

*CNL(01)64*

*Council Decision on the Reports of the Working Groups on Cooperative Research*

*(incorporating amendments)*

June 8, 2001

Following the Reports of the Working Groups on Cooperative Research CNL(01)21 and CNL(01)63, and after discussions between members from different delegations, the Council decided as follows:

1. The Secretariat should establish administrative mechanisms to accept contributions, and establish an administrative framework to provide funding for projects.
2. A Board of nominees from the Heads of Delegation should be established by the end of June 2001. The Board member from each NASCO party can be assisted by another representative. The Board should direct and coordinate the research program further to guidance provided by CNL(01)63.
3. The Secretariat in the name of the Board should compile an inventory of all ongoing or scheduled marine salmon research which contracting parties plan to carry out on the high seas or estuarine areas for 2002, 2003, and 2004. With the assistance of the Scientific Committee the Board should review these inputs and advise members on areas of potential co-operative research and compile priorities in the marine research area for the next three years. The Scientific Committee should also take account of the research programs identified in CNL(01)21. The inventory should be available to NASCO Council and parties by September 15, 2001.
4. In consultation with the Standing Scientific Committee, the Board should define project terms and conditions for funding eligibility and, at such time as funds become available, solicit, evaluate and approve project proposals. Priority should be assigned to projects designed to improve the understanding of marine distribution and migration of salmon from smolts to adults. The Board should find appropriate ways to limit the number of project proposals, and encourage the submission of larger cooperative proposals.
5. The Board could meet at the ICES Annual Science Conference in September but if this is not possible it should meet no later than December 2001.