


|  |   |                  |
|--|---|------------------|
|  | <p><b>Council</b></p> <p><i>Terms of Reference for the Working Group on<br/>the Future of NASCO</i></p> | <p>CNL(23)70</p> |
|--|---|------------------|

*Terms of Reference for the Working Group on the Future of NASCO*

1. The WGFON will:
  - a. Be chaired by the President of NASCO.
  - b. Be comprised of no more than three representatives from each Party, including Heads of Delegations, where possible, and two representatives of NASCO's accredited NGOs, as well as the Chair of the IP / APR Review Group.
  - c. Invite individuals with relevant expertise to participate in its meetings, as it sees fit.
  - d. Propose a succinct NASCO Strategy and supporting Action Plan directed at the urgent need to conserve, restore, enhance and rationally manage wild Atlantic salmon (hereafter salmon), in the context of the climate change emergency. The Strategy will, among other things, describe the state of salmon and the key pressures they face, outcomes that need to be delivered to restore and conserve salmon populations and NASCO's key focus areas. The Action Plan would identify specific and measurable actions that NASCO can take to advance the key focus areas of the strategy.
  - e. Consider NASCO's unique added value and how NASCO can be most effective in aiding the delivery of actions that will help to restore and conserve salmon stocks.
  - f. Ensure the Strategy is suitable to provide, among other things, a basis to inform decision makers, stakeholders, including NGOs and other relevant sectors, and the general public of the plight of salmon and how the unique role of NASCO Parties / jurisdictions will help to restore and conserve the species.
  - g. In developing the Strategy and supporting Action Plan, consider the recommendations of the External Performance Review Panel, including the considerations as laid out in document [CNL\(23\)18](#), as well as the Tromsø Symposium, Theme-based Special Sessions (including the 2023 TBSS on climate change), observations from the 2023 Special Session on Indigenous perspectives and other relevant recommendations and information.
  - h. Consider the Strategy and Action Plan in the context of developing the fourth reporting cycle and develop Terms of Reference for a Working Group on Future Reporting.
  - i. Establish a process to monitor delivery of the NASCO Action Plan, on an annual basis.
  - j. Report back to the Council no later than 1 April 2024 with all of the items above.
2. The Secretariat shall co-ordinate the first meeting of the WGFON in consultation with the designated participants. The WGFON will then convene as required and as determined by its Chair, and under the format chosen by the Chair.
3. The Secretariat shall provide administrative and information support to WGFON, including the preparation of the documents specified, for delivery to the Contracting Parties as soon as possible after 1 April 2024.