



## Opening statement by Greenland to NAMMCO 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting 2025, Tromsø, Norway

Mrs Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First, on behalf of the Greenlandic delegation, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the NAMMCO Secretariat for all their preparation in organising both the workshop yesterday and the annual meeting, and the Secretariat for hosting the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of our organisation. It is always a pleasure to be here in beautiful Tromsø.

I would like to repeat what Greenland said last year in our opening statement; that NAMMCO has succeeded in its work on animal welfare issues. The workshop yesterday is the latest evidence for that. However, NAMMCO is facing a generation shift in all levels. Also, when it comes to staff, committee members, for instance in the Committee on Hunting Methods. Therefore, we must take care of the challenges related to the generation shift. Without professionalism and dedication, we will not accomplish the important work of hunters and NAMMCO.

NAMMCO is a North Atlantic organization that has grown up with its work. The organization is also becoming more demanding when we come to administration on data for instance catch data, including struck and lost, Time to Death and other information. We should avoid too much administration and keep the administration balanced. However, Greenland will do our best to accommodate requests.

We are proud to inform that we have introduced a digital catch reporting system that will include marine mammals. It will ease the work of collection of data.

Greenland is an arctic society very dependent on marine mammals, as can be seen on the numbers of targeted marine mammals. We have both quota-management and non-quota system, but clear requirement of reporting the catches. This complies with the adopted policy on self-sufficiency from our own local resources, to minimize the import of food, and in that way to avoid emissions of house gases.

The current political situation in our country is that there is no quorum in the temporary government – after the March 11<sup>th</sup> Parliamentary election, the Naalakkersuisut is in an interim function. The outcome of the NAMMCO meeting will be presented for a completely new Government when a new coalition has been set.

However, we hope for a positive and constructive meeting.

Qujanaq – Thank you.