly to Council.
NAMMCO AR 2007-2008, item 8.2, p. 21 Observation scheme	Council 17 agreed that every effort should be made by member countries to have as many observer candidates as possible. Council 17 tasked the CIO to finalise the revision as soon as possible and to ensure that the provisions are fully up-to-date and do not have to be revisited too frequently.
NAMMCO AR 2009, item 8.2, p. 21 Observation scheme	Council 18 adopted the revise provisions proposed by the CIO, as contained in Section 1.4, Annex 1.
NAMMCO AR 2010, item 8, p. 22 Observation scheme	No meeting of CIO, no decision taken
NAMMCO AR 2011, item 8.1, p. 20 Observation scheme	Council 20 approved the proposal to organise a training course for NAMMCO observers.
NAMMCO AR 2012, item 8.1, p. 20 Observation scheme	Council 21 approved the proposed amendment to the Terms of Reference for annual meetings, and recommended that the CIO prepare draft Rules of Procedure to get them adopted by Council at NAMMCO 22.
NAMMCO AR 2013, item 8.1, p. 17 Observation scheme	Council 22 adopted the RoP for the CIO.
NAMMCO AR 2014, item 8.1, p. 15-6 Observation scheme	No decision taken
NAMMCO AR 2015, item 9.1, p. 20 Observation scheme	No decision taken
NAMMCO AR 2016, item 6.1, p. 14 Observation scheme	No decision taken
NAMMCO AR 2017, item 6.1, p. 14 Observation scheme	As recommended by the CIO, Council 26 tasked the CIO to continue the review of the Observation Scheme initiated by the Secretariat, with the aim of presenting the results and recommendations at the next Council meeting. The review should both look at the text of the Provisions and the implementation of the Observation Scheme. Council 26 agreed that in view of the ongoing review process of the Scheme, efforts and resources would best be concentrated on the review. Observation activities should be cancelled in 2018 and resume in 2019 or 2020, taking into consideration the conclusions and recommendations of the review.