COMMITTEE ON INSPECTION AND OBSERVATION

*8 February 2020, Directorate of Fisheries, Hafnarfjörður, Iceland*

*09:00 hrs – 17:00 hrs*

**DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA-**rev 300120

# ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND REVIEW OF DOCUMENTS

Chair Guðni Magnús Eiríksson will open the meeting for comments to the agenda, (NAMMCO/CIO-2020-01/01) and review the meeting documents, (NAMMCO/CIO-2020-01/02).

# ANNUAL REPORTING FROM MEMBERS

Members will have reported their 2019 data by 1 February. CIO is asked to review these data, if needed make improvements and decide on follow up actions. NAMMCO/CIO-2020-01/03 contains the received data.

# OBSERVATION SCHEME

## outstanding issues

### Safety and insurance issues

At the last meeting CIO tasked the Secretariat to contact the International Labour Organisation to (ILO) to explore insurance options for short time contracts like the NAMMCO observes. CIO underlined the importance of defining a standard minimum coverage for private insurances and defining a process ensuring that the observers have this standard insurance. If needed CIO agreed to confer with legal experts to ensure adequate insurance coverage and to also establish a correct procedure to ensure that the observers have the required minimum standards. It was envisaged that these conditions and requirements should be clearly stated in writing including who is responsible for what.

Charlotte Winsnes will give an update.

### Health certificate

At the last meeting CIO agreed that all observers would be required to have a health certificate for seamen and that this would be included in the qualification requirements that the nominating Parties are responsible for.

CIO is asked to look at the practicalities of this requirement. The certificate is valid for a short time period and the important thing is that an observer has it when he/she goes out, not in other years.

## provision text including GUIDELINES TO OBSERVATION SCHEME

NAMMCO7CIO/2020-01/04 gives the Provisions of the Inspection and Observation Scheme, including guidelines to Section B as agreed at the last meeting.

CIO is asked to have a final look at the text of the Provision and the guidelines before finalising it for the approval of Council at NAMMCO 28. The text of the Provision is already approved but if CIO finds that some refinements/revisions are needed to improve clarity this should be noted now.

## REPORTING

At the last meeting CIO agreed:

* that each member should elaborate and develop hunt specific check lists and submit these by 1st December to the Secretariat. It was agreed to use excel as format for the check lists.
* that the check lists would be the only reporting forms for the observers and that the Secretariat would compile the statistical information and write the annual report to CIO and Council of the implementation of the observation activities in a season based on the submitted check lists.

CIO also discussed if and how the information collected through the logbooks or collected in connection with issuing licenses could be best used. What kind of analyses would be feasible based on the information? CIO agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting. Members would submit licences and logbooks to this end prior to the meeting.

CIO is asked to continue the discussion.

# EVALUATION OF THE SCHEME

## Members compliance to recommendations

CIO has previously agreed to make compliance to recommendations a standard agenda item to include in its evaluation of the Scheme. Discussion has evolved around what kind of recommendations would fall under the umbrella of the Scheme, and whether the Management Committee document “Overview of recommendations for conservation and management” (document MC-05) could be used as a directing tool. It was emphasised that recommendations must be of a nature that makes them observable both for the observer and the CIO.

Document NAMMCO/CHM-2020-01/07 Overview of Recommendations from CHM Workshop and Expert group meetings is tabled for CIOs consideration under this agenda item.

CIO is asked to continue the discussion.

## Coverage rates

Assuming coverage rates might be *one* useful tool for evaluating the Scheme, CIO agreed at its last meeting to task the members to consider and give proposals for applicable coverage rates when developing the hunt specific check lists with a deadline of 1st December.

After having identified applicable coverage rates for the different hunts, CIO envisaged that the next step would be to identify the required % of a coverage rate for the specific hunt.

CIO is asked to review documents NAMMCO/CIO-2020-01/05 (the review of the Observation Scheme undertaken by the Secretariat and CIO, with emphasis on the section with different coverage rates) and NAMMCO/CIO-2020-01/06 (overview hunts in NAMMCO with hunts observed in the period 1998 – 2017) as background to this agenda item.

# TRAINING COURSE OBSERVERS

CIO is asked to evaluation of the course and give guidance to how future training may be organised.

# Nomination of observer candidates

CV’s have been circulated via email on 30 January.

CIO is asked to review the nominated candidates and give recommendations to Council.

# IDENTIFYING SCOPE OF OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES IN 2021

Document NAMMCO/CIO-2020-01/06 (overview of observed hunts from 1998 – 2017) are tabled under this agenda item.

CIO has identified the following elements for prioritisation of scope of observations:

* Hunting level
* Hunts not covered by national inspectors – monitored by humans
* Implementation and compliance of new recommendations into national regulations
* Hunts where the SC or CHM request data
* Rotation between member countries
* Rotation between hunts (time interval when last observed)
* Maximising the effort to reach the objectives by allocating money from several years into one year.
* Practicality of the respective hunts making the observation assignment not feasible
* Small scale hunts that are happening infrequently and in remote areas

At the last meeting CIO identified Greenland: walrus and beluga hunting in March/April in Disko and Sisimiut as option 2 for the 2020 scope should option 1 Norwegian sealing in the pack ice fail.

# Work Plan

Proposed workplan 2019 -2020 approved by Council in 2019 was:

* Parties to have an internal discussion on the issue of observers reporting infringements
* Parties to find out what kind of safety at sea requirements are prevailing in their country
* Defining timeline of appointment procedure for observers including identifying scope and range of the Scheme
* Review Section A – what has member countries used this for and how
* NAMMCO training course for observer’s autumn 2019 – the Secretariat tasked to make a draft programme and budget to be circulated in March 2019.
* Follow up of the review of the PR Panel
* Follow up on Council’s decision on CIO’s recommendations on the Observation Scheme
* Defining qualification requirements for the observers
* Defining scope and range of observation activities in 2020
* Design data base requirements

# Website – quality check

CIO agreed on a 3-step process for its work to ensure the quality of the content on the website:

1. to review all current text and information related to CIO on the website.
2. make reviewing new information on the website a standard agenda item for the annual meeting of the committee. If needed this may also be done by correspondence intersessional
3. consider how to make the work of CHM more visible

CIO already did step 1. During the last meeting and this is to follow up on step 2 and also to get input on step 3.

# NEXT MEETING

The following events was defined at the last meeting when discussing annual activity schedule for 2020:

* 1 February deadline for submission of National Progress Reports from member countries.
* 5 – 7 February Training course observers Reykjavik, Iceland
* 8 – 11 February meetings of CIO/CHM/BYCELS, exact dates to be confirmed
* 16 – 19 March NAMMCO 28, Oslo, Norway
* September/October CIO meeting to address:
  + Identify scope and range of observation activities 2021
* Skype meetings as needed

# ANY OTHER BUSINESS