



NAMMCO ANNUAL MEETING 31

19-21 March 2024

Hotel Reykjavík Grand, Reykjavík, Iceland

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Chair: Jón Þrándur Stefánsson (Iceland)

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

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Agenda Items	Document Reference
<p>1. OPENING PROCEDURES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Welcome address by the Chair 1.2 Admission of Observers 1.3 Opening Statements 1.4 Adoption of agenda 1.5 Meeting Arrangements 1.6 Theme Session: “Welfare issues in marine mammal hunting” (Invited speakers: Kathrine Ryeng (DVM, IMR, NO) and Snjólaug Árnadóttir (Phd in Laws, RU, IS)) 	<p>NAMMCO/31/01, 02, 03</p>
<p>2. ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTS</p>	<p>APR REPORTS</p>
<p>3. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Report from the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) 3.2 Audited accounts 2023 3.3 [Budget 2024], Draft budget 2025 and forecast budget 2026 3.4 Administrative Report 2023 3.5 Proposal for a vocabulary amendment to RoPs of Council and Committees 3.6 Other business 	<p>NAMMCO/31/04, 05, 06, 07, 17</p>

<p>4. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC)</p> <p>4.1 Report of the Scientific Committee 4.2 Adoption of priorities and work plan 2024-2026 4.3 Other business</p>	NAMMCO/31/08
<p>5. UPDATE ON THE PLANNING OF NASS 2024</p> <p>5.1 Planning of the surveys 5.2 Planning of the data analysis and review</p>	NAMMCO/31/14
<p>6. MINTAG PROJECT</p> <p>6.1 Report of the MINTAG Steering Group 6.2 Financial update</p>	NAMMCO/31/15
<p>7. COMMITTEE ON HUNTING METHODS (CHM)</p> <p>7.1 Report of the Committee on Hunting Methods 7.2 Presentation of the 2nd training video 7.3 Adoption of priorities and work plan 2024-2026 7.4 Other business</p>	NAMMCO/31/09, 18
<p>8. COMMITTEE ON INSPECTION AND OBSERVATION (CIO)</p> <p>8.1 Report of the Committee on Inspection and Observation 8.2 Observation activities in 2025 8.3 Adoption of priorities and work plan 2024-2026 8.4 Other business</p>	NAMMCO/31/10
<p>9. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES (MCs)</p> <p>9.1 Advice for Conservation and Management to Parties 9.2 Recommendations for Scientific Research to Parties 9.3 Proposals for new or modified Requests for Advice from the SC 9.4 Other business</p>	NAMMCO/31/12, 13, FI01, FI02, FI03, MC05, MC06
<p>10. ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS & ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO MANAGEMENT</p>	
<p>11. EXTERNAL RELATIONS</p> <p>11.1 Cooperation with non-member countries 11.2 Cooperation with international organisations 11.3 Other business</p>	NAMMCO/31/07
<p>12. COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH</p> <p>12.1 Website 12.2 Social media 12.3 Outreach activities 12.4 Educational Project 12.5 Scientific publications 12.6 Other business</p>	NAMMCO/31/07, 16

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
14. CLOSING PROCEDURES 14.1 Press Release 14.2 Next Meeting	NAMMCO/31/11

Annotations

Item 1. Opening Procedures

Item 1.3: Parties, Observer Governments, Representative Indigenous Organisations and, time permitting, IGOs and NGOs will be invited to deliver opening statements. These statements will be made available to the participants on the meeting website and included in the report of the meeting.

Statements delivered orally should last not more than 3 minutes, but longer statements can be delivered to be made available to the participants on the meeting website and in the report.

Item 1.6: Following a presentation by Kathrine Ryend (DVM, Institute of Marine Research, Norway) and Snjólaug Árnadóttir (Phd in Laws, University of Reykjavík, Iceland), the participants, members of Parties as well as Observers' delegation, will be invited to share they thoughts about welfare issues, both with regards to animal welfare and legal aspects, associated to the hunting of marine mammals and how best dealing with those.

Item 2. Annual Progress Reports

Members and Observer Governments and Representative Indigenous Organisations will have the opportunity to briefly highlight conservation and management matters of particular interest to NAMMCO (NAMMCO/31/NPR & APR, as well as NAMMCO Database).

Item 3. Financial and Administrative Issues

Item 3.1: The report of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) (NAMMCO/31/04) will become available after the meeting of the FAC on Monday 18 March.

The Council will consider the recommendations of the FAC.

Item 3.2: The audited accounts for 2023 (NAMMCO/31/05), including the result and balance sheets and auditor's report, will be presented for approval of the Council.

Item 3.3: This point will be dealt with on Thursday afternoon. The Council will adopt a draft budget for 2025 and approve a forecast budget for 2026 (NAMMCO/31/06).

Item 3.4: The Administrative Report of the Commission for 2023 (NAMMCO/31/07) will be presented for information. The sections on External Relations and Communication will be presented under point 11 and 12 respectively.

Item 3.5: The Council will be asked to consider a vocabulary change in the Rules of Procedures of the Council and committees toward a gender-neutral language (NAMMCO/31/17).

Item 4. Scientific Committee (SC)

Item 4.1: The SC held its annual meeting on 22-26 January 2024. The report of the SC (NAMMCO/31/08) includes an executive summary and the main report.

The SC has convened six working groups and a workshop since its annual meeting in 2023. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, the reports were published on nammco.org a month after the distribution of the reports to the SC and the Council, and can be accessed [here](#):

Ad hoc Working Group on Narwhal in East Greenland, December 2023, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Ringed Seal Working Group, November 2023, online.

Dolphins Working Group, October 2023, Copenhagen, Denmark.

By-Catch Working Group, October 2023, online.

Joint ICES/NAFO/NAMMCO Working Group on Harp and Hooded seals, August 2023, Tromsø, Norway.

Coastal Seals Working Group, May 2023, Copenhagen, Denmark.

NAMMCO Panarctic Bearded Seal Workshop, March 2023, online.

The SC also participated to the Joint ICES/NAFO/NAMMCO) Benchmark Workshop for Harp and Hooded Seals convened by ICES, May 2023, Copenhagen, Denmark

The Chair of the SC will present a summary of the overall work of the SC. Information and recommendations pertaining to species and eco-system related issues will have been presented in the relevant Management Committees on 19 March 2024.

Item 4.2. The Council will decide on the priorities and work plan for the Committee in 2024, 2025 and 2026.

Item 5.

The NASS 2024 Scientific Planning Committee met online in June and September, physically in November 2023 (Copenhagen, Denmark) and in a hybrid format in January 2024 (Hafnarfjörður, Iceland) during the SC meeting.

An update on the preparation of NASS2024 (NAMMCO/31/14) will be presented, showing the surveys area and allocation of effort.

The report of the longer November meeting can be found here: [NASS 2024 Scientific Planning Committee Meeting, November 2023, Copenhagen, Denmark.](#)

Item 6. MINTAG Project

Item 6.1 and 6.2. The Secretariat will present the progress report of the MINTAG Steering Group (NAMMCO/31/15), as well the project's financial update.

Item 7. Committee on Hunting Methods (CHM)

Item 7.1: The Chair of the CHM will present a summary of the Committee's activities since Council 30 (NAMMCO/31/09).

Item 7.2: The second training video will be presented to the Council by Kathrine Ryeng (NAMMCO/31/18) for the approval of the Council.

Item 7.3: The Council will decide on the priorities and the work plan for the Committee in 2024-2026.

Item 8. Committee on Inspection and Observation (CIO)

Item 8.1 and 8.2: The Chair of the CIO will present a summary of the Committee's activities since Council 30, including an update on coming observation activities (NAMMCO/31/10).

Item 8.3. The Council will decide on the priorities and work plan for the Committee in 2024-2026.

Item 9. Management Committees (MCs)

The MCs held their meetings following the Opening Session.

Information will be presented on the status (proposals forwarded or not) of the recommendations for Conservation and Management and Research to the Parties, that were forwarded to the MCs by the Scientific Committee (NAMMCO/31/12).

MC's Proposals on requests for advice from the SC (NAMMCO/31/13, either proposal for new request or change of status) will be presented for the consideration of the Council.

Item 10. Environmental Questions & Ecosystem Approach to Management

The importance of environmental questions and NAMMCO commitment to progress towards an ecosystem approach to management was reiterated in the Nuuk Declaration (2017). Environmental matters directly related to scientific advice on the conservation and management of marine mammal stocks within the remit of NAMMCO are addressed by the joint meeting of the MCs (MCJ). Other issues of relevance to NAMMCO may be raised under this item.

Item 11. External Relations

The Administrative Report (NAMMCO/31/07) presents an overview of national, intergovernmental meetings and events where NAMMCO was represented in 2023. It provides observer reports when relevant.

Item 12. Communication and Outreach

An update on communication and outreach activities in 2023 is included in the Administrative Report (NAMMCO/31/07). The update also includes an update on the NAMMCO website, the NAMMCO Scientific Publications and information on visitors' activities on the NAMMCO website and social media.

Item 12.4: The project GUARDNA, i.e., the creation of an educational portal on marine mammals and their marine environment that the Secretariat is coordinating with partners from the NAMMCO Countries, will be presented (NAMMCO/31/16).

Item 12.5: An update on Vol 13 of the NAMMCO Scientific Publications that will be published in 2023 will be presented.

Item 13. Any other Business

Members of the Council and participants are asked to inform the Chair as early as possible of any other matters they may wish to raise under this item.

Item 14 Closing Procedures

The next Annual meeting, NAMMCO 32, will be hosted by the Secretariat. Dates and place should be decided upon.