

NAMMCO ANNUAL MEETING 33

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

24–26 March 2026

Hotel Hans Egede, Nuuk, Greenland

Annotated Draft Agenda

Agenda Items	Document Reference
1. Opening Procedures (Public session) <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: Conserving Marine Mammals in times of rapid environmental changes. <i>Presentation by Ugarte, GINR, "Monitoring of Marine Mammals and Possible Effects of Climate Change - with Examples from Greenland"</i> 	<p>NAMMCO/33/01, 02, 03</p>
2. Annual Progress Reports	<p>APR reports</p>
3. Financial and Administrative Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1. Report from the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) 3.2. Audited accounts 2025 3.3. Expected results 2026, budget 2027 and draft Budget 2028 3.4. Administrative report 2025 3.5. Proposed amendments to committees' Rules of Procedures 3.6. Other business 	<p>NAMMCO/33/04, 05, 06, 07, 17</p>
4. Scientific Committee (SC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1. Report of the Scientific Committee 4.2. Adoption of priorities and work plan 2026-2027 4.3. Other business 	<p>NAMMCO/33/08</p>
5. North Atlantic Sightings Survey - NASS 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1. Update on analyses and abundance results 5.2. Timeline for the completion of data analysis and review 	<p>NAMMCO/33/14</p>
6. MINTAG Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1. Report of the MINTAG Steering Group 6.2. Financial update 	<p>NAMMCO/33/15</p>

7. Committee on Hunting Methods (CHM)	NAMMCO/33/09
7.1. Report of the Committee on Hunting Methods	
7.2. Adoption of priorities and work plan 2026-2027	
7.3. Other business	
8. Committee on Inspection and Observation (CIO)	NAMMCO/33/10, 18
8.1. Report of the Committee on Inspection and Observation	
8.2. Observation activities in 2026	
8.3. Observation activities in 2027	
8.4. Adoption of priorities and work plan 2026-2027	
8.5. Other business	
9. Management Committees (MCs)	NAMMCO/33/12,13, FI01, FI02, FI03, MC05, MC06
9.1. Reports from the Management Committees	
9.2. Proposals for Conservation and Management	
9.3. Recommendations for Scientific Research and Requests for Scientific Advice from the SC	
9.4. Other business	
10. Environmental Questions & Ecosystem Approach to Management	
11. External Relations	NAMMCO/33/07
11.1. Cooperation with non-member countries	
11.2. Cooperation with international organisations	
11.3. Other business	
12. Communication and Outreach	NAMMCO/33/07, 16, 19
12.1. Website	
12.2. Social media	
12.3. Outreach activities	
12.4. Educational project, GUARDNA	
12.5. Scientific publications	
12.6. Communication plans (CP3 and CP4)	
12.7. Other business	
13. Any Other Business	
14. Closing Procedures	NAMMCO/33/11
14.1. Press release	
14.2. Next meeting	

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 when they have been delivered and included in the report of the meeting.

Statements delivered orally should not exceed 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: The theme session Conserving Marine Mammals in times of rapid environmental changes will be open by a presentation from the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources (GINR). It will be followed by a general discussion on which implications these rapid environmental changes may imply in terms of conservation processes and eventual needed adaptations.

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/33/NPR & APR, as well as NAMMCO Database).

Item 3. Financial and Administrative Issues

Item 3.1: The Council will consider the recommendations of the FAC.

Item 3.2: The audited accounts for 2025 (NAMMCO/33/05), 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 budget for 2027 and approve a draft budget for 2028 (NAMMCO/33/06).

Item 3.4: The Administrative Report of the Commission for 2025 (NAMMCO/33/07) will be presented for information. The sections on External Relations and Communication will be presented under agenda items 11 and 12 respectively.

Item 4. Scientific Committee (SC)

Item 4.1: The SC held its annual meeting on 19-22 January 2026. The report of the SC (NAMMCO/33/08) includes an executive summary and the main report.

The SC has convened six working group (WG) (of which one several times) since its annual meeting in 2025. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, the reports were published on nammco.org a month after their release to the SC and the Council and most of them can be accessed [here](#).

- Harp and Hooded seals WG: September 2025, online
- Abundance Estimate WG: three meetings, one in person - September 2025, Copenhagen (DK) and two online - November & December 2025
- Genetics WG: October 2025, online
- Pilot Whale WG: November 2025, Copenhagen (DK)
- By-Catch WG: December 2025, online
- Large Whale Assessment WG: January 2026, Tórshavn (FO)

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 24 March 2025.

Item 4.2: The Council will decide on the priorities and work plan for the Committee in 2026, 2027 and 2028.

Item 5. Noth Atlantic Sightings Survey – NASS 2024

The Abundance Estimate WG met three times since the 2025 meeting of the Scientific Committee to review the abundance estimates generated from the NASS 2024 surveys. An update (NAMMCO/33/14) of the status of the analyses for the different species will be presented as well as the results for the main target species.

Item 6. MINTAG Project

The Secretariat will present the progress report of the MINTAG Steering Group (NAMMCO/33/15), as well as 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 32 (NAMMCO/33/09).

Item 7.2: The Council will decide on the priorities and the work plan for the Committee in 2026-2028.

Item 8. Committee on Inspection and Observation (CIO)

Item 8.1: The Chair of the CIO will present a summary of the Committee's activities since Council 32. Bolduc will present the planning of the Observation Activities for 2026 and 2027.

Item 8.3: The Council will decide on the priorities and work plan for the Committee in 2025-2027.

Item 9. Management Committees (MCs)

The MCs held their meetings following the Opening Session on Tuesday.

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/33/12).

MC's Proposals on requests for advice from the SC (NAMMCO/33/13, either proposals 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/33/07) presents an overview of national, intergovernmental meetings, and events where NAMMCO was represented in 2025. It provides observer reports when relevant.

Item 12. Communication and Outreach

Item 12.1 – 12.3: The Secretariat will present an update on communication and outreach activities in 2025 (included in the Administrative Report, NAMMCO/33/07). The update will also include an update on the NAMMCO website and social media, as well as on the visitors' activities on these.

Item 12.4: An update on 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 and Denmark, will be presented (NAMMCO/33/16).

Item 12.5: An update on Vol 14 of NAMMCO Scientific Publications 'Anthropogenic Impacts on Marine Mammals', that was published in 2025 and on volume 15 that will be published next will be presented.

Item 12.6: A status over the implementation of the Communication Plan 2023-2024 (extended to 2025) and the Communication Plan 2026-2028 will be presented (NAMMCO/33/18).

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 15. Closing Procedures

The next Annual meeting, NAMMCO 34, will be hosted in Tromsø by the Secretariat. Dates should be decided upon.