



Update on Planning NASCO's Third Performance Review

Purpose of the Paper

To inform the Council of plans that have been made in relation to NASCO's third performance review, and to set out next steps.

Decisions

No decisions required.

Background

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 June 2020, Council agreed to delay the performance review by one or more years.

At its Inter-Sessional Meeting in December 2020, Council made the following decisions with respect to NASCO's third performance review, [CNL IS\(20\)27](#):

- due to the impacts of Covid-19 the third performance review will be deferred, with reporting in 2023 for consideration at the 2023 NASCO Annual Meeting;
- the Review Panel will be composed of three external experts who are 'not directly affiliated' with NASCO, and who, together, have expertise in the three categories: fisheries science, salmon management and conservation, and marine / fisheries law;
- a process and timeline for finalising the Review Panel by April 2021 was agreed;
- the maximum length of time allocated to Panel members to conduct the review will be 30 working days, which may be reviewed by Council if necessary;
- the daily consulting fee for any Panel member requiring one will be £650, with a maximum of £750, if requested. All Panel members will receive the same fee. The maximum daily fee may be reviewed by Council if necessary; and
- a process and timeline for finalising the Terms of Reference, including the review criteria was agreed.

The President asked the Secretariat to take forward the arrangements based on the decisions taken. He requested that an update of progress be provided to Council at the Annual Meeting in June 2021.

The Review Panel for NASCO's Third Performance Review

Between December 2020 and April 2021, the Secretariat implemented the decisions taken in December with respect to agreeing the panel for NASCO's third performance review. The following experts (with their associated area of expertise) have been invited to sit on the panel:

- Jean-Jacques Maguire (Fisheries Science);
- Philip McGinnity (Salmon Management and Conservation); and
- Erik Molenaar (Marine / Fisheries Law).

Terms of Reference for NASCO's third performance review

Between December 2020 and April 2021, the Secretariat also implemented the decisions taken by the Council in December with respect to agreeing the Terms of Reference (including the criteria). Terms of Reference for the Third Performance Review of NASCO, [CNL\(21\)22](#), are posted on the NASCO website, and have been sent to the three experts who have been invited to sit on the panel.

Next Steps

The Review Panel experts have been asked, formally, to accept the invitation to sit on the Review Panel, by May 31, 2021. The next steps are set out in the table below. All timings are indicative, unless they have been agreed by Council.

Summer 2021	Review Panel meets by video conference to elect a Chair
	Review Panel Chair is invited to attend the 2022 NASCO Annual Meeting
June 2022	Review Panel Chair (or their nominee) attends the 2022 NASCO Annual Meeting
June 2022 – December 2022	Review Panel carries out the performance review and develops its draft report
4 January 2023	Deadline for Review Panel to make its draft report available for comment (of technical / factual errors alone) by the Parties, NGOs and Secretariat
February 2023	Deadline for technical and factual corrections by Parties and NGOs to the Review Panel's draft report
February 2023	Secretariat compiles all technical and factual corrections to the draft report and passes to the Review Panel Chair
February – March 2023	Review Panel considers proposed revisions
14 March 2023	Review Panel's final report sent to President (via Secretariat). Secretariat circulates the final report to Parties and NGOs, for discussion at the NASCO Annual Meeting. Report is posted on the NASCO website.
Annual Meeting 2023	The Review Panel Chair (or their nominee) presents the final report at the NASCO Annual Meeting
Annual Meeting 2023	Council considers the report and agrees the follow-up process

After Annual Meeting 2023	Follow-up as agreed at 2023 Annual Meeting
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Secretariat
Edinburgh
23 April 2021