

## **Council**

### **CNL(08)6**

#### ***Report on the Activities of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization in 2007***

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Note: This Report is not intended for publication but is submitted to the Council under Article 5, paragraph 6 of the Convention which requires the submission of an annual report to the Parties. The report is a summary of the activities of the Organization in 2007, focusing on the actions taken. Full details of the work of the Organization are contained in the reports of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meetings of the Council and regional Commissions and in the report of the Finance and Administration Committee.



***Report on the Activities of  
the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization  
in 2007***

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 At the invitation of the US government, NASCO held its Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting in Bar Harbor, Maine, USA. The arrangements for the meeting were excellent and very much appreciated by the Organization.

**2. Council**

- 2.1 The Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Council was held during the period 4-8 June 2007, under the Presidency of Dr Ken Whelan (European Union) and Vice-Presidency of Mr Arni Isaksson (Iceland). Representatives of all the Parties, observers from three inter-government organizations, and 21 non-government organizations, attended the meetings. In addition a representative of the Liaison Group with the North Atlantic salmon farming industry participated in the meeting.

**‘Next Steps’ for NASCO**

**Special Session: Progress with the Next Steps Strategy**

- (a) *Report of the Ad Hoc Review Group on the Parties’ Implementation Plans*

- 2.2 The Strategic Approach for NASCO’s ‘Next Steps’ requires that each Party or jurisdiction develop an Implementation Plan focused around NASCO’s three main agreements (which address fishery management, habitat protection and restoration, and aquaculture and associated activities) and which also takes into account NASCO’s various guidelines. The report of an *Ad Hoc* Review Group established to review these Implementation Plans was presented. The focus of the assessment was the structure of the plans and their conformity to the guidelines. Consequently, to receive a favourable review a plan had to contain the key elements identified in the guidelines. The reviews were not about the adequacy or otherwise of each jurisdiction’s record of salmon management. The reviews covered the commitments, timeframes and measurable outputs of each plan. Members of the *Ad Hoc* Review Group presented the Group’s findings at a Special Session

- (b) *Responses to the Ad Hoc Review Group findings*

- 2.3 The Council concluded that the review had been a very valuable process. In the light of the *Ad Hoc* Review Group’s assessment and in light of the discussions at the Special Session it was decided by the Council that plans should be submitted or re-

submitted in final form and subject to a final review, the results of which would be sent to the Parties by 1 March, 2008.

(c) *Report of the Public Relations Group*

- 2.4 One of the central themes of the Strategic Approach for NASCO's 'Next Steps' was the need for the Organization to better promote its work and achievements. The Council had, therefore, established a Public Relations Group to develop a clear public relations strategy aimed at enhancing NASCO's profile and ensuring the most effective publicity for its work and achievements. The Group's report was presented. The Group had proposed that the main tasks in developing a public relations strategy are: to identify key messages; to identify target audiences; to identify products and methods for delivering the message; to identify educational programmes, with a view to establishing a database of such programmes on the basis of information provided by the Parties; and to establish a network of media contacts within NASCO and the NGOs and to employ an Information Officer with good public relation skills. The Group believes that NASCO should develop an annual 'State of Salmon Populations' report and undertake a major enhancement of the Organization's website.

**Review of the 'Next Steps for NASCO' Special Session and Decisions by the Council**

- 2.5 The Council decided that the next stage of the 'Next Steps' process would be to focus on the area of fisheries management in the Implementation Plans. An *Ad Hoc* Review Group to review this focus area was set up with terms of reference, composition and a timeframe.
- 2.6 With regard to a Communications Strategy the Council decided that, in the first instance, it would upgrade and improve the websites both of NASCO and the IASRB. The Secretary was asked to produce a model 'State of the Salmon Stocks' document which would be easy to comprehend and attractively produced. He would use information from the Parties and from ICES and professional support would be needed to produce it. The Parties were asked to provide to the Secretariat details of educational programmes concerning wild Atlantic salmon for inclusion in a database of such programmes. It was agreed that the Secretariat and the NGOs should communicate on advancing these matters and report back to the Council next year.

**EU Proposal for a Performance Review of the Work of NASCO**

- 2.7 The Council considered, in some detail, proposals by the European Union, in line with those requested from the various tuna RFMOs, and by the USA for a Performance Review of NASCO. The Council considered this matter in the light of the 'Next Steps' review process, which has been carried out in an open and public fashion over the past three years, and the detailed nature of the decisions taken by the Council to implement broad-ranging changes in the manner in which NASCO operates and its relationship with its NGOs. While recognizing that an assessment of the work of NASCO, the 'Next Steps' process and its performance would be a helpful and positive step, it was the Council's view that the timing of such a review was critically important given that the Organization was in the midst of implementing the core

elements of the 'Next Steps' process. The Council decided that it would, in the future, undertake an additional external review, to be carried out by an appropriately experienced team of external and internal reviewers, and that it would return to this subject during the 2008 Annual Meeting with a view to deciding on the timing and terms of reference for such a review, consistent with UN Resolution 61/105.

### **Special Session: Unreported Catches**

- 2.8 The Council held a Special Session on Unreported Catches so as to allow for a more detailed exchange of information among the Parties and their relevant jurisdictions on: the methods used to estimate unreported catches; trends in the estimates of unreported catches; the source of these unreported catches; and the measures being taken to minimise them. There were presentations by all the Parties. A report on the Special Session will be made available on the Organization's website. The Council agreed that in the light of the valuable information presented during the Special Session, the Parties might consider how the issues of improving estimates of, and further minimising, unreported catches can be incorporated into their Implementation Plans.

### **Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers of Transgenics**

- 2.9 The report of the NASCO/North Atlantic salmon farming industry Liaison Group meeting was presented. A welcome development at the meeting had been that, for the first time, NASCO's accredited NGOs had been able to participate. The Group had agreed *inter alia* that it should:
- share information on area management initiatives (local cooperation between wild and farmed salmon interests to address impacts of aquaculture on wild stocks, e.g. from sea lice) and promote area management to NASCO's Parties;
  - continue to explore opportunities for cooperation between wild and farmed salmon interests and that reports of such initiatives should be made available to the Group;
  - hold a one-day session at its next meeting focusing solely on the level and causes of escapes and opportunities to minimise them;
  - encourage research into alternative treatments for sea lice and make representations to the authorities urging that they make effective sea lice treatments available as quickly as possible where these are environmentally acceptable.
- 2.10 The industry representatives at the Liaison Group had agreed to explore how they might support the SALSEA programme. They had also sent to NASCO a discussion document on how NASCO could further support the salmon farming industry. This discussion document, entitled 'Incentivising the Industry', was considered by the Council. The Council noted the findings of the Bergen Symposium, the continued high level of escapes as presented to the Liaison Group, and the suggestion by the International Salmon Farmers' Association of support for the dissemination of information on best practice and collaborative problem-solving. The Council asked the Secretary to respond to ISFA welcoming their communication but indicating that there were proposals in their paper that would be unacceptable, some that could be the subject of cooperation and others that would need further consideration. To advance

this initiative, the Council agreed to propose to ISFA that a Joint Technical Task Force be set up with membership from the two Secretariats and two or three nominated expert participants from NASCO and ISFA. The Terms of Reference for this Group are:

- *taking account of the findings in the 2005 ICES/NASCO Bergen Symposium, the Joint ISFA/NASCO Trondheim Workshop and any other relevant scientific information regarding impacts from aquaculture on wild stocks, identify and agree on a series of best practice recommendations to address the continuing impacts of salmon farming on wild stocks (e.g. escapes, interbreeding, sea lice infestations, disease transfers to and from the wild). These recommendations will be designed to achieve the impact targets established by the NASCO Parties.*

2.11 The Secretary was asked to liaise with ISFA with a view to the Task Force meeting before the next Annual Meeting of NASCO. The Task Force should, for the time being, replace the NASCO/North Atlantic Salmon Farming Industry Liaison Group.

#### **Special Session: Salmon at Sea – Research Programmes in the North Pacific and North Atlantic Oceans**

2.12 In 2002, NASCO, NPAFC, PICES, IBSFC and ICES had co-sponsored a workshop on mortality of salmon at sea. One of the recommendations of this workshop had been that there should be a major international symposium, a “Salmon Summit” on factors influencing Atlantic and Pacific salmon mortality at sea in 2010. However, it had been agreed that there could be benefits from an early further exchange of information between scientists working on research on salmon at sea in the North Pacific and North Atlantic Oceans and that such an exchange might raise the profile of ongoing research in the media. It had, therefore, been agreed that a Special Session would be held during NASCO’s Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting, to which scientists from the Pacific would be invited to participate, and in 2008 NPAFC would invite scientists from the North Atlantic to participate in the BASIS Symposium.

2.13 During the Special Session there were the following presentations:

- Outline of NPAFC science activities;
- Current status of Pacific salmon, Canadian marine research and 2010 symposium;
- Summary of the Bering-Aleutian Salmon International Survey (BASIS) in 2002-2006;
- Progress with the SALSEA Programme;
- Estimating the contribution of Atlantic salmon from different rivers to Ireland’s coastal fisheries using genetic stock identification;
- Sonic telemetry programs; a contribution to SALSEA and to knowledge of salmon at Sea.

2.14 The report of the Special Session will be made available on NASCO’s new website.

## **International Atlantic Salmon Research Board (IASRB)**

- 2.15 The report of the meeting of the Board was presented by the Chairman, Mr Jacque Robichaud. The Board had updated its inventory of research related to salmon mortality in the sea, had received advice from its Scientific Advisory Group and had received a progress report on implementing and promoting the SALSEA programme. The Board had agreed to fund an extension to the West Greenland Sampling Programme to allow examination of trophic feeding state and condition of salmon – continent of origin and age at maturity comparisons. In the event that ICES organises a second workshop on the Development and Use of Historical Salmon Tagging Information from Oceanic Areas, the Board had agreed to fund the participation of a geographical information system's expert and oceanographer. The Board had unanimously elected Dr Ken Whelan as its new Chairman. The Board had also considered a number of finance and administrative issues.
- 2.16 The NGOs commended the Parties for their ongoing research programmes, noted that study of the migration and distribution of salmon at sea is currently undersubscribed, and indicated that commitment to marine surveys might be seen as an indicator of NASCO's success.

## **Report of the Working Group on Bio-economic Modelling**

- 2.17 The Council had previously recognised that under the Strategic Approach the key issues identified in relation to socio-economics are to:
- ensure that appropriate emphasis is given to the social and economic factors of the Atlantic salmon;
  - strengthen the socio-economic data as a basis for managing Atlantic salmon;
  - integrate social and economic aspects and considerations, in an open and transparent way, within a NASCO decision-making process;
  - disseminate information on the social and economic aspects of the wild Atlantic salmon in order to ensure that they are given due weight compared to other important economic and public interests.
- 2.18 The Council therefore decided to establish a Working Group on Socio-Economics to meet inter-sessionally at least once before the 2008 Annual Meeting. Terms of Reference for the Group were developed.

## **St Pierre and Miquelon Salmon Fishery**

- 2.19 A report on the sampling programme at St Pierre and Miquelon in 2006, information on the regulatory framework for managing the fishery and details of licences issued and catches was made available to the Council. In this document the French authorities indicated that they have continued to pursue the commitment made with regard to gathering scientific information on salmon stocks at St Pierre and Miquelon and with regard to management and conservation efforts. It is the intention to put in place a procedure with a view to reducing the number of permits granted and hence reduce progressively the catches made on fragile North American stocks. The Council noted that while the number of licences issued in 2006 had declined, the catch, while

low, had increased compared to 2005 and was the highest catch in the period 1998-2006. The North American Commission believed that it would be beneficial if France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) became a Party to the NASCO Convention. The Council authorised the President of NASCO to invite France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) to accede to the Convention.

### **Progress with Development of the Database of Salmon Rivers**

- 2.20 In 2004/2005, the US had developed a web-based database using the inventory format proposed in the NASCO Plan of Action for Application of the Precautionary Approach to the Protection and Restoration of Atlantic Salmon Habitat. This database had been made available for data entry by NASCO's Parties on the NASCO website. A report on progress with development of the database of salmon rivers was tabled. The progress report indicated that the Parties have started to update the rivers database information and some Parties have gone further and have started to enter habitat and habitat impacts information and salmon production data. Feedback from database coordinators had indicated that there may need to be some changes to the database to better reflect the available data. The Council agreed that any revisions to the database should be agreed by correspondence between the Secretariat and database coordinators. The Council encouraged the Parties to undertake the first task of validating the basic river data at the earliest opportunity as it is now publicly available on the Organization's website.

### **Scientific Advice**

- 2.21 The report of the ICES Advisory Committee on Fishery Management (ACFM) was presented. A separate report from ICES on the application of state-of-the-art genetic stock identification methods was also presented. The Council adopted a request for scientific advice from ICES to be presented in 2008.

### **Scientific Fishing in the Convention Area**

- 2.22 A report on scientific research fishing conducted since the last Annual Meeting was made by EU (Ireland). Norway reported that while there had been no dedicated research surveys for salmon in 2006/2007, 46 post-smolts had been caught during research cruises for other pelagic species. Large salmon had been caught as far north as 79°N, suggesting a northerly extension in the area of salmon distribution.

### **Measures Taken in Accordance with Articles 14 and 15 of the Convention**

- 2.23 A report was presented on the returns made under Articles 14 and 15 of the Convention. Norway tabled a paper detailing the main features of the Norwegian policy for the preservation of wild salmon.

### **Impacts of Acid Rain on Atlantic Salmon**

- 2.24 It was noted that acidity in the oceans is an important factor for NASCO, and should be kept under review.



## **New or Emerging Opportunities for, or Threats to, Salmon Conservation and Management**

- 2.25 In accordance with the 'Strategic Approach for NASCO's Next Steps', this item had been included on the Council's agenda and ICES had been requested to provide relevant information. A document on Wild Salmon Management in Ireland was tabled.

## **Catch Statistics and their Analysis**

- 2.26 The official catch returns by the Parties for 2006 and historical data for the period 1960-2006 were presented.

## **Other Issues**

- 2.27 Baltic salmon are managed separately from Atlantic salmon through bilateral arrangements between the Russian Federation and the European Union. The EU agreed to provide information to the Council on Baltic salmon management at future NASCO meetings.
- 2.28 The Council received a report from each of the three regional Commissions on its activities (see sections 3, 4 and 5 below).
- 2.29 The Council adopted the report of the Finance and Administration Committee (see section 6 below).
- 2.30 The Council adopted a report to the Parties on the activities of the Organization in 2006.
- 2.31 Since the last Annual Meeting of the Council five new non-government organizations had been granted observer status:
- Marine and Environmental Law Institute, Dalhousie University, Canada;
  - Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation, Canada;
  - Connecticut River Salmon Association, USA;
  - Clean Catch, USA;
  - College of the Atlantic, USA.

In addition, WWF (Norway) had been readmitted as observers. In total, NASCO currently has 34 accredited NGOs. The Council welcomed these observer organizations.

- 2.32 The winner of the \$2,500 Grand Prize in the Tag Return Incentive Scheme was Karl Kristian Kruse, Uummannaq, Greenland.
- 2.33 The Council accepted an invitation from the European Union, on behalf of Spain, to hold its Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting at a venue to be decided in Spain during 2 - 6 June 2008. The Council accepted an invitation from Norway to hold its Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting at a venue to be decided in Norway during 1 - 5 June 2009.

### **3. North American Commission**

- 3.1 The Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the North American Commission was held in Bar Harbor, Maine, USA, during the period 4-8 June 2007 under the Chairmanship of Mr George Lapointe (USA).

#### *Review of the 2006 Fishery and Scientific Advice from ICES*

- 3.2 The Commission reviewed the 2006 fishery and considered the scientific advice from ICES. The Commission agreed a request to ICES for scientific advice to be presented in 2008.

#### *Review of the 2006 Salmon Management Measures*

- 3.3 Canada and the US presented reports on Atlantic salmon management measures and research activities. The Canadian report described three major initiatives introduced in 2007 that will positively affect Atlantic salmon conservation. These are: modernization of the Fisheries Act to put emphasis on the Precautionary Approach to conserve fish and other resources; the introduction to stakeholders of a draft Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation Policy, the first overhaul of these policies since 1986; and the establishment of an Atlantic Salmon Endowment Fund to which the Federal Government has contributed Can\$30 million. The report also described the regional plans for the management of the aboriginal and recreational fisheries in 2007. There is no commercial salmon fishery in Canada. The US report provided information on: adult returns; stock enhancement programs; tagging and marking programs; the fisheries; commercial aquaculture production; habitat conservation, enhancement and restoration; the Endangered Gulf of Maine Population Segment and additional items of interest.

#### *St Pierre and Miquelon Fishery*

- 3.4 A report from the French authorities was presented containing information on the regulatory framework for managing the fishery, providing catch statistics and information on the number and type of licences issued, and describing the sampling programme conducted in 2006. The Commission believed that it would be beneficial if France (in respect of St Pierre and Miquelon) became a Party to the NASCO Convention and asked that the Council pursue this matter with the French authorities.

#### *Salmonid Introductions and Transfers*

- 3.5 The Parties agreed to meet inter-sessionally for discussions on this subject and other issues. The intention would be to hold a meeting in the Fall of 2007. The meeting would be based on the Framework for an Inter-sessional Meeting of the NAC Parties to Coordinate on Atlantic Salmon, NAC(07)8.

### *Sampling in the Labrador Fishery*

- 3.6 The Commission agreed that details of sampling in the Labrador salmon fishery in 2006 had been covered in the presentation by ICES. The representative of Canada confirmed that a similar sampling programme would be in place for the 2007 fishery.

### *Other Issues*

- 3.7 The winner of the Commission's \$1,500 prize in the Tag Return Incentive Scheme was Mr Frank H Somers, New Brunswick, Canada
- 3.8 The Commission agreed that discussions with regard to the development of a research plan for the Northwest Atlantic component of the SALSEA Programme would continue during the summer with a view to resolving the issue at the inter-sessional meeting on introductions and transfers.

## **4. North-East Atlantic Commission**

- 4.1 The Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the North-East Atlantic Commission was held in Bar Harbor, Maine, USA, during the period 4-8 June 2007 under the Chairmanship of Mr Richard Cowan (European Union).

### *Review of the 2006 Fishery and Scientific Advice from ICES*

- 4.2 The Commission reviewed the 2006 fishery and considered the scientific advice from ICES. The Commission agreed a request to ICES for scientific advice to be presented in 2008.

### *Risk of Transmission of Gyrodactylus salaris in the Commission Area*

- 4.3 A brief history of issues relating to this agenda item was presented. In 2004, the Commission had adopted a 'road map', NEA(04)13, for minimizing the risks posed by *G. salaris* and the risk of transmission to non-infested countries. The road map included terms of reference for a Commission Working Group and this Group had reported to the Commission in June 2006. It had not been possible for the Group to meet since 2006. Information on *G. salaris* was presented by EU (Ireland and UK-Scotland), Norway, Iceland and the NGOs. The EU also emphasized that additional guarantees are in place under the new EU Fish Health Directive.
- 4.4 The Commission agreed that the Working Group should meet prior to the next Annual Meeting of the Commission and that the need for subsequent meetings be reviewed on an annual basis. The role of the Group includes: monitoring the spread of the parasite; reviewing methods for identifying *G. salaris*; reviewing treatment methods; and identifying control measures; considering appropriate measures to prevent the spread of the parasite.

*Pilot Study to Improve Understanding of the Migration, Dispersal and Survival of Farmed Salmon*

- 4.5 In 2003 the Commission had agreed that a pilot programme should be undertaken to determine the fate of salmon released from farms and to study the implications for wild salmon fisheries. The results of a pilot study involving releases of farmed salmon in Scotland and Norway were presented. In April 2006, 678 farmed salmon were released from a farm in the north-west of Scotland and in May 2006, 594 salmon were released from a farm in mid-western Norway. The Norwegian fish were released in areas of high salmon fishing activity. Recapture rates were very low, with recapture rates of 0.6% and 7.0% respectively for Scottish and Norwegian fish. Norwegian fish were recorded both north and south of the release location but the majority of fish were recaptured in the release area. The study suggests that farmed salmon which escape from Scottish farms in spring are not as abundant as was previously suggested along the Norwegian coast. However, a large escape of farmed fish in Scotland may result in more significant numbers of farmed fish appearing along the Norwegian coast. Recapture data suggest that the released farmed salmon were following the predominant current. The project's coordinator concluded that while it was somewhat controversial to release farmed salmon, there is a need to continue these studies and release salmon at different life stages in order to understand more about the movement and migration of escaped farmed salmon.

*Regulatory Measures*

- 4.6 The Commission adopted a Decision regarding the Faroese salmon fishery for 2008. Under this Decision the Commission decided not to set a quota for the Faroe Islands salmon fishery on the basis that the Faroe Islands will manage any salmon fishery in accordance with the advice from ICES concerning the biological situation and the status of stocks contributing to the Faroese salmon fishery, in a precautionary manner and with a view to sustainability, taking account of relevant factors, such as socio-economic needs.

*Other Issues*

- 4.7 The winner of the Commission's \$1,500 prize in the Tag Return Incentive Scheme was Mr Daniel Schelokov, Murmansk, Russia.

## **5. West Greenland Commission**

- 5.1 The Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the West Greenland Commission was held in Bar Harbor, Maine, USA, during the period 4-8 June 2007, under the Chairmanship of Mr Guy Beaupré (Canada).

*Review of the 2006 Fishery and Scientific Advice from ICES*

- 5.2 The Commission reviewed the 2006 fishery at West Greenland and considered the scientific advice from ICES. A report on the 2006 fishery at West Greenland was

tabled. The Commission adopted a request to ICES for scientific advice to be presented in 2008.

#### *Regulatory Measures*

- 5.3 In 2006, the Commission had adopted a regulatory measure for fishing of salmon caught at West Greenland in 2006, with possible application in 2007 and 2008. The continuation of the measure beyond 2006 was dependent on ICES developing a framework of indicators that would identify any significant change in the previously provided multi-annual advice and that on the Commission accepting this framework. The Commission unanimously agreed to continue the 2006 multi-annual regulatory measure for the 2007 fishery. This measure restricts the catch at West Greenland to the amount used for internal consumption in Greenland which in the past has been estimated at 20 tonnes annually. There would be no commercial export of salmon. For 2008, the framework of indicators would be run to assess if there is a need for new catch advice.

#### *Sampling in the West Greenland Fishery*

- 5.4 There was support from all Parties to continue the sampling program in the West Greenland Fishery. A new Sampling Agreement was approved. The Chairman highlighted the West Greenland sampling brochure and poster which had been developed by the Secretariat and the US and funded by Canada.

#### *Other Issues*

- 5.5 The winner of the Commission's \$1,500 prize in the Tag Return Incentive Scheme was Mr Jørgen Dalager of Qasigianniguit, Greenland.

### **6. Finance and Administration Matters**

- 6.1 The Finance and Administration Committee met prior to the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Council under the Chairmanship Dr Boris Prischepa (Russian Federation).

#### *Relationship with ICES*

- 6.2 A revised draft MoU developed in consultation with ICES and information from ICES on their quality assurance programme were presented. ICES had advised that part of the cost of providing advice is associated with maintaining the capacity to provide advice and that this involves the regular activities of the Working Group on North Atlantic Salmon as well as maintaining databases. ICES proposed that the cost of maintaining the capacity to provide advice would be approximately 34% of the core cost of providing 'peer reviewed' advice, whether or not there was a request. If non-peer reviewed information was requested the cost would be about 42% of the core cost. These figures had been incorporated into a new draft MoU. The Committee agreed to recommend adoption of the revised MoU by the Council.

*2008 Budget*

- 6.3 The Committee recommended to the Council the adoption of the 2008 Budget and Schedule of Contributions with the exception of the element for Public Relations, which would need to be resolved by the Council. (This was subsequently resolved).

*Audited Accounts*

- 6.4 The Committee recommended to the Council the adoption of the 2006 audited accounts. The Committee reviewed the pros and cons of changing auditors. A change would inevitably involve a considerable learning curve and additional cost. The Committee, therefore, recommended to the Council the re-appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers of Queen Street, Edinburgh, as auditors for the 2007 audited accounts, or such other company as may be agreed by the Secretary in consultation with the Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee.

Secretary  
Edinburgh  
9 April 2008