



# North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission

27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

3-4 April 2019

Press Release

The North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) will hold its annual meeting in Tórshavn, Faroe Islands from 3-4 April to discuss recent research and developments relevant to the conservation and management of whales and seals in the North Atlantic.

The meeting will be attended by representatives from the member governments of the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, observers from Denmark, Canada, Japan and Russia, as well as from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (Nunavut) and Makivik Corporation (Quebec) and a number of other international organisations

## Of special interest at this year's meeting:

- **The NAMMCO Performance Review**

During 2018-2019 an international panel of experts nominated by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO) and International Whaling Commission (IWC) has assessed the performance of NAMMCO as a regional body providing scientific advice for the management of marine mammals in the North Atlantic. The report with recommendations will be presented to the Council, which will discuss approaches to implementation.

- **The NAMMCO Observation Scheme**

The NAMMCO Observation Scheme for monitoring the compliance of hunting activities with existing regulations has gone through a comprehensive internal review to assess its performance. The recommendations of this review will be presented and discussed at the Council meeting.

The agenda, list of participants and documents for the Council meeting can be found at:

<https://nammco.no/meetings/council/>

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## About NAMMCO

The NAMMCO Council advises member governments of the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland and Norway on the conservation status of North Atlantic marine mammals, including sustainable levels of removals and responsible hunting methods. NAMMCO is the only international, regional body advising on the conservation and management of small and large whales as well as seals and walrus.

NAMMCO provides advice based on science, local knowledge and technological developments. The work of the committees is assisted by international experts. The organisation follows best practices and a precautionary approach, striving to provide advice according to an ecosystem approach to management.

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