



NAMMCO ANNUAL MEETING 28

22-25 March 2021

Online

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

DOCUMENT 16	PROPOSED GUIDELINES TO THE OBSERVATION SCHEME
Submitted by	Committee on Inspection and Observation
Action requested	To consider the recommended guidelines for adoption.
Background	Council 27 approved the new Observation Scheme and preliminary guidelines. Finalising the details of the guidelines has been carried out in the interim and the current guidelines reflect inter alia that NAMMCO now has a corps of observers making the former annual nomination and approval procedure of observer candidates redundant.
Content	Part 1: proposed guidelines in track changes Part 2: proposed guidelines without track changes Part 3: CV template for observers

1. PROPOSED GUIDELINES WITH TRACK CHANGES

Text presented to Council 27 in black, new text in red, and the proposal is undeleted black text and red text.

OBSERVERS

Appointment of observers

~~The Council appoints observers for one year at a time.~~

~~Member countries develop a list of candidates for the following year and send it to the Secretariat by 1 June. Member countries may nominate non-nationals as observers.~~

~~The list shall include information on the qualifications of the candidates. The Secretariat circulates by 15 June a combined list of suggested candidates to member countries for approval. In the event that a member country wishes to make a reservation to any candidate, this must be done before 15 August. It is understood that a reservation to the appointment of a particular candidate is a reservation to his/her appointment as a NAMMCO observer in any area of activity. The Secretariat then circulates the list of candidates approved by all member countries to the Council for appointment by 1 September.~~

The NAMMCO Council approves and appoints observers. An approved observer will continue to function in the role until his/her services are withdrawn/cancelled by either personal notification or notification by the (nominating) member country.

Member countries are required to contribute a minimum of two candidates to the corps of observers.

Nomination and approval process for observers

Member countries nominate observer candidates by notifying the Secretariat and sending their names and qualifications. The Secretariat subsequently forwards the list of nominees together with information on the qualifications of the candidates to all member countries for their approval.

The member countries have one month to consider the nominations, after which the candidates are deemed approved unless direct objections or reservations are raised.

A reservation regarding a candidate must be communicated to the Secretariat and all member countries within the month following notification of the nomination. It is understood that a reservation to the appointment of a candidate is a reservation to his/her appointment as a NAMMCO observer in any area of activity.

Candidates for whom a reservation has been expressed will not be included in the observer corps.

Competence and training of observers

~~The requirements for the professional, linguistic and safety at sea qualifications of the observers (professional, linguistic and safety at sea) are defined in the attached standardised CV-form for observers. the following: Observers must have at least the same level of professional competence as that required of inspectors in the country where the observations are to take place. Exemption from this requirement can be given by the country where the observations are to take place.~~

For safety reasons, the language competency of observers must be taken into consideration. An observer on board a hunting vessel must be able to communicate spontaneously with the crew. For communication on land, a translator may be used.

~~In order to ensure that the persons appointed as observers are sufficiently informed about the relevant hunting regulations and the duties of national control personnel, observers shall participate in whatever training courses are compulsory for control personnel in the member countries where the~~

~~observations are due to occur. If such courses are not held, or if the observer is unable for other reasons to participate in such courses, the observer must receive other relevant training, developed in co-operation between the national authorities and NAMMCO.~~

To ensure that observers are sufficiently informed about the relevant hunting regulations and the duties of national control personnel, observers shall receive all necessary documentation and relevant training before going into the field. Before being deployed in the field, a meeting will be held between the observer and the national authorities in question or NAMMCO to review legislation and information on how the hunt is carried out.

Duties of the observer

Observation activities can be carried out in ~~four~~ five areas:

- ~~• observation of whaling carried out with the use of a harpoon gun or of flensing of whales taken with a harpoon gun;~~
- observation of sealing or forms of whaling other than with harpoon guns, or the flensing of animals from such hunting;
- observation of hunting and/or flensing of whales
- observation of hunting and/or flensing of seals
- observation of hunting and/or flensing of walrus
- observation of the landing/delivery of marine mammal catches;
- observations of national marine mammal inspection activities

Hunt specific check lists are available for all the hunts to be observed and the observer is required to report on all the items listed.

Reports

No later than eight days after the end of the deployment period, the observer must submit a written report to the NAMMCO Secretariat. ~~The report shall consist of the individual hunt event check list, NAMMCO hunting form (active hunting days etc, statistics)~~ **The report shall consist of the hunt specific check lists completed during the observation period and a completed standardised report form.**

The language of the report shall be either English or a Scandinavian language.

The Secretariat will compile an annual report for the consideration of the Council based on the check lists and the standardised report from the observers.

General conduct of observers

During the exercise of their duties, observers shall conduct themselves with appropriate tact and respect. Upon arrival at a vessel, a landing/receiving station or other place where observation duties are carried out, the observer shall always display their authorisation and identification card to the person in charge.

Confidentiality

Observers shall ensure the confidentiality of their duties and shall not report on observations carried out under the NAMMCO Inspection and Observation Scheme to any other parties than the Secretariat.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SCHEME

Plans for observation and activities

~~By 1 October each year~~ The Secretariat, in cooperation with the Committee on Inspection and Observation (CIO) develops a proposal for the Council for the scope and range of observation activities **priorities (including budget) by 1 May for the following year** during the following year in accordance with budgeted funds for these activities. The Council shall approve this proposal **by 1 June**, and appoint

~~the observers by 1 November.~~ This is to facilitate the possibility of observing hunts at the start of the year. The Secretariat, in co-operation with control authorities in respective member countries, then develops a specific plan for observation activities. This plan shall, among other things, define the time frame for observation activities and shall specify the observation areas for each observer.

The Secretariat may for practical reasons, and in co-operation with the authorities of the relevant member countries, make changes in the plan if necessary. The detailed plan of observation activities ~~shall~~ will only be known to the ~~control~~ authorities in the relevant member countries and the Secretariat.

Employment of observers

When a detailed plan for the of observation activities for the year is finalized, those observers ~~from the corps~~ who are ~~will be~~ called upon for active observation ~~duties that year~~ will receive an employment contract from the Secretariat. When both parties sign this ~~contract~~, 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. ~~He/she shall then receive a letter from the Secretariat confirming his/her completion of duties according to the Scheme.~~

2. PROPOSED GUIDELINES WITHOUT TRACK CHANGES

OBSERVERS

Appointment of observers

The NAMMCO Council approves and appoints observers. An approved observer will continue to function in the role until his/her services are withdrawn/cancelled by either personal notification or notification by the (nominating) member country.

Member countries are required to contribute a minimum of two candidates to the corps of observers.

Nomination and approval process for observers

Member countries nominate observer candidates by notifying the Secretariat and sending their names and qualifications. The Secretariat subsequently forwards the list of nominees together with information on the qualifications of the candidates to all member countries for their approval.

The member countries have one month to consider the nominations, after which the candidates are deemed approved unless direct objections or reservations are raised.

A reservation regarding a candidate must be communicated to the Secretariat and all member countries within the month following notification of the nomination. It is understood that a reservation to the appointment of a candidate is a reservation to his/her appointment as a NAMMCO observer in any area of activity.

Candidates for whom a reservation has been expressed will not be included in the observer corps.

Competence and training of observers

The requirements for the qualifications of the observers (professional, linguistic and safety at sea) are defined in the attached standardised CV-form for observers.

For safety reasons, the language competency of observers must be taken into consideration. An observer on board a hunting vessel must be able to communicate spontaneously with the crew. For communication on land, a translator may be used.

To ensure that observers are sufficiently informed about the relevant hunting regulations and the duties of national control personnel, observers shall receive all necessary documentation and relevant training before going into the field. Before being deployed in the field, a meeting will be held between the observer and the national authorities in question or NAMMCO to review legislation and information on how the hunt is carried out.

Duties of the observer

Observation activities can be carried out in five areas:

- observation of hunting and/or flensing of whales
- observation of hunting and/or flensing of seals
- observation of hunting and/or flensing of walrus
- observation of the landing/delivery of marine mammal catches;
- observations of national marine mammal inspection activities

Hunt specific check lists are available for all the hunts to be observed and the observer is required to report on all the items listed.

REPORTS

No later than eight days after the end of the deployment period, the observer must submit a written report to the NAMMCO Secretariat. The report shall consist of the hunt specific check lists completed

during the observation period and a completed standardised report form. The language of the report shall be either English or a Scandinavian language.

The Secretariat will compile an annual report for the consideration of the Council based on the check lists and the standardised report from the observers.

GENERAL CONDUCT OF OBSERVERS

During the exercise of their duties, observers shall conduct themselves with appropriate tact and respect. Upon arrival at a vessel, a landing/receiving station or other place where observation duties are carried out, the observer shall always display their authorisation and identification card to the person in charge.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Observers shall ensure the confidentiality of their duties and shall not report on observations carried out under the NAMMCO Inspection and Observation Scheme to any other parties than the Secretariat.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SCHEME

Plans for observation and activities

The Secretariat, in cooperation with the Committee on Inspection and Observation (CIO) develops a proposal for the scope and range of observation priorities (including budget) by 1 May for the following year. The Council shall approve this proposal by 1 June. This is to facilitate the possibility of observing hunts at the start of the year. The Secretariat, in co-operation with control authorities in respective member countries, then develops a specific plan for observation activities. This plan shall, among other things, define the time frame for observation activities and shall specify the observation areas for each observer.

The Secretariat may for practical reasons, and in co-operation with the authorities of the relevant member countries, make changes in the plan if necessary. The detailed plan of observation activities will only be known to the ~~control~~ authorities in the relevant member countries and the Secretariat.

Employment of observers

When a detailed plan for the of observation activities is finalized, those observers who are called upon for active observation duties that year will receive an employment contract from the Secretariat. When both parties sign this contract, 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.

3. CV TEMPLATE FOR NAMMCO OBSERVER CANDIDATE

Full name/navn
 Address/adresse
 Telephone number/telefon
 Email address/epost
 Date of birth/fødselsdato
 Nationality/nasjonalitet

Overview of candidate's education and courses of relevance/oversikt over kandidatens utdanning og relevante kurs

Education/Utdannelse	Graduated/employment, yes/no, year Uteksaminert/ansatt ja/nei, årstall	Courses/certificates, yes/no, year Kurs/sertifikater, ja/nei, årstall
Veterinarian / veterinær		
Wildlife officer / jaktbetjent		
Fisheries inspector / fiskeri inspektør		
Biologist / biolog		
Safety course in handling of whale grenade-99 Sikkerhetskurs i behandling av Whale granat-99		
Hunting license / fangstlisens		
Sea safety course Sikkerhet på sjøen*1		
Health certificate *2		
Other, specify / annet angi hva		

Further description of education and courses of relevance/ytterligere beskrivelse av utdanning og relevante kurser

- *1 Nominated observers shall have a minimum standard of survival at sea, meeting the requirements of STCW section A-VI/1 and being based on the guidelines of IMO Model Courses. **The nominating Party is responsible that these minimum standards are met.**

Reference to IMO: <http://www.adrialbar.com/tecajevi/basic-safety-training-stcw-a-vi-1/18.html>

*2: GL: Beskiget til å bli søfarende. FO: Blåbog fra søfartslege, IS and NO: coming

Work experience of relevance/relevant arbeidserfaring

Work experience Arbeidserfaring	Yes, year, duties – ja, årstall, oppgaver	No/Nei
Observed hunts on marine mammals – if yes, which species Observervert fangst av sjøpattedyr – hvis ja, hvilke arter		
Participated in hunts of marine mammals – if yes, which species Deltakelse i fangst av sjøpattedyr – hvis ja hvilke arter		
Collected data from seal or whale hunts Innsamling av data fra sel eller hvalfangst		
Other, specify / annet, angi hva		

Further description of work experience of relevance – ytterligere beskrivelse av relevant arbeidserfaring:**Language skills: Non, Little, Good, Excellent – Språkkunnskap: ingen, litt, god, eksellent**

Language/språk	Oral - muntlig	Written - skriftlig
Danish/dansk		
Greenlandic/grønlandsk		
Icelandic/islandsk		
Faroese/færøysk		
Norwegian/norsk		
English/engelsk		

Other matters of relevance – andre ting med relevans for oppdraget:**References- referanser:**