

Questions from Caterina / PRP (10/08/18 and further, more detailed, questions on 23/08/18)

General question from PRP:

We need your help to respond to this question: "Extent to which NAMMCO has succeeded in establishing itself as credible source of information for all target groups, including media, politicians, IGOs and NGOs and educational institutions on all issues related to marine mammal conservation." (Criteria 7.3). In particular, we would like to have material related to "media, politicians, IGOs and NGOs and educational institutions" or a verifiable summary of these activities.

Contact with educational institutions

- in the past 5 years, has NAMMCO provided information to or worked with any educational institutions - specify the nature of the information requested or work and the educational institutions.

University - and other higher level – students

Besides its more longer-term collaboration with some educational institutions (see below), NAMMCO receives several inquiries from students from a wide geographical (US, CA, Europe) and institutional background from students at different levels, BSc to MSc and PhD levels as well as Post Doc, universities but also other educational programs. The inquiries can be anything directly related to NAMMCO work, position and policy to asking for contacts for MM-related scientists, data access and information on MM and MM conservation and management.

The detail of the contacts and their topics are provided in the excel file.

There were 4 (2015), 7 (2016), 11 (2017), 6 (2018) initial contacts per specific inquiries from summer 2015 to 10 September 2018 respectively [No other traceable before, with only 1 recorded in both 2013 and 2014, which appears unlikely low].

Several assignments on NAMMCO or NAMMCO related work have been reviewed by staff at the Secretariat over the years.

Below is the list of latest and/or longer-term cooperation

i. University of St-Andrews, Scotland

NAMMCO was asked by the University of St. Andrews/Phil Hammond (supervisor) whether they would support a PhD project. The project is performing a **large-scale spatial analysis of the NASS/NILS data of three NAMMCO countries (Norway, Iceland and Faroe Islands)** to investigate which environmental features best explain spatial and temporal variation in density. The PhD project, originally funded by the student's university, run out of money because of changes in currency exchange rates.

NAMMCO initially offered a partial support in 2018 and will reconsider the possibilities for further funding for 2019.

ii. Gujarat International Maritime Law Academy 2018, March 2018.

NAMMCO Intern was sent to represent NAMMCO and make the presentation: "Conservation of resources and sustainable utilisation from the NAMMCO perspective"

iii. European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation. Lido, Venice. December 2017.

- a. Asked by one of the student organisers of the Venice Human Rights Cultural Festival to present the film "Angry Inuk" (A. Arnaquq-Baril, Nunavut) and to give a background presentation on Arctic Sealing at the 2017 Festival. The festival is organised every year by the master students. GD participated and gave a presentation after the screening "Arctic Sealing – an Ecosystem Perspective", which was followed by an hour-discussion.
- b. NAMMCO proposed to organise a Mini Workshop on Indigenous Rights in the European Framework - Insights through a specific case: the EU seal bans. Does the EU ban on seal products challenges Indigenous Peoples Rights? As a cooperation between the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission, Polar Research and Policy Initiative (PRPI), UK and the European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation. This is being followed up this year.

- c. Later GS acted as external supervisor to a master student writing her thesis on the EU protection of indigenous peoples, with as focus case the EU seal ban. Provided: bibliography, contacts, relevant NAMMCO document and position, interviews, review and fact checking of the dissertation.

iv. Danish School on Media and Journalism, DMJX

Contacted by a Diploma student, who wanted to have NAMMCO as subject of two of her assignments, one deals with NAMMCO outreach, presently and ways of developing it, the second on NAMMCO in Social Media and development strategy. Provided: Information, short internship at Secretariat with interview of staff, contacts, participation to Council 24, review of both assignments.

v. UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Lecturing from the Secretariat at the UiT International Master programme in Law of the Sea on International Ocean Governance, in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. This stopped because of restructuring of UiT courses and funding.

In addition, random lectures on NAMMCO has been held over the years 2002 and 2003, 2017.

In 2017, NAMMCO participated to a seminar for media and library students informing about NAMMCO in the hope of getting interested students for internship in 2017.

In 2018, NAMMCO participated to the mini harbour porpoise survey in a nearby fjord (Balsfjord) organised by the UiT the Arctic University of Norway as a teaching tool for student. The Survey had also borrowed equipment stored at the secretariat from the T-NASS 2007 survey.

vi. UNIS The University Centre in Svalbard,

In March 2003 (the GS, GHR, gave two lectures on the course on “Arctic Environmental Management” of the MSc programme, “Subsistence cultures in the circumpolar Arctic, - past and present” and “Management regimes for marine mammals in the North Atlantic”

vii. INUIT College Ottawa

In 2012, the students went on a sponsored tour of whaling and sealing countries. The Secretariat lectured about the role of the hunting committee and Scientific Secretary, M. Acquarone, gave a lecture on “General History of Marine Mammal Exploitation and Management through NAMMCO”.

viii. UIMP bi-annual fall course (organised by Toni Raga and Peter Evans).

Lecturing from C. Lockyer at the UIMP bi-annual fall course in Valencia. CL participated in 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2012 and lectured on MM life history and gave a practical age estimation course in the lab, then funding to Norwegian participants dried out.

ix. CL's lectures in Japan

Lockyer provided a lecture about NAMMCO to the Whales Research Group (invitation from Seiji Ohsumi) and Hidehiro Kato's University students on ageing while in Tokyo in November 2009.

x. NMMCO and IMR seminar series

NMMCO and IMR had a (*monthly-like*) seminar serie (started by Dan Pike (NAMMCO) and Stine Frie (IMR)) in 2003 – 2005.

Extract from the invitation letter

The North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO), in co-operation with the marine mammal research group at the Institute of Marine Research in Tromsø, are pleased to announce the initiation of a seminar series to deal with any topic related to marine mammals (whales, seals, polar bears). The seminar series will be hosted by NAMMCO and talks will be given on a monthly basis.

There are many researchers dealing either directly or peripherally with marine mammals, scattered among several institutions in Tromsø. Yet there is little formal or informal contact between these researchers. The main objective of the seminar series will be to bring these people together on a regular basis, to increase awareness on marine mammal-related research being conducted out of Tromsø. We hope this will in turn stimulate scientific discussion and co-operation among researchers.

The series will be broad in scope and will deal with any subject related to the biology, ecology and management of marine mammals, as well as the anthropology and economics of marine mammal fisheries. Researchers will be encouraged/invited to volunteer to give talks in Norwegian or English of approximately ½ hour on a topic of their choice. In addition, we will take advantage of the opportunities offered by researchers who may be visiting Tromsø. The talks will be followed by an informal question period and discussion.

We anticipate that the seminar series will begin in September 2003. Notification of upcoming seminars will be sent out by e-mail. In addition, a schedule will be maintained on the NAMMCO web site at www.nammco.no. ...“

The seminar series stopped because of lack of lecturers. However, it started a tradition in IMR.Tromsø of a Friday lunch lecture by the IMR researchers as well as invited guests, which still continue now on a bi-weekly basis. NAMMCO secretariat has made several presentations at the seminar on different topics.

Schools

7.11 2016: NAMMCO became aware of a school project on killer whales undertaken by pupils in the 5th to 10th grades at Strønstad children school, Nordland County, Norway. The Secretariat contacted them – informing about NAMMCO and welcomed them to visit and offered assistance should they need it.

Other Courses

Annual Courses for Norwegian national inspectors and hunters

NAMMCO made a general presentation of NAMMCO and in particular of the Observation Scheme at the annual courses held prior to the whaling and sealing seasons for the Norwegian national inspectors and hunters in the years where the scope of the NAMMCO observations scheme was Norway (2001-2003, 2005, 2008).

New initiatives

All of them initiated in the perspective of collaborating with projects touching students from a wide geographical dispersion, well outside the usual NAMMCO impact.

i. International Master in Marine Biological Resources (IMBRSea)

NAMMCO is seeking a partnership with IMBRSea to become an internship possibility and if possible also gives lectures on the management of marine mammals.

The IMBRSea is a master programme organized by nine European Universities: Ghent University (BE), University of Pierre and Marie Curie (FR), University of the Algarve (PT), University of Oviedo (ES), Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology (IE), University of the Basque Country (ES), Polytechnic University of Marche (IT), University of Bergen (NO) and Université de Bretagne Occidentale (FR), supported by fourteen Marine Research Institutes belonging to the European Marine Biological Resource Centre ([EMBRC](#)). Based on the objectives of the EMBRC consortium, IMBRSea covers a wide range of subjects related to the sustainable use of marine biological resources. With an emphasis on marine biological and ecological processes, the programme links biology of marine organisms and environmental studies with subjects in marine policy and planning.

ii. European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation (EMA) from the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (EIUC)

NAMMCO has again contacted the Program managers in the view of organising the Mini workshop on Indigenous Rights in the European Framework – with the EU seal ban as one of the focus case, which was proposed last year but could not be realised because of the too short time frame [Contact taken in November, but students dispersing from Venice in mid-January to join one of the European universities for preparing their master thesis. Students in this programme come from all over the world, with 90students from 34 nationalities in 2017-2018. They are particularly sensitised to human and indigenous rights, but also ecology and nature conservation. Their knowledge of sealing and whaling issues is limited, with the usual ani-NGOs tainted, but when setting things in a human/indigenous/small community rights perspective, they can relatively easily understand the new perspective presented.

iii. Arctic Frontiers Emerging Leaders

“The Arctic Frontiers Emerging Leaders consist of 30 selected young professionals and scientists from pan-arctic countries, each with their unique perspective on Connecting the Arctic.” Actually, students come from all over the world, connected to a university from pan-Arctic countries. The Emerging Leaders program sails from Bodø, to Lofoten before arriving Tromsø just before the Arctic Frontiers Conference. There is a VIP reception at their arrival, and the students talk about their experience on Connecting the Arctic.

GD was invited to the reception in 2018 and mentioned the possibility for NAMMCO to participate and give a lecture with the Project Manager.

iv. Tromsø student symposium

Taking advantage of its presently two interns, NAMMCO took the initiative to arrange a MM student symposium in Tromsø, for Tromsø students (BSc, MSc and PhD) engaged in projects related to MM with the UiT (Fisheries Management, Law of the Sea and Veterinary Departments), Polar Institute and IMR. Students will present their projects, the work of NAMMCO will be presented and a make-you-think discussion will be organized on a special theme, e.g., whaling and sealing in the light of the blue Economy. The symposium will be spiced by one/two talks from a key note from one of the senior MM local scientists/lawyer. The first symposium will happen in December 2018 and it is expected to become an annual event.

v. Developing skills and games related to MM & MM conservation and sustainable use

NAMMCO has a project of developing information material on marine mammals and marine mammal sustainable use (with CW as project leader). This has so far two folds, a website part dedicated to kids/youth and developing educational material for schools and gymnasium. The project is at present stranded, as a result of little interest for cooperation from various local educational institutions. Initiatives have also been taken to create games (both computer and traditional) related to MM (memory game), MM stock abundance estimation and MM management (computer games taking the player along the process of estimating population abundance for different species, and along the process of managing the stocks). The present idea is to use one of the present interns (Solveig) to reactivate the idea as she has a network via her teaching experience in local schools. Partly supported with social funding (she is presently unemployed), she will develop a project and NAMMCO will seek external funding, including salary for her during the project.

Contact with parliamentarians

- how many times in the past 5 years have parliamentarians referred to NAMMCO - in what fora?

I am not sure there is any means of getting a comprehensive answer to that. Below follows the answers received from Parties (NAMMCO community emailed on August 28) and some information on the Secretariat contact with Parliamentarians in the last years.

Parties' contact with Parliamentarians - Answer from Parties

Bjarni Mikkelsen (FO)

On two occasions, a Faroese parliamentarian, representing Faroes in the Danish parliament, has arranged conferences in the Danish parliament:

- i. one conference on the pilot whaling in the Faroes (November 2015),
- ii. one conference on the role of marine mammals in marine ecosystems (May 2017)

At both events, the importance of the NAMMCO cooperation for the management of marine mammals was highlighted. Bjarni participated in both, with presentations. At the second event, CW from the Secretariat also participated with a presentation.

Ásta Eirnaradóttir (IS)

“In our Ministry it is a rule that whenever we are discussing the issue of Marine Mammals then we mention the important role of NAMMCO. This was, for example done at a meeting last Monday with the USA Embassy in relation to the upcoming IWC meeting. Unfortunately, we cannot name the number of times this has been done over the last years, but this is done quite frequently.”

Ole-David Stenseth (NO)

“As Iceland, we approach NAMMCO as an inherent part of our marine mammal policy. Currently NAMMCO is dealing with several issues that are of importance to our day-to-day handling of management questions and therefore often mentioned when policy and management is discussed and commented on.”

No answer from Greenland on this specific point

[Present] Secretariat's contacts with parliamentarians.

Regular [but not frequent like once or twice a year contact with **Greenlandic and Faroese Members to the Danish Parliament** Magni Arge (FO), Aaja Chemnitz Larsen (GL) and Alequa Hammond (GL) – and their staff/helpers. NAMMCO invited them to attend the BOS organised at the Arctic circle Assembly in 2016 and 2017 and Aaja Chemnitz Larsen (GL) was a member of the discussion panel at the 2017 BOS. Magni Arge had asked to be part of the BOS, but the BOS was focussing on Arctic Sealing and therefore his presence not relevant.

The NAMMCO Secretariat made a presentation of NAMMCO to the Stortinget, the **Norwegian Parliament**, and the Statssekretær in 2009 and 2014 respectively.

Desportes was contacted on behalf of the **European Parliament** Intergroup on “*Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Sustainable Development*” and MEP Jorn Dohrmann, to a conference entitled “*How can we support indigenous people's sustainable hunt in the Arctic? The initiative of a QR Code for Seal Skin*” (29 November 2017, European Parliament, Brussels) to deliver an intervention on seal hunting and seal products as part of a blue economy and participate in the discussion.

- how many times in the last 5 years have parliamentarians asked NAMMCO for information?

Magni Arge (Faroese PM) and his group initiated contact with NAMMCO three times in relation with event planned at the Danish Parliament on the sustainable use of marine resources.

- i. Helping to the preparation, providing information on stock status and participate to a conference on Sustainable harvest from the Sea focusing on the Arctic (May 2016). The event was finally not carried out.
- ii. Present the role of NAMMCO in the management of MM at a conference on the right for sustainable utilization of marine resources, including whales and seals (February and April 2017). Winsnes participated to the event held in May 2017.

Contact with the media

- how many times in the last 5 years have representatives of NAMMCO members or the Secretariat given media interviews [added by GD – related to NAMMCO work] - specify print, radio, TV or other - local or international?

Parties' contact with media - Answers received from Parties

Amalie Jessen, GL:

“In Greenland, we have always made Greenlandic and Danish translation of the NAMMCO CNL Press Release. In some occasions, I have been contacted and interviewed by Greenlandic radio and television. But we have not systematically collected documentations. Unfortunately, I have no resources to collect old news.”

Ásta Eirnaradóttir (IS):

“In our Ministry it is a rule that whenever we are discussing the issue of Marine Mammals then we mention the important role of NAMMCO.”

Gudni Erikson (IS, Fisheries Directorate)

„We do not have information that may be of help here at the Directorate of Fisheries and do not keep any records on this. We would need to make a special media search for this and I dont know how much that would cost.“ The Directorate mentioned NAMMCO in interviews sometimes „it happens not so often, roughly once pr. year.“

Ole-David Stenseth (NO)

As Iceland we approach NAMMCO as an inherent part of our marine mammal policy. Currently NAMMCO is dealing with several issues that are of importance to our day-to-day handling of management questions and therefore often mentioned when policy and management is discussed and commented on.

Tore Haug (NO, IMR)

“IMR we do not keep systematically track of when we appear in any media”

Bjarni Mikkelsen (FO, SAVN)

“In Faroes, around five times locally and one time internationally, where the cooperation within NAMMCO has been mentioned.

Locally, one on print about pilot whale tagging and sustainability of hunt (NAMMCO); one in TV, two in radio and one on print about sightings surveys (NAMMCO coordination); and one in radio about pilot whaling and sustainability (NAMMCO cooperation).

Internationally, one on print about the knowledge on pilot whales in connection with the hunt.

Also, every year journalists visit the Faroes, and have special interest in the pilot whale harvest, they usually end up at the Museum, where information on the topic is given, and the cooperation within NAMMCO is mentioned as a strong cooperation in order to strengthen the research and advice on the marine mammals in general.”

Secretariat’s contact with Media

Press Releases are sent, both after and before Council meetings to a list of Scandinavian newspaper and media, as well as a few European ones, as well as for ministerial meetings.

For any special event, like new permanent staff joining the Secretariat, etc, PR are also sent out but only to Parties’ media.

The Secretariat has a regular but infrequent contact with the Media/film makers, a few per year with a peak in 2017 related to the 25 Year anniversary of NAMMCO and because a Journalist was contracted for carrying a Press Campaign and therefore approached many of the Parties’ media.

The subject of media contacts can be to get information or/and the opinion/quote of NAMMCO on different issues. Objects and output are detailed in the excel file.

**The visibility of NAMMCO work and cooperation with other fora
- how many times in the last 5 years, has the work of the NAMMCO SC or CHM been used or cited
by other scientists or relevant IGOs (IWC, CITES, FAO, ICES, NAFO etc.)**

The problem with this question is the definition, not provided, of NAMMCO work. I consider the work of the individual scientists as being the work of the Parties, even if is initiated on a request or a recommendation of NAMMCO bodies.

Therefore, referring to NAMMCO work has been taken as referring to NAMMCO reports only, annual reports, reports of the Council and subsidiary bodies (committees and working group reports, as well report/proceedings of conference/symposium/workshop/event organised or co-organised by NAMMCO). A difficulty with that is that such reports are not indexed, and it is therefore very difficult to search for quotations. Some NAMMCO reports were cited under “anonymous” as author, although this was not part of the systematic search.

Besides NAMMCO reports, as specified above, references to non-published documents presented to NAMMCO Working Groups and references to entire volumes of NAMMCO Scientific Publications were included. Citations of individual articles published in the NAMMCO Scientific Publications were not included however, although very frequent.

The results found, citing and cited, are listed in Appendix 1, and summarised in the Table below, but do not constitute a comprehensive overview of the citations of “NAMMCO work”. Lots of reports are not catalogued or may also have been catalogued under key words the search was not using. There is a limited amount of citations of NAMMCO reports in the academic literature. This might not be particularly surprising, as especially science generally prefers to cite peer-reviewed literature than reports, the possibilities of citing non-peered reviewed and grey literature being actually limited or not allowed by some journals. Some general comments on the citing of NAMMCO work by different bodies are further provided below.

Table 1.: Citation of “NAMMCO work” – as defined above - in 2013-2018 (August 31)

Binary count: the count does not represent the number of different citations in each article, although they are often multiple, but only the presence or absence of citations of NAMMCO work.

	Academic	IUCN Red List	IWC (Co, Sc, SC annexes considered separately)	CAFF	ICES WGBYC & WGMME	DFO / COSEWIC	SCOS reports	NGOs	Total
2018 (10/09)	9	1	5		2		na	2	19
2017	9	1	3	1	1	2	1		18
2016	10	1	1		1	3	1	1	18
2015	14	1	2		1	1	1		20
2014	20	0	1		1	2	1	1	26
2013	5	1	1		0	1	1	1	10

Quoting of NAMMCO work in academic literature and by scientific bodies

Academic literature

There are some citations of NAMMCO reports in the scientific literature, but it is not particularly surprising if there are not more, as science prefers to cite peer-reviewed literature. Citations of articles published in the NAMMCO Scientific Publication series, however, are numerous in all kinds of peer-reviewed articles, grey literature and reports dealing with marine mammals, although the detail of these are not reported here, as not defined in this overview as “NAMMCO work”.

DFO & COSEWIC

There are references to NAMMCO work in DFO Research Documents, but many are not published and difficult to access and they are not indexed as published literature. Papers published in NAMMCO Scientific Publications are widely referred to in that forum.

Quoting of NAMMCO work by IGOs

IUCN

IUCN in its Red List of Threatened Species review quotes NAMMCO WG reports and assessments surprisingly little (only fin whale, bottlenose whale, pilot whale, narwhal, harbour porpoise, harbour seal and walrus. NAMMCO work is not referenced for a species like beluga, for which NAMMCO performed regular stock review and assessment and provide catch quota advices to users. See Appendix 1 for details on citations.

IWC

The reports of the IWC Scientific Committee report, under the point on its agenda called NAMMCO, at length every year on the work undertaken in NAMMCO, both at the Scientific Committee and subsidiary bodies and at Council levels. The reports of the Commission meetings under agenda item WKWI usually have a reference to NAMMCO work on killing methods. The reports of the WKWI refer more extensively when NAMMCO has given a specific presentation (2014, 2016)

ICES

Is regularly referring to NAMMCO work in the report of the Working Group on Marine Mammal Ecology and on By-Catch of Protected Species. See table in Appendix 1 for specific citations by ICES WGs.

The report of the WGBYC mentioned always NAMMCO under its *Terms of Reference for the [next] meeting/Supporting Information/Linkages to other organisations* (2017, 2015-14, 2012-09) when this information exists (all years except 2016 and 2013), except in the report of the first meeting of the Group, SGBYC 2008.

RFMOs

RFMOs in general are not much involved in marine mammal issues. Also, NEAFC does not undertake scientific work, and explicitly stated that as its position in 2015 (as a part of its reaction to its own Performance Review Report). ICES undertakes the scientific work that creates the basis for NEAFC’s management decisions.

It is therefore unlikely, that bodies like NEAFC and NAFO directly use NAMMCO work directly, as confirmed by NEAFC former and present Secretary and NAFO Executive Secretary, when contacted.

EFSA

Although this is an older document, not included in the Table above, it is interesting to note that the EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) in its 2007 “Animal welfare of the killing and skinning of seals - Scientific Opinion of the Panel on Animal Health and Welfare - Scientific Opinion of the Panel on Animal Health and Welfare” refers several times to the work of NAMMCO, see below [AFSA Journal (2007) 610, accessible at <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2007.610>].

Haug, T., Hammill, M.O. and Ólafsdóttir, D., 2007a. Grey Seals in the North Atlantic and the Baltic. NAMMCO Sci. Publ. Vol 6. pp. 227.

Haug, T., Hammill, M.O. and Ólafsdóttir, D., 2007b. Introduction. NAMMCO Sci. Publ. 6, 7-12.

NAMMCO. undated a. The ringed seal. Status of Marine Mammals in the North Atlantic. North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission. Tromsø, Norway.

NAMMCO. undated b. The Atlantic Walrus. Status of Marine Mammals in the North Atlantic. North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission. Tromsø, Norway.

NAMMCO. 2004. Report of the NAMMCO Workshop on Hunting Methods for Seals and Walrus. North Atlantic House Copenhagen, Denmark. 7-9 September 2004.

NAMMCO. 2006. Report of the NAMMCO Workshop to Address the Problems of “Struck and Lost” in Seal, Walrus, and Whale Hunting. North Atlantic House, Copenhagen, Denmark 14-16 November 2006.

Ugarte, F. and Jakobsen, J. 2006. Struck and lost in the harp seal hunt in Greenland: A questionnaire survey. pp. 31 - 37. In: NAMMCO, 2006. The North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission. Report of the NAMMCO Workshop to Address the Problems of “Struck and Lost” in Seal, Walrus, and Whale Hunting. North Atlantic House, Copenhagen, Denmark 14 - 16 November 2006.

Co-operation with other MM-related organisations

- how many times in the last 5 years and by who has NAMMCO been asked to participate in the work (specify the nature of the work) of other related organizations (IGOs and NGOs)?

NAMMCO likely makes a greater effort in reaching out to different institutions, than it is contacted by others, likely due to its “controversial” stand regarding the conservation of marine mammal resources.

- i. The Makah tribe asked in 2015, NAMMCO to review and assess their training programme for hunters. This was done by the 2015 EGM.
- ii. Japan asked in 2016 to have their research and results on coastal seals as well as management plan reviewed by the NAMMCO Coastal Seal WG.
- iii. The CAFF Secretary asked in 2016 NAMMCO to be member of the Program Advisory Committee of the Arctic Biodiversity Congress October 2018.
- iv. NAMMCO was asked in 2016 by IMR/Tromsø division to co-organise a HP WS in 2018
- v. The Joint JNCC/NAMMCO Scientific WG on Narwhal and Beluga asked NAMMCO in 2016 and 2017 to organise a WS on Climate Change Impact on Management Advice, back to back with the next joint Scientific WG meeting in March 2019, Canada
- vi. The NCM asked GD in September 2017 to attend the “Nordist” meeting and report on NAMMCO present work and engagement
- vii. GD was asked by the Chairs of the ICES WGBYC to participate to 2018 meeting, and report on the activity of the NAMMCO WG on By-catch. Desportes could not attend for financial constraints, but there were an exchange of reports and a skype meeting between the WG and GD.
- viii. NAFO Executive Secretary reach out to GD when she was in Halifax at the SMM conference (Fall 2017) and invited her to visit the NAFO secretariat have lunch with him and NAFO Administrative Secretary. Discussions concerned ways of increasing relation/cooperation and specific cooperation on by-catch reporting.
- ix. OSPAR Executive Secretary invited NAMMCO to an increased cooperation and invited in December 2017 GD to participate to the next meeting of NEAFC/OSPAR Collective Arrangement (CollArrt) in May 2018. Desportes participated and provided the following presentation “NAMMCO – Contributing to a sustainable North”.

- x. The OSPAR Secretariat repeated in different occasions that NAMMCO would be welcome to join the CollArnt and proposed that both Secretariats establish a MOC.
- xi. ICES WGMME is regularly asking NAMMCO for its update on population abundance. NAMMCO has produced several documents related to surveys and update on population abundance. It did specifically this year as well and asked for permission to include in the report a summary of the outcome of the NAMMCO Halifax WS on population abundance.
- xii. ICES WGBYC 2018 supports/asks for a closer cooperation with the NAMMCO BYCWG (ICES WGBYC 2018).

Although this is older, in 2009 Japan requested NAMMCO to assess their TTD data. As a direct result, the 1st Expert Group meeting on assessing TTD data for large whales was organised in 2010 and later followed up with the 2nd EGM in 2015. Furthermore, the EGM on small whale hunting in 2011 also assessed the small whale hunt in Japan on their request. The recommendations given were followed up from Japan.

- Answer to a non-asked question: how many times in the last 5 years has NAMMCO asked other organisations (IGOs and NGOs) to participate in its work (specify the nature of the work and who)?

IGOs and NGOs

In parallel to being reached at, NAMMCO has increased in the last years its effort in reaching out to several IGOs and NGOs belonging to the NAMMCO sphere of activity, but also several which do not or with who there has only been very little practical engagement in the past.

ASCOBANS

Invitation to further scientific cooperation with NAMMCO, with a general invitation at MOP8 in the OS (2016), and a specific invitation at AC23 (2017) to coordinate with IMR and NAMMCO the WS on Harbour porpoise conservation status in NA. Also many suggestions for cooperation have been given at the different ACs and MoPs meetings.

IWC

Invitation to participate to the NAMMCO Disturbance Symposium (2016)
 Invitation to a cooperation between the two organisations' WGs on Population Abundance (2018)

ICES

In 2014, NAMMCO contacted ICES regarding its participation to the ICES/NAFO working Group on harp and hooded seals (WGHARP). A joint ICES/NAFO/NAMMCO WGHARP became effective at the 2016 meeting of the WG.
 In 2018, NAMMCO contacted ICES for asking them to participate in the organisation of the Joint IMR/NAMMCO WS on HP.

NTI

Invitation to co-organise the BOS organised at Arctic Circle Assembly in 2017
 Invitation to participate to the Walrus WG in October 2018
 Invitation to participate to the annual Scientific Committee meeting in November 2018

Makivik

Invitation to participate to the annual Scientific Committee meeting in November 2018

ICC

Invitation to co-organise the BOS organised at Arctic Circle Assembly 2017

WWF

Invitation to participate and sponsor the NAMMCO Disturbance Symposium (2016)
 Invitation to co-organise the BOS organised at Arctic Circle Assembly 2017

Research Institutes

NAMMCO has also reached out to several research institutes, not belonging to the normal NAMMCO sphere for organising workshop and symposium, both to participate in Planning Groups (PG) and to the events themselves. Some examples of this are

- The disturbance symposium (2015)
- The GROM,
- The NAMMCO Workshop on Cetacean Abundance and Distribution in the North Atlantic, 28-29 October 2017, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- The Joint IMR/NAMMCO HP WS

NAMMCO put an effort (both organisational and financial) in supporting a global overview/understanding of marine mammal conservation, with an Arctic perspective (e.g., Disturbance Symposium, GROM), a North Atlantic perspective (Halifax WS, Joint HP workshop).

It also makes a specific effort in reaching out to Russian Scientists. An example of this is the GROM, where Russian scientists were the only one financially supported, besides the Chair, R. Hobbs, and A. Reeves.

- describe how NAMMCO cooperates with other marine mammal management organizations and other international organizations dealing with marine mammal conservation.

- **Organisation of scientific/technical meetings (how many annually)**
- **Organisation of political/policy meetings (how many annually)**
- **Organisation of public awareness meetings (how many annually)**

Organisation and participation in meetings

Table 2. List of meetings/event organised by NAMMCO with other organisations participating

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Sc./tech.			- TTD EG - JCNB/NAMMCO WG - Disturbance Symposium	- Joint WGHARP	- Arctic Frontiers scient. session on future fisheries with IMR - GROM - JCNB/NAMMCO WG - [SMM] WS	- Joint IMR/NAMMCO WS on HP Status NA
Pol./pol.						
Pub./awa.				- Arctic Circle BOS "Sustainable Marine Resources: a Piece of the Blue Economy Puzzle in the Arctic?"	- Arctic Circle joint NAMMCO/WWF/ICC/NTI BOS "Arctic Sealing: Threat or Blue Prospect"	- CAFF Arctic Biodiversity Congress

Table 3. List of meetings/events where NAMMCO has an active participation, i.e with presentation/interventions/any active input

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Sc./tech.	- Wd Cong Marine Biotechnology - ASCOB AC20 - SMM20	- AC/SCTF - IWC WS Impact Increased MA on Cet. in the Arctic - IWC65 WKWI - ASCOB AC21	- AC/PAME WG - CAFF/CBMP Marine - ASCOB AC22 - SMM21	- Joint ECS-ASCOB-ACCOB WS - AC/SDWG/ AHHEG - PAME-CAFF-AMAP Conf on EAM - CAFF/CBMP Marine - IWC66 WKWI - ECS	- AF - Sc session - ECS (2 posters) - ASCOB AC23 - CAFF Bd - CAFF/CBMP Marine - SMM22 - ECS	- FAO-RSN
Pol./pol.		- IWC65 - UNFAO Global Ocean Action Summit for FS		- IWC66 - ASCOB MOP8	- DK-P: SU Conf. - NCM/Nordist - EU-P, QR code event	- IWC67
Pub./awa.			- IMR lunch seminar	- IMR lunch seminar	- World Seafood Congress - EU DK Embassy, QR code event - Venice Human Rights Cult. Festival	

Table 4: List of meetings/events where NAMMCO participated with no specific input (scientific conferences and WS w/o particular input (presentation or poster) - are not included)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
SC/tech	- IWC/SC65A	- IWC/SC65B - FAO/RSN	- IWC/SC66A - IWC/EW-ASW - AC/SCTF - AC/CAFF WG	- IWC/SC66B		- IWC67 WKWI
Pol/pol		- FAO/COFI			- SDGs in the Arctic-DK	
Pub/awa	- IMR lunch seminar	- IMR lunch seminar	- Symposium on Ethical Dilemmas - IMR lunch seminar	- Conf "Minding the Future" - IMR lunch seminar	- IMR lunch seminar	- IMR lunch seminar

Note: NCM – Nordistmeetings were annual until 2012, stopped and then resumed again in 2017. NAMMCO has had presentations in 2005 – 2012, 2017.

Joint Standing Working Groups

NAMMCO-JCNB joint scientific WG on narwhal and beluga, since 2001

ICES-NAFO-NAMMCO joint WG on harp and hooded seals, since 2015

Specific case: cooperation with the Arctic Council and its subsidiary bodies

The cooperation strategy of NAMMCO, is since 2015 to re-enforce its position in the “Arctic niche” and prioritise its cooperation with and active engagement in the Arctic Council, both by actively participating to meetings of several subsidiary bodies and by asking CAFF for example for participating in NAMMCO events. Co-operation with AC and AC subsidiary bodies has therefore been reinforced in the last four years, with the engagement going beyond observing at Ministerial, SAO or WG meetings. NAMMCO has for example become an active member of the CAFF CBMP Marine Mammal Expert Group since October 2015 and has given presentations to most of the meeting it participated to.

i. NAMMCO participating in AC++ meetings

NAMMCO has participated to the following meetings of the Arctic Council’s Subsidiary Bodies since 2013:

- 6th Task Force for Enhancing Scientific Cooperation in the Arctic, Denmark, August 2015

- PAME, CAFF, AMAP, ACAP WG Board Meetings, Norway, September 2015

Desportes attended (partly) both the CAFF and PAME working group meeting and the joint meeting. At the PAME meeting, Desportes gave a presentation on “NAMMCO activities in the Arctic”.

- CAFF’s CBMP – Marine annual meeting, Norway, November 2015

Desportes actively participated to Marine Mammal Expert Group (MMEG) effort in progressing on the section of the State of the Arctic Marine Ecosystem Report - SAMBR. Attention was specifically drowned to the new abundance estimates, updated trends and assessment developed within the framework of NAMMCO for narwhal, beluga and walrus, bringing in particular attention to the latest reports of the NAMMCO-JCNB Joint Working Group.

- SDWG / Arctic Human Health Experts Group, Norway, May 2016

Desportes presented the work made by NAMMCO and discussed possible cooperation on the NAMMCO project “Marine Mammals and Food Security”.

- CAFF-PAME-AMAP International Science and Policy Conference “The Ecosystem Approach to Management of Arctic Ecosystems: Status of Implementation, Alaska, September 2016

Prewitt presented the talk “Which benefits can marine mammals gain from an Ecosystem Approach to Management?”

- CAFF’s CBMP-Marine annual meeting, Iceland, October 2016

Desportes participated in the effort of the MMEG in reviewing and finalising the draft of the SAMBR, contributing to completing the abundance and trend dataset for the Arctic stocks of the 11 marine mammals that had been chosen as Focal Ecosystem Components (FECs) for evaluating changes in Arctic biodiversity, including beluga, narwhal, bowhead whales, ringed, bearded, harp, hooded seals, and walrus, NAMMCO has expertise on.

- CAFF Board meeting, Alaska, September 2017

Prewitt gave a presentation on the activities in NAMMCO with relevance to CAFF, specifically on Arctic marine mammals. The board member from the Kingdom of Denmark (representing Greenland) noted that there are many experts who work with both CAFF and NAMMCO, and that it would benefit both organisations to have a close cooperation.

- CAFF's CBMP- Marine annual meeting, Alaska, October 2017

This meeting was a joint meeting between the Marine and Coastal groups. Prewitt gave a presentation on the result of the Global Review of Monodontids meeting. The participants agreed that the results from this meeting were relevant to the work of the Marine Mammal Expert Group within the CBMP – Marine and will be incorporated into their future work.

- Arctic Biodiversity Congress October 2018.

GD was asked by CAFF Secretary to be member of the Program Advisory Committee of the Arctic Biodiversity Congress October 2018. She will also contribute with the following presentation "Reconciling conservation and sustainable harvest"

ii. NAMMCO reaching out to AC and subsidiary bodies

Since 2014, NAMMCO worked on organising a Global Review of Monodontids (GROM), which took place in 2017, with the aim of completing a comprehensive review of the status of all populations/stocks of narwhals and belugas throughout the Arctic. At the invitation of NAMMCO, CAFF (ES Tom Barry) joined the Steering Group of GROM in Spring 2016.

Indeed, the GROM review organised under the auspice of NAMMCO will clearly feed the monitoring carried out under the framework of the CBMP/CAFF, the assessment efforts carried out in the framework of SAMBR, and specifically the aspects relevant to narwhal and beluga, representing a good start point for the review. The cooperation between CAFF and NAMMCO allows for a broader dissemination of the results, data and conclusion of the Workshop.

In Spring 2015, NAMMCO Secretariat visited the AC Secretariat to take contact and discuss administrative subjects of common interest. Since then, staff of both secretariats have maintained contacts and further discussed subjects or issues of interest.

Tom Barry, Executive Secretary of CAFF, was invited to attend the annual meeting of the NAMMCO Scientific Committee, Reykjavik, November 2017, and give a presentation of the results of SAMBR and possible areas of cooperation between NAMMCO SC and CAFF were discussed.

Cooperation with other organisations

FAO/RSN

NAMMCO Secretariat participates regularly to the RSN Secretariat meeting and is an active sender of news for the RSN Newsletter.

NAMMCO has a standing invitation to join Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System (**FIRMS**). Secretariat participated in a technical WG in 2011 but did not follow up further. As an outcome of the RSN meeting in 2018, the question of membership will be reconsidered.

OSPAR

NAMMCO participation to OSPAR activities seems to have been very limited.

NAMMCO participated in May 2018 to the meeting of the NEAFC/OSPAR Collective Arrangement.

The Secretariat of NAMMCO and OSPAR are presently drafted a MOC between the two organisations' secretariat. NAMMCO has invited the OSPAR Secretariat to participate to the Joint IMR/NAMMCO Ws on harbour porpoises.

Participating of NAMMCO to the NEAFC/OSPAR Collective Arrangement is presently been considered.

IWC

NAMMCO, and NAMMCO scientists, participates regularly to IWC meetings

The IWC has been invited to participate to events organised by NAMMCO

NAMMCO initiated a cooperation between the two AEWGs

NAMMCO has observers in the IWC initiative on By-catch

European Cetacean Society

The Scientific Secretary of NAMMCO, Mario Acquarone, seek for being in the board of the Society and was elected as Secretary in 2008. He promoted the participation of NAMMCO Scientists and NAMMCO's work, in particular cetacean surveys.

He became later Chair of the Society in 2015, after having left the Secretariat.

Non-scientific cooperation

Norwegian Small Whaler Union

NAMMCO attends the annual meetings and has given presentations on several occasions (2007, 2009, 2017). The attendance at these meetings is due to the fact that the Secretariat is in Norway. NAMMCO presentations and attendance in the hunters' organisations in the other member countries have been covered by national authorities if at all. In 2017, the NSWU issued an opinion paper on the status of NAMMCO as management advice provider in Norway for minke whaling and urge the Government to increase that role.

Cooperation on Hunting Methods

Generally, all the CHM WS' objective has been the sharing of information across different regions – not only NAMMCO parties but widely – with the aim of learning from each other and thus improving TTD and safety issues for the hunters. Dr Egil Ole Øen expertise has unquestionably been instrumental in NAMMCO's achievements on improving hunting methods. Through NAMMCO and the work of the CHM, hunting nations outside NAMMCO has also benefited from the accrued knowledge.

At all the WS on hunting methods, NAMMCO strived to get participation from the hunters' organisations in Russia (Chukotka), Alaska and Canada. Glenn Williams from NTI, Canada, was co-chairing the WS in 2004 and 2006. In general, it has been a priority to have good working relationships with the various national hunters' organisations.

In 2009 Japan requested NAMMCO to assess their TTD data. As a direct result the 1st Expert Group meeting on assessing TTD data for large whales was organised in 2010 and later followed up with the 2nd EGM in 2015. Furthermore, the EGM on small whale hunting in 2011 also assessed the small whale hunt in Japan on their request. It should also be noted that the recommendations given were followed up from Japan.

As mentioned, on request from the Makah tribe, NAMMCO reviewed and assessed their training programme for hunters at the 2015 EGM

Also, in the 2015 EGM both the Alaska and Canada bowhead whale hunts were reviewed. The EGM was critical to the techniques used by Canada and recommended to Canada to exchange information with other bowhead-hunting nations to benefit from their expertise and experience with other hunting techniques. Canada – following the EGM recommendations - are now planning courses to this end and has invited Dr Egil Ole Øen – now retired from NAMMCO – as an expert on hunting methods to give such a course.

- Answer to a non-asked question: Other indices showing that NAMMCO is a credible/recognised partner

Personalised invitation to the GS to high level conferences:

- November 2018: "Science for Ocean Actions Conference" supporting the High-level Panel on Building a Sustainable Ocean Economy, initiated by the NO Prime Minister with the support of the UN and G7. Organised by IMR and the NO MFA
- December 2017: "The SDGs in the Arctic: Local and Global Perspectives", organised by DK MFA.
- November 2015: Conference on "Security and Governance in the Global Arctic: Nordic and International Perspectives" - Match Points Seminar organised by 10 Nordic universities with support of Danish Folketing, the NCM and the DK Ministries of FA, Defense and Education and Research.
- June 2015: Norway Foreign Ambassadors' Excursion, Tromsø - NAMMCO invited to present the organisation WWW.NAMMCO.NO and to the dinner and seated at the VIP table.

Joint and international Workshops attended by many and funded externally

- Joint NAMMCO/JCNB Joint Workshop on Climate Change Impact on Management Advice, 2019.
- Joint IMR/NAMMCO WS on the Status of harbour Porpoises in the North Atlantic, December 2018. In the Planning Group participate NAMMCO and IMR scientists + US, CA, IE, SE.
- NAMMCO Workshop on Cetacean Abundance and Distribution in the North Atlantic, 2017, with scientists representing all the large NA sightings survey effort (US, CA, NAMMCO, SCANS III, ObSERV) as well as modelling scientists.
- Global Review of Monodontids, 2017, with funding from WWF, and circumpolar participation of scientists.

- Disturbance symposium with participation of IWC and funding from Shell and WWF Denmark, with participants from WWF CA, Dk, SE
- Joint NAMMCO/JCNB WS on Age Estimation in Monodontids¹, 2011
- Joint NAMMCO/JCNB Workshop on Beluga Age Estimation 2, 2011
- Joint NAMMCO/ICES Workshop on observation schemes for bycatch of mammals and birds (WKOSBOMB) **2010**, at NAMMCO's initiative
- Joint ICES/NAFO/NAMMCO symposium on the role of marine mammals in the ecosystem in the 21st century, 2008.
- Vasa International Conference on "Seals and Society - how to manage resources and interactions in the Baltic Sea and the North Atlantic" 2007. Arranged by Nordic Council of Ministers, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute (Finland), Swedish Board of Fisheries (Sweden), Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs (Norway), HELCOM, NAMMCO, WWF and the Kvarken Council to discuss how resources and interactions should be managed in the Baltic and North Atlantic.
- International Symposium on harbour porpoises in the North Atlantic (1999) with scientists participating from all NAMMCO Parties, Europe, Baltic region, US and Canada.

International cooperation on surveys and population abundance

- Cooperation between NAMMCO and SCANS II and CODA
- NAMMCO Workshop on Cetacean Abundance and Distribution in the North Atlantic, 28-29 October 2017, Halifax, Nova Scotia, with all American (NOAA), Canadian (DFO) and European (NAMMCO, SCANS III, Ireland) survey efforts from 2015 and 2016 sending representatives – many of them supported partly or totally financially by NAMMCO. Also decision by the group to have **on the NAMMCO website** a specific site presenting these efforts and giving all abundance estimates.

Non-Party Members Chair of WG or WS

- By-catch Working Group: Kimberly Murray, NOAA/NFSC
- Walrus Working Group: Rob Stewart, DFO (former)
- Joint NAMMCO-JCNB scientific WG on narwhal and beluga: Rod Hobbs, NOAA, for NAMMCO
- GROM WS, Rod Hobbs, NOAA
- Participation of, many over the years, foreign scientists as invited experts at NAMMCO WG, also from very anti-whaling countries (e.g., UK, USA, Baltic countries, Germany)

Cooperation of other bodies to event initiated by NAMMCO

BOS at Arctic Circle 2017 co-organised with WWF Arctic Programme, ICC and NTI inc., with the participation of the NCM in the panel.

Appendix 1: **Non exhaustive** list of citations of NAMMCO work (see definition in text) by forum:
Academic, IUCN Red list assessments, IWC, CAFF, ICES, SCOS reports, NGOs.

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<p>4.13 North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) Scientific Committee Council</p> <p>17.8.5 Monodontids Workshop Report NAMMCO hosted a workshop and produced a Global Review of Monodontids. Researchers and subsistence hunters from across the Arctic and subarctic participated. Several IWC scientists also participated, including Litovka, Reeves, and Suydam. The report [NAMMCO. 2018. <i>Report of the Global Review of Monodontids. 13-16 March 2017, Hillerød, Denmark.</i>] summarises what is known about the status of 12 stocks of narwhals and 22 stocks of white whales. There may be more stocks than this as information on stock structure is incomplete for some areas. The summary information and identification of threats and concerns within the report will be helpful in prioritising future research. Some stocks are doing well, but conservation actions are desperately needed for some others. The IUCN Red List status and documentation for both species was updated to Least Concern in December 2017 and that the information summarised in the NAMMCO review was very useful for those assessments. Attention: C-A The Committee welcomes the report of the NAMMCO workshop reviewing the monodontids. It draws attention to the recommendations contained in the report and encourages their implementation, particularly those pertaining to the stocks of greatest concern.</p>	<p>IWC. 2018. Report of the Scientific Committee.</p>
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<p>3.5 ... The estimates have also been used for the coastal seal and harbour porpoise working groups at the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO).</p> <p>7.1 Collaboration with the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)</p> <p>Annex 6 – recommendations. The procedures should take into account existing work, e.g. Report of the Joint NAMMCO/ICES Workshop on observation schemes for bycatch of mammals and birds (WKOSBOMB).</p>	<p>ICES. 2018. Report of the Working Group on Bycatch of Protected Species (WGBYC), 01–04 May 2018, Reykjavík, Iceland. ICES CM 2018/ACOM:25. 128 pp.</p>
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