



West Greenland Commission

Request from Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) for a Supplementary Item for the West Greenland Commission Agenda

WGC(21)06

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1. On 23 February 2021, Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) submitted the following Explanatory Memorandum requesting that a supplementary item be added to the Agenda for the Annual Meeting of the West Greenland Commission.

2. The Commission's Rules of Procedure state as follows:

'Rule 15

- 1. The Secretary shall prepare, in consultation with the Chairman, a provisional agenda for each meeting of the Commission and transmit it to all members of the Commission no later than 60 days before the meeting.*
- 2. Any member of the Commission may propose supplementary items by informing the Secretary thereof no later than 45 days before the meeting, accompanying its proposal with an explanatory memorandum.*
- 3. The Secretary shall prepare the draft agenda for the meeting, including the supplementary items, and transmit it to all members of the Commission no later than 30 days before the meeting along with related explanatory memoranda or reports.'*

3. Therefore, in accordance with Rule 15 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, an item has been added to the Draft Agenda for the Meeting entitled 'Proposal from Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) on Reporting on the West Greenland Salmon Fishery' (item 6 on the Draft Agenda, [WGC\(21\)03](#)).

Secretariat
Edinburgh
23 March 2021



West Greenland Commission
North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO)

Explanatory Memorandum – Greenland

Reporting from Greenland

Greenland would like to propose a reduction of the number of reports submitted to the West Greenland Commission.

Currently, Greenland submits a report on the previous year's fishery around 15. February. Then, if inquires has been raised by other Contracting Parties or if further information is available, Greenland submits an additional report before the NASCO Annual Meeting. Finally, Greenland reports on management measures and changes to regulations before the fishing season starts, usually in July or August.

Thus, Greenland makes up to three reports to the West Greenland Commission each year, excluding the Annual Progress Report. While, the other Contracting Parties can submit one report on their mixed-stock fishery for the NASCO Annual Meeting.

Greenland is currently drafting a management plan for the salmon fishery, which is to be valid for a 5-year period and the Executive Order will be adjusted accordingly. Therefore, it is not the intention of the Government of Greenland to make any changes in the management of the fishery in that 5-year period unless the revision clause is invoked.

Thus, there will no longer be a need for several reports to the West Greenland Commission as the management measures for each year will be the same unless the management plan is revised. Greenland would therefore like to suggest that we only submit one comprehensive report on our fishery each year.

We understand the background for the early reporting and can agree to continue to report in mid-February, however, we would urge our colleagues to agree a reduction in the number of reports that would ensure a better and more comprehensive collective report to the West Greenland Commission rather than several reports. This would also allow us time and resources to focus on the important work of managing the salmon fishery in Greenland.

In our view, one single report that covers all relevant issues would reduce not only the burden on Greenland but also on the West Greenland Commission and it would ensure stronger reporting for discussion at the West Greenland Commission meetings.

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