



Agenda item 6.1
For information

Council

CNL(16)21

***Annual Progress Report
on Actions Taken Under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2015***

***Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland)
Greenland***

CNL(16)21

Annual Progress Report on Actions taken under the Implementation Plan for the Calendar Year 2015

The primary purposes of the Annual Progress Reports are to provide details of:

- any changes to the management regime for salmon and consequent changes to the Implementation Plan;
- actions that have been taken under the Implementation Plan in the previous year;
- significant changes to the status of stocks, and a report on catches; and
- actions taken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention

These reports will be reviewed by the Council. Please complete this form and return it to the Secretariat **by 1 April 2016**.

Party:	Denmark
Jurisdiction/Region:	Greenland

1: Changes to the Implementation Plan
1.1 Describe any proposed revisions to the Implementation Plan <i>(Where changes are proposed, the revised Implementation Plans should be submitted to the Secretariat by 1 December).</i>
No changes has been made to the Implementation Plan during 2015
1.2 Describe any major new initiatives or achievements for salmon conservation and management that you wish to highlight.
After the meeting of the working group on Monitoring and Control, the Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture made a draft plan for the improvement of control and management measures for the salmon fishery. This plan was further revised and approved by the West Greenland Commission at an Intersessional Meeting as Plan for Implementation of Monitoring and Control Measures in the Salmon Fishery at West Greenland (WGCIS(15)5).
The measures that Greenland agreed to implement is the following: (1) All salmon fishermen will require a license and will be categorised as either licensed professional fisherman or licensed non-professional fishermen; only licensed professional fishermen will be authorised to sell salmon; (2) Only designated fish factories will be authorised to accept landings of salmon, and fishermen should be advised that landing of salmon at non-authorised factories is not permitted. Fish factories will report landings no less frequently than on a weekly basis; (3) Supervisors at the large open air markets will report all salmon offered for sale on a weekly basis;

- (4) Reports of all catches, including zero catch reports, will be required within 1 month of the end of the salmon fishing season at which time fishermen may apply for a license for the following season;
- (5) Failure to report catches as specified in (4) will result in no licence being issued for the following year(s) even in the case of zero catch;
- (6) It will be a condition of the licence that fishermen should allow samplers to take samples of their catches upon request; and
- (7) Information will be provided to fishermen and supervisors at open air markets about the sampling programme and the findings of the programme to date through the members' magazine of the Fishermen and Hunters Organization (KNAPK) and press releases.

In addition, Greenland promised to undertake the following:

- (1) Provide additional information on the dependency of communities in Greenland on the salmon fishery before the 2015 Annual Meeting;
- (2) Consider delaying the opening date of the fishing season to 1 September for the 2015 fishery;
- (3) Evaluate the costs and benefits of conducting a pilot carcass tagging project in one or more communities in conjunction with other Members of the Commission who may be able to provide information on the application of carcass tagging;
- (4) Review the plan on an annual basis, make recommendations for its further improvement and report the outcomes at the meetings of the West Greenland Commission.

The Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture has work hard to implement as many measures and initiatives as possible in 2015. The following measures and initiatives has been implemented:

1. Only designated fish factories will be autorised to accept landings of salmon
2. It is now a condition in the license that fishermen should allow samplers to take samples of their catches upon request.
3. The NASCO brochure on sampling was issued with all the licenses and distributed to the open air markets. Furthermore, the samplers also had the brochure.
4. The Ministry provided additional information on the dependency of communities in Greenland on the salmon fishery for the annual meeting (WGC(15)4).
5. The Government of Greenland decided to delay the opening date of the fishing season to 15. August.

The plan is to implement the remaining measures in the spring of 2016 and for some measures and initiatives the implementation process has already begun.

Furthermore, the new Multi-Annual Regulatory Measures for the Salmon Fishery at West Greenland 2015-2017 was agreed at the Annual Meeting in Happy Valley and this entailed that Greenland for the first time set a quota for the entire fishery; professional and private fishermen alike. One quota of 45 tonnes for all. This is the first time that the Government of Greenland has limited its peoples' right to fish for its own survival.

In 2015, there were indeed major new initiatives and achievements for salmon conservation and management in Greenland and this will continue in 2016.

2: Stock status and catches.				
2.1 Provide a description of any new factors which may significantly affect the abundance of salmon stocks and, if there has been any significant change in stock status since the development of the Implementation Plan, provide a brief (200 word max) summary of these changes.				
The Framework of Indicators does not show that there has been a significant change in the indicators used, thus there have been no changes to the status of the stock. The status of the Kapisillit River is unknown.				
2.2 Provide the following information on catches:(nominal catch equals reported quantity of salmon caught and retained in tonnes ‘round fresh weight’ (i.e. weight of whole, ungutted, unfrozen fish) or ‘round fresh weight equivalent’).				
	In-river	Estuarine	Coastal	Total
(a) provisional nominal catch (which may be subject to revision) for 2015 (tonnes)				58,4 tonnes (Greenland does not specify its fishery in these levels and can thus, only provide a total catch.)
(b) confirmed nominal catch of salmon for 2014 (tonnes)				58 tonnes. (Greenland does not specify its fishery in these levels and can thus, only provide a total catch.)
(c) estimated unreported catch for 2015 (tonnes)				10 tonnes as estimated by ICES.
(d) number and percentage of salmon caught and released in recreational fisheries in 2015	Greenland does not have a catch and release fishery.			

3: Implementation Plan Actions.

3.1 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to the Management of Salmon Fisheries (Section 2.8 of the Implementation Plan).

Note: The reports under 'Progress on Action to Date' should provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress made. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.

Action F1:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	Evaluation of the reporting system implemented in 2012 through the new Government of Greenland Executive Order on Salmon Fisheries.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Improved reporting and data.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	<p>The data continues to improve. The phone survey was very helpful in increasing awareness both in how to fill out reports and to improve reporting. Furthermore, the Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture further strengthened the Executive Order after the Plan for implementation of Monitoring and Control was approved – which entails that the fishermen now must report every time they have mended their nets or fished for salmon.</p> <p>This lead to an increased control effort, where wild life officers and landing officers handed reporting templates out to fishermen, when patrolling. To support this effort further the Ministry and GFLK initiated an extensive information campaign to remind all fishermen; professional and private to report!</p> <p>These efforts have all improved the reporting. However, efforts to further improve the reporting continue.</p>
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Ongoing – the evaluation will continue throughout in order to keep improving the reporting and data.
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	
Action F2:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	In July 2012 a quota for landings to fish factories in the internal-use only fishery was set. Review and revise as necessary the quota.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Improved control of the harvest/fishery.
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	In 2015, Greenland set a 45 ton quota for all segments of the fishery. One quota for professional and private fishermen alike. This is a first in Greenland and in order to ensure that private people would have a chance to fish for their own consumption, the Government of

		<p>Greenland did not allow landings to factories until later in the season.</p> <p>Furthermore, the new control measures entailed that the factories had to report on a daily basis. This was not an issue as the factories do this on commercial species. The wild life and landing officers controls the factories regularly and the reports from the factories is still considered accurate.</p>
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Ongoing – as the new measures are being implemented the evaluation of the effect will continue and if necessary adjustments will be made.
	If 'Completed', has the Action achieved its objective?	

<p>3.2 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to Habitat Protection and Restoration (Section 3.4 of the Implementation Plan).</p> <p><i>Note: The reports under 'Progress on Action to Date' should provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress made. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.</i></p>		
Action H1:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	A protection plan for the Kapisillit River stock and entire river area is currently undergoing a hearing process.
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	Protection of the entire river area including adjacent estuarine area from anthropogenic effects (pollution, development, agriculture and gillnetting) and specifying rules of public access (including fishery).
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	<p>After the election, where the work on the plan was stopped. The process to make a strategy for biodiversity in Greenland continues. The Ministry of Nature and Environment is leading this work in cooperation with the Natural Institute and the Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture.</p> <p>A plan for several species and areas is underway as part of the strategy. A detailed report on biodiversity in Greenland was concluded and will be the basis for the strategy.</p>
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	Ongoing – part of a large project which is expected to continue for the coming years.
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	

3.3 Provide an update on progress against actions relating to Aquaculture, Introductions and Transfers and Transgenics (Section 4.8 of the Implementation Plan).

Note: The reports under 'Progress on Action to Date' should provide a brief overview with a quantitative measure of progress made. While referring to additional material (e.g. via links to websites) may assist those seeking more detailed information, this will not be evaluated by the Review Group.

Action A1:	Description of Action (as submitted in the IP):	
	Expected Outcome (as submitted in the IP):	
	Progress on Action to Date (see note above):	
	Current Status of Action (e.g. 'Not started'; 'Ongoing'; 'Completed'):	
	If Completed, has the Action achieved its objective?	

4: Additional information required under the Convention
4.1 Details of any laws, regulations and programmes that have been adopted or repealed since the last notification.
A new Executive Order on fishery for salmon was approved and implemented in the summer of 2015 before the start of the fishing season.
4.2 Details of any new commitments concerning the adoption or maintenance in force for specified periods of time of conservation, restoration and other management measures.
As mentioned under point 1.2. a new commitment to implement the management and control measures laid out in the Plan for implementation of monitoring and control was made – and several measures and initiatives has already been implemented.
4.3 Details of any new actions to prohibit fishing for salmon beyond 12 nautical miles.
4.4 Details of any new actions to invite the attention of States not Party to the Convention to matters relating to the activities of its vessels which could adversely affect salmon stocks subject to the Convention.
4.5 Details of any actions taken to implement regulatory measures under Article 13 of the Convention including imposition of adequate penalties for violations.