

WGC(03)9

Regulatory Measure for the Fishing of Salmon at West Greenland for 2003

RECALLING that the Parties to the West Greenland Commission have previously worked cooperatively to utilize scientific advice from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) in establishing regulatory measures for fishing of salmon at West Greenland;

Having regard to the advice from ICES that:

- The stock complex at West Greenland is considered to be outside safe biological limits;
- There are no fishery allocations that would ensure the objective of achieving the conservation requirements for 2SW salmon in the NAC or NEAC areas.

In 2003, the catch at West Greenland will be restricted to that amount used for internal subsistence consumption in Greenland, which in the past has been estimated at 20 tons. There will be no commercial export of salmon.

The Parties:

- (1) Seek to enhance biological sampling of salmon during the fishery to improve scientific information available for management, including data necessary for CPUE calculations, mean weights, sea and freshwater ages and continent of origin;
- (2) 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
- (3) Commit to cooperate in the design and implementation of a sampling program that will be closely coordinated with the fishery.

Denmark, on behalf of Faroe Islands and Greenland, will inform the other Parties on the outcome of the 2003 fishery.