

WGC(09)7

*Regulatory Measure for Fishing for Salmon at West Greenland
for 2009, 2010, and 2011*

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

RECALLING that at its 2006 Annual Session, the West Greenland Commission adopted a multi-annual regulatory measure, as suggested within the 'Next Steps' Process, for 2006 that was continued in 2007 and 2008, as the result of application of the Framework of Indicators;

RECALLING that NASCO has requested that ICES advice for 2009 include annual catch options or alternative management advice for 2009-2011 and an update of the Framework of Indicators for the West Greenland Commission area;

ACKNOWLEDGING 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 encouraging Greenland to continue this work;

ENCOURAGING Greenland to obtain the additional information ICES recommends from fishers in West Greenland including catch site, catch date, numbers of nets, net dimensions, and numbers of hours the nets were fished;

COMMITTING to continue to cooperate in the design and implementation of a sampling program in close coordination with the fishery;

FURTHER COMMITTING to cooperate to implement the ICES recommendation for application of the Enhanced Sampling Program in 2009 and 2010;

RECOGNIZING that the fish used in the enhanced sampling program are included in the fish taken in the internal use fishery;

CONSIDERING that ICES considers the stock complex at West Greenland to be below conservation limits and thus suffering reduced reproductive capacity;

CONSIDERING FURTHER that ICES has advised that none of the stated management objectives which would allow a fishery at West Greenland will be met in 2009, 2010 or 2011;

RECOGNIZING that an updated Framework of Indicators has been provided by ICES and will be applied in 2010 and 2011 to evaluate if a significant change is signaled by the indicators and therefore a reassessment is warranted;

The Parties agree that:

- (1) In 2009 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 annually. There will be no commercial export of salmon.
- (2) This regulatory measure applies in 2010 and 2011 unless application of the Framework of Indicators indicates that there had been a significant change in the indicators and therefore a reassessment is warranted.
- (3) Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) will inform NASCO of the outcome of the 2009, 2010 and 2011 fisheries.