

CNL40.2185

21 December 2021

The Minister of Climate and Environment  
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Dear Minister,

Further to the President's letters sent last year, I write to thank Norway for the work it has done to revise and resubmit its Implementation Plan to NASCO. The Review Group has found it to be improved but requiring further work for it to become fully satisfactory.

I attach the detailed outcome of the review of Norway's Implementation Plan, along with a summary.

As you are aware, the purpose of Implementation Plans, together with Annual Progress Reports, is to strengthen the implementation of NASCO's Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines. All NASCO Parties have signed up to these documents, which are essential for ensuring that the objectives of the NASCO Convention 'to conserve, restore, enhance and rationally manage Atlantic salmon' can be met.

A number of NASCO's Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines seek to minimise the impacts from aquaculture on wild salmon stocks. The Review Group judged section 4.11 of Norway's Implementation Plan (SMART actions for aquaculture etc.) to be unsatisfactory. I would, therefore, like to draw your attention to a request from the NASCO Council made following the Theme-based Special Session on the impacts of salmon farming on wild Atlantic salmon, held during the Annual Meeting in 2021. It was agreed that a renewed request be made from the NASCO Council that:

*'all Parties and jurisdictions with salmon farming produce SMART actions in their revised Implementation Plans for the management of lice and escapes. These actions should reflect strong and sustained progress towards meeting the goals of 100% containment of farmed fish, and for 100% of farms to have effective sea lice management. Monitoring of sea lice and escapes should only be a secondary activity to research or assess the effectiveness of the main action'.*

Finally, I request that Norway submit its Annual Progress Report, based on its Implementation Plan, by 1 April 2022. Additionally, if Norway intends to revise its Implementation Plan further, please inform me (via the Secretariat) and submit it by 1 November of any year during this third reporting cycle.

This letter and the attached Implementation Plan review will be posted on the NASCO website shortly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'AP', is written over two horizontal lines that serve as a baseline for the signature.

Arnaud Peyronnet  
President