

CNL_IS(20)24rev

Application from the United Kingdom for Membership of the North-East Atlantic Commission and the West Greenland Commission

On 7 December 2020, Minister Victoria Prentis (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, UK), wrote to the NASCO President to apply for membership of the West Greenland Commission and the North-East Atlantic Commission for the United Kingdom.

Article 10(3) of the NASCO Convention states:

'A Party not mentioned in paragraph 1(b) may, at its request and upon the unanimous decision of the Council, become a member of the West Greenland Commission or the North-East Atlantic Commission if it is a State of origin for significant quantities of salmon occurring in the respective Commission area or if it exercises fisheries jurisdiction in that area.'

This application is being considered under Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, which provides an exception to the general rule that 'no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any meeting of the Council unless copies have been distributed to all members a reasonable time in advance.'

The UK sent a revision to their original letter on 10 December 2020. It is attached below.

Secretariat
Edinburgh
10 December 2020



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
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Victoria Prentis MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Minister for Farming, Fisheries and Food

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10 December 2020

Serge Doucet
The President
North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization
11 Rutland Square
Edinburgh
EH1 2AS

Dear Mr Doucet

ACCESSION TO THE CONVENTION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SALMON IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

Thank you for your letter of 27 November confirming that the United Kingdom has now joined the Convention as a Party in its own right. I am grateful that the Parties voted to support our application and for your support in achieving that great outcome. We are committed to upholding our international obligations relating to the conservation and management of salmon in the North Atlantic and look forward to working closely with the Secretariat and the other NASCO parties.

Our nominated Head of Delegation will be Ruth Allin who will work with Dr Emma Hatfield to arrange our representation on the relevant NASCO bodies and facilitate our contribution to the NASCO budget.

As you have noted, in our application we said that we intend to apply for membership of the West Greenland Commission and the North-East Atlantic Commission. I understand that in accordance with Article 10(3) of the Convention a Party may request, and upon the unanimous decision of the Council, become a member of either of these Commissions if (i) it is a State of origin for significant quantities of salmon occurring in the area covered by the Commission or (ii) exercises fisheries jurisdiction in that area.

As the UK satisfies at least one condition for both Commissions, we now wish to apply for membership of these Commissions. I am grateful for your offer to hold a vote on this at the Inter-Sessional meeting of the Council on 10 December. My officials are available to work with Dr Hatfield to provide any further clarification that you may need ahead of the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

VICTORIA PRENTIS MP

