



## **Council**

**CNL\_IS(20)20**

### ***Explanatory Memorandum on the Agenda***

**Under the conditions for attendance by observers, the President may recognise requests from the Co-Chairs of accredited NGOs and / or their designee during the video conference on all agenda items other than item 4.**

## CNL\_IS(20)20

### *Explanatory Memorandum on the Agenda*

In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, Parties agreed that NASCO's business in 2020 would be conducted through inter-sessional correspondence, video conference and (it was hoped) a face-to-face inter-sessional meeting. Some business has been cancelled or postponed until 2021.

Parties had planned for Inter-Sessional Meetings to be conducted face-to-face, however, this has not been possible due to the continuing restrictions related to the pandemic. An Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Council took place 9-11 September by video conference. A further Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Council will take place on 10 December, also by video conference.

Since the Inter-Sessional Meeting addresses business envisaged for the June Annual Meeting, the Provisional Agendas stand ([CNL\(20\)01](#), [CNL\(20\)01F](#)).

Most papers for the June Council meeting and the Inter-Sessional meetings are available on the [NASCO website](#).

#### **1. Opening of the Meeting**

The President, Serge Doucet (Canada), will open the meeting.

There will be no verbal Opening Statements. Any written Opening Statements will be emailed to delegates and annexed to the Report of the Meeting.

- no decision is required.

#### **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure and following consultation with the President, a Provisional Agenda, [CNL\(20\)01](#), was made available to all members of the Council on 3 February 2020. This still stands, as Agenda items for this meeting are included. Following further consultation with the President, a Draft Agenda, [CNL\\_IS\(20\)19](#), was circulated on 6 November 2020.

- a decision to adopt the Agenda is required.

#### **3. Adoption by the Council of the Terms of Reference for the Third Performance Review**

In 2018, Council agreed that the process to consider conducting the third performance review of NASCO should begin in 2019, with a view to holding the review in 2021 ([CNL\(18\)45](#)). At its Annual Meeting in 2020, Council agreed to delay the performance review, planned originally for 2021, by one or more years. The Council also agreed to postpone discussion of the process and decisions needed to arrange the third performance review, including a decision on the length of the delay, until the autumn Inter-Sessional Council Meeting.

At the September Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Council, a paper tabled by the United States, 'Strawman of Terms of Reference for the Third Performance Review of NASCO' (See [CNL\(20\)56](#), Annex 9), was considered. The Council agreed that Parties and the Secretariat would work together to refine the draft Terms of Reference for the third performance review. NGO input would be sought as appropriate. The final Terms

of Reference would be agreed in December. It was also agreed that some elements, such as nominating experts for the Review Panel, may occur before final agreement of the Terms of Reference.

Parties, the President and the Secretariat continue to work to refine the draft Terms of Reference, by correspondence, ahead of the December Inter-Sessional Meeting. The next iteration will be circulated prior to the Meeting.

The following papers support this Agenda item:

[CNL\\_IS\(20\)07](#), Performance Review Paper - Reviewer Perspective – NGO.

[CNL\\_IS\(20\)08](#), Performance Review Paper - RFMO Perspective – ICCAT.

[CNL\\_IS\(20\)09](#), Performance Review Paper - RFMO Perspective – NAFO.

[CNL\\_IS\(20\)10](#), Performance Review Paper - RFMO Perspective – PSC.

[CNL\(19\)18](#), Consideration of the Process for Arranging a Third Performance Review in 2021.

- a decision to agree the Terms of Reference is needed; and
- a decision to agree the preferred Review Panel is needed.

#### **4. Adoption of the 2019 Audited Accounts**

At the Annual Meeting of the Council in June, the Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC), Ms Blankenkemper noted that, while NASCO's 2019 accounts were audited, due to administrative delays by NASCO's bank the auditors had not been able to sign off the audited accounts.

The auditors received the bank letter in late October. The 2019 audited accounts should be signed off in the week beginning 9 November. The audited accounts will then be distributed in accordance with Financial Rule 11; additionally the FAC will be contacted to consider the audited accounts with a view to recommending their acceptance by Council in December.

The following papers (yet to be produced) will support this Agenda item:

FAC(20)04, 2019 Audited Accounts.

FAC(20)12, Recommendation from the FAC to Council to accept the 2019 audited accounts.

- a decision to accept the Audited Accounts for 2019 is required.

#### **5. IYS Concluding Symposium**

In 2016, the NASCO Council decided to hold an International Year of the Salmon (IYS) in partnership with the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC). The focal year for the IYS was 2019 with some efforts continuing to 2022. The aim of the IYS is to raise awareness of the factors driving salmon abundance, the environmental and anthropogenic challenges they face, and the measures being taken to address these.

Paper [CNL\(20\)21](#) is the Final Report on the Activities in the International Year of the Salmon. It highlights some of the activities which took place under the IYS banner.

At the September Inter-Sessional Meeting, the Council agreed that the Secretary should continue to work with the NPAFC informally with a view to holding the IYS concluding Symposium after the 2022 Annual Meeting, with a view to agreeing the

Terms of Reference and establishing a Symposium Steering Committee once the timeline for the Symposium is clearer.

During recent correspondence between the NASCO and NPAFC Secretariats it was initially proposed that the Symposium should take place in October or November of 2022 to avoid potential conflict with other meetings; that it should take place over three days (Tuesday-Thursday); and provisional agreement on the Terms of Reference for the Symposium Steering Committee was reached. Further correspondence has led to a joint proposal for a Concluding IYS Symposium for consideration by the Council.

The following paper provides details:

CNL\_IS(20)23, 'Proposals for the Joint NASCO / NPAFC Concluding IYS Symposium.

The following decisions are needed:

- to agree the timing of the joint Symposium;
- to agree the format of the joint Symposium; and
- to agree the Terms of Reference for the Symposium Steering Committee.

## **6. Other Business**

Any other business may be raised.

## **7. Report of the Meeting**

A Draft Report of the Meeting will be circulated for review. A decision to adopt the Report of the meeting will be taken by correspondence.

## **8. Close of the Meeting**

The President will close the Meeting.

Secretariat  
Edinburgh  
6 November 2020

*Summary of Council Decisions*

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Paper No.</b>
2. Adoption of the Agenda	to adopt the Agenda.	CNL_IS(20)19
3. Adoption by the Council of the Terms of Reference for the Third Performance Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to agree the Terms of Reference;</li> <li>• to agree the preferred Review Panel.</li> </ul>	
4. Adoption of the 2019 Audited Accounts	to accept the Audited Accounts for 2019.	<i>FAC(20)04</i> <i>FAC(20)12</i>
5. IYS Concluding Symposium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to agree the timing of the joint Symposium;</li> <li>• to agree the format of the joint Symposium;</li> <li>• to agree the Terms of Reference for the Symposium Steering Committee.</li> </ul>	CNL_IS(20)22
7. Report of the Meeting	a decision to adopt the Report of the meeting will be taken by correspondence.	