

West Greenland Commission

WGC(05)4

Draft Regulatory Measure for the Fishing for Salmon at West Greenland Proposal from the Chair

RECALLING that the Parties to the West Greenland Commission have previously agreed regulatory measures for the West Greenland fishery based on the scientific advice from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES);

The Parties:

- (1) Acknowledge the good work undertaken by Greenland to improve the estimates of the annual catches of salmon taken for private sales and local consumption in Greenland and encourage Greenland to continue this work; and
- (2) Commit to cooperate in the design and implementation of a sampling program that will be closely coordinated with the fishery.

CONSIDERING that ICES considers the stock complex at West Greenland to be outside precautionary limits;

RECOGNIZING that cooperation for the conservation of wild salmon is in their mutual interest, the Parties agree that in 2005 the catch at West Greenland will be restricted to that amount used for internal consumption in Greenland, which in the past has been estimated at 20 tons. There will be no commercial export of salmon. This regulatory measure may be extended yearly to cover the successive fishing seasons. This extension will take place automatically unless a member of the West Greenland Commission gives written notice to the other members by April 25th yearly of its intent to terminate the regulatory measure agreement. If that occurs, then negotiation of a regulatory measure will occur at the next annual meeting of the WGC.

Denmark, on behalf of Greenland, will inform the other Parties annual of the outcome of the fishery.