



Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization

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In all correspondence,
please refer to:

NAFO/21-153

30 June 2021

TO: All Contracting Parties;
Chair of the Commission; and
WG-BDS Representatives.

Dear Colleagues,

Subject: Provisional Agenda (Revised) – *NAFO Commission Ad hoc Working Group to Reflect on the Rules Governing Bycatches, Discards and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area Meeting via WebEx from 12–13 July 2021.*

Further to NAFO/21-121 of 12 May 2021, please find enclosed the revised provisional agenda for the *NAFO Commission Ad hoc Working Group to Reflect on the Rules Governing Bycatches, Discards and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area Meeting* taking place via WebEx from 12–13 July 2021.

The revisions, which were made in consultation with the Chair of the WG-BDS (Temur Tairov, Russian Federation), include the insertion of agenda item 5. C and agenda item 8.a to the previously transmitted provisional agenda.

All relevant meeting documentation, including the revised provisional agenda, will be accessible on the NAFO Meetings SharePoint at <https://meetings.nafo.int/wg/bds> as it becomes available.

For logistical purposes, we would appreciate receiving from Contracting Parties the names of those delegates planning to participate in the meeting.

We kindly ask your assistance in providing this information to the members of your meeting delegation. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Fred Kingston
Executive Secretary

FK:ll

Enclosed: Provisional Agenda (Revised) and Tentative Timetable (02 pgs.)

NAFO Commission Ad hoc Working Group to Reflect on the Rules Governing Bycatches, Discards and Selectivity (WG-BDS) in the NAFO Regulatory Area Meeting

via WebEx
12–13 July 2021

Provisional Agenda (Revised)

1. Opening by Chair, Temur Tairov (Russian Federation)
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Update on the complementary analysis conducted by the Secretariat of the HxH in further support of Tasks 2.1 and 2.2 of the Action Plan
5. Discussion of Scientific Council responses to Commission requests for advice relevant to the working group
 - a. Species/stocks with high survivability rates (COM Doc. 19-29 and SCS Doc. 20-19) in support of Task 2.2 of the Action Plan
 - b. Moratoria stocks where bycatch/discards maybe impeding recovery and have high rates of occurrence (COM Doc. 20-16 and SCS Doc. 21-xx) in support of Tasks 3.1 and 3.2 of the Action Plan
 - c. Greenland sharks bycatch and discards (Request #9 in COM Doc. 20-16)
6. Discussion on Development of management options in support of Tasks 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3 of the Action Plan

Under this agenda item, inter alia, the STACTIC vice-Chair will give a briefing on results of the discussions at STACTIC intersessional last May 2021 pertaining to Tasks 4.1 and 4.2 and other bycatch and discards issues.
7. Discussion on policies to minimize or eliminate discards in NAFO (COM Doc. 17-23)
8. Implementation of 2018 Performance Review Panel recommendations
 - a. Input regarding data classification and access rights of the NAFO websites

In response to Recommendation #26 of the 2018 NAFO Performance Review, the Ad Hoc virtual NAFO Website Re-Design Working Group: Data Classification was tasked with development of a formal policy regarding the posting and distribution of meeting documentation. This Ad Hoc Working Group will give its report to STACFAD.

At the 2020 Annual Meeting, STACFAD agreed that before a formal policy could be developed, feedback would be sought from NAFO Bodies, Standing Committees, and Working Groups during upcoming meetings in 2020/2021.

For that reason, feedback of the Working Group will be sought regarding all NAFO working documents being made publicly available, unless otherwise requested by a Contracting Party or subject to confidentiality rules.
9. Other Matters
10. Recommendations

11. Adoption of Report
12. Adjournment

Tentative Timetable*

Monday, 12 July 2021

09:00 – 10:30 hours	Meeting
10:30 – 10:50 hours	Break
10:50 – 12:00 hours	Meeting

Tuesday, 13 July 2021

09:00 – 10:30 hours	Meeting
10:30 – 10:50 hours	Break
10:50 –	Meeting – (closing)

**times subject to change*